Magic, Magical Realism, & Supernatural Book List

Jianing Sun



Havenfall by Sara Holland

This book provides a "safe haven" which is hidden deep in the mountains, a sanctuary that connects magic ancient worlds. This novel combines both fantasy and mystery, which gives young readers the great space of imagination.

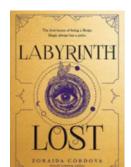


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Labyrinth Lost by Zoraida Córdova

This book is the first installment of the *Brooklyn Brujas* series. The story is about a girl, Alex, who actually hates magic and doesn't want anything to do with her magical powers. Alex's story of trauma, disengagement, and remorse creates an immersive mystical quest, producing an enticing mix of emotional reality and speculative marvel, with a path to sorrow, acceptance, and healing.



Witches of Ash and Ruin by E. Latimer

This book has really wonderful LGBTQ+ representation. The main character, Dayna Walsh, is living with OCD and struggling to handle her oppressive, religious father. A serious killer, Butcher of Manchester, is trying to kill people she loves. Dayna has to use her way to protect everything and everyone she cares.

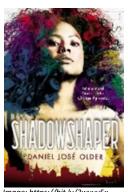


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Shadowshaper by Daniel José Older

Daniel Jose Older has written an incredible book full of real-world social justice issues mixed with the fantastical. Sierra Santiago, the main character, accidentally find a supernatural order called "Shadowshapers" - people who imbue art with ancestral spirits.

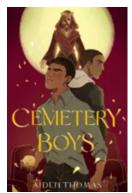


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Cemetery Boys by Aiden Thomas.

This is a story about a trans boy who is struggling with his traditional Latinx family to accept his true self. The key message the author delivers to all young readers is the importance of facing themselves and their true soul, listening to the deepest voice from their hearts and discovering what they really want.

References

Cordova, Z. (2017). Labyrinth lost. Sourcebooks Fire.

Holland, S. (2020). Havenfall. Bloomsbury YA.

Latimer, E. (2020). Witches of ash and ruin. Freeform.

Older, D.J. (2015). Shadowshaper. Arthur A. Levine Books

Thomas, A. (2020). Cemetery boys. Swoon Reads