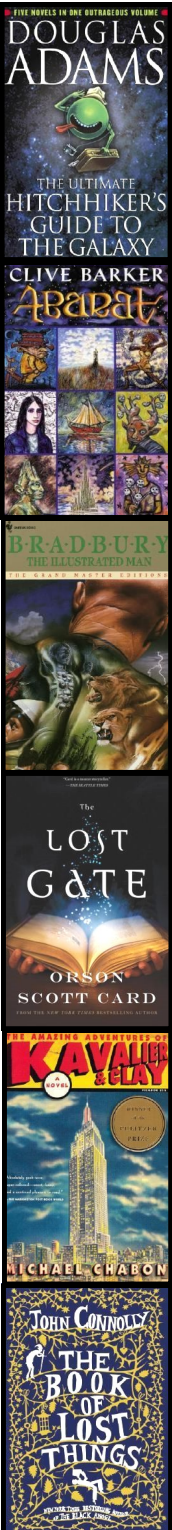




# If You Like ... Neil Gaiman

“Neil Gaiman has a Midas Touch with words. He has written in a dizzying number of genres and formats: Fantasy, Horror, Science Fiction, nonfiction, novels, short stories, screenplays, poetry, picture books, comic books, graphic novels, and song lyrics. Astoundingly, he has met critical and popular success in everything he tries. The Dictionary of Literary Biography cites him as one of the world's top ten living post-modernists, and he has earned scores of awards, from the Eisner to both the Hugo and Nebula Awards to the YALSA's Best Books for Young Adults. Gaiman's characters are memorable and gripping and although he is known for dark, complex storylines, he also peppers his work with literary and cultural references and British humor.” (Courtesy of Novelist) See also: [www.neilgaiman.com](http://www.neilgaiman.com)



## The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

Join hapless hero Arthur Dent as he travels the galaxy with his alien pal, Ford Prefect, getting into horrible messes and generally wreaking hilarious havoc. Dent is grabbed from Earth moments before a cosmic construction team obliterates the planet to build a freeway. Filled with witty satire and unusual characters, like Marvin the paranoid android, this begins the increasingly inappropriately named 'Hitchhikers Trilogy.'

## Abarat by Clive Barker (Young Adult)

Teenage Candy Quackenbush of Chickentown, Minnesota, begins (unbeknownst to her) a prophesied journey toward her destiny when she dives into a mysterious sea that appears outside the town. She is carried to Abarat, an unusual archipelago of 25 islands. Happy to get away from her abusive father, resigned mother, and boring town, Candy eagerly enters a series of zany adventures, making friends and eluding enemies as she finds herself caught in the struggle for power between the Lord of Midnight and the architect of the high-tech Commexo City. Days of Magic, Nights of War is the sequel.

## The Illustrated Man by Ray Bradbury

The images, ideas, sounds and scents that abound in this phantasmagoric sideshow are provocative and powerful. Bradbury's short stories are a kaleidoscopic blending of magic, imagination, and truth, widely believed to be one of the Grandmaster's premier accomplishments: as exhilarating as interplanetary travel, as maddening as a walk in a million-year rain, and as comforting as simple, familiar rituals on the last night of the world. Also try Something Wicked This Way Comes.

## The Lost Gate by Orson Scott Card

This first book in a new urban fantasy series is about a clan of mages in exile in our world, living in uneasy truce with other clans until Danny North's birth brings the flames of open war back to life. The Norths, now living in a family compound in rural Virginia, are actually descended from the Norse Gods, such as Odin, Thor and Loki. Somehow, Danny just might be the first person in over fourteen centuries to be able to create a gate back to the magical world of Westil—the source of magical power; as long as he can survive his own family, that is. Card's novel Magic Street should appeal to fans of *Neverwhere*; Enchantment should appeal to fans of *Stardust*; and Pathfinder should appeal to fans of Gaiman's *Interworld*.

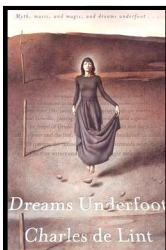
## The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay by Michael Chabon (Adult Fiction)

Joe Kavalier, a young artist and magician, escapes pre-World War II Czechoslovakia, making his way to the home of Sam Clay, his Brooklyn cousin. Sam dreams of making it big in the emerging comic-book trade and sees Joe as the person to help him. The cousins gain success with their masked superhero, the Escapist, but their personal lives are riddled with drama. What results is a novel of love and loss, sorrow and wonder, and the ability of art to transcend the "harsh physics" of this world and gives us a magical glimpse of "the mysterious spirit world beyond."

## The Book of Lost Things by John Connolly (Adult Fiction)

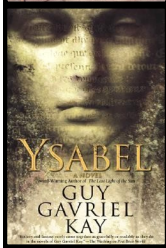
High in his attic bedroom, twelve-year-old David mourns the death of his mother. He is angry and alone, with only the books on his shelf for company. But those books have begun to whisper to him in the darkness, and as he takes refuge in his imagination, he finds that reality and fantasy have begun to meld. While his family falls apart around him, David is violently propelled into a land that is a strange reflection of his own world, populated by heroes and monsters, and ruled over by a faded king who keeps his secrets in a mysterious book ... *The Book of Lost Things*.





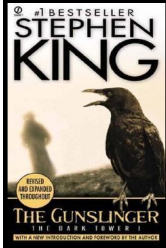
## Dreams Underfoot by Charles De Lint

Welcome to Newford — to the music clubs, the waterfront, the alleyways where ancient myths & magic spill into the modern world. Come meet Jilly, painting wonders in the city streets; and Geordie, playing fiddle while he dreams of a ghost; and the Angel of Grasso Street gathering the fey and the wild and the poor and the lost. Gemmins live in abandoned cars and skulls traverse the tunnels below, while mermaids swim in the grey harbor waters and fill the cold night with their song. Also try De Lint's other Newford books.



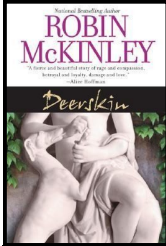
## Ysabel by Guy Gavriel Kay

Fifteen-year-old Ned Marriner accompanies his photographer father on a shoot at Saint-Saveur Cathedral in France, while his mother braves a war zone with Doctors Without Borders. As Ned explores the old cathedral, he meets Kate, a geeky but attractive girl who's a walking encyclopedia of history. In the ancient baptistry, the pair are surprised by a mysterious, scarred man wielding a knife who warns that they've "blundered into a corner of a very old story. It is no place for children." But Ned and Kate can't avoid becoming dangerously entangled in a 2,500-year-old love triangle among mythic figures. Also try The Last Light of the Sun.



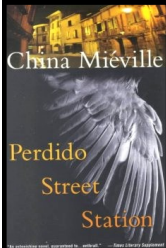
## The Gunslinger by Stephen King

*The Gunslinger* introduces protagonist Roland as he pursues the Man in Black through bleak and tired landscapes in a world that has "moved on." Roland believes that the Man in Black knows and can be made to reveal the secrets of the Dark Tower, which is the ultimate goal of Roland's quest. The rest of the Dark Tower series sees Roland and his fellow travelers continuing their quest as they journey through imaginative landscapes, over astounding obstacles, and meet with and confront a unique and fully drawn cast of characters, both human and nonhuman. Also try King's The Eyes of the Dragon.



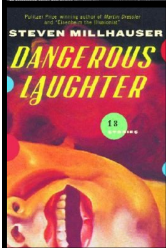
## Deerskin by Robin McKinley

Fans of Gaiman's fairy tale stories Stardust and Neverwhere will enjoy this novel in which Princess Lissar, heir to her late mother's legendary beauty, becomes the victim of her grief-maddened father's desire. Fleeing her home, she seeks solace and solitude in a great forest--and discovers a magic that leads her toward healing and justice. Loosely based on an old fairy tale: Donkeyskin. Also try Beauty, a re-telling of Beauty & the Beast and Spindle's End, a re-telling of Sleeping Beauty.



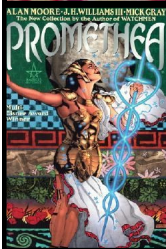
## Perdido Street Station by China Miéville

All manner of aliens and humans coexist in the strange, world-spanning city of New Crobuzon. Here, dark magic and advanced science flourish amid an atmosphere of mysticism & madness, under a government that uses military repression to enforce laws. Independent cultures & civilizations exist side by side, occasionally overlapping and breeding increasingly grotesque oddities. The *New Crobuzon series* continues with The Scar.



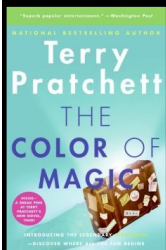
## Dangerous Laughter by Stephen Millhauser (Adult Fiction)

A sense of mystery and strangeness pervades these 13 stories by Pulitzer Prize winner Millhauser. Divided into three sections, the stories explore themes of excess and obsession. "Vanishing Acts," the first section, is the most realistic. The second and third sections depart more and more from what we know as reality and venture into parallel universes. Also try Martin Dressler: the Tale of an American Dreamer.



## Promethea by Alan Moore (Graphic Novels)

For Graphic Novel enthusiasts this series is reminiscent of Sandman in that there are many different realities and planes of existence which are explored by the characters, especially Sophie Bangs, a college student who is suddenly "inhabited" by the spirit of Promethea, an ancient archetypal warrior heroine. Like Gaiman, Moore also fills his stories with literary and cultural allusions. There are 5 books in the Promethea series; also try Moore's other graphic novels, especially The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen.



## The Color of Magic by Terry Pratchett

Gaiman's Good Omens co-author is best known for his long running and popular Discworld series. In this first book in the series, a slightly disorganized and somewhat naive interplanetary tourist named Twosome joins up with the bumbling wizard Rincewind and embarks on a chaotic voyage through a world filled with monsters and dragons, heroes and knaves. Also try Pratchett's Tiffany Aching series in our Young Adult area.

## Cat's Cradle by Kurt Vonnegut (Adult Fiction)

Vonnegut weaves a satirical commentary on modern man and his madness. An apocalyptic tale of this planet's ultimate fate, it features a midget as the protagonist; a complete, original theology created by a calypso singer; and a vision of the future that is at once blackly fatalistic and hilariously funny. Also try Welcome to the Monkeyhouse.