



# Autumn 2017 Kids' Next

TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10 PICKS **TOP 10 PICKS** TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10

## Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow

By Jessica Townsend

"I am loving the wave of plucky, engaging heroines currently prevalent in children's literature, and Morrigan Crow is no exception. She is brave and curious and kind, despite a largely indifferent upbringing and a lack of companionship of any kind. This debut by Jessica Townsend, the first installment in a series, has just the right mix of dark, to give you a sense of foreboding, and light, to give you hope. Engaging characters and great descriptions of the whimsical world of Nevermoor will leave you wanting to return."

—Melissa Thorkilsen, Elm Street Books, New Canaan, CT



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## The Wolf, the Duck, and the Mouse

By Mac Barnett, Jon Klassen (Illus.)

"*The Wolf, the Duck, and the Mouse* starts off with a bang and goes on to be quite possibly the strangest tale of teamwork to ever grace the pages of a picture book. Kids and their parents are sure to enjoy the latest Barnett-Klassen collaboration. They will laugh. They will be dumbfounded. And they will have just picked up their newest favorite story."

—Jordan Standridge, Powell's Books, Portland, OR



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## Dear Martin

By Nic Stone

"Justyce helps his drunk girlfriend into the backseat of a car. A police officer sees them and accuses him of something more nefarious, which leaves Justyce sitting for three hours with handcuffs on. At the same time, there are news stories of young black men being shot by police officers. These events combine to lead Justyce to explore how issues of race intersect with his life as an African-American student in a mostly white private high school. He does this through a series of letters he writes to Martin Luther King. Told with depth and tenderness, *Dear Martin* is an honest and challenging exploration of race and the many ways it impacts our culture."

—Karin Schott, Devaney, Doak & Garrett Booksellers, Farmington, ME



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## Jane, Unlimited

By Kristin Cashore

"This book is exciting in a way that is so rare among young adult titles. Kristin Cashore is the rare author who does not speak down to her audience, but instead expects them to already be on her level. This gratifying writing style only adds to the absolutely thrilling story of Jane's unusual experiences at the palatial home of a friend in *Jane, Unlimited*. There's a piece of every genre available in the pages, and each page offers beautiful details and exciting prose. This is truly a book for everyone!"

—Ashley Dickson, Buffalo Street Books, Ithaca, NY



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## All's Faire in Middle School

By Victoria Jamieson

"*All's Faire in Middle School* captures the tribulations of Imogene, a girl in the midst of a transition from homeschooling to attending public middle school. When Impy starts school, she begins to realize how different she is from the other children. Her family works at the yearly renaissance faire and her father sells pool supplies, and they live in an apartment and shop at thrift stores, unlike some of her more privileged classmates. Class and race are gently addressed, but without the pitfall of sentimentality. Watch Impy strive to learn the difference between popularity and true friends, while also striving to slay the dragon at the faire. Lively, relatable, and fun!"

—Sarah Sorensen, Bookbug, Kalamazoo, MI



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## Warcross

By Marie Lu

"By far Lu's best book to date, *Warcross* is a thrilling ride that alternates seamlessly between the real world and a virtual world that holds the human population captive through a game. Emika is a tough, street-smart girl who moonlights as a bounty hunter. Enter Hideo Tanaka, a billionaire who has plenty of secrets and needs Emika's help with his virtual game, Warcross. I cannot wait for the next book in this series."

—Teresa Steele, Old Firehouse Books, Fort Collins, CO



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## I Hate Everyone But You

By Gaby Dunn, Allison Raskin

"*I Hate Everyone But You* is the real-time unfolding of what it's like to move on and grow up. It is light and charming with unique characters, but still explores some of the biggest and heaviest first experiences that young adults find universal. The tough push-and-pull Ava and Gen act out with one another as they learn to balance different parts of their identities and expression feels fully realized and absolutely (unfortunately) relatable. The format feels authentic and accessible, making it a perfect light read with plenty of gravity and memorable moments."

—Johanna Albrecht, Flyleaf Books, Chapel Hill, NC



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## Max and Bird

By Ed Vere

"Max is back! With minimal illustration and vibrant color, Vere teaches children about persistence, dreams, manners, and learning, but, most of all, about friendship. Max chases Bird but also wants to befriend him; Bird wants to learn to fly, and after spending weeks studying books from the library, they both give it a try. In the world of picture books, Max is here to stay. A delightful read that will put a smile on everyone's face!"

—Mindy Ostrow, the river's end bookstore, Oswego, NY



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## An Enchantment of Ravens

By Margaret Rogerson

"You have one job this fall: read this book. That is if the idea of a gorgeous, glittering, and sometimes grotesque modern fairy tale imbued with wit, humor, and pitch-perfect romance appeals to you. I absolutely loved this unexpected, absurdly lovely novel. It gave me the creeps, it made me laugh out loud, and I swooned and cheered. Isobel is badass, and this story is a joy to read. I can't wait to see what Rogerson writes next! Perfect for fans of Holly Black, Laini Taylor, or anyone who loved *Uprooted* by Naomi Novik."

—Cristina Russell, Books & Books, Coral Gables, FL



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## Wishtree

By Katherine Applegate

"I can't praise this book enough! Red, an Oak tree, has seen it all as he has watched over the neighborhood for many, many years. Just count his rings! Once a year the community writes their wishes on cloth and then hangs them from his branches. When a new family moves into the neighborhood, not everyone is welcoming. *Wishtree* is more important now than ever, and it touched me deeply. It is Applegate's best book to date. You will love the story, the characters, and the message."

—Dori Jaroslow, Books Inc., San Francisco, CA



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