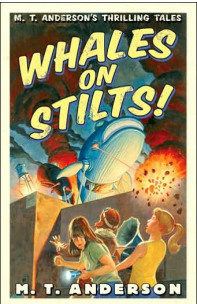


Beyond Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys

Check out a good mystery



J ANDERSON



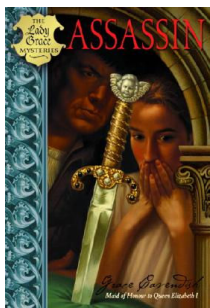
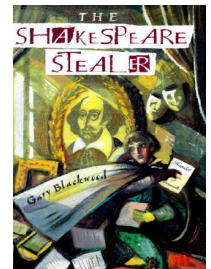
Whales on Stilts by M.T. Anderson

What sort of madman would unleash an army of stilt-walking, laser-beaming, thoroughly angry whales upon the world? Who cares! All that matters is that his dastardly plan be foiled. Lucky for Lily Gefelty, her two best friends are the intrepid stars of their own middle-grade series novels: Jasper Dash (better know as the Boy Technonaut) and Katie Mulligan (beloved by millions as the heroine of the Horror Hollow series). It's going to take all their smarts to stop this insane, inane plot from succeeding.

The Shakespeare Stealer by Gary Blackwood

J BLACKWOOD

A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.



Assassin by Patricia Finney

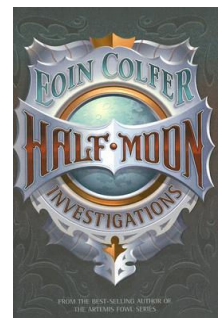
J CAVENDISH

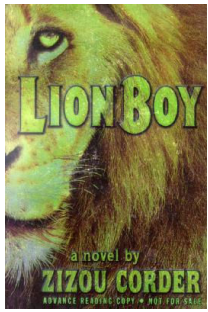
The first book in the Lady Grace mysteries series, Assassin is the story of 13-year-old Lady Grace, the youngest lady-in-waiting to the Queen. It's the spring of 1569 and Grace finds herself at a glittering ball choosing amongst three suitors. But the Queen's generosity turns deadly as threats, dark secrets, and even murder descend on the Tudor court. And it is up to Grace to use her intelligence, stealth, and curious nature to solve the mystery that threatens the very lifeblood of England.

Half Moon Investigations by Eoin Colfer

J COLFER

Fletcher Moon, aka Half Moon, a 12-year-old online graduate of a private detective academy in Washington, DC, has solved several tough cases at Saint Jerome's Elementary and Middle School. When super all-in-pink girly-girl April Devereux hires him to find a lock of a pop star's hair that she claims was stolen by one of the Sharkeys, a family of well-known criminals, everything starts going wrong for Fletcher. His precious badge is taken, he finds a single huge footprint at every crime scene, and he's picked up by the local police for arson when the Devereux playhouse burns down. When Fletcher goes on the run, who becomes his number-one ally? Young Red Sharkey.





Lion Boy by Zizou Corder

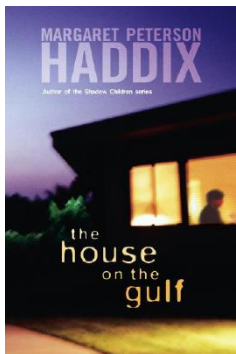
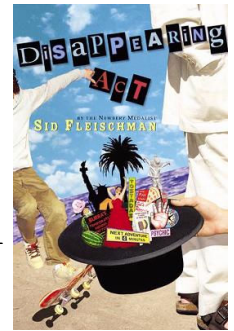
J CORDER

Charlie Ashanti, an interracial English boy, comes home to find his scientist parents have been kidnapped! The good news is Charlie can talk to cats, so he has feline friends to help him everywhere he goes. The bad news is he has no idea where to start except for the information that he gets from Rafi, a neighborhood boy. He tells Charlie that his parents have gone on a trip. Charlie soon finds himself on a floating circus trying to help homesick lions escape from their trainer Maccomo and return to their African home.

Disappearing Act by Sid Fleischman

J FLEISCHMAN

Twelve year old Kevin and his older sister are being stalked and followed by a man in a white suit and they have no idea why. Their mother is missing from an archeological dig and is presumed dead, so their only alternative is to go on the run. They end up in the beach town of Venice, California, where they change their identities. How can they buy food and pay for a place to live with no money? Will the mysterious stranger track them down?



House on the Gulf by Margaret Peterson Haddix

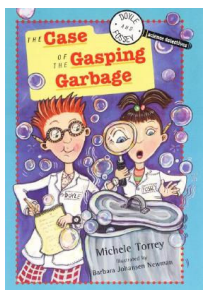
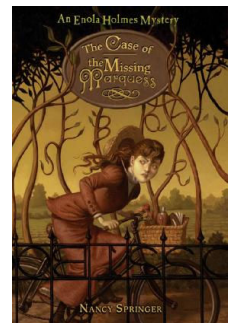
J HADDIX

Twelve-year-old Britt, short for Brittany, is nervous. Or maybe it is better to say she is confused why her brother Bran is acting so strangely. It all started when Britt's family moved into a house on the gulf for summer break and her mother started to attend school full-time. Why is her brother taking items such as dishes and framed pictures out of the house where they are house-sitting for the summer? Why is Britt not even allowed to stand on the front porch or turn the air conditioner down? Is Bran really ashamed of his sister?

Case of the Missing Marquess by Nancy Springer

J SPRINGER

Sherlock Holmes' 14-year-old sister, Enola Holmes, who also has keen powers of observation. Enola lives alone with her mother on the family estate. Mrs. Holmes has always been a free spirit, but Enola is shocked when, on her birthday, her mother goes missing. Sherlock and Mycroft, Enola's long-absent, much-older brothers, arrive and assure her that they will look into the disappearance; she will be sent away to boarding school. Determined to avoid that fate, and anxious to find her mother on her own, Enola leaves for London, where she thinks her mother may be—a plan as shaky as the bicycle she sets off on.



The Case of the Gaspung Garbage by Michele Torrey

J TORREY

Fourth-graders Drake Doyle and Nell Fossey combine their detective and scientific investigation skills to solve a variety of cases, involving a noisy garbage can, endangered frogs, a stuck truck, and a mysterious love letter. Includes a section of scientific experiments and activities.

