



Revisit & Rediscover

Take a fresh look at these old favorites.

WINTER '15-'16
Kids' Next

Bark, George

By Jules Feiffer

"Who cannot delight in the hilarious words and artwork of Jules Feiffer? George does not bark. His mother is distraught. He quacks, he meows, he moos. After a trip to the intrepid vet, everyone is sure that he is well. The last page is the perfect ending and this much-beloved picture book should be a storytime staple for any store."

—Valerie Koehler, Blue Willow Bookshop, Houston, TX



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A Story for Bear

By Dennis Haseley, Jim LaMarche (Illus.)

"This story of a bear who finds himself captivated by the sound of a woman reading to him outside her cabin in the woods perfectly captures the pleasures of shared reading. Evocative illustrations and a gentle, lilting tone further accentuate this moving tribute to the power of giving voice to books".

—Kenny Brechner, Devaney, Doak & Garrett Booksellers, Farmington, ME



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The Other Side

By Jacqueline Woodson, E. B. Lewis (Illus.)

"Jacqueline Woodson's gem of a picture book tells of the fence that runs through town, dividing the white side from the black side. Two young girls, Annie and Clover, whose yards are back-to-back, watch each other through the fence. Both were told by their mamas not to cross over to the other side, but no one told them not to sit on top of the fence. One day they dare to climb up and sit together, with the hope that, 'someday somebody's going to come along and knock this old fence down.'"

—Sharon Hearn, Children's Book World, Los Angeles, CA



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London Eye Mystery

By Siobhan Dowd

"Salim boards the London Eye observational wheel but is nowhere to be found when the ride ends. His cousins, Ted and Kat, strive to solve his disappearance while the adults around them fear the worst. The sleuths' best asset turns out to be Ted's atypical mind. An empathic look at autism and lots of ring-true family dynamics combine in this happily perplexing mystery by beloved British author Dowd."

—Carol Muller, Hicklebee's Children's Books, San Jose, CA



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Ida B ... and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World

By Katherine Hannigan

"At first blush, Ida B Applewood seems to have the world by the tail. Home-schooled by two down to earth parents who operate an apple orchard, Ida B thinks like a storyteller and wields words like a poet in her relentless pursuit of Fun. When her idyllic lifestyle takes a turn and she's forced to go to public school, she feels her heart begin to harden into a cold dark stone. Your heart will break for Ida B as she gradually comes to terms with changes in her life."

—Collette Morgan, Wild Rumpus, Minneapolis, MN



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The Secret of Platform 13

By Eva Ibbotson

"Eva Ibbotson's *The Secret of Platform 13* is so much fun! Parallel worlds of the real and the magical are reached via Platform 13—years before Harry Potter's rail adventures. Readers will fall in love with the young, terribly brave heroine, and there is plenty of action well-seasoned with sly humor."

—Christy McDanold, Secret Garden Books, Seattle, WA



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My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, and Fenway Park

By Steve Kluger

"Three high school seniors are given an assignment to reflect on their favorite times in high school and *My Most Excellent Year* by Steve Kluger is the funny, thoughtful, and oh-so-sweet product. Alejandra, T.C., and Augie tell their stories in alternating chapters, remembering school musicals, baseball games, Mary Poppins, social activism, and the year they made a little boy's dream come true."

—Diane Capriola, Little Shop of Stories, Decatur, GA



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The Wee Free Men: A Tiffany Aching Adventure

By Terry Pratchett

"Tiffany Aching is a witch in the making, but when the Evil Queen of Fairies kidnaps her younger brother, Tiffany becomes a heroine. Using common sense, a frying pan, and a piece of string this courageous girl takes on the monsters in many forms. Humor, adventure and colorful dialogue make this book unforgettable. Lucky for all of us that this is just the first volume in the 5-book Tiffany Aching Adventures series!"

—Becky Anderson, Anderson's Bookshop, Naperville, IL



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A Northern Light

By Jennifer Donnelly

"Set in the 1900s against the backdrop of a real-life murder mystery, *A Northern Light* is the coming of age story of Mattie Gokey. This feisty and passionate 16-year-old narrator has excruciatingly difficult choices to make, choices that will forever change her life and the lives of those around her. Exquisite writing, memorable characters, a riveting mystery, and a fascinating historical backdrop all make Jennifer Donnelly's *A Northern Light* a masterpiece."

—Heather Hebert, Children's Book World, Haverford, PA



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