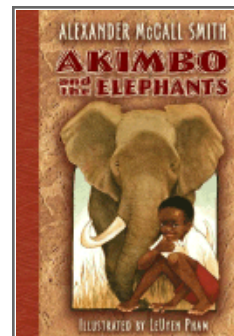
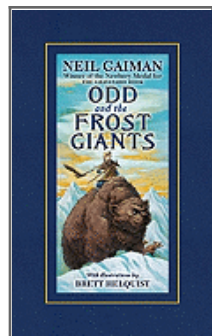
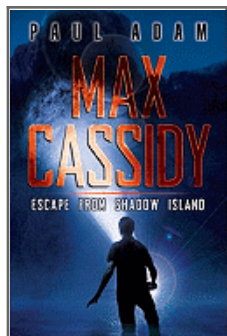




10 in Ten Recommendations - Youth1



Max Cassidy: Escape from Shadow Island

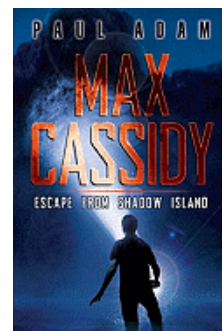
by Paul Adam
Published 2010

ISBN: 9780061863233

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Max Cassidy can escape from anything Only fourteen years old, Max is the world's foremost escape artist. Chained, handcuffed, locked in an airtight water tank, there's nothing he can't get himself out of. He learned the art from his father--a man who just two years ago was murdered, and Max's mother went to jail for the crime. Now a mysterious man has shown up backstage after one of Max's shows, telling Max that not only is his mother innocent, but his father is still alive. He can provide only one clue: a slip of paper with eight digits written on it. It is this clue that will lead Max from his home in London to the exotic and deadly Central American country of Santo Domingo and the impenetrable fortress on the sinister Isla de Sombra. Max Cassidy can escape from anything--but given the chance to finally know the truth about what has torn his family apart, escape from Shadow Island is the last thing on his mind.



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Odd and the Frost Giants

by Neil Gaiman
Published 2009

ISBN: 9780061671739

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Newbery Medalist Gaiman and illustrator Helquist team up for a new fantasy novella in which a young boy must free Asgard--the city of the gods--from the evil Frost Giants. Illustrations. In this inventive, short, yet perfectly formed novel inspired by traditional Norse mythology, Neil Gaiman takes readers on a wild and magical trip to the land of giants and



gods and back. In a village in ancient Norway lives a boy named Odd, and he's had some very bad luck: His father perished in a Viking expedition; a tree fell on and shattered his leg; the endless freezing winter is making villagers dangerously grumpy. Out in the forest Odd encounters a bear, a fox, and an eagle--three creatures with a strange story to tell. Now Odd is forced on a stranger journey than he had imagined--a journey to save Asgard, city of the gods, from the Frost Giants who have invaded it. It's going to take a very special kind of twelve-year-old boy to outwit the Frost Giants, restore peace to the city of gods, and end the long winter. Someone cheerful and infuriating and clever . . . Someone just like Odd .

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Publishers Weekly 08/17/2009

In this simple but well-done tale, Newbery Medalwinner Gaiman ("The Graveyard Book") introduces Odd, a boy with an injured leg whose Viking father died at sea. Odd befriends the Norse gods Odin, Thor and Loki, who have been transformed into animals and exiled from Asgard. The gods, having previously tricked and bested the Frost Giants, are now receiving some of their own medicine. Showing great ingenuity, Odd figures out how to reach Asgard and then convinces the Frost Giant that ruling Asgard isn't so great (after all, admits the giant, his prize, the beautiful goddess Freya, only comes up to the top of my foot. She shouts louder than a giantess when she's angry. And she's always angry). The gods and the giant, though powerful, come across as self-involved and vaguely simpleminded, clearly in need of a resourceful young fellow like Odd to help set things straight. Although less original than "Coraline" or "The Wolves in the Walls", this enjoyable story should appeal to Gaiman's younger fans. Final art not seen by "PW". Ages 8-12. "(Sept.)" Copyright 2009 Reed Business Information.

Suburb Beyond the Stars

by M T Anderson

Published 2010

ISBN: 9780545138826

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Something very strange is happening in Vermont. It's not The Game of Sunken Places - Brian and Gregory have been through that before, and there's not supposed to be another Game until they say there's a Game. But still . . . when they go to visit a relative in the Vermont woods, they find many things are . . . off. Like, people aren't where they're supposed to be. And houses are everywhere. In fact, the houses seem to be taking over. If anyone in the universe can make high adventure out of supernatural urban sprawl . . . well, it's M. T. Anderson. And in The Suburb Beyond the Stars he brings both humor and intelligence to a thrill ride that's part quest, part mystery, part fantasy, and part Abbott and Costello.



[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Akimbo and the Elephants

by Alexander McCall Smith

Published 2005

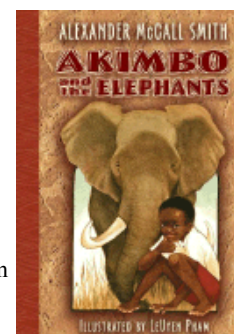
ISBN: 9781582346861

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Ten-year-old Akimbo lives on a game preserve in Africa. His father is the head ranger, and Akimbo is eager to help him whenever he can--even if it means getting into some pretty dangerous situations.

In "Akimbo and the Elephants," ivory poachers are killing grown elephants for their tusks and leaving the calves to die. When the authorities fail to turn up new leads, Akimbo sets out to save the elephants by posing as a hunter himself.



[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 09/05/2005

This fast-paced tale launches Smith's (the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency mysteries) paper-over-board series starring Akimbo, who lives on the edge of an African game reserve. The lad is horrified when he and his ranger father come across a dead elephant, the victim of a gang of poachers who have killed it for its tusks. The boy surreptitiously takes a tusk from his father's storeroom as bait and promises to lead a poacher to a stash of another gang's booty if the man will teach him how they kill their prey. The narrative at times errs on the side of melodrama (e.g., watching the fallen elephant's calf wait for its mother to get up, Akimbo "declared war on the poachers"), but Smith effectively builds suspense. The boy realizes he is being stalked by an animal in the darkness, then narrowly escapes from a charging rhino. Akimbo emerges as a hero after leading his father and another ranger back to the poachers. The tale's brevity, Smith's concise writing and Pham's evocative full-page half-tone illustrations make this an attractive choice for reluctant readers. "Akimbo and the Lions" (1-58234-687-9) is also due out this month. Ages 7-up. "(Sept.)" Copyright 2005 Reed Business Information.

Publisher's Marketing Text:

Ten-year-old Akimbo lives on a game preserve in Africa. His father is the head ranger, and Akimbo is eager to help him whenever he can--even if it means getting into some pretty dangerous situations.

In "Akimbo and the Elephants," ivory poachers are killing grown elephants for their tusks and leaving the calves to die. When the authorities fail to turn up new leads, Akimbo sets out to save the elephants by posing as a hunter himself.

Kane Chronicles, The, Book One: Red Pyramid **(First book in the Kane Chronicles (Cloth) series)**

by Rick Riordan

Published 2010

ISBN: 9781423113386

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

To stop Egyptian god Set from going after their father, siblings Carter and Sadie embark on a dangerous journey across the globe--a quest which brings them ever closer to the truth about their family, and their links to a secret order that has existed since the time of the pharaohs.

Since their mother's death, Carter and Sadie have become near strangers. While Sadie has lived with her grandparents in London, her brother has traveled the world with their father, the brilliant Egyptologist, Dr. Julius Kane.

One night, Dr. Kane brings the siblings together for a "research experiment" at the British Museum, where he hopes to set things right for his family. Instead, he unleashes the Egyptian god Set, who banishes him to oblivion and forces the children to flee for their lives.

Soon, Sadie and Carter discover that the gods of Egypt are waking, and the worst of them--Set--has his sights on the Kanes. To stop him, the siblings embark on a dangerous journey across the globe -- a quest that brings them ever closer to the truth about their family, and their links to a secret order that has existed since the time of the pharaohs.



[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 04/12/2010

This fun, if formulaic, start to the Kane Chronicles series opens with a signature Riordan move: an explosion. Siblings Carter and Sadie have been living apart since their mothers mysterious death. On Christmas Eve, archeologist Julius Kane and son Carter, 14, show up in England for one of their two days a year with Sadie. Julius ushers his children to the British Museum, where he blows up the Rosetta Stone, unleashing five Egyptian gods and causing his own disappearance. The kids Uncle Amos whisks them to a Brooklyn mansion, where he reveals that the Kanes descend from powerful Egyptian magicians. Swap Egyptian mythology for Percy Jacksons Greek gods and youve got the best part of this ancient history lesson seamlessly unfurled in a rip-roaring adventure. Told in alternating chapters by Carter and Sadie, the novel begins with a warning that the book is a transcript of a digital recording, a distracting gimmick, and the attempts to make Sadie sound English by dropping in British slang are intermittent. Despite those flaws, Riordan delivers another funny yarn with kids in the lead and animal sidekicks that nearly steal the show. Ages 912. "(May)" Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.

Unsinkable Walker Bean

by Aaron Renier

Published 2010

ISBN: 9781596434530

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Walker Bean never wanted to be a high-seas pirate waging a pitched battle against the forces of the deep. It just worked out that way. Mild, meek, and a little geeky, Walker is always happiest in his grandfather's workshop, messing around with his inventions. But when his beloved grandfather is struck by an ancient curse, it falls on Walker to return an accursed pearl skull to the witches who created it--and his path will be strewn with pirates, magical machines, ancient lore, and deadly peril. Author/illustrator Aaron Renier brings everything he has to this swashbuckling adventure story. Drawing from sources as disparate as "Tintin," "Treasure Island," and "Harry Potter," Renier has woven together a breathless tale that will leave readers' ears ringing from the cannon-shot and their eyes dazzled from the glowing stares of sea-witches.



[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 05/03/2010

This rip-roaring tale of swashbuckling adventure from the Eisner Awardwinning Renier offers up a story line and art of equally intriguing depth.

It is colonial times, and Walker Bean must help his grandfather, who's been cursed by a pair of witchy undersea lobster-women named Tartessa and Remora, by returning a magical skull to the mysterious Mango Islands. Stowing away on a ship, Walker teams up with a dog named Perrogi (obviously drawn with the affection of a dog lover), a boy named Shiv, and a tough-talking girl named Genoa. Renier's dynamic drawings are rich in detail; readers will get lost in the winding streets of colonial towns, island hideaways, natural history collections, exuberant panoramas of action. Renier lets his imagination lead the way, throwing maps and illustrated clues throughout this seafaring world, and setting up all manner of surprises and danger for Walker. A pleasure from beginning to end. Ages 9-14. "(Sept.)" Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.

Call

(First book in the Magnificent 12 series)

by Michael Grant

Published 2010

ISBN: 9780061833663

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Twelve-year-old Mack MacAvoy suffers from a serious case of mediumness. Medium looks. Medium grades. Medium parents who barely notice him. With a list of phobias that could make anyone crazy, Mack never would have guessed that he is destined for a more-than-medium life. And then, one day, something incredibly strange happens to Mack. A three-thousand-year-old man named Grimluk appears in the boys' bathroom to deliver some startling news: Mack is one of the Magnificent Twelve, called the Magnifica in ancient times, whatever that means. An evil force is on its way, and it's up to Mack to track down eleven other twelve-year-olds in order to stop it. He must travel across the world to battle the wicked Pale Queen's dangerous daughter, Ereskigal--also known as Risky. But Risky sounds a little scary, and Mack doesn't want to be a hero. Will he answer the call? A laugh-out-loud story filled with excitement and magic. "The Magnificent Twelve: The Call" is the first book in bestselling author Michael Grant's hilarious new fantasy adventure series.



[Read or Write a Comment](#) ▶

Publishers Weekly 08/23/2010

Grant, author of the Gone series, takes a comedic turn, launching the middle-grade Magnificent 12 series about a boy with multiple phobias forced to help save the world. After saving the life of the school's toughest bully, 12-year-old Mack, who fears everything from spiders to the ocean, is visited by the ancient wizard Grimluk, who charges Mack with gathering the "Magnifica," a group of 12 magical 12-year-olds who can defeat the ancient Pale Queen and her daughter. Mack's adventures take him to Australia (a flight that triggers many of Mack's phobias) and alternate with flashbacks to Grimluk's original battle against the Pale Queen. Mack's bully baiting and dispatching of poisonous snakes down the garbage disposal don't exactly emphasize his unlikely heroism, but the story's abundant action and humor--from the rampant ignorance of Grimluk's day (when the very notion of a number greater than 11 baffled most folks) to the diary dispatches of the scene-stealing golem who takes Mack's place at home and in school ("Dear Mack, Did you know that you cannot eat cats? Each day I learn a little more")--should win over readers. Ages 10up. (Aug.) Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.

Peter and the Sword of Mercy

by Dave Barry

Published 2009

ISBN: 9781423121343

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

It's 1901. Molly is now married to George Darling and is raising Wendy, Michael, and John. James, one of Peter's original Lost Boys, tells Molly about the Others, creatures that are determined to find a cache of starstuff hidden in an underground vault which has only one key: the Sword of Mercy, a legendary weapon. Illustrations. The year is 1901--it's been twenty-three years since Peter and the Lost Boys returned from Rundoon. Since then, nobody on the island has grown a day older, and the Lost Boys continue their friendship with the Mollusk tribe, and their rivalry with Captain Hook. Meanwhile in London, Molly has married George Darling and is raising three children: Wendy, Michael, and John. One night a visitor appears at her door; it's James, one of Peter's original Lost Boys. He is now working for Scotland Yard and suspects that the heir to England's throne, Prince Albert Edward, is under the influence of shadow creatures. These shadow creatures are determined to find a secret cache of startstuff which fell to London many centuries ago. The starstuff is hidden in an underground vault which has only one key: the Sword of Mercy, a legendary weapon kept with the Crown Jewels. Molly is determined to help, but when she suddenly goes missing, it is up to her eleven-year-old daughter, Wendy, to keep the starstuff out of the Others' clutches. She has heard her mother's stories of a flying boy named Peter Pan, and he may be her only hope in saving the world from a shadowy doom...



[Read or Write a Comment](#) ▶

Suburb Beyond the Stars

by M T Anderson

Published 2010

ISBN: 9780545138826

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

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Toby Alone

by Timothee De Fombelle

Published 2009

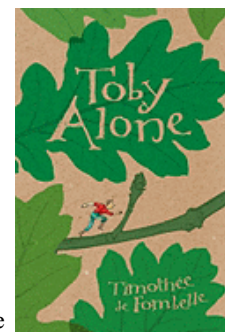
ISBN: 9780763641818

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Translated into twenty-two languages.

Toby Lolness may be just one and a half millimeters tall, but he's the most wanted person in his world -- the world of the great oak Tree. Toby's father has made a groundbreaking discovery: the Tree itself is alive, lowing with vital energy, and there may even be a world beyond it. Greedy developers itch to exploit this forbidden knowledge, risking permanent damage to their natural world. But Toby's father has refused to reveal his findings, causing the family to be exiled to the lower branches. Only Toby has managed to escape -- but for how long? And how can he bear to leave his parents to their terrible fate?



[Read or Write a Comment >](#)

Publishers Weekly 03/23/2009

The impressive debut novel from French playwright de Fombelle deftly weaves mature political commentary, broad humor and some subtle satire into a thoroughly enjoyable adventure. The people of the Tree are two millimeters tall or less, but their society mimics ours. Industrialists keep digging holes, politicians play dirty games and scientists conduct research to discover the nature of the world in which they live. Toby Lolness, the son of a renowned scientist, is forced to become a fugitive when his fathers discoveries reveal the dangers presented by the continued development of the Tree. Tobys story is revealed in flashbacks as he runs from the cronies of Joe Mitch, a builder who has rapidly become a political powerhouse. Mitchs machinations have turned the Tree into a totalitarian society in which reading and writing are banned, and only Toby remains free to try to rescue his parents and bring down Mitch and his crew. Its hard not to see some of the books antecedentsthe Borrowers, the Littles, etc.but de Fombelle has built a unique world with a fully developed social and political structure. Ages 9up. "(Mar.)" Copyright 2009 Reed Business Information.

Publisher's Marketing Text:

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