

Harry Potter Read-Alikes

The Book of Three by Lloyd Alexander (J FIC) Valorous and humorous tales of Taran, the Assistant Pig-Keeper, who determines to save the kingdom of Prydain from evil.

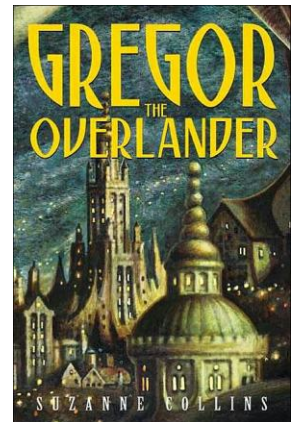
Skellig by David Almond (J FIC) Feeling helpless to aid his frantic parents when his baby sister falls ill, Michael explores the dilapidated garage of his family's new house, where he discovers a beast-like creature tucked away amid the spider webs and debris.

Whales on Stilts! By M.T. Anderson (J SCI FI) Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.

Peter and the Starcatchers by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson (J FIC) After Peter, an orphan, leaves England on the ship Never Land, he befriends and assists Molly, a young Starcatcher, whose mission is to guard a trunk of magical stardust from a greedy pirate and the native inhabitants of a remote island.

Shakespeare's Secret by Elise Broach (J MYS) Named after a character in a Shakespeare play, misfit sixth-grader Hero becomes interested in exploring this unusual connection because of a valuable diamond supposedly hidden in her new house, an intriguing neighbor, and the unexpected attention of the most popular boy in school.

Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins (J SCI FI) When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy.



The Boggart by Susan Cooper (J FIC) After visiting the castle in Scotland which her family has inherited and returning home to Canada, twelve-year-old Emily finds that she has accidentally brought back with her a boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes.

Over Sea, Under Stone by Susan Cooper (J FIC) The first of the five books which form "The Dark Is Rising" sequence, this book features three children, on holiday in Cornwall, who discover an ancient map which leads them into a search for a buried grail.

Matilda by Roald Dahl (J FIC) Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread by Kate DiCamillo (J FIC) The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

[The Conch Bearer](#) by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni (J FIC) In India, a healer invites twelve-year-old Anand to join him on a quest to return a magical conch to its safe and rightful home, high in the Himalayan Mountains.

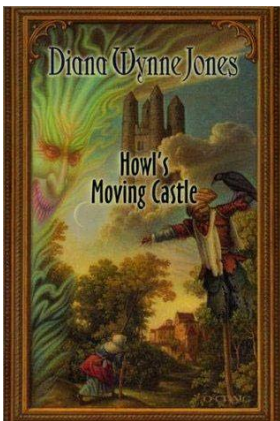
[So You Want to be a Wizard?](#) by Diane Duane (J SCI FI) Thirteen-year-old Nita joins forces with neophyte wizard Kit and Fred, a mischievous white hole to find "The Book of Night with Moon," hidden in an alternate Manhattan threatened by the Powers of Darkness.

[Dragon Rider](#) by Cornelia Funke (J SCI FI) Firedrake, a young dragon, receives a frightening warning one night: Humans are planning to destroy the valley in which he lives! All the dragons must flee. Their only refuge is a place above the clouds called the Rim of Heaven --- which may not even exist. Firedrake boldly volunteers to go ahead first. As he embarks on his journey, he meets Ben, a runaway boy. Together, the boy & dragon make their way toward the Rim of Heaven, all the while running a step ahead of Nettlebrand, a monster who will stop at nothing to hunt down Firedrake. Their quest will truly become an adventure like no other.

[Inkheart](#) by Cornelia Funke (J FIC) Meggie lives a quiet life alone with her father, a book-binder. But her father has a deep secret-- he possesses an extraordinary magical power. One day a mysterious stranger arrives who seems linked to her father's past. Who is this sinister character and what does he want? Suddenly Meggie is involved in a breathless game of escape and intrigue as her father's life is put in danger. Will she be able to save him in time?

[Princess Academy](#) by Shannon Hale (J FIC) While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

[The Journey to the River Sea](#) by Eva Ibbotson (J FIC) Moving to South America to live with her English adoptive family on a rubber plantation, Maia and her governess feel excited about the unusual things they will see and experience, despite their new family's wish to keep matters very proper in the middle of the jungle.



[The Secret of Platform 13](#) by Eva Ibbotson (J FIC) Cornelius the wizard, Gurkintrude the fey, Hans the ogre, and Odge Gribble the hag only have nine days to search London, locate the kidnapped prince, and return him to the Island before the passageway to their magical kingdom will close, and they will not be able to return for nine years.

[Howl's Moving Castle](#) by Diana Wynne Jones (YA SCI FI) Eldest of three sisters in a land where it is considered to be a misfortune, Sophie is resigned to her fate as a hat shop apprentice until a witch turns her into an old woman and she finds herself in the castle of the greatly feared wizard Howl.

[A Wizard of Earthsea](#) by Ursula K. Le Guin (J SCI FI) When Sparrowhawk, a young student at the School for Wizards, becomes overanxious and tries his dangerous powers too soon; he unleashes a terrible evil throughout the land.

[A Wrinkle in Time](#) by Madeline L'Engle (J SCI FI) Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

[The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe](#) by C.S. Lewis (J FIC) Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

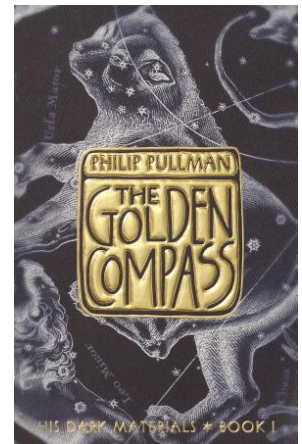
[Wizards of the Game](#) by David Lubar (J FIC) Eighth grader Mercer, whose passion is the fantasy role-playing game Wizards of the Warrior World, attracts four genuine wizards who are trapped on Earth and want his help in returning to their own world.

[Hound of Rowan](#) by Henry Neff (J SCI FI) After glimpsing a hint of his destiny in a mysterious tapestry, twelve-year-old Max McDaniels becomes a student at Rowan Academy, where he trains in "mystics and combat" in preparation for war with an ancient enemy that has been kidnapping children like him.

[Midnight for Charlie Bone](#) by Jenny Nimmo (J FIC) Charlie Bone's life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking and his aunts decide he must change schools and attend the Bloor's Academy for gifted children.

[Mister Monday](#) by Garth Nix (J SCI FI) Although Arthur Penhaligon is supposed to die an early death, he is saved by a key shaped like the minute hand of a clock, and now some bizarre creatures--including Mister Monday, his avenging messengers, and an army of dog-faced Fetchers--will stop at nothing to get the key back.

[The Golden Compass](#) by Phillip Pullman (YA FIC) Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.



[The Lightning Thief](#) by Rick Riordan (J JFIC) After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

[The Amulet of Samarkand](#) by Jonathan Stroud (J FIC) Intent on revenge, Nathaniel, a young magician's apprentice, summons Bartimaeus, a five-thousand-year-old djinni, to steal the Amulet of Samarkand, a mysterious and enigmatic artifact, from ruthless master magician Simon Lovelace, and, along with Nathaniel, becomes caught up in a dangerous world of espionage, blackmail, murder, and conspiracy.

[Trickster's Choice](#) by Tamora Pierce (YA SCI FI) Alianne, the teenage daughter of Alanna, the first lady knight in Tortall, is kidnapped and sold into slavery, forced to serve an exiled royal family in the remote Copper islands, where she is immersed in a world of murder, intrigue, and warring gods.

[Dealing with Dragons](#) by Patricia Wrede (J SCI FI) Bored with her proper, circumscribed life as a princess, Cimorene runs away to join a powerful, fascinating dragon named Kazul and encounters a host of adventures along the way.