

Recommended Reading

Each of the following books have received positive reviews in either Booklist, School Library Journal, Kirkus Reviews, or VOYA. Several of the titles have also been recommended by teen readers on various web sites. Each work has been published between 2000 and 2005.

Bell, Hilari

The Goblin Wood, 2003

A young Hedgewitch, an idealistic knight, and an army of clever goblins fight against the ruling hierarchy that is trying to rid the land of all magical creatures.

Bell, Hilari

Flame, 2003

Set in Farsala, a peaceful land, which is invaded by the Hrum, this story is about three young people who are caught up in the outcome and aftermath of the war. They are Soraya, the spoiled daughter of the Farsalan army's high commander; Jiaan, the high commander's peasant-born bastard son; and Kavi, an itinerant peddler and sometime con artist.

Black, Holly

Tithe: A Modern Faerie Tale, 2002

Sixteen-year-old Kaye, who has been visited by faeries since childhood, discovers that she herself is a magical faerie creature with a special destiny.

Constable, Kate

Singer of All Songs, 2004

Calwyn, a young priestess of ice magic, or "chantment," joins with other chanters who have

different magical skills to fight a sorcerer who wants to claim all powers for his own.

de Lint, Charles

Waifs and Strays, 2002

This is a collection of stories about the unseen magic existing just below the surface of cities. Each story features a teenage protagonist.

Dickinson, John

The Cup of The World, 2004

When Phaedra, a willful daughter of a baron, decides to marry for love, she sets off an unforeseeable chain of events and a battle between good and evil.

Gaiman, Neil

American Gods, 2001

Not only is this a unique and moving love story, it is a mysterious tour through the mythologies of numerous cultures.

Hale, Shannon

The Goose Girl, 2003

On her way to marry a prince she's never met, Princess Anidori is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers.

Hoffman, Kiki

Stir of Bones, 2003

In this ghost story, 14-year-old Susan finds a way to deal with her difficult family situation.

Klasky, Mindy

Glasswright's Apprentice, 2000

This is the story of Rani Trader, the daughter of a merchant family whose parents have sacrificed nearly everything to buy her an apprenticeship in the Glasswright's Guild.

Lackey, Mercedes

Phoenix and Ashes, 2004

Set in London during the First World War, this novel is a dark and atmospheric retelling of the Cinderella story.

McKillip, Patricia

Alphabet of Thorn, 2004

Nepenthe, an orphan, is a scribe and translator in the royal library of Raine. Then, during the coronation of the new queen of Raine, she receives a book written in a language no one can read. Discovering its secret becomes her obsession.

Murphy, Rita

Night Flying, 2000

As the time for her solo flight on her sixteenth birthday approaches, Georgia begins to question the course of her life and her relationships with the other women in her unusual family.

Paolini, Christopher

Eragon, 2003

In Aagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.

Pattou, Edith

East, 2003

A young woman journeys to a distant castle on the back of a great white bear who is the victim of a cruel enchantment.

Pierce, Tamora

Cold Fire, 2002

While studying with her teacher Frostpine in the northern land of Namorn, Daja helps the twin daughters of her host family discover their own magic and uses her powers to track a deadly arsonist.

Pratchett, Terry

The Amazing Maurice and His Educated

Rodents, 2001

A talking cat, intelligent rats, and a strange boy cooperate in a Pied Piper scam until they try to con the wrong town and are confronted by a deadly evil rat king.

Stroud, Jonathan

The Amulet of Samarkand, 2003.

Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace.

Wrede, Patricia and Caroline Stevermer

Grand Tour, 2004

In 1817, two English cousins take a honeymoon "Grand Tour of the Continent" with their new husbands and become entangled in a mysterious plot to create a magical Emperor of Europe.