



---

## MIDDLE SCHOOL—BOOKS BOYS READ

---

### JUVENILE FICTION

**J Angleberger—[The Strange Case of Origami Yoda](#)**

Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their weird classmate Dwight, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future.

**J Auch—[Wing Nut](#)**

When 12-year-old Grady and his mother relocate yet again, they find work taking care of an elderly man, who teaches Grady about cars, birds, and what it means to have a home.

**J Barry—[Peter and the Starcatchers](#) (series)**

Peter, an orphan boy, and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep a secret safe from the diabolical Black Stache and his evil associate Mister Grin.

**J Ehrenhaft—[The Last Dog on Earth](#)**

Logan Moore hates everyone except his dog Jack, but when a mysterious disease turns dogs into vicious animals, Logan decides to run away to keep his dog safe.

**J Hiaasen—[Flush](#) (and others)**

With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the waters around their Florida home.

**J Paulsen—[The Amazing Life of Birds](#)**

As twelve-year-old Duane endures the confusing and humiliating aspects of puberty, he watches a newborn bird in a nest on his windowsill begin to grow and become more independent, all of which he records in his journal.

**J Slayton—[When the Whistle Blows](#)**

Jimmy Cannon tells about his life in the 1940s as the son of a West Virginia railroad man, loving the trains and expecting one day to work on the railroad like his father and brothers.

**J Turner—[The Thief](#) (series)**

Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone.

## YOUNG ADULT FICTION

### YA Green—[\*Football Genius\*](#) (and others)

Troy, a sixth-grader with an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur, attempts to use his ability to help his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, but he must first prove himself to the coach and players.

### YA Hart—[\*Capt. Hook: the Adventures of a Notorious Youth\*](#)

Describes the youthful adventures of J. M. Barrie's classic character, Captain Hook, from his days at Eton to his voyages on the high sea.

### YA Hinton—[\*The Outsiders\*](#)

Rivalry between rich and poor gangs in 1960s Oklahoma leads to the deaths of three teenagers and intense soul-searching for one of the youths involved, a sensitive 14-year-old writer named Ponyboy.

### YA Horowitz—[\*Raven's Gate\*](#) (Gatekeepers series)

Sent to live in a foster home in a remote Yorkshire village, Matt, a troubled 14-year-old English boy, uncovers an evil plot involving witchcraft and an ancient stone circle.

### YA Morris—[\*The Squire's Tale\*](#) (and others)

In medieval England, fourteen-year-old Terence finds his tranquil existence suddenly changed when he becomes the squire of the young Gawain of Orkney and accompanies him on a long quest, proving Gawain's worth as a knight and revealing an important secret about his own true identity.

### YA Paolini—[\*Eragon\*](#) (Inheritance series)

In Alagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of magic and power, with dragons, elves, and monsters.

### YA Philbrick—[\*The Last Book in the Universe\*](#)

After an earthquake has destroyed much of the planet, an epileptic teenager nicknamed Spaz begins the heroic fight to bring human intelligence back to the Earth of a distant future.

### YA Sonnenblick—[\*Zen and the Art of Faking It\*](#)

When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer--and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

### YA Spinelli—[\*Smiles to Go\*](#)

Will Tuppence's life has always been ruled by science and common sense but in ninth grade, shaken up by the discovery that protons decay, he begins to see the entire world differently and gains new perspective on his relationships with his little sister and two closest friends.

### YA Stroud—[\*The Amulet of Samarkand\*](#) (Bartimaeus series)

Nathaniel, a young magician's apprentice, becomes caught in a web of magical espionage, murder, and rebellion, after he summons the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Loveland.

### YA Wilson—[\*Black Storm Comin'\*](#)

Twelve-year-old Colton, son of a black mother and a white father, takes a job with the Pony Express in 1860 after his father abandons the family on their California-bound wagon train, and risks his life to deliver an important letter that may affect the growing conflict between the North and South.