



SUMMER '15 Top Ten Kids' Next



Circus Mirandus

by Cassie Beasley

"Who doesn't love the circus? Thrilling performances, exotic animals, and the constant promise of surprise make circuses seem magical. In *Circus Mirandus* the magic isn't an illusion, but rather very real—and astounding! Raised by his beloved Grandpa Ephraim, Micah has grown up hearing tales of his grandpa's visit to an incredible circus as a boy. It was during that visit that Ephraim was promised a miracle, and now, many decades later, Ephraim is ill and needs that miracle. Can Micah find Circus Mirandus and obtain the promised wish that could save his grandfather? Micah is a wonderfully appealing young hero and Beasley's glorious debut is fresh, unique, and completely original."

—Christopher Rose, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA

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



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A Court of Thorns and Roses

by Sarah J. Maas

"After her father loses his wealth, Feyre, a young girl in her teens, must hunt to keep her impoverished family. When she kills a faerie disguised as a wolf, Tamlin, one of his fellow immortals, invades her home and demands that she pay the penalty: she must spend the rest of her life in his kingdom or face death. Resigned to imprisonment, Feyre discovers that Tamlin is no ordinary faerie, but a High Lord. In spite of herself, love for him blossoms in her young heart and she strives to help him combat ancient threats to his kingdom. *A Court of Thorns and Roses* is the first in a new series that promises magic, love, and adventure."

—Staci Rice, Bluebird Books, Hutchinson, KS

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Magonia

by Maria Dahvana Headley

"Aza has never really fit in on Earth. Every day she is fighting to breathe because of an undiagnosed lung defect. Then she sees a ship in the sky that is calling her name. Only her best friend, Jason, believes that she saw it. When the people from the ship abduct Aza and show her a life that she was destined for, she is faced with life-changing decisions. She could stay on the ship where she can breathe and belongs, or she can fight to return to the family she loves on Earth. *Magonia* is an amazing story of destiny, family, and love that will take your breath away."

—Clare Donovan, the river's end bookstore, Oswego, NY

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The Wrath and the Dawn

by Renée Ahdieh

"In this reimagining of *The Arabian Nights*, Shahrzad's best friend has been killed by the vicious boy-king who takes wives and orders their death the following dawn. When Shahrzad volunteers to be next so that she can avenge her friend's murder and end the king's treachery once and for all, she stays her own execution by telling him a story and convincing him to keep her alive until it ends. In the meantime, she begins to discover that the king is not what he seems—he is burdened by a dark secret. Mesmerizing and perfect for fans of *Cruel Beauty*, *The Winner's Curse*, or *Shadow & Bone*, this tale will knock readers off their feet with its romance, magic, and beautiful use of language."

—Paige Mushaw, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT

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Miss Hazeltine's Home for Shy and Fearful Cats

by Alicia Potter

"There are lots of cats who are too scared to be proper cats—cats scared of mice, of birds, of pouncing and climbing. So, Miss Hazeltine opens her home to them and gives them lessons in how to be brave. One night, when Miss Hazeltine leaves to get milk and doesn't return, it's up to Crumb, the most shy and fearful cat of all, to lead the others on a quest to rescue their rescuer. This is a story for anyone who needs help conquering their own fears."

—Melissa Oates, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC



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Book Scavenger

by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

"Garrison Griswold is Emily's idol. The developer of 'Book Scavenger,' a wildly popular online game for book lovers, Griswold is a rock star in the book world. But when Emily's family moves to Griswold's hometown on the very day he has an unfortunate accident, Emily finds herself in possession of a valuable book that might be the first clue in a new game, or may well be the first clue in discovering who is behind Griswold's accident. With elements of travel, adventure, mystery, famous authors, codes, online games, books, and two book-loving 12-year-old friends, *Book Scavenger* has just the right ingredients for the perfect middle-grade novel."

—Angie Tally, The Country Bookshop, Southern Pines, NC



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One Word From Sophia

by Jim Averbeck and Yasmeen Ismail

"Sophia is a spunky girl with a big wish: to own a giraffe! One by one, she approaches family members to explain how beneficial giraffe ownership can be, using graphs, charts, and detailed business proposals. Each time, though, she's told to use fewer words, until she finally finds the right one: 'please.' The ink-and-watercolor illustrations are bright and perfectly capture the mood as Sophia works to make her giraffe dream a reality. Silly, sweet, and filled with hilarious giraffe-related ideas, this book will be a winner for kids and grown-ups alike."

—Jennifer Oleinik, University Book Store, Seattle, WA



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Murder Is Bad Manners

A Wells and Wong Mystery, by Robin Stevens

"Hong Kong transplant Hazel Wong serves as Watson to Daisy Wells' Sherlock Holmes in this debut middle-grade mystery series set in 1934 at Deepdean School for Girls. After Hazel finds the body of Miss Bell, the science teacher, it suddenly disappears, setting the Wells and Wong Detective Society on the case. Hazel narrates the story through her casebook, revealing that she is the more analytical of the pair. There are plenty of red herrings and wrong turns, but in the end Wells and Wong solve the case and leave readers eager to read more of their appealing tales."

—Cathy Berner, Blue Willow Bookshop, Houston, TX



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Rook by Sharon Cameron

"I could tell you that *Rook* is an homage to *The Scarlet Pimpernel* set in a post-technological future France, where wealthy families are imprisoned and publicly executed. But that wouldn't help you understand what this book is really about. *Rook* is about the characters: the smart, stubborn young heroine who risks her life to save those who can't save themselves; the rakish smuggler who may be an opponent or an ally; and the memorable group of supporting characters that make *Rook* a story that you'll savor until the very last page."

—Lelia Nebeker, One More Page, Arlington, VA



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STAFF PICK!



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Nimona by Noelle Stevenson

"Supervillain Ballister Blackheart's schemes take an unexpected turn when his new sidekick reports for duty. Nimona is a gleeful shapeshifter with a penchant for mayhem, and together they prepare to take down a corrupt government protected by the flowing-haired Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin. But Nimona's dark past begins to catch up with her, and as things go awry everyone must question what they're fighting for. With delicious complexity, unforgettable characters, and stunning art, this graphic novel is supremely awesome!"

—Fiona Hartley-Kroeger, Mrs. Dalloway's Literary and Garden Arts, Berkeley, CA



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