great READS 2019

250+ books for all ages and interests
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**Educated: A Memoir**  
by Tara Westover  
Fiction. 2018.  
Born into a family of Mormon survivalists, Tara Westover examines her life with great perceptiveness and grace as she recounts a growing rebelliousness and desire to make sense of the world, which eventually leads her from Idaho to Cambridge University.

**The Ensemble**  
by Aja Gabel  
Fiction. 2018.  
It's the 1990s, and four up-and-coming musicians at a San Francisco conservatory decide to forgo solo careers in favour of forming a string quartet. Over the years, in the face of professional temptations, dueling egos, injuries, and bad judgement, the love of making music keeps them together.

by Karen Piper  
Nonfiction. 2018.  
A fascinating memoir of a young girl who happened to grow up on the top-secret China Lake Naval Weapons Centre range during the cold war. From living with the fear of nuclear war to Watergate, this coming-of-age story follows Karen Piper and the many ways her experiences changed her life.

**So Much Love**  
by Rebecca Rosenblum  
Fiction. 2018.  
This debut novel traces the ripples of a shocking event in the small university town of Iria, Ontario: the disappearance of university student Catherine Reindeer, and one month before, the disappearance of a teen named Donny Zimmerman. Unlike some kidnapped heroines, Catherine takes an unusual opportunity given to her to make her escape.

**Split Tooth**  
by Tanya Tagaq  
Fiction. 2018.  
Set in 1970s Nunavut, this book follows a girl from a loving family who sees the magic of the natural world amidst a community shaken by alcoholism and violence. Tagaq conjures a world and heroine readers will never forget.

**Starlight**  
by Richard Wagamese  
Fiction. 2018.  
This final novel from Richard Wagamese centres on an abused woman on the run who finds refuge on a farm owned by an Indigenous man with wounds of his own. A profoundly moving novel about the redemptive power of love, mercy, and compassion.
My Year of Rest and Relaxation by Ottessa Moshfegh
Fiction. 2018.
A young woman, with plenty of money from her inheritance, decides to hibernate with chemical assistance (in the year 2000) to drown out her thoughts. This is a darkly funny tale of modern rebellion.

The Mars Room by Rachel Kushner
Fiction. 2018.
A heartbreaking and unforgettable novel set in a California women’s prison, where single mother Romy Hall is serving two consecutive life sentences after murdering a stalker. From prison, she narrates her hard-bitten past in San Francisco, where she worked as a stripper at the legendary Mars Room.

Tangerine by Christine Mangan
Fiction. 2018.
Set in the 1950s with lush descriptions of Tangier, this tense, psychological thriller examines a complex, dangerous female friendship.

Sharp: The Women Who Made an Art of Having an Opinion by Michelle Dean
Nonfiction. 2018.
Powerful portraits of ten writers who made their voices heard amidst a climate of sexism from the 1920s to the 1990s, including Hannah Arendt, Joan Didion, Nora Ephron, Zora Neale Hurston, and Susan Sontag.

There There by Tommy Orange
Fiction. 2018.
What does it mean to be an “urban Indian” in America? In Tommy Orange’s first published novel, the fractured and complex identities of several city dwelling Native American characters come together when they attend the Oakland Powwow. This is a must read of Indigenous literature.

“I’m always writing about character first. Plot, such as it is, comes from the characters.”
- Daniel Woodrell
21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act: Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a Reality
by Robert P.C. Joseph  
Nonfiction. 2018.
After over 140 years, the Indian Act continues to shape, control, and constrain the lives and opportunities of Indigenous Peoples, and is at the root of many stereotypes that persist. Bob Joseph’s book comes at a key time in the reconciliation process.

Calympso
by David Sedaris  
Nonfiction. 2018.
Whether writing about the litter on the street or his own malfunctioning fitbit, David Sedaris once again provides his readers with the details of his life that are strange, surprising, funny, and memorable.

Dear Mrs. Bird
by A.J. Pearce  
Fiction. 2018.
Emmy Lake’s dreams of becoming a journalist in 1940s war-torn London are dashed when she finds herself assisting crotchety Mrs. Bird, a lady’s magazine advice columnist. Mrs. Bird’s refusal to answer any letters with difficult topics forces Emmy to take matters into her own hands.

Hotel Silence
by Auður A. Olafsdóttir  
Fiction. 2018.
Follow the journey of Jónas Ebeneser as he contemplates how to die by suicide without his daughter finding the body, but along the way begins to see how life can reveal new opportunities, second chances, and moments of transformation.

The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America
by Thomas King  
Nonfiction. 2012.
Both timeless and timely, burnished with anger but tempered by humour and wit, and ultimately a hard-won offering of hope — a sometimes inconvenient but nonetheless indispensable account for all of us seeking to understand how we might tell a new story for the future.

Mamaskatch: A Cree Coming of Age
by Darrel J. McLeod  
Fiction. 2018.
This is a powerful memoir by Darrel J. McLeod that explores his mother’s experience in Indian Residential School and the lasting effect it has had on his life and the lives of his older sister and transgender sibling.
**Ghosts of the Tsunami: Death and Life in Japan’s Disaster Zone**
by Richard Lloyd Parry  
This book provides an account of the events and fallout of the 2011 earthquake and subsequent tsunami off Japan’s northeastern coast, the greatest single loss of life in the country since the 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki.

**The Girl Who Smiled Beads**
by Clemantine Wamariya and Elizabeth Weil  
Nonfiction. 2018.  
Wamariya skilfully recounts her harrowing escape from war-torn Rwanda and the long-awaited granting of asylum in America, where she was adopted by a loving family. Having been both reviled and cherished, the author fights hard to establish and defend her identity. This is a riveting, unforgettable read.

**Moon of the Crusted Snow: A Novel**
by Waubgeshig Rice  
Fiction. 2018.  
In this daring post-apocalyptic novel, a small northern Anishinaabe community goes dark. Cut off, panic builds as the food supply dwindles and death toll rises. Guided through the chaos by an unlikely leader, Evan Whitesky, they endeavour to restore order while grappling with a grave decision.

**The Grand Tour**
by Adam O’Fallon Price  
Fiction. 2016.  
A bitingly funny, smart, and moving novel about two hapless lost souls — a Vietnam veteran turned best-selling author and his awkward, shy superfan — who form an unlikely connection on the world’s most disastrous book tour.

**UNeducation A Residential School Graphic Novel, Volume 1**
by Jason Eaglespeaker  
Nonfiction. 2014.  
This graphic novel is very timely as it delves straight into the politics and historical nightmare that was the Indian Residential Schools system.

“An author knows his landscape best; he can stand around, smell the wind, get a feel for his place.”  
- Tony Hillerman
**Bearskin**  
by James A. McLaughlin  
Fiction. 2018.  
While gathering scientific data deep in the last remaining primordial forest of the Appalachian Mountains, Rice Moore must stretch his survival skills to the limit to eradicate a threat from an unsavoury past. An intriguing mix of powerful prose, atmosphere, and suspense.

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**The Cabin at the End of the World**  
by Paul Tremblay  
Fiction. 2018.  
In this inventive twist on a home-invasion story, couple Eric and Andrew — on vacation in remote New Hampshire with their daughter — are faced with four strangers bearing makeshift weapons, who give them an impossible choice. A thought-provoking novel of psychological suspense.

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**Cold Skies: A DreadfulWater Mystery**  
by Thomas King  
Fiction. 2018.  
Retired police officer Thumps DreadfulWater is pulled into solving a mystery in his small prairie town. Scientists are in town to develop a new drilling technology. How will this impact the way of life for the Indigenous people living on the land? DreadfulWater is also dealing with his own declining health and his girlfriend’s life-threatening illness.

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**Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore**  
by Matthew Sullivan  
Lydia has an uneventful life working at a bookstore. When a regular patron dies by suicide with a childhood photo of Lydia in his pocket, the dark secret in her past becomes central to the sinister mystery taking over her life.

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**Need to Know**  
by Karen Cleveland  
Fiction. 2018.  
CIA analyst Vivian lives a typical suburban life with husband Mark and their children, until the day she discovers that Mark is a Russian sleeper agent. Author Karen Cleveland, a former CIA analyst, keeps the action constant as Vivian races to save family and country.

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**Pieces of Her**  
by Karin Slaughter  
Fiction. 2018.  
Laura is an ordinary mother, raising her daughter, Andrea, in a small seaside community. But for nearly 30 years Laura has been hiding from her previous life, concealing her identity, in the hope that no one would ever find her.
The Dogs of Littlefield
by Suzanne Berne
Fiction. 2018.
Littlefield, Massachusetts has been named one of the Ten Best Places to Live in America. Yet no sooner has sociologist Dr. Clarice Watkins arrived to study the elements of ‘good quality of life’ than someone begins poisoning the town’s dogs. Are the poisonings in protest to an off-leash proposal for Baldwin Park — the subject of much town debate — or the sign of a deeper issue?

Find You in the Dark
by Nathan Ripley
Fiction. 2018.
In this chilling debut thriller, a family man obsessed with undiscovered remains of serial killer victims catches the attention of a murderer prowling the streets of Seattle.

Mapping the Interior
by Stephen Graham Jones
Stephen Graham Jones is a master in the new genre of Native American horror. In this novel, a young boy is haunted by a ghost resembling his late father. His home becomes a labyrinth which he tries to map and not lose himself in.

Trail of Lightning
by Rebecca Roanhorse
Fiction. 2018.
In this thrilling, post-apocalyptic world of supernatural beings, the Dinéetah people have a young warrior who is fearless. Her name is Maggie and with the help of an unconventional Elder, she confronts a strange and frightening world of the future.

The Word is Murder
by Anthony Horowitz
Fiction. 2018.
Award-winning screenwriter and author Anthony Horowitz becomes a character in his own novel, as he helps a detective inspector solve the murder of a woman who just hours before had planned her own funeral.

“I better make the plot good. I wanted to make it grip people on the first page and have a big turning point in the middle... construct the whole thing like a roller coaster ride.”
- Mark Haddon
Deep River Night
by Patrick Lane
Fiction. 2018.
Second World War veteran Art Kenning is the alcoholic first-aid man in an isolated sawmill village in the interior of B.C. Traumatized by an incident in war-time Holland, he loses himself in drink and the memories of the love affair he had with a woman in Paris. Then one night his boss comes to his house to ask for his help, forcing Art to confront both his past and his present.

The Friend
by Sigrid Nunez
Fiction. 2018.
The poignant and elegant story of a writer who, following the suicide of a beloved former professor, begins a journey of healing and self-discovery — when she unexpectedly finds herself in possession of his Great Dane.

Heart Berries: A Memoir
by Terese Marie Mailhot
Nonfiction. 2018.
This powerful memoir reveals the author’s past struggles with mental illness and her struggle to understand her past and present through the art of writing. It is a story of heartbreaking desperation and the reconnection to family, community, and finding a place in the world.

Property: Stories Between Two Novellas
by Lionel Shriver
Fiction. 2018.
The wry stories in this collection by Shriver (We Need to Talk About Kevin) focus on homes and objects, and how they shape the lives of those who own them.

Severance
by Ling Ma
Fiction. 2018.
This post-apocalyptic debut is a shrewd send-up and takedown of the rituals, routines, and missed opportunities of contemporary life.

The Third Hotel
by Laura van den Berg
Fiction. 2018.
When Claire travels to Havana to attend a film festival with tickets purchased by her recently deceased husband, she spots a man that looks exactly like him from afar. A dreamlike exploration of grief.
The Map of Salt and Stars  
by Jennifer Zeynab Joukhadar  
Fiction. 2018.  
After her father’s death, 12-year-old American-born Nour returns to Syria with her mother and siblings. Forced to flee when the country is engulfed by civil war, Nour struggles to survive the horrors she faces by telling herself a fairy tale her father shared long ago.

On the Up  
by Shilo Jones  
Fiction. 2018.  
Told in jazzy, clever prose, this scathing sendup of life in present day Vancouver skewers the maniacally overpriced real estate market and the criminals who enable it. Charged with dark humour and outrageous characters, this is a cautionary tale of greed and desperation.

The Only Story  
by Julian Barnes  
Fiction. 2018.  
From the Man Booker prize-winning author of The Sense of an Ending, an achingly profound love story between a young man on the cusp of adulthood and a woman whose life is gradually moving in the opposite direction.

We’ll All Be Burnt in Our Beds Some Night  
by Joel Hynes  
Fiction. 2018.  
Newfoundlander Johnny Keough is awaiting trial for an alleged assault on his girlfriend Madonna. But when Madonna is killed before his conviction, Johnny finds himself set free and on a journey across Canada to deliver her ashes to a beach in Vancouver. A dark comedy in which Johnny considers his life and the choices he has made.

This Wound is A World: Poems  
by Billy-Ray Belcourt  
Winner of the 2018 Griffin Poetry Prize, this dazzling book of queer/Two Spirit poetry is part manifesto, part memoir.

“He wanted to cry quietly but not for himself: for the words, so beautiful and sad, like music.”  
- James Joyce
Animal Shapes
by Christopher Silas Neal
Neal combines shapes and animals in clever combinations: when a slithering snake meets a square, they become a “sss-quare” while a turtle and an oval become a “slow-val.” There is much to talk about thanks to the coloured shapes and the whimsical illustrations.

Black Bird, Yellow Sun
by Steve Light
High contrast images and simple text make this a great choice for sharing with babies. As the black bird makes his way through the day, the illustrations and text show us different colours inhabiting the natural world.

 Boo Who?
by Ben Clanton
It’s tough when you’re new, especially when you’re shy! Even though Boo might be a bit invisible, he will still find a way to fit in and be seen.

Ciao, Baby! Ready for a Ride
by Carole Lexa Schaefer
The simplicity of the text and images make this a great book to share with a baby on the move. Baby will love beep-beeping with the bus and saying “Ciao, baby!”

Discovering Animals
by Neepin Auger
By a Cree artist, educator, and mother who lives in Calgary, this colourful book pairs beautiful illustrations of animals with their Cree, French, and English names. Discovering Animals is the third in Auger’s unique series.

Everyday House
by Cynthia Rylant
Rylant’s rhyming text explores a house and its environs. The simple illustrations depict the familiar objects that make a house a home. Although it’s not a book about concepts, the illustrations provide shapes and colours to talk about, as well as supporting the lovely story.
**Feet**
Young readers will revel in this playful guessing-game of a book. The text’s simple question and answer format and its clear, close-up photographs of animal feet will invite responses from even the youngest child, while introducing some great new vocabulary, from scaly to hoofed.

**Good Night, Good Night**
by Dennis Lee
Six beloved bedtime poems woven into a story with whimsical illustrations. One summer evening, children bring their pillows across fields to a treehouse where “teams of fuzzy Teddy bears / are stumping slowly / Up the stairs” to moon-gaze before saying good night.

**Goodnight World**
by Debi Gliori
Curl up with your little one and say goodnight to the starry skies above, nature animals, vehicles, and oceans. Then finally, “All is well in my small world, around my mother’s heart I’m curled.”

**Hello, Garden Bugs**
by Julissa Mora
Delight your baby with this high-contrast book all about bugs. With friendly text and bold patterns, this little book provides a great experience for your baby’s developing eyes.

**Here, George!**
by Sandra Boynton
Don’t feel like going on a walk? Or moving at all? Take a seat with this charming book about a dog who will not move – until his secret is discovered.

Rhymes are wonderful for distracting and soothing a fussy baby.
**Mouse is Small**
by Mary Murphy
Mouse is small and tortoise is large, but pelican is bigger than tortoise and Zebra is bigger than everyone. Using animals, this Board book introduces the concept of size in a delightful and lightly mischievous way.

**My Body**
by Jill McDonald
Bright and cheerful illustrations of science and nature introduce babies to their busy, bumping, beautiful world.

**My First I See You: A Mirror Book**
by Eric Carle
Babies love looking at baby faces, especially their own. This interactive Board book by one of our most beloved children’s authors allows babies to do just that, with shiny mirror and beautiful rhyming text.

**My Little Book of Words**
by Alice Luffman
A compendium of colourful photographs of familiar objects organized by theme: food, clothes, toys, animals, and more. This is an excellent way for baby to learn more words, with questions about the objects running along the bottom of each page.

**Pet the Pets**
by Sarah Lynne Reul
A lift-the-flap book that encourages little ones to pet their furry friends! For those looking for guidance on how best to scratch a dog’s ears, or help the hamster in his wheel.

**Play! Play! Play!**
by Douglas Florian
Everyone is welcome in this playful book that encourages you to have fun. Race, jump, swing, hide, and bounce your way right to the end.
Ten Little Toes, Two Small Feet  
by Kristy Dempsey  
Ten little toes can do so much: curl, tap, go up in the air, tickle, wriggle, wiggle, splash, and splatter. Dempsey’s rhyming text celebrates all the accomplishments of her adorable older babies as they sit, crawl, roll, walk, and run through their day.

Reading before bedtime or naptime helps babies transition into a quieter time and builds a strong parent and baby bond.

This Little Piggy and Other Favorite Nursery Rhymes  
by Genine Delahaye  
Introduce your baby to favourite nursery rhymes and songs. Delahaye’s soft illustrations feature endearing animal characters that will delight the youngest reader. Rhymes include “Humpty Dumpty” and “Jack and Jill”, while songs include “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes”.

So Light, So Heavy  
by Susanne Strasser  
How will the heaviest of all the animals swing on the seesaw? Elephant will need some unexpected help to find his balance.

Walk and See Colors  
by Rosalind Beardshaw  
Two young children explore the outdoors through colours: a girl wearing green boots runs over a green field, red ladybugs crawl around red poppies. A charming choice to develop baby’s vocabulary, as each double-page spread asks readers to find more objects.

Who? A Celebration of Babies  
by Robie Harris  
Everything is brand new! From the rug, to the dog, to all the people who love them, explore the wondrous world of babies.
**Baby Goes to Market**  
by Atinuke  
Toddlers will love this story about baby’s trip to the market. The adventures are complimented with opportunities to practice counting with your little one.

**The Bear in my Bed**  
by Joyce Wan  
An enormous bear has taken up residency in a little boy’s room. Even though he has proven to be great fun in the bathroom by splashing in the tub and confusing potty time with party time, he is quite a nuisance in the bedroom. Every try sharing a bed with a bear?

**Bigger! Bigger!**  
by Leslie Patricelli  
A small girl builds with blocks, moving on to progressively bigger projects while exclaiming “Bigger! Bigger!” until the “Biggest” city is complete. Then “Boom! Boom!” baby brother wrecks it all. The siblings start again, this time “Stronger! Stronger!”

**Bim Bam Boom**  
by Frédéric Stehr  
Let’s make some music! With a Bim Bam Boom from pots and pans, more bird friends join the band! Mom surprises everyone with a special treat, which leads the musicians to their next adventure.

**Goodnight Numbers**  
by Danica McKellar  
With its lilting text and many objects to count and talk about, this book will help lull your toddler to sleep. Each number illustrates part of the bedtime routine: “Goodnight, one fork. Goodnight, one spoon. Goodnight, one bowl. I’ll see you soon.” Lovely!

**Hello Hello**  
by Brendan Wenzel  
A simple rhyming text is animated by illustrations of amazing animals. There is “a world to see / a world to know” and a world to talk about as families pore over the pictures together. Official names are provided in the key at the end.
Jump, Leap, Count Sheep! A Canadian Wildlife 123
by Geraldo Valerio
Count along with this colourful book featuring Canadian wildlife. From sheep to mantids, this book features diverse animals from across Canada.

Just like Me!
by Joshua Seigal
Toddlers will love the rhythm of this story and want to copy the silly actions of these unique animals. “Everybody stretch up high, just like me,” says the long-necked giraffe. After a fun game of animal copycat, parents will enjoy the last action as the animals close their eyes.

Parents and caregivers are a child’s first and best teacher. Talk, sing, read, and play with your toddler. Encourage them to scribble with crayons. Point out and read street signs.

Llamaphones
by Janik Coat
This delightfully illustrated book with interactive touch and feel elements will delight both child and adult. Filled with word play, you’ll fall in love with the llamas on every page.

People Don’t Bite People
by Lisa Wheeler
Sometimes we feel the need to chomp down in anger, but we must remember that “biting is for food.” “You’re not a shark! You’re not a wolf! But sometimes you get mad. Let it go! Just say no!” No biting other people, unless it’s a gingerbread man.

Pet this Book
by Jessica Young
This charming interactive book uses rhyming text to encourage little ones to interact with different pictured pets on each page. Great for showing young animal lovers how to treat pets in real life.
Play This Book
by Jessica Young
This book invites the reader to play the musical instruments boldly depicted within its pages — “Make the drum go RAT-A-TAT! You can pat it — just like that.” Guitar, piano, saxophone, slide trombone, cymbals are all there — so make some music and play this book! Encore!

Splish, Splash, Ducky!
by Lucy Cousins
Lucy Cousins has done it again with another fun, rainy day book! With a waddle and a “Quack Quack, Quack” Ducky Duck meets all kinds of animal friends at the pond. Enjoy this uplifting, colourful story with your toddler and turn bad weather days into a hilarious adventure.

Stick
by Irene Dickson
Going for a walk with a stick opens a whole new world of imaginative play. A stick can be a useful tool for drawing in the sand, stirring mud, or become a flag pole. What can you do with a stick? What could you build if you had lots of sticks?

Stop, Go, Yes, No! A Story of Opposites
by Mike Twohy
A hilarious story about the relationship between a dog and cat told in one-word opposites. This is a great book to practise picture reading with your toddler.

Today I’m a Race Car Driver
by Marisa Polansky
Leo the race car driver describes his week on one side of each double-paged spread, while the opposite side features labelled illustrations of fascinating car parts and racing equipment. This is an exciting read for young fans of cars and racing. Vroom! Vroom!

Wee Beasties: Huggy the Python Hugs Too Hard
by Anne Dyckman
Huggy the Python loves to hug, but he hugs way too hard! Can you show Huggy how to give a gentle hug? The story features cute and silly animals and introduces how to give a big and gentle hug to little ones.
Wiggles
by Claire Zucchelli-Romer
Wiggles provides a hands-on multi-sensory experience for toddlers as they dive into this Board book. Hands-on learning is the perfect way to build those little finger muscles which are so necessary for later writing, reading, and playing!

Will Bear Share?
by Hilary Leung
Bear is willing to share some things, and already knows that toothbrushes are not for sharing. But will Bear share an ice cream cone? Leung’s illustrations are simple, yet incredibly effective in conveying the many conflicting emotions toddlers deal with while learning to share.

Who’s Wearing a Hat?
by Sam Taplin
This fun and bright Picture book is marvelous for valuable dialogic reading — who’s wearing a hat? What colour is it? There’s so much to talk about on each page, and the rhyming text encourages children to engage with the illustrations, encouraging the development essential for early literacy skills.

Where’s the Baby?
by Britta Teckentrup
This brilliantly patterned “seek-and-find”-style book features a different parent and child from the animal world on every page. Your little one will enjoy the challenge of finding the baby in the beautiful illustration, as well as rhyming text that accompanies it.

You See, I See: On the Farm
by Michelle Colman
What will you discover on the farm? Enjoy the rhymes and simple illustrations as you peek inside the farmhouse and explore the fields.

Picking books with flaps and moveable parts makes sharing a book fun and develops fine motor skills.
Alma and How She Got Her Name  
by Juana Martinez-Neal  
How did such a small person end up with so many names? This Picture book illustrates a beautiful example of a girl and the connection of her namesake to her family’s story and history.

Balance the Birds: A Book of Weight, Size, and Logic  
by Susie Ghahremani  
This colorful and beautifully illustrated book explores the concepts of balance and relative size in a playful and child-friendly way. When birds spot a tree and decide to land on its branches, readers can help them find the perfect balance and develop early math skills in the process.

Be Kind  
by Pat Zietlow Miller  
The contagious nature of kindness is illustrated through this timely and important exploration of what it means to be kind, how kindness can mean different things in different situations, and how sometimes it’s hard to show kindness when others haven’t.

Bears and Blossoms  
by Shirley Parenteau  
It’s springtime, the trees are flowering, and four adorable bears go on a picnic. With their kites up in the air the wind sweeps the bear up and away!

The Better Tree Fort  
by Jessica Scott Kerrin  
Russell wants a tree fort. His dad builds one, despite not knowing much about building or forts. Although it doesn’t match his design, Russell thinks it’s perfect. After one is professionally constructed nearby, Russell decides there may be better forts, but not better dads.

Big Brown Bear’s Cave  
by Yuval Zommer  
Big brown bear thought that cave life would be so much better if he had more stuff, like the humans living nearby. But as he accumulated more possessions, he soon realized he didn’t have any more room for the things that really mattered to him. Take this eye-opening journey with Big Brown Bear.
**Blue Rider**  
by Geraldo Valério  
This wordless story opens with a child discovering a book in a crowded city and being transported into a natural landscape where people from the apartment block come alive. Colours and shapes dominate this child’s imagination and demonstrate how art transforms everyday life.

**The Boy and the Blue Moon**  
by Sara O’Leary  
Blue moon magic is invoked throughout a boy and his cat’s journey through the world of night. Their odyssey takes them all the way to the moon itself, but the call of the blue planet brings them home again, to wonder at the possibilities a blue moon can bring.

**Bunnybear**  
by Andrea Loney  
Bunnybear was born a bear, but he feels more like a bunny. He prefers to do all the things that rabbits do, instead of being loud and burly like a bear. This charming book embodies sticking true to oneself, even if it goes against social norms.

**Bunny Built**  
by Michael Slack  
LaRue is a construction bunny with a problem. He has no carrots! Fortunately, LaRue has a good idea, generous friends, and the right tools to turn the situation around. Little workers will love learning about the equipment LaRue uses in the book.

**Click, Clack, Quack to School!**  
by Doreen Cronin  
From the award-winning series comes a fun new book. Farmer Brown is going to the elementary school as a special guest and all of the animals are excited to go. Animals are not allowed at school though, but that doesn’t stop them!

Let your child catch you reading a physical book! Your child will want to do what you do.
**Crunch, the Shy Dinosaur**  
by Cirocco Dunlap  
Crunch is a quiet brontosaur who is rather shy and tends to hide himself in shrubberies. Told through the voice of an unseen narrator who struggles to stay upbeat, Crunch is able to find a new friend.

**A Day with Yayah**  
by Nicola Campbell 🌟  
While gathering mushrooms and herbs in the forest, Yayah teaches her grandchildren plant names in their Indigenous language, Nte?kpmxcin, spoken by the Thompson River Salish people. An enchanting tale by an acclaimed author, and award-winning illustrator.

**Daddy, Me, and the Magic Hour**  
by Laura Krauss Melmed  
A young boy cherishes his after supper walks with his father, when he has Daddy’s undivided attention. Illustrator Sarita Rich’s intensely coloured illustrations, occasionally arranged in cartoon panels, capture perfectly the light of a summer evening — the magic hour.

**Dear Girl: A Celebration of Wonderful, Smart, Beautiful You!**  
by Amy Krouse Rosenthal  
This encouraging and uplifting book is told through a series of short letters. Each letter reminds the girl to be her true self, to cry sometimes, and to always trust her instincts.

**The Digger and the Flower**  
by Joseph Kuefler  
Each day, big trucks go to work, but then digger discovers something growing in the rubble. This charming story illustrates a wonderful message about the environment.

**Dino Duckling**  
by Alison Murray  
Dinosaur? Duck? What is this strange animal living with Mama Duck and her ducklings? Nevertheless, Mama Duck loves her babies all the same and celebrates their differences. As challenges arise, Mother Duck finds an appealing solution to keep her family happy and united.
**Don’t Blink!**  
by Amy Krouse Rosenthal  
If you avoid finishing this book, you can avoid bedtime. But every time you blink, you must turn a page. A cartoony owl provides various strategies to avoid blinking, including getting all your blinks out at once (oops)! This is a playful, interactive anti-bedtime book.

**Don’t Tell!**  
by Tom Booth  
Congratulations! You have just stumbled upon a secret book. All the animals are looking at you inquisitively. Who told you about this super-secret book? Was it pig? Giraffe? Owl? Harvey the elephant reluctantly admits it was him. Sometimes it’s good to share a secret.

**Dreaming of You**  
by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater  
What do animals dream of? Kittens dream of milk and yarn, turtles of cool muddy beds, chipmunks dream of fat, seedy cheeks — but they and the other animals depicted in this rhythmic, repetitive lullaby also dream about the reader. A soothing choice for animal lovers.

**Duck, Duck Dinosaur and the Noise at Night**  
by Kallie George  
The adventure continues with the duck, duck dinosaur family, except this time, it’s at night. With a story, snuggle, and song, the ducks and dinosaur are ready for bed. However, they are soon awoken by a sound. “GRRORE!” The family investigates only to discover it’s coming from their very own nest.

**Elmore**  
by Hollie Hobbie  
Elmore the porcupine often feels lonely. His first attempts at friendship fail, until he realizes that the quills that make him “hard to be around” make wonderful pens. After sharing them with others, he receives appreciate notes from his fellow forest dwellers.

Children learn through repetition; it’s okay to read favourite books over and over again.
Everything You Need for a Treehouse
by Carter Higgins
In a world where children create their own special places and reality, this whimsical book opens ideas for big possibilities where kids have control in a world of their own making. Adventures are sure to occur in this delightful story about building your own treehouse.

Fergal is Fuming!
by Robert Starling
Everyone has tantrums, but young dragon Fergal blows everyone away with his fire breath whenever he gets mad! Fortunately, Fergal has a lot of friends with tips to help him learn to tame his temper.

From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea
by Kai Cheng Thom
A magical gender variant child thanks their loving mother by transforming the world around them. This beautifully illustrated book explores identity, gender, and accepting differences.

Fruit Bowl
by Mark Hoffmann
Basic biological science topics are deftly introduced by a tomato! Our protagonist is shamefully separated from his kin by an unsuspecting child who mistakenly assumes he’s a vegetable.

The Greedy Goat
by Petr Horáček
Goat gets tired of eating grass and decides to try something new. Soon her family notices things have disappeared — including the queasy goat! The illustrations ably depict goat’s illness and recovery, while the ending suggests goat has not yet learned her lesson.

Honey
by David Ezra Stein
Stein’s exuberant pen and watercolor illustrations take us from early spring to autumn as we follow a young bear’s quest for the honey he remembers from last summer. He enjoys many experiences, but when he finally finds the honey, it is “just as good as he’d remembered.”
The Honeybee
by Kirsten Hall
Bzzzzzz. Can you hear the bees around you? Can you hear them among the flowers as they gather pollen? This beautifully illustrated and well-crafted rhyming story showcases the critical importance of bees.

Reading aloud with a loving adult creates a warm and memorable experience.

How to Code a Sandcastle
by Josh Funk
All Pearl wants to do is build the perfect sandcastle, but all the other people at the beach are getting in the way. With her robot friend, Pascal, they are going to use code to get the task done once and for all!

How to Grow a Dinosaur
by Jill Esbaum
Step by step, big brothers or sisters can help their baby dinosaur grow into a dynamic playmate. An Alberta illustrator makes this story come to life with elaborate, brightly coloured pictures expressing the life of a baby sister dinosaur while her big brother tries to fulfill his role.

I Walk with Vanessa: A Story About a Simple Act of Kindness
by Kerascoët
Although this book has no words, its illustrations convey a powerful message about bullying. This simple story bullying hurts everyone but, as a community, we can reverse the negative impact with of kindness. Start the discussion. How do you think Vanessa feels?

I’m A Librarian
by Brian Biggs
This book is the latest of the series featuring one of the many diverse residents of the tiny, charming town. Readers get to know the librarian as they help a young boy find a book.
If I Were a Jungle Animal
by Tom and Amanda Ellery
Morton lets his mind wander away from the baseball game and imagines himself as a jungle animal. Swinging like a monkey through the trees or galloping through the jungle with a herd of zebras is much more exciting than the outfield.

If the S in Moose Comes Loose
by Peter Hermann
Making spelling lessons fun is difficult to do but this debut by Peter Hermann is up to the task. Opportunity for discussion about how different words are formed abounds in this story about a cow trying to save his friend Moose from oblivion through wordplay.

I’m a Duck
by Eve Bunting
Narrated by a duckling afraid of swimming, this tale describes how she overcomes her fear, with the support of friends, family, and her own bravery. Bunting’s wry rhyming text and Will Hillenbrand’s soft, naturalistic illustrations make this a perfect read-aloud for groups.

Julián is a Mermaid
by Jessica Love
Julian’s profound affinity for the beautiful, self-possessed “mermaids” in his everyday urban life sets the stage for colourfully illustrated imaginative play. An exquisite celebration of love, diversity, and beauty.

Kat Writes a Song
by Greg Foley
Kat is having a bad day, so she decides to write a song. And it works! All around the neighbourhood she sings and plays “The Amazing Song to Make Things Better” aspiring to help lift spirits. Friendship and music save the day in this book, ideal for young musicians.

Katinka’s Tail
by Judith Kerr
Author of the beloved Mog series, iconic children’s author Judith Kerr celebrates our feline friends once again with this truly magical and surprising Picture book. The perfect book to share with cat lovers young and old.
Encourage your child to tell stories — especially silly ones! It helps them understand how language and speech work.

**Mixed: A Colorful Story**
by Arree Chung
Red, blue and yellow all lived together, in peace. One day, the three colours have a disagreement and decide to separate. However, yellow, with her cheerful personality, and blue, with his calming spirit could not live apart. They married and along came green!

**My Pillow Keeps Moving!**
by Laura Gehl
A gentleman in search of some new housewares finds himself outsmarted by ... a dog! Kids of all ages will love this charming story about a stray dog’s efforts to find a new home.

**Nipêhon / I Wait**
by Caitlin Dale Nicholson 🇨🇦
Told in English and Cree, this gentle story follows a young girl, her mother, and grandmother on an outing to harvest wild yarrow flowers. Stunning acrylic illustrations bring this rich story of a family’s connection to the land, and to each other, to life.

**Ocean Meets Sky**
by Terry and Eric Fan 🇨🇦
Young Finn builds a boat to honour his grandfather. ‘A boat fit for a long journey. One they had planned together.’ With words and illustrations, the Fan Brothers create a magical journey with a golden carp who transports Finn to where the ocean meets the sky.

**On the Night of The Shooting Star**
by Amy Hest
Bunny and Dog are neighbours who keep to themselves until on a sleepless night with shooting stars where curiosity is stronger than silence. This touching book portrays the courage of making new friends.
Visit Central Library

There’s so much to see and do at Calgary’s new Central Library. Not sure where to start? Here are some tips.

- **Library Express:** This Level 1 spot is the place to pick up your holds, find popular new titles, and browse through books recommended by Library staff and others.

- **Children’s Library:** The 12,000-square-foot Children’s Library on Level 1M is the place for families to play, read, and learn.

- **LUKES:** Take a break at LUKES, located inside the Library or outside. These two exciting café collaborations are by Gareth Lukes and Chef Eric Hendry.

- **Indigenous Placemaking:** Six Indigenous artists have created permanent pieces throughout the Library, including a wall mural, buffalo sculpture, and furniture.

- **Laptop Bar:** The laptop bars on Levels 2 and 3 are great places to work, with views of the Oculus skylight above and the Shaikh Family Welcome Gallery below.

- **Kids’ Tech Lab:** Join kids and teen programs like Code Club, codeTEEN: Intro to Web Design, VR Explorers, and more in the Kids’ Tech Lab.

- **Job Desk:** Drop in for employment advice, provided by career coaches from Career Connection, at the Level 3 Job Desk.

- **Idea Lab:** Join our Idea Coaches in the Level 3 lab to learn about design thinking and more.

- **The Norrep Foundation Tech Connect Studio:** Take technology programs about eBooks, cloud technology, Microsoft Excel, and more in this Level 3 space.

- **Teen Tech Lab:** This Level 3 lab has equipment ranging from sewing machines to robotics. Come create at the Library!

- **Vintage Media Lab:** Visit this room on Level 4 in the Williams & Harris Shared History Centre to see equipment once commonplace in libraries, like microfilm readers, typewriters, a book press, and 16mm film reels.

- **Calgary’s Story, presented by Walt & Irene DeBoni:** Take a step back in time with the Living History: Glimpses of our Past interactive digital installation on Level 4.
Today!

PLUS, don’t miss seeing FISH and TRIO, attending an event in the Performance Hall, admiring The Archway, studying in the TD Great Reading Room, and enjoying a good book in The Prow. See you at the Library!
On the Other Side of The Garden
by Jairo Buitrago
A young girl is brought to her grandmother’s house by her father after her parents have separated and her mother moves. The young girl feels abandoned and ventures into the garden at night and befriends an owl, a frog, and a mouse, who are taken on an adventure.

The Origin of Day And Night
by Paula Rumbolt
An oral story shared for hundreds of years giving a glimpse into Inuit mythology. The actions of a hare and a fox change the Arctic by creating night and day.

Pig the Star
by Aaron Blabey
Ever the centre of attention, Pig the Pug thrives in the limelight. How will he cope when his unwitting rival Trevor is discovered as a talent in his own right? This latest installment in the saga of Pig is funny and bright, and a sure way to share some laughs with your little one.

Pignic
by Matt Phelan
It’s a perfect day for a pignic! A day for tree climbing and kite flying — with a little help from the wolf. Even a summer storm can’t ruin the pig family’s day. The sparse text and exuberant watercolour illustrations add to the charm.

The Rabbit Listened
by Cori Doerrfeld
When unfortunate things happen, we just need someone to listen and understand. All the animals try to help Taylor deal with his feelings when his magical structure is destroyed by a flock of birds. The only animal that truly understand him is Rabbit.

Rhyme Crime
by Jon Burgerman
Jon Burgerman, author of SPLAT! is guilty of having fun with rhyming words. Instead of stealing, the monster-like characters in this funny story are victims of the switcheroo game. Imagine the surprise when a “Hat” is replaced with a “Cat”. “Cake” is swapped for a “Snake”. As a finale, readers use their rhyming skills to investigate how this creative thief has planned his getaway.
Sugar and Snails
by Sarah Tsiang
This modern take on the familiar rhyme shows us that boys and girls can be made up of all kinds of things! This funny and deceptively simple book gently exposes gender stereotypes, making it ideal for any child that doesn’t quite fit the mold.

Sleep Train
by Jonathan London
A poetic bedtime story that perfectly captures the soporific rhythm of a train. The illustrations are a series of fascinating dioramas created by illustrator Lauren Eldridge. “Sleep Train / Jiggling down that track. / Ten sleepy cars / going clickety clack.” Shh! Someone’s sleeping.

Sleepy Bird
by Jeremy Tankard
“It was bedtime. But Bird was not ready to go to sleep.” Bird’s friends suggest many things to help him fall asleep, but Bird just wants to play. They finally manage to get the now grumpy Bird (and themselves) to sleep, but not for long!

Sparkle Boy
by Lesléa Newman
Casey loves playing with puzzles and blocks, but he also loves playing with things that sparkle and glitter. Casey wants the glittery and shimmering things his older sister has, but she is not so sure. This heartwarming story tackles sibling rivalry, and gender norms.

Tell your child a story without a book. This stimulates imagination, and encourages them to anticipate what comes next.

Square
by Mac Barnett
From the best-selling duo of Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen comes the newest entry in the innovative shape trilogy. Square spends every day moving blocks from one pile to another. Boring, but Circle thinks Square is a genius. Will Square continue to have imposter’s syndrome, or will he see the artistic abilities he has?
Sweetest Kulu
by Celina Kalluk
Picture book. 2014.
In this lyrical bedtime poem from a mother to her little Kulu, Arctic animals bring blessings and wisdom to a new baby. It’s beautifully written by acclaimed throat-singer Celina Kalluk, with stunning illustrations by Alexandria Neonakis.

They Say Blue
by Jillian Tamaki
Winner of both the Caldecott Medal and the Michael L. Printz Award for her illustrations, former Calgarian Jillian Tamaki brings her evocative style to this child’s exploration of what can be seen, sensed, imagined, and known.

They She He Me: Free to Be!
by Maya Christina Gonzalez
This gentle and stunningly illustrated Picture book discusses pronouns and gender fluidity.

This Zoo is Not for You
by Ross Collins
Platypus arrives at the zoo in his fancy red bus with an envelope in his flippers. The animals think that he is applying for a position at the zoo. After showing off their unique talents, the animals decide that "this zoo is not for you." Is Platypus disappointed? No! He has a special invitation for the zoo animals to come aboard his Platybus!

The Weaver
by Qian Shi
Stanley, the spider, weaves the most beautiful, eye-catching webs. In his web, he collects anything but insects, which make his web very interesting. But the wind and rain sweep up the treasures contained in his web and Stanley himself, carrying him off to the next adventure.

What If
by Samantha Berger
What if you could bring your dreams to life? This stunning book highlights the power of creativity, imagination, and the importance of self-expression and the ways we can use art as a medium to explore the magical moments of our lives.
**What’s My Superpower?**
by Aviaq Johnston
Nalvana feels like she’s the only kid in her Arctic village without a superpower. In this charming story infused with Inuktitut words, her mother helps her see that she has a very special talent, indeed — helping people feel good about themselves!

**When Pigs Fly**
by James Burks
Henry really want to fly! “It’s easy,” he thinks. His sister Henrietta is doubtful but supportive. Together they use their imaginations and design a plane that takes them on a highflying adventure. Imaginative play takes these two pigs on a fun ride through the sky.

**Windows**
by Julia Denos
A beautifully illustrated story about a boy who heads out for a walk of discovery with his dog and portrays the idea of home and how windows grant a brief glimpse of family coming together.

**Wolf in the Snow**
by Matthew Cordell
Winner of the 2018 Caldecott Medal, *Wolf in the Snow* is a wordless story of a young a girl who is lost in the snowstorm and finds a wolf cub who is lost too. Desperate to return home, will she make it?

**Wordy Birdy**
by Tammi Sauer
Some birds just talk and talk and talk, which means they might not be paying attention to important situations around them. Will this bird get into a problem that her friends need to help her out of? Here’s a story about friendship, of staying connected and paying attention.

**You Hold Me Up**
by Monique Gray Smith
This beautiful book shows the power of kindness and community through simple text and images of children having positive interactions with the people around them. A great book to share one-on-one.
**Away**  
by Emil Sher  
Love shines through in the sticky notes shared between a mother and daughter in this picture book about making time for family during our busy lives.

**The Bagel King**  
by Andrew Larsen  
This sweet intergenerational Jewish family story is filled with humour and heart.

**Be a Star, Wonder Woman!**  
by Michael Dahl  
Along with Omar Lozano’s bright, bold illustrations, bestselling author Michael Dahl (Bedtime for Batman and Good Morning, Superman) delivers an imaginative read-aloud for your littlest super heroes.

**The Book About Nothing**  
by Mike Bender  
This book has nothing to do with rainbows, rocket ships, meatballs, or wizards. Instead, it’s full of zip, zilch, diddly-squat, bupkus.
Dread Cat
by Michael Rosen
Fiction. 2018.
Once there was a very fierce cat. Not just fierce: totally, terrifyingly, stupendously fierce. Everyone was afraid of this cat, named Dread. But then Dread Cat started to run out of luck catching mice. She announced she was giving up chasing mice and promised to never again kill another mouse. The war was over. But was it really?

Fantastic Optical Illusions: Exciting Visual Illusions, Color Tricks, Perplexing Puzzles, and More!
by DK Publishing
This colourful and brightly presented volume contains 130 optical illusions, tricks, and puzzles for your entertainment.

Fly Guy and the Alienzz
by Tedd Arnold
Buzz is making a movie about aliens from outer space.

Franny’s Father is a Feminist
by Rhonda Leet
Franny is a girl with pink hair, wide eyes, and a pink kitty shirt. With his muscular build and thick, red beard, Franny’s father is a Paul Bunyan look-alike, but he’s also a feminist.
**Great Dog**
by Davide Cali 🇨🇦
In a bright and expansive house, father and son canines proceed down a hallway lined with family portraits and discuss how the young pup will absolutely one day be a Great Dog.

**Ivan the Terrible**
by Anne Fine
Fiction. 2018.
It’s Ivan’s first day at his new school and Boris is told to look after him and translate for him because Ivan can only speak Russian. When Ivan starts greeting people as “lowly shivering worms”, Boris realizes that he’s going to have his work cut out for him. And that’s just the start of the day!

**Harriet Gets Carried Away**
by Jessie Sima
A young girl in a penguin costume sets off to pick out some birthday hats and gets a little carried away.

**A Mighty Bitey Creature**
by Ronda Armitage
Ou-ou-ouch! Who did that? No bottoms are safe in a mischievous jungle story sure to elicit peals of laughter.
Mrs. Mole, I’m Home!
by Peter Jarvis
Poor Morris Mole has had a very long day, and all he wants is to get home to Mrs. Mole and their children. But Morris has misplaced his glasses!

Nate the Great and the Wandering Word
by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
Fiction. 2018.
Esmeralda came up with the perfect name for Rosamond’s pet concert. But she lost the pink paper where she wrote the word — and she can’t remember what it is. Nate the Great and his dog, Sludge, take on the unusual case.

Night Out
by Daniel Miyares
An unnamed boy is a loner at boarding school until an invitation leads him to a nighttime celebration and provides him with a remarkable story to tell.

Run Wild
by David Covell
Get back to nature in this gorgeous, sunlit filled book that celebrates the joy of being outdoors.
They Came
by Mark Tatulli
Fiction. 2018.
An old-fashioned spaceship is the focus of this silly lesson about embracing the unknown.

Town Is by the Sea
by Joanne Schwartz 🍁
A finalist for the Governor General Literary Award for Young People’s Literature, this illustrated tale of a young boy missing his miner father touches on universal themes of love, family, and connection to the Canadian landscape.

Trampoline Boy
by Nan Fortler
Whether it leads to a place of fantasy or just a sense of physical release, kids who have experienced the liberating joy of jumping will understand Trampoline Boy’s obsession.

Two Dogs in a Trench Coat Go to School
by Julie Falatko
Fiction. 2018.
A goofy offering for readers who like over-the-top fare.
The Slime Book: All You Need to Know to Make the Perfect Slime
by DK Publishing
More than 30 gloopy, gooey, colorful DIY slime recipes will mesmerize kids by showing them how to make slime!

Warts and All: A book of Unconditional Love
by Lori Haskins Houran
Love isn’t just for the cute, the sweet, and the cuddly. Whether you’re awkward as a baby ostrich, prickly as a tiny hedgehog, or drool like a puppy pug, someone loves you no matter what!

We Don’t Eat Our Classmates
by Ryan T. Higgins
Picture Book. 2018.
It is hard to meet human friends when they are so darn delicious!

Whiskerella
by Ursula Vernon
Fiction. 2018.
A funny, feminist twist on the Cinderella fairy tale for fans of fractured fairy tales.
**The 1,000-year-old Boy**  
by Ross Welford  
Fiction. 2018.  
*The 1000-year-old Boy* is a breathtakingly epic story that you won’t be able to put down.

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**All Three Stooges**  
by Erica S. Perl  
Fiction. 2018.  
Perl has created a moving coming-of-age journey steeped in Jewish traditions and comedic history, elegantly balancing humor with an honest look at the impact of suicide.

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**A Bad Night for Bullies**  
by Gary Ghislain  
Fiction. 2018.  
Harold, a wheelchair user since an accident at the age of seven, is a quiet 12-year-old. He lives with his mum and enjoys his quiet little town. But the arrival of a famous horror writer and his two daughters sees Harold’s world shaken up, as he suddenly finds himself skipping school, chasing ghosts, and battling the bullies he’s been trying to escape for years.

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**The Boy, the Boat, and the Beast**  
by Samantha M. Clark  
Fiction. 2018.  
Stranded on a menacing tropical island with no memories, a boy must confront the manifestations of his fears to find his past.
The Boy Who Went Magic
by A.P. Winter
Full of creative details, mysterious characters, and forbidden magic, most fantasy lovers will want to check this out.

Breakout
by Kate Messner
Fiction. 2018.
Nora Tucker is looking forward to summer vacation in Wolf Creek — two months of swimming, popsicles, and brushing up on her journalism skills for the school paper. But when two inmates break out of the town’s maximum security prison, everything changes.

The Button War: A Tale of the Great War
by Avi
Fiction. 2018.
Renowned, award-winning author Avi pens a stark, unflinching tale of ordinary boys living in wartime as tensions and desperations mount among them.

Clara Voyant
by Rachelle Delaney
Fiction. 2018.
A wannabe journalist and reluctant astrologer turns out to be clairvoyant in this charming middle-grade coming-of-age novel; for fans of Rebecca Stead’s novels.
Confusion is Nothing New
by Paul Acampora
Fiction. 2018.
A tribute to family, friends, and Cyndi Lauper, this is a story of a young girl’s search for answers and her journey towards a deeper appreciation of the people who love her.

Float
by Laura Martin
Fiction. 2018.
In this lighthearted middle grade romp, kids with super powers enjoy a fun-filled summer at a camp designed to accommodate their special needs.

From Ant to Eagle
by Alex Lyttle
My name is Calvin Sinclair, I’m eleven years old and I have a confession... I killed my brother. Tender, direct and honest, this story set in London, Ontario follows a tween boy through his brother’s cancer diagnosis and his first love.

A Grain of Rice
Helena Clare Pittman
Fiction. 2018.
In 15th-century China, a humble farmer outwits the Emperor — and wins his daughter’s hand — with an ingenious request.
Hurricane Child
by Kheryn Callender
Fiction. 2018.
An excellent and nuanced coming-of-age tale with a dash of magical realism for readers who enjoy character-driven novels.

The Jamie Drake Equation
by Christopher Edge
Jamie used to think his biggest problem was missing his dad, an astronaut. Then Jamie discovers a secret science lab on the top of a hill and downloads a mysterious alien intelligence onto his phone.

Last Chance Island
by Norma M. Charles
Fiction. 2016.
Last Chance Island is a story told as two intertwined narratives in alternating chapters. The first narrative uses a third-person narrator whose point of view is that of Kalu, a 13-year-old African boy; the second is a first-person narrative told by Spike, a 15-year-old Canadian girl.

The Lifters
by Dave Eggers
Fiction. 2018.
The Flowerpetal family moves to a town called Carousel on the promise of work and a lower cost of living. However, the town that formerly housed the Catalan Carousel Company doesn’t look prosperous with a collapsed carousel in front of its city hall.
Lions & Liars
by Kate Beasley
Fiction. 2018.
Frederick Frederickson has school social life figured out: kids are either lions, gazelles, meerkats, or, like him, fleas on meerkats’ butts.

The Mad Wolf’s Daughter
by Diane Magras
Fiction. 2018.
Drest has just six days to save her father and brothers from the hangman’s noose in this adventure tale set in medieval Scotland.

The Night Diary
by Veera Hiranandani
Fiction. 2018.
After introverted Nisha receives a diary for her 12th birthday, she begins to find her voice as she documents her family’s upheaval amid the 1947 Partition of India.

Spindrift and the Orchid
by Emma Trevayne
Fiction. 2018.
Left running for her life, Spindrift must ask herself who her parents really were, and whether a wish is really just a curse in disguise.
The Strange and Deadly Portraits of Bryony Gray
by E. Latimer
Fiction. 2018.
Lemony Snicket meets Oscar Wilde meets Edgar Allan Poe in this exciting and scary middle-grade novel inspired by The Picture of Dorian Gray — a family curse is unleashed!

Strays Like Us
by Cecilia Galante
Fiction. 2018.
When her mother is arrested for stealing prescription medication, Fred is placed in foster care and relocated from their Philadelphia home to Lancaster County, PA.

Until Tomorrow, Mr. Marsworth
by Shelia O’Connor
Fiction. 2018.
Set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War, one young girl is determined to save her brother from the draft — and gets help from an unlikely source — in this middle-grade tale, perfect for fans of The Wednesday Wars.

When the Crickets Stopped Singing
by Marilyn Cram Donahue
Fiction. 2018.
Set in the summer of 1939, this historical novel for readers aged 10-14 tells the story of a young girl who finds the strength to defy the social norms of her community when a dangerous man poses a threat to a friend.
#NotYourPrincess: Voices of Native American Women
Edited by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale
Indigenous women across North America tell their stories in their own voices through artwork, stories, poems, and essays. Whether speaking truth about abuse and racism, or looking forward to a better future, this powerful collection is a must-read.

All Out: The No-Longer-Secret Stories of Queer Teens Throughout the Ages
Edited by Sandra Mitchell
Fiction. 2018.
A transgender reimagining of Little Red Riding Hood in 1870s Mexico. Two girls falling in love in 1990s Seattle. *All Out* is a collection of 17 short stories across the LGBTQ+ spectrum, a diverse range of tales which spans across cultures, time periods and identities.

All the Crooked Saints
by Maggie Stiefvater
Bicho Raro is a remarkable place with mad owls, pirate radio, and a desert sky full of stars. It’s home to the Soria family, who perform miracles. But the pilgrims never get what they expect, and the Sorias could use some miracles of their own.

American Panda
by Gloria Chao
Fiction. 2018.
Mei’s strict parents have her whole future planned out: become a doctor, marry a Taiwanese boy, and give them grandkids. Too bad she hates germs, has a crush on a Japanese classmate, and is reconnecting with her disowned brother…

After the Shot Drops
by Randy Ribay
Fiction. 2018
Bunny and Nasir have been inseparable for years, until Bunny gets a basketball scholarship at the prestigious school across town. Can their friendship survive Nasir’s bitterness at being left behind? And what happens when a dangerous bet comes into play?
**The Astonishing Color of After**
by Emily X. R. Pan
Fiction. 2018.
Leigh is convinced that after her mother died by suicide she was reincarnated into a bird. A bird who keeps visiting her. Determined to find out why, Leigh goes to Taiwan to meet her mother’s estranged family and uncover the secrets her family kept hidden.

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**Batman: Nightwalker**
by Marie Lu
Fiction. 2018.
Bruce Wayne is about to turn 18 and inherit his family’s estate, but an impulsive mistake lands him in community service at the notorious Arkham Asylum. Can Bruce solve the mystery of the Nightwalkers without falling prey to the murderous Madeleine Wallace?

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**Blood Water Paint**
by Joy McCullough
Fiction. 2018.
Forced to improve her father’s paintings instead of pursuing her own, Artemisia leaps at the opportunity to study with the painter Augustino. But when Augustino commits the ultimate betrayal, Artemisia must decide — suffer in silence or speak out, no matter the consequences.

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**Blood Will Out**
by Jo Treggiari
Fiction. 2018.
Ari finds herself injured and alone at the bottom of a cistern, with a splitting headache and no memory of how she got there. Out in the woods near her small hometown, Ari knows her attacker will return — and no one can hear her scream.

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**Brazen: Rebel Ladies who Rocked the World**
by Pénélope Bagieu
Nonfiction. 2018.
Bagieu’s expressive, entertaining illustrations are the perfect way to tell these true stories of remarkable women throughout history. This graphic essay collection features over two dozen incredible women, from Ancient Rome’s Agnodice to astronaut Mae Jemison, to actress and inventor Hedy Lamarr.
**Caraval**
by Stephanie Garber  
With an unwelcome arranged marriage looming on the horizon, Scarlett leaps at her very last chance to attend the mysterious performance known as Caraval. Her beloved sister Tella helps her get there — but Caraval’s ringmaster Legend has his own ominous plans for the girls.

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**The Cruel Prince**
by Holly Black  
Fiction. 2018.  
Jude and her sisters are stolen mortals in the kingdom of the Fey. She wants nothing more than to belong in the High Court of Faerie, but it’s a dangerous dream — the Fey hate humans, and Prince Cardan is the worst of them all.

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**Dread Nation: Rise Up**
by Justina Ireland  
Fiction. 2018.  
The Battle of Gettysburg changed America forever — because that’s when the dead began to walk. Slavery ended, but not inequality; now certain children are forced to attend combat school so they can protect the privileged. That’s not the life that Jane McKeene wants to lead.

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**Emergency Contact**
by Mary H. K. Choi  
Fiction. 2018.  
Penny is a freshman desperate to leave behind her infuriating and embarrassing mother. Sam is broke, technically homeless, and an emotional wasteland after a disastrous break-up. When they meet they are both messy, vulnerable, and in need of an emergency contact.

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**The Epic Crush of Genie Lo**
by F.C. Yee  
When transfer student Quentin tells Genie he’s the Monkey King and she belongs to him, she punches him in the face. She soon learns Quentin is telling the truth — and he needs her help to defeat a horde of demons and save the world.
**Everland**  
by Wendy Spinale  
Fiction. 2016.  
A new take on the classic story of Peter Pan. In a bombed out and disease-ridden London, only the children have survived. The Darling siblings must team up with mysterious Pete and the Lost Boys to outsmart Captain Hook.

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**Everless**  
by Sara Holland  
Fiction. 2018.  
In Sempera, time is money; the poor pay heavy taxes, losing years from their lives so that the aristocracy can live for centuries. When Jules’ father falls ill, she must return to the Everless estate and fight every temptation in order to change his fate.

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**Fat Girl on a Plane: Big Dreams Come in all Sizes**  
by Kelly Devos  
Fiction. 2018.  
When Cookie’s dreams of being a fashion designer are dashed because she’s too fat to fly, she vows to get skinny. She loses weight and starts to get everything she every hoped for. She also discovers it’s not at all what she expected.

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**A Girl Called Echo, Vol. 01: Pemmican Wars**  
by Katherena Vermette  
Foster kid Echo doesn’t know much about her Métis heritage, until her history class literally comes to life and she finds herself transported back to the time of the Pemmican Wars between the Métis and European settlers in the Red River Valley.

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**The Hazel Wood**  
by Melissa Albert  
Fiction. 2018.  
Alice’s reclusive grandmother wrote a famous book of vicious fairytales, but Alice’s mother has always kept her away from it; now her grandmother is dead, her mother is missing, and it seems that the dark Hinterland her grandmother wrote about is all too real.
**Heretics Anonymous**
by Katie Henry
Fiction. 2018.
Michael moves to a new town and must attend a strict Catholic school. As an atheist, he’s not interested in being taught history by Sister Joseph Marie. He teams up with other St. Clare’s misfits to make the school a little more bearable.

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**House of Furies**
by Madeleine Roux
In the early 19th Century, Louisa finds herself employed at Coldthistle House. She considers herself lucky to have a roof over her head, but she soon discovers her employer and his staff have some dark secrets and they’re not about to let her leave.

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**The Inexplicable Logic of my Life**
by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
Sal has always been well-behaved, but lately he’s having a hard time controlling his anger. Where is all this rage coming from? Luckily, he doesn’t have to figure it out on his own. A compassionate coming-of-age story that celebrates the importance of friends and family.

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**Inkmistress**
by Audrey Coulthurst
Fiction. 2018.
Asra has magic and will do anything for the girl she loves. Ina is desperate to find her manifest, an animal form she can take to protect her home. But magic works in unexpected and dangerous ways, and the consequences will change their lives forever.

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**The Language of Thorns**
by Leigh Bardugo
A gorgeous collection of darkly enchanting stories, for those who know that fairytales don’t always have happy endings. Perfect for fans of *Shadow and Bone*, or an excellent introduction to the world of the Grisha.
**Lissa: A Story About Medical Promise, Friendship, and Revolution**  
by Sherine Hamdy and Coleman Nye  
Anna and Layla are two friends living a world apart, but can they come together when it matters most? This thoroughly researched graphic novel is a moving, authentic story of friendship during personal and national upheaval in Egypt.

**The Lives of Desperate Girls**  
by MacKenzie Common  
A girl’s body is found just outside Jenny’s harsh Northern hometown. Helen is totally unlike Jenny’s missing best friend, Chloe, but Jenny can’t help but be drawn to the mystery of her death, hoping it will help her understand Chloe’s disappearance.

**Made in Abyss, Vol. 1**  
by Akihito Tsukushi  
Fiction. 2018.  
A giant cave called The Abyss is the only place in the world left unexplored, and Riko dreams of following in her mother's footsteps as a Cave Raider. With the help of a strange robot she discovers, her dream might just come true.

**Mary’s Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein**  
by Lita Judge  
Nonfiction. 2018.  
Mary Shelley comes to life in this free-verse biography, featuring full watercolour illustrations. Trace the origins of Frankenstein’s creation in Mary’s turbulent journey to becoming an author, from disownment and scandal to heartache and poverty, with twists to rival her novel at every turn.

**Nice Try, Jane Sinner**  
by Lianne Oelke  
Fiction. 2018.  
Covertly signing up to participate in a small-budget reality show so she can move out of her parent’s house, Jane’s goal of completing her high school credits is complicated by the show’s sudden popularity, her bizarre housemates, and her own competitive nature.
**Night of Cake & Puppets**  
by Laini Taylor  
Tiny, fierce Zuzana can’t stop thinking about Mik, but her courage disappears when she imagines actually talking to him. That is, until tonight: she has a plan, and just enough magic to make it happen. A companion to the *Daughter of Smoke and Bone* series.

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**Of Fire and Stars**  
by Audrey Coulthurst  
Fiction. 2016.  
Princesses Dennaleia and Amaranthine are far from friends, but when a shocking assassination rocks their kingdom they reluctantly join forces to find the killer. As they discover each other’s secrets, their tenuous friendship threatens to grow into something more.

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**Picture Us in the Light**  
by Kelly Loy Gilbert  
Fiction. 2018.  
Danny Cheng’s future looks bright, with good friends and a scholarship to art school, but there are things his friends don’t know. When his family has to move, he discovers a box of old secrets in his father’s closet and everything begins to unravel.

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**The Price Guide to the Occult**  
by Leslye Walton  
Fiction. 2018.  
Nor comes from a long line of witches, all of them cursed. Nor is hoping to avoid anything magical at all and lead an unexceptional life — but her hopes are shattered when she discovers her malicious mother is back and desperate for power.

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**The Prince and the Dressmaker**  
by Jen Wang  
Fiction. 2018.  
Prince Sebastian is secretly sometimes Lady Crystallia, famous for her incredible dresses. His best friend, Frances, makes those dresses and keeps his secret, but she has dreams of her own. Can she realize her dreams without betraying her friend?
**Puddin’**
by Julie Murphy  
Fiction. 2018.  
Millie Michalchuk and Callie Reyes are polar opposites: Millie spends her summers at fat camp and Callie is the soon-to-be dance team captain. Sometimes though, opposites have more in common than it appears.

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**Release**
by Patrick Ness  
Two storylines follow Adam, the gay son of a homophobic preacher, and a ghost who’s awoken after being murdered. In a single day the former struggles with feelings over his ex, his new boyfriend, and his family, while the latter hunts for answers.

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**Renegades**
by Marissa Meyer  
The Renegades are superheroes who rose from the ashes of society to restore peace and order, but they were nowhere to be found when Nova’s family was murdered. Supervillains took her in, and now she’s a finely crafted weapon to help them take their revenge.

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**Runaways: Find Your Way Home**
by Rainbow Rowell  
Fiction. 2018.  
The Runaways are back! Two years ago, this group of superpowered teens fought their final battle against their supervillain parents, and paid a terribly high cost. Now Chase thinks he can fix things by travelling back in time to save Gert, the girl they lost.

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**A Semi-Definitive List of Worst Nightmares**
by Krystal Sutherland  
After Esther’s grandfather was cursed by Death, each member of her family succumbs to their worst fears. With her would-be mugger as her side-kick, Esther faces her 50 could-be greatest fears to try and meet Death and lift the curse.
**A Skinful of Shadows**
by Frances Hardinge
Born with the ability to be possessed by ghosts, recently orphaned Makepeace travels to her father’s ancestral home looking for help. When her extended family proves nefarious, Makepeace runs for her life collecting allies along the way — including the ghost of an angry bear.

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**Sky in the Deep**
by Adrienne Young
Fiction. 2018.
To protect her clan, warrior Eelyn has honed her skills — and her hatred. Until the day she sees her supposedly dead brother on the battlefield, fighting by her enemy’s side. Captured and enslaved, Eelyn is forced to question all she’s ever known.

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**Speak Easy, Speak Love**
by McKelle George
Fiction. 2017
Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing* is wonderfully retold in this sparkling, jazzy romance full of action, fun, and witty repartee. The Roaring Twenties come to life through this story of speakeasies, rumrunners, mobsters and music, and most importantly, love.

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**Tess of the Road**
by Rachel Hartman
Fiction. 2018.
How do you repair a broken past and learn to love yourself? Set in the same world as Seraphina and Shadow Scale, we follow Seraphina’s stubborn, willful, and brave half-sister Tess as she escapes the home that doesn’t want her in order to find herself.

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**Tilly: A Story of Hope, Faith & Empathy**
by Monique Gray Smith
Fiction. 2013.
Tilly’s grandmother taught her everything she knows about being Indigenous. When she dies suddenly, Tilly is thrown into a vicious cycle of partying. Tilly must summon all the strength she has to become the woman her grandmother taught her to be.
To Your Eternity  
by Yoshitoki Oima  
“It” is an immortal shapeshifter with no identity of its own. Sent to Earth on a journey of discovery, it lives many lives, taking on the forms of those it encounters, including a dying wolf and a boy abandoned by his people.

Truly Devious  
by Maureen Johnson  
Fiction. 2018.  
Ellingham Academy is an exclusive private school with a tragic history: the kidnapping and murder of the wealthy founder’s family. Now Stevie Bell is starting her first year, and she’s determined to solve the decades-old mystery.

War of the Blink: A Haida Manga  
by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas  
Can a war be won with a staring contest? A lone fisherman trying to protect his home from raiders might just have the answer. This visual retelling of an ancient Haida story combines traditional Haida art with Japanese manga style to create something entirely original.

Warcross  
by Marie Lu  
Every day, millions of players log in to Warcross, to escape or just turn a profit. Hacker Emika is just scraping by as a bounty hunter, until the game’s elusive creator asks for her help uncovering a sinister plot within the game.

Weave a Circle Round  
by Kari Maaren  
Despite her eccentric family, all Freddy wants is to be normal. When bizarre neighbours move in next door and inexplicable events begin to pile up — including time travel and a house that defies physics — normal becomes increasingly impossible.
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