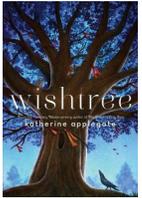


The Penderwicks at last

by Jeanne Birdsall

Happily anticipating the homecoming of college-student Batty, 11-year-old Lydia is delighted to hear that their family is returning to Arundel for the summer for an old-fashioned wedding, in a conclusion

to the series.

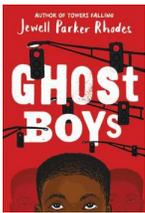


Wishtree

by Katherine Applegate

A wise old oak tree that stands as the neighborhood's "wishtree," where people write wishes on cloth and tie them to her branches, shares her days with her crow friend and helps the community embrace

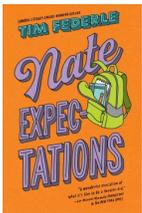
differences when new neighbors move in and are not warmly welcomed.



Ghost boys

by Jewell Parker Rhodes

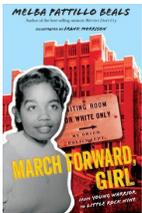
After seventh-grader Jerome is shot by a white police officer, he observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen black boys including historical figure Emmett Till.



Nate expectations

by Tim Federle

When E.T.: The Musical closes, Nate reluctantly returns home to begin high school and, with his best friend, Libby, makes a project of turning Dickens' Great Expectations into a musical.



March forward, girl : from young warrior to Little Rock Nine

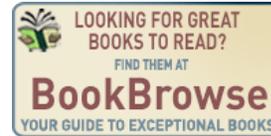
by Melba Pattillo Beals

The civil rights activist and author of the best-selling Warriors Don't Cry presents an ardent and profound childhood

memoir of growing up in the face of adversity in the Jim Crow South.

Looking for more suggestions?

MHL has a number of services to help you find books and other materials that you might enjoy!



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The Children's Room staff maintains a list of recommendations at <https://www.mhl.org/kids/lists>.



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Winter Reading Club 2018

Middle Grade Suggestions

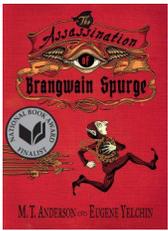


Get smitten with books!



From December 1, 2018 to January 2, 2019 pick up and return a Winter Reading Club Bingo Board from any public service desk (Childrens, Teen, Circulation, and Reference).

Show a complete row of activities to a staff member to win a free book. Complete the entire board to be entered into a drawing for a Andover Bookstore gift card!



The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge

by M. T. Anderson

Elf historian Brangwain Spurge is sent to goblin country to deliver a peace offering to their dark lord and spy on the goblin kingdom, but he and his goblin host commit a series of blunders

that might bring their nations to war.

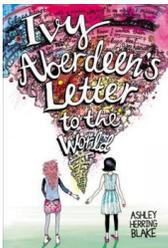


The cardboard kingdom

by Chad Sell

A team of neighbor kids use their imaginations and creativity to transform cardboard materials into fantastical homemade costumes that help them navigate conflicts with friends, family and their own identities, in a collaborative graphic novel that

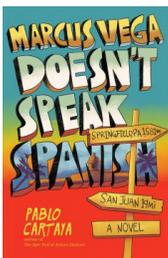
includes contributions by such authors as Jay Fuller, David DeMeo and Katie Schenkel.



Ivy Aberdeen's letter to the world

by Ashley Herring Blake

Twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado, and in the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for another girl at school.



Marcus Vega doesn't speak Spanish

by Pablo Cartaya

After a fight at school leaves Marcus facing suspension, Marcus's mother takes him and his younger brother, who has Down syndrome, to Puerto Rico to visit relatives they do not remember or have never met, and

while there Marcus starts searching for his father, who left their family ten years ago and is somewhere on the island.



Front desk

by Kelly Yang

Recent immigrants from China and desperate for work and money, ten-year-old Mia Tang's parents take a job managing a rundown motel in Southern California, even though the owner, Mr. Yao is a nasty skinflint who exploits them; while her mother

(who was an engineer in China) does the cleaning, Mia works the front desk and tries to cope with demanding customers and other recent immigrants--not to mention being only one of two Chinese in her fifth grade class, the other being Mr. Yao's son, Jason.



The Backstagers and the ghost light

by Andy Mientus

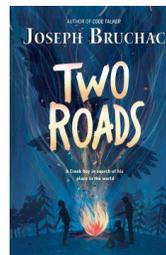
When Jory transfers to St. Genesis Prep, he joins the stage crew and discovers the magic that happens backstage but when some cast members play with a Spirit board, the ghost light goes out and strange things begin to happen.



Aru Shah and the end of time

by Roshani Chokshi

Telling fibs in order to fit in better with her wealthier peers, 12-year-old Aru Shah spends her school break at the Museum of Ancient Indian Art and Culture, where her decision to light a cursed lamp unwittingly releases an ancient demon.



Two roads

by Joseph Bruchac

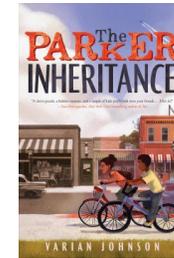
In 1932, twelve-year-old Cal must stop being a hobo with his father and go to a Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding school, where he begins learning about his history and heritage as a Creek Indian.



Hurricane child

by Kheryn Callender

Born on Water Island in the Virgin Islands during a hurricane, which is considered bad luck, twelve-year-old Caroline falls in love with another girl--and together they set out in a hurricane to find Caroline's missing mother



The Parker inheritance

by Varian Johnson

Candice Miller is spending the summer in South Carolina, in the old house that belonged to her grandmother, who died after being dismissed as city manager for having the city tennis courts dug up looking for buried treasure--but when she

finds the letter that sent her grandmother on the treasure hunt, she finds herself caught up in the mystery and, with the help of her new friend and fellow book-worm, Brandon, she sets out to find the inheritance.



You go first

by Erin Entrada Kelly

Charlotte, twelve, and Ben, eleven, are highly-skilled competitors at online Scrabble and that connection helps both as they face family issues and the turmoil of middle school.



Dactyl Hill Squad

by Daniel José Older

It is the summer of 1863, and the Civil War rages between dinosaur-mounted armies down south. In NYC, Magdalys and the other children at the Colored Orphan Asylum are trying to survive; but when she receives a letter telling her that her

brother Montez was wounded, Magdalys knows that she must reach him--and that her ability to communicate telepathically with dinosaurs may come in handy.