

Winter '13 Top Ten Kids' Next



The Scar Boys

A Novel, by Len Vlahos

"Vlahos's debut is big-hearted and bold. The Scar Boys is a coming-of-age novel that tackles trauma and recovery, toxic friendships, first love, first passions, and the power of music. It is set in the 1980s, but the stings and elations of teen years are timeless, and adults and teenagers alike will recognize themselves in—and be rooting for—Harry and all the rest of the characters."

—Jenn Northington, WORD, Brooklyn, NY



Find out more about this book and others at WWW.INDIEBOUND.ORG

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The Impossible Knife of Memory

by Laurie Halse Anderson

"Hayley and her father have left behind life on the road in his 18-wheeler and have moved into her father's childhood home. She is attending regular high school, and 'normal' should be setting in anytime now—only it can't. Hayley's father is in the throes of post-traumatic stress disorder from his army tours, where he saw violence that no teenage girl should ever have to hear about. But Haley does. She's the one trying to keep everything together, and that doesn't leave much time for teen angst, drama, or mischief. When Hayley meets Finn, she just might have found something for herself. Laughter through tears and all manner of matters of the heart make this novel a standout for any reader 15 and up."

—Jessilynn Norcross, McLean & Eakin Booksellers, Petoskey, MI



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Paul Meets Bernadette

by Rosy Lamb

"Paul is alone and passes his time by swimming round and round in circles, until one day Bernadette is plopped into his bowl. Bernadette shows Paul a world he never knew, and he is no longer alone. Stunning illustrations accompany this love story that will have you in tears! Kids will giggle, adults will cry, but everyone will love the story of Paul and Bernadette."

—Hannah Moushabeck, Odyssey Bookshop, South Hadley, MA



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Seven Stories Up

by Laurel Snyder

"*Seven Stories Up* is heartfelt and honest, emotionally gripping and intellectually stimulating. In short, it is pitch-perfect. Annie, who has never met her grandma before, travels with her mom to the Hotel Calvert where her grandma is on her deathbed. I don't want to give away too much about what happens, but this story is not morose, it's just real and full of love on every page. Comforting, fulfilling, and optimistic, *Seven Stories Up* is exactly the kind of book that every young reader deserves to have on his or her shelf to be shared and loved for generations to come."

—Will Walton, Avid Bookshop, Athens, GA



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All the Truth That's In Me

by Julie Berry

"Four years ago, Judith and her friend disappeared from their small town. Two years later, only Judith returned, but she is unable to speak. What happened to her in those two years is slowly revealed. Sometimes shocking, and at times full of passion and longing, the narrative is addressed to Lucas, the young man Judith has loved since childhood. This fast-paced and multilayered novel is part murder mystery, part romance, and most powerfully, the story of a young woman who overcomes trauma and ultimately finds her voice."

—Erica Caldwell, Present Tense, Batavia, NY

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The Carpet People

by Terry Pratchett

"With all the charm of Pratchett's Tiffany Aching series, *The Carpet People* will be fascinating to his long-time fans and will garner new ones as well. Written when Pratchett was only 17, this humorous young adult novel grew out of his weekly column in a local newspaper. Illustrated by the author, *The Carpet People* tells the story of the Munrung tribe. Their village is destroyed by the Fray, which sets two Munrung brothers on a series of adventures in their tiny world. Enjoy this funny, slightly strange glimpse into the genius of Terry Pratchett!"

—Michele Harvey, BookSmart, Morgan Hill, CA

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Bits and Pieces

by Judy Schachner

"Tink is a well-loved cat who has everything he could ever want. When he's taken to the vet one day, Tink begins an obsession with the great outdoors that even a kitten companion can't overcome. It takes a big adventure for Tink to learn how much his family really does love him in Schachner's new picture book that kids are sure to love to 'bits and pieces!'"

—Melissa Oates, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC

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Reality Boy

by A.S. King

"I'm not sure if there is a subject that A.S. King cannot handle with perfect dexterity. She wins your trust by creating characters that are real and then paves the story's way with glass shards, heartbreak, and, ultimately, gold. *Reality Boy* is a fascinating emotional dissection of life under the watchful eye of the American public and subsequent fallout for one angry young man."

—Jane Knight, Bear Pond Books, Montpelier, VT

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Randi Rhodes, Ninja Detective

The Case of the Time-Capsule Bandit, by Olivia Spencer, Vivienne To (illus.)

"In this rollicking good mystery, 12-year olds find themselves in danger, but with new friends and a good detective kit anything is possible. The sleepy town of Deer Creek is a letdown after the adventure of New York City, but savvy Randi Rhodes finds mystery, adventure, and friendship when and where she least expects it!"

—Ellen Scott, The Bookworm, Omaha, NE



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Love Is Real

by Janet Lawler, Anna Brown (illus.)

"With utterly delightful, gentle rhyming text accompanied by lovely pictures, this book is perfect for a bedtime read-aloud. My favorite part is that the loving grown-ups pictured aren't necessarily limited to mom and dad. They could easily be aunts, uncles, older siblings, family friends, or anyone who has unconditional love for the children in their lives."

—Heather Elia, Colgate Bookstore, Hamilton, NY



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