

## 30 Great Books for Girls



**Juv Fic=Juvenile Fiction; K=Kennedy Library; W=Westergard Library**

Juv Fic Alexander

**Gypsy Rizka, by Lloyd Alexander / Grades 4+/ KW**

By night, Rizka, a young gypsy who dresses peculiarly, lives alone in a wagon outside of town. But by day, she lives amidst the townspeople, mischievously tricking them into one hilarious situation after another, much to some townspeople's dismay.

Juv Fic Blume

**Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret, by Judy Blume/ Grades 5+/ KW**

Right in the midst of growing up, 11-year-old Margaret's family moves to New Jersey, forcing her to adjust to life in the suburbs, a different school, and the trial of making new friends. Now she needs help answering all her embarrassing questions about becoming a teenager. Who can she turn to?

Juv Fic Cooper

**Trick or Trouble, by Ilene Cooper/ Grades 4-6/ K**

When Lia makes four new friends at summer camp, they nickname themselves the Holiday Five and agree to get together at every holiday. Trouble brews when the girls come to Lia's house for Halloween, and she worries they'll discover she's unpopular in her seventh grade class.

*Read the other books in the Holiday Five Series, such as Worst Noel*

Juv Fic Cushman

**Rodzina, by Karen Cushman/ Grades 4-6/ KW**

12-year-old Rodzina has no desire to get on the orphan train that will supposedly take her to be adopted by a "loving family." She would rather die than end up an unpaid slave to a family who'll make her a nurse or cook. No, Rodzina has plans of her own...

Juv Fic Cox

**Third Grade Pet, by Judy Cox/ Grades 3-5/ KW**

Rosemary surprises herself when she begins to like the class pet, Cheese, a gray and white rat. When Cheese's life becomes endangered at school, Rosemary decides to bring him home to stay--if only she can hide him from her family.

Juv Fic Dahl

**Matilda, by Roald Dahl/ Grades 4-6/ KW**

Matilda isn't just smart, she's "extra-ordinary," having read Great Expectations at just four years old. Unfortunately, the horrible grown-ups in her life, including her TV-addict parents and kid-hating school headmistress, don't recognize or appreciate her. Luckily, Matilda has some tricks up her sleeve, like her extrasensory powers, to get their attention.

Juv Fic Denenberg

**One Eye Laughing, the Other Weeping: The Diary of Julie Weiss, by Barry Denenberg/ Grades 5+/ KW**

The life that Julie once knew as a privileged Jewish girl is torn apart when the Nazis invade her hometown of Austria, forcing her to escape to New York, where she must start life over with members of her extended family whom she has never met.

*Read the other books in the Dear America series, such as Valley of the Moon*

Juv Fic Elliott

**Cool Crazy Crickets, by David Elliott/ Grades 1-3/ KW**

Did you ever want to have your own club? Well Phoebe, Leo, Marcus and Miranda have it all-- a club, complete with their own clubhouse, a cool name, a meeting place, and a mascot!

*Read also Cool Crazy Crickets to the Rescue!*

Juv Fic George

**Julie of the Wolves, by Jean Craighead George/ Grades 5+/ KW**

While attempting to run away from an abusive marriage, 13-year-old Eskimo Julie becomes lost in the Alaskan wilderness without food or a compass to guide her. Filled with despair, she survives only after a pack of wolves befriends and takes care of her.

*Read the other books in the Julie series, such as Julie's Choice*

Juv Fic Griffin

**Witch Twins at Camp Bliss, by Adele Griffin/ Grades 3-5/ KW**

Summer camp is fun enough, but it's even better when witch twins Claire and Luna bring along some of their grandmother's special magic marigold powder!

*Read the other books in the Witch Twins series, such as Witch Twins and Melody Malady*

Juv Fic Haddix

**Running Out of Time, by Margaret Peterson Haddix/ Grades 4-6/ KW**

How would you feel if you suddenly learned your whole life was a lie? Jessie, a young girl living in the 1840s, can't believe her ears when her mother tells her an enormous secret in order to save the village children: It is actually 1996, and they are living in a reconstructed village that serves as a tourist site.

Juv Fic King-Smith

**The Nine Lives of Aristotle, by Dick King-Smith/ Grades 2-4/ KW**

Aristotle, a little white kitten, has so many risky adventures while living with his witch owner that he soon has only one life left! Will he survive his ninth live?

Juv Fic Klise

**Trial by (Jury) Journal, by Kate Klise/ Grades 4-6/ W**

When a new law says a child must serve on the jury in a trial where a child is the victim, 12-year-old Lily becomes the first child juror. Since she's missing school to be on the sequestered jury, her teacher asks her to record the whole experience in her journal. Who knew the journal would later become evidence?

Juv Fic Krensky

**Louise, Soccer Star, by Stephen Krensky/ Grades 2-4/ KW**

Louise has practiced all summer, and can't wait to start soccer again. Then she meets the talented new girl on the team, who gets to play Louise's position, and seems to be outshining her. Is there room on the team for both of them?

*Read the other books in the Louise series, such as [Louise Goes Wild](#)*

Juv Fic Lisle

**Gold Dust Letters, by Janet Taylor Lisle/ Grades 4+/ KW**

When 9-year-old Angela writes a note to her fairy godmother, she hardly expects a reply. And yet, shortly after, she finds a return note written on beautiful paper and signed in purple ink by the Gray-Eyed Faerie. Could Angela truly have a fairy godmother? That's what she and her friends, who form the Investigators of the Unknown, would like to find out.

*Read the other books in the Investigators of the Unknown series, such as [Angela's Aliens](#)*

Juv Fic Lowry

**Gathering Blue, by Lois Lowry/ Grades 5+/ KW**

In a futuristic society, fatherless Kira is sent to her village's Council of Guardians for help after her mother dies. Because she is an expert weaver, she is sent to live in the Council's offices, and soon discovers she is not the only child prodigy living there, and that there is a dark secret regarding their talents.

*Companion to [The Giver](#) and [The Messenger](#)*

Juv Fic Matson

**The Boy Trap, by Nancy Matson/ Grades 3-5/ KW**

Fed up with boys, fifth-grade Emma decides to do a science fair project to prove scientifically that girls are better than boys. What she doesn't expect is that the boy begin a project of their own to prove the opposite in return.

Juv Fic McNish

**The Doomspell, by Cliff McNish/ Grades 5+/ KW**

After both having terrible dreams about children suffering in a cold, dark, far-off world, Rachel and her brother Eric are snatched through their cellar wall by the evil witch Dragwena, and transported to her icy world of Ithrea. Dragwena has kidnapped many children, but she believes Rachel may finally contain the power to allow her to return to Earth. What she doesn't know is that Rachel and Eric together have enough power to resist her.

Juv Fic Naylor

**The Agony of Alice, by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor/ Grades 4-6/ KW**

How would you feel if you were about to enter 6th grade, and you had no clue about how to be a teenager because your mother died years ago, and your only help is your father and 19-year-old brother? This is 12-year-old Alice's situation, and as she starts the new year in a new school, her clueless nature gets her into plenty of embarrassing situations!

*Read the other books in the Alice series, including the prequel [Starting with Alice](#)*

Juv Fic Nixon

**The Name of the Game was Murder, by Joan Lowery Nixon/ Grades 5+/ KW**

When Samantha's Uncle Trevor invites her and his friends to a party, he reveals that he's written a book

which contains a secret about each of them, and turns it into a game: the first person to find the hidden book will win the game and have their secret erased. Before the book is found, though, someone at the party murders Uncle Trevor. Now it's up to Samantha to find out who!

Juv Fic Park

**Mick Harte was Here, by Barbara Park/ Grades 4-6/ K**

When Phoebe's younger brother, Mick, dies in a bicycle accident, Phoebe tells her somber, yet often humorous, account of how she and her parents are dealing with the grief.

Juv Fic Peters

**Revenge of the Snob Squad, by Julie Ann Peters/ Grades 5+/ KW**

Jenny, an overweight sixth-grader, joins forces with three other gym class outcasts to plot revenge against the spoiled popular girl who has been tormenting them.

*Read the other books in the Snob Squad series, such as [A Snitch in the Snob Squad](#)*

Juv Fic Sedgwick

**Floodland, by Marcus Sedgwick/ Grades 4-6/ KW**

Imagine that your entire town has been flooded into an island due to global warming, and in the chaos to escape, you get separated from your family. Now you must take a frightening boat trip by yourself, with no map, to find your family, and along the way you are captured by a group of misfit boys who are ruling their own island. This is ten-year-old Zoe's story, which takes place in the not-too-distant future.

Juv Fic Springer

**Rowan Hood, Outlaw Girl of Sherwood Forest/ Grades 5+/ KW**

What do you think the daughter of Robin Hood might be like? If you guessed as brave, adventurous, and heroic as her father, you'd be correct. When her mother dies, Rosemary decides to change her name to Rowan, disguise herself as a boy, and undertake a perilous journey through Sherwood Forest in search of Robin Hood, the father she has never met.

Juv Fic Voigt

**Bad Girls, by Cynthia Voigt/ Grades 5+/ K**

Sugar and spice and everything nice? Not Mikey and Margolo! They're two tough fifth graders who pride themselves on being bad, and they're willing to do anything to prove it.

*Read the other books in the Bad Girls series, such as [Bad, Badder, Baddest](#)*

Juv Fic Whelan

**Homeless Bird, by Gloria Whelan/ Grades 5+/ KW**

Koly, a poor Indian girl, enters into an arranged marriage only to discover that her new husband is very ill and his parents only wanted her dowry. When her young husband dies, she is left under the supervision of her dreadful mother-in-law, who eventually abandons her in the holy city. Now a widow at thirteen, and thus deemed "unlucky," Koly must find a way to survive.

Juv Fic Woodson

**Maizon at Blue Hill, by Jacqueline Woodson/ Grades 5+/ K**

After winning a scholarship to an academically challenging boarding school, Maizon finds herself one of only five blacks there and wonders if she will ever fit in.

*Read also [Between Madison and Palmetto](#)*

Juv Fic Wright

**Ghost in the House, by Betty Ren Wright/ Grades 4-6/ KW**

It's bad enough that Sarah's crabby great aunt had to move in with her family due to money troubles. But now, eerie things like unexplained footsteps and moving objects are happening all the time, and Sarah knows Aunt Margaret is the cause. What she doesn't know is why...

Juv Fic Wrede

**Dealing with Dragons, by Patricia Wrede/ Grades 5+/ K**

Not every princess thinks her life is charmed. Princess Cimorene is so bored with her prim and proper lifestyle, she runs away to be fire-breathing dragon Kazul's servant, and is soon helping him defend his kingdom.

*Read the other books in the Enchanted Forest Chronicles, such as [Calling on Dragons](#)*

Juv Fic Yee

**Millicent Min, Girl Genius, by Lisa Yee/ Grades 4-6/ KW**

Eleven-year-old child prodigy Millicent Min can't seem to fit in. Her high school classmates hate her because she ruins the grading curve, while her fellow 11-year-olds hate her for going to high school. Has her luck finally changed when she meets Emily, who has no idea of Millicent's IQ and actually thinks she is cool?