

The Graveyard Book (LP017672)

Gaiman, Neil.

A toddler enters a cemetery pursued by the knife-wielding stranger who just murdered his family. Resident ghosts Mr. and Mrs. Owens protect and adopt the child, naming him Nobody "Bod" Owens. Bod's graveyard upbringing serves him well, but why was his family targeted? For grades 5-8 and older readers. 2008.

The Westing Game (LP008566)

Raskin, Ellen.

The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they may claim their inheritance. For grades 5-8.

Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer (LP018017)

Grisham, John.

Both kids and adults ask eighth grader Theo for legal advice because he knows the court system so well. But when his friend Julio approaches Theo about a possible surprise witness for an ongoing murder trial--the biggest in Strattenburg's history--it's Theo's turn to seek counsel. For grades 5-8. 2010.

Inkheart (LP017934)

Funke, Cordelia.

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life when one of those characters abducts them and tries to force him into service. For grades 5-8.

Princess Academy (LP016376)

Hale, Shannon.

When it is decreed that Prince Steffan of Danland will choose a bride from remote Mount Eskel, Miri and all the village girls, including newly arrived Britta, attend a princess academy to prepare them for the potential honor. For grades 5-8.

Here Lies the Librarian (LP016595)

Peck, Richard.

Indiana, 1914. Fourteen-year-old tomboy Eleanor "Peewee" McGrath would rather repair a car in her brother's garage than read a book. But when Irene

Ridpath arrives in her big car with three other librarians, Eleanor's ideas about her future change. For grades 5-8.

Half-Moon Investigations (LP016657)

Colfer, Eoin.

Fletcher Moon is not like the other kids. For one thing, he suffers the humiliating nickname "Half Moon" because he is short. But the real reason Fletcher is different is that he's always had a nose for sniffing out mysteries—a skill that's not appreciated by many people. After graduating at the top of his internet class, he is officially certified as the youngest detective in the world.

The Thief Lord (LP015644)

Two orphan brothers, Prosper and Bo, have run away to Venice, where they join a gang of street urchins. The leader of this gang is the Thief Lord. Prosper and Bo relish their new family and life of petty crime, but their cruel aunt and a bumbling detective are on their tail. And posing an even greater threat to the boys' freedom is something from a forgotten past, a beautiful magical treasure with the power to spin time itself.

Holes (LP013168)

Sachar, Louis.

Stanley Yelnats isn't surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to a juvenile detention center. After all, his family has had bad luck ever since a gypsy put a curse on his great-great grandfather. He is told that the hard labor he must perform, digging 5 foot holes in the dried up soil where Green Lake once sat, is meant to build character. It soon becomes clear to Stanley that the warden is really searching for something valuable. The story of the hidden treasure, along with the warden, Stanley's friend Zero, and the curse on the Yelnats family are all part of a compelling puzzle that has taken generations to unravel.