



Winter '18-'19 Kids' Next



TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10

Girls of Paper and Fire

By Natasha Ngan

"*Girls of Paper and Fire*, like its dauntless heroine, is destined for greatness. YA fantasy has waited too long for a book like this. In a lush fantasy world where opulence hides cruelty, low-caste human girls are stolen from their homes to become concubines of the powerful Demon King. These Paper Girls are told they have no future outside of the hidden palace, but one girl, Lei, is determined to escape. Lei is a humble but fierce heroine whose friendship with another girl in the palace soon turns to something more. Ngan brings every facet of this world and its characters to life with her evocative, emotional prose and a love story that defies the odds."

—Kiersten Acker, Brookline Booksmith, Brookline, MA



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A Curse So Dark and Lonely

By Brigid Kemmerer

"*A Curse So Dark and Lonely* is billed as a retelling of *Beauty and the Beast* but it is so much more than that. Yes, there is a cursed kingdom, a prince that turns into a monster, and a girl he hopes will love him and break the curse. But the girl is from modern D.C. and has cerebral palsy, which is part of her but does not define her, and she becomes a badass who completely changes the game. This book is nonstop action from the opening sentence to the last paragraph. I fell in love with all of the characters and the world they inhabit. I really, really hope there is a sequel, as I will be first in line to read it!"

—Carrie Deming, The Dog Eared Book, Palmyra, NY



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The Wicked King

By Holly Black

"This sequel to *The Cruel Prince* is tense, atmospheric, twisty, and everything I wanted it to be. Jude survived the events of the first book, but not without sacrifices—and now she has to fight to keep her power, fend off the fae of the Undersea, and untangle her complicated relationship with High King Cardan. This book will take you for a wild ride, and you won't be able to put it down. The moral gray areas, difficult decisions, and suspense will captivate you and ensure you're still thinking about it when you finish. It's a smart, beautifully written book that brings the world of Faerie to life with vivid detail."

—April Poole, Brewster Book Store, Brewster, MA



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Speechless

By Adam P. Schmitt

"Taking place over a 24-hour period, *Speechless* starts fast and never slows down. When Jimmy arrives at his cousin's wake, he learns he has to speak at the funeral the next day. You know, about the cousin who always made things harder, who was hard to get along with, who was downright mean at times. It's unusual to have a book about grief, especially conflicted grief, for this age group. Adam P. Schmitt has pulled it off—he's an author to watch."

—Buffy Cummins, Second Star to the Right Children's Books, Denver, CO



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The Gilded Wolves

By Roshani Chokshi

"*The Gilded Wolves* is Roshani Chokshi's best book yet. Chokshi's beautifully crafted prose; her vivid, seamless, and organically diverse characterizations; and her clever, magical settings—in this case a Paris that I want to linger in forever—combine with an intricate plot that's a little bit *Ocean's Eleven*, a bit little treasure hunt, and a whole lot of magical. This is the book that Chokshi has been building toward. It is gorgeous, lush, and rich in its world-building, deliciously readable, and left me aching for the rest of the series. Bravo! I'm swooning!"

—Joy Preble, Brazos Bookstore, Houston, TX



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Pulp

By Robin Talley

"Following two queer teen girls through defining moments in their lives, *Pulp* navigates parallel stories connected by the characters' encounters with lesbian pulp novels of the 1950s. Robin Talley deftly shifts between the two stories, showing the challenges both girls face, from breakups and fighting parents to fear of being outed and facing the consequences of the Lavender Scare. *Pulp* is many things: a coming-of-age novel, a story of fighting for social change, and a reminder that finding yourself in the pages of a book can make you feel like you're not alone in the world."

—Lelia Nebeker, One More Page Books, Arlington, VA



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The Disasters

By M.K. England

"In this exhilarating space adventure story, *Star Trek* meets *The Breakfast Club* meets *Guardians of the Galaxy*. Five ragtag teens, known throughout the intergalactic colonies of Earth as treasonous thieves and murderers, face charges for a crime they didn't commit. Four of them were rejects from the elite space academy that patrols the galaxy, and the other, the daughter of a crime lord, is trying to break free from her surroundings. To save the people of the space colonies from a genocide beyond imagination, they must fight against all odds while being hunted down themselves. Great page-turner! This story will keep you on your toes!"

—Anna Rose Carleton, The Well-Read Moose, Coeur d'Alene, ID



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Inkling

By Kenneth Oppel, Sydney Smith (Illus.)

"I never knew I could care about a little ink blot so deeply. This story is full of exciting moments, references plenty of superheroes and graphic novel culture, and reminds us all that we become what we consume—for better or for worse! But if we consume enough variety, we find our own voice in the process. This book is a must-read for any creative, young or old, and will certainly tug on your heartstrings!"

—Jordan Arias, Anderson's Bookshops, Naperville, IL



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When Sadness Is at Your Door

By Eva Eland

"An important book that should be shared with children and adults of all ages. Reminding us to be mindful of our feelings, *When Sadness Is at Your Door* helps children understand the place that sadness has in our lives. The illustrations are beautiful and fit the story perfectly, and they don't make sadness seem scary or like something bad that needs to be driven away. I can see myself sharing this book with adult friends and family members going through difficult times as well."

—Beth Seufer Buss, Bookmarks, Winston-Salem, NC



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My Heart

By Corinna Luyken

"Perfect for anyone who loved Matt de la Peña's *Love* or Amy Krouse Rosenthal's *Dear Girl*, Corinna Luyken's *My Heart* is a gorgeous exploration of what we hold dear. With sweet, simple lines and messy brushstrokes, Luyken illustrates in a profound and heartfelt way the variety of emotions we have and how we can choose to use them."

—Sami Thomason, Square Books, Oxford, MS



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