

## Younger Teen Titles

### 1. The New Policeman, by Kate Thompson

Fifteen-year-old J.J. Liddy lives in Kinvara, a small Irish village where there never seems to be enough time--in fact, his mother jokingly asks for more "time" as her birthday present. J.J. would like to find her some, but he is astonished to discover that it might actually be possible! A tip from an eccentric neighbor leads J.J. to Tir na n'Og, the fabled land of the fairies. There, the fairies reveal that time has been leaking into their world, leading to a lack of time in J.J.'s world and too *much* time in the fairie world. It's up to J.J. to help fix this dangerous problem for both worlds...before it's too late to do anything at all.

### 2. The Case of the Missing Marquess: An Enola Holmes Mystery, by Nancy Springer

You've probably heard of Sherlock Holmes--but did you know he has a much-younger sister? Enola Holmes lives with their mother in the country until, on Enola's fourteenth birthday, their mother disappears. Sherlock promises to investigate, but in the meantime, he and their brother Mycroft want to send Enola off to boarding school. Instead, Enola bicycles to London in disguise to find out what happened herself. She also takes on the case of a missing marquess and discovers that Sherlock's not the only skilled gumshoe in the family--his sister might be just as good...or maybe even better! Don't miss this 1st book in a fantastic new mystery series.

### 3. Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief, by Wendelin Van Draanen

From a window in her grandmother's apartment, 13-year-old Sammy Keyes sees someone robbing a room in the hotel across the street--and unfortunately, the burglar sees her, too! Now Sammy, who has a secret of her own to hide, must discover the identity of the thief before he (or she) finds her first. Sammy and her friend Marissa begin their investigation without realizing that the thief is closer than they think...and getting even closer all the time. Sammy's a sassy heroine, and you'll love trying to puzzle out the mystery right along with her in this fun read that's only the 1st in a series about Sammy's adventures in detecting.

### 4. Temping Fate, by Esther Friesner

When Ilana Newhouse gets a summer job with the Divine Relief Temp Agency, she has no idea she'll be working for The Fates--that's right, THE Fates, the Greek goddesses who spin, measure and (ultimately) cut the life-thread of every mortal and immortal being. Once Ilana realizes the power she has access to, she can't resist tinkering a bit with others' lives (could you?), with some hysterically funny results. If you liked Clea Hantman's Goddesses series (beginning with *Heaven Sent*) but want something with slightly darker humor and a quirkier protagonist, it's your destiny to read *Temping Fate*.

### 5. The Navigator, by Eoin McNamee

Owen's life is nothing out of the ordinary--until the day he meets a man who informs him that he's needed to save the world! The Harsh are attempting to destroy it by reversing time, and the Resisters, who have fought the Harsh for centuries, have identified Owen as the Navigator--the only one who can locate and wield the magical device that will stop the Harsh's plan from succeeding. Join Owen and his friend Cati as they try to defeat the Harsh and save their futuristic world--a place where airplanes never fail and even time travel itself may be possible. *The Navigator* will be great fun for fans of Harry Potter and other magical adventure stories.

### 6. Blood Red Horse, by K.M. Grant

You need three things to become a brave and noble knight: a warhorse, a fair maiden, a just cause. Will has a horse -- a small chestnut stallion with a white blaze on his brow. Ellie is a fair maiden -- but she's supposed to marry Will's older brother, Gavin. And as for the cause, King Richard is calling for a Crusade. The Knights of England must go to the Holy Land to fight. Will and Gavin will go. Blood will be shed.

Lives will be wasted. But through it all, two things will be constant – Ellie, and a blood-red horse called Hosanna.

#### 7. The Wreckers, by Iain Lawrence

The Wreckers is an adventure story in the tradition of Treasure Island and Kidnapped. Fourteen-year-old John Spencer is on his father's boat, when wreckers on the coast of Cornwall lure the ship onto their rocky shore with a false beacon. A 13-year-old girl, Mary, helps him to stay alive, find his father, and stop the wreckers from continuing these crimes. Both John and Mary are portrayed as equally brave and capable. The story is very exciting, and somewhat graphic and violent, with many twists and surprises. Each chapter ends on a suspenseful note.

#### 8. Esperanza Rising, by Pam Munoz Ryan

Esperanza's expectation that her 13th birthday will be celebrated with all the material pleasures and folk elements of her previous years is shattered when her father is murdered by bandits. His powerful stepbrothers then hold her mother as a social and economic hostage, wanting to force her remarriage to one of them, and go so far as to burn down the family home. Esperanza's mother then decides to join the cook and gardener and their son as they move to the United States and work in California's agricultural industry. They embark on a new way of life, away from the uncles, and Esperanza unwillingly enters a world where she is no longer a princess but a worker.

#### 9. Emma Jean Lazarus Fell out of a Tree, by Lauren Tarshis

Supremely logical Emma-Jean has little in common with her seventh-grade classmates, and she observes their often-tumultuous social interactions with a detached, scientific curiosity. But when kindly Colleen seeks her advice in dealing with the school's resident mean girl, Emma-Jean is moved to apply her analytical mind--and a bit of desktop forgery--to aid her classmate. Pleased with the initial results of her meddling and a newfound sense of belonging, Emma-Jean sets out righting the everyday wrongs of middle-school life with some surprising success.

#### 10. Ella Enchanted, by Gail Carson Levine

Against a bold tapestry of princes, ogres, giants, wicked stepsisters, and fairy godmothers, Ella of Frell's spirited account of her quest to break a childhood curse (which forces her to obey any order given to her) is a funny, poignant, and enchanting tale --- based on the story of Cinderella --- about an unforgettable heroine who is determined to be herself.

#### 11. When Zachary Beaver Came to Town by Kimberly Willis Holt

Nothing ever happens in Toby's small Texas town. Nothing much until this summer that's full of big changes. It's tough for Toby when his mother leaves home to become a country singer. And Toby takes it hard when his best friend Cal's older brother goes off to fight in Vietnam. But now their sleepy town is about to get an even bigger jolt with the arrival of Zachary Beaver, billed as the fattest boy in the world. Toby is in for a summer unlike any other, a summer sure to change his life.

#### 12. Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz

Alex Rider's world is turned upside down when he discovers that his uncle and guardian has been murdered. The 14-year-old makes one discovery after another until he is sucked into his uncle's undercover world. The Special Operations Division of M16, his uncle's real employer, blackmails the teen into serving England. After two short weeks of training, Alex is equipped with several special toys like a Game Boy with unique cartridges that allow it to scan, fax, and emit smoke bombs. Alex's mission is to complete his uncle's last assignment, to discover the secret that Herod Sayle is hiding behind his generous donation of one of his supercomputers to every school in the country.

13. Lemonade Mouth, by Mark Peter Hughes

Poets. Geniuses. Revolutionaries. The members of the legendary band Lemonade Mouth have been called all of these things. But until now, nobody's known the inside story of how this powerhouse band came to be. How five outcasts in Opoquonsett High School's freshman class found each other, found the music, and went on to change both rock and roll and high school as we know it.

14. Airborn, by Kenneth Oppel

In its story of a charming, flight-struck 15-year-old cabin boy named Matt Cruse, *Airborn* combines elements of Treasure Island with an upper-deck/lower-deck romance reminiscent of Titanic. When Matt rescues an old man from his punctured balloon, he dismisses the balloonist's tales of beautiful winged cougars as delirium. But with the arrival aboard ship of the free-spirited Kate de Vries, the fatherless boy finds himself caught up in a scientific quest that reveals as much about his own fear of being land-locked as it does about these elusive "cloud cats."

15. Journey to the River Sea. By Eva Ibbotson

Set at the turn of the 20th century, this is an adventure story full of magic and discovery--without a witch or a wizard in sight! It's about real people, good and bad, and a journey to another world. Maia, accompanied by the straight-backed Miss Minton, leaves the familiar comforts of her boarding school to start a new life with distant relatives who live 1000 miles from the mouth of the Amazon. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences beyond their imagination. More importantly, they learn one of life's hardest lessons--to conquer their fears and embrace the unknown. And along the way they learn about tolerance, acceptance and trust.