

Never Trust a Dead Man / Vivian Vande Velde
Punished for murder by being sealed in the tomb with the dead man, a 17-year-old boy enlists the help of a witch and the victim to find the true killer.
Also other titles by this author. Gr. 5+

The Man in the Woods / Rosemary Wells
When Helen investigates the false arrest of a classmate, she is terrified by death threats, which no adult takes seriously. *Gr. 5+*

Deathwatch / Robb White (paperback)
When Ben agrees to guide Madec, a madman, on a hunting trip, he becomes involved in a desperate struggle for his life. *Gr. 5+*

Havoc / Chris Woodling
Seth managed to escape from the Malice comic, but it meant leaving his best friend, Kady, trapped there. And he's not sure whether he should try to take down Malice from his own world or go back with an artifact he thinks can help from within. *Gr. 5+*

Here There Be Witches / Jane Yolen
Short stories about witches and wizards. *Gr. 6+*

The Scary Story Reader / Richard Young
(j 398.25 You)
A collection of classic and modern-day horror tales. *Gr. 5+*

Loch / Paul Zindel
Horrorifying prehistoric human-eating creatures in a Vermont lake are both feared and helped by a scientist's son and his girlfriend.
Gr. 6+



Mt. Lebanon Public Library
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Scary Stories

for older readers

Suggestions from the Mt. Lebanon Public Library for Grades 4 & Up

The following titles may be found in juvenile fiction unless otherwise noted.

Give Yourself a Fright / Joan Aiken
Spine-tingling short stories. See also other collections by this author. *Gr. 6+*

The Stonewalkers / Vivien Alcock
A statue, brought to life by a flash of lightening, forms an evil stone army. *Gr. 5+*

Skellig / David Almond
Unhappy about his baby sister's illness and the chaos of moving into a dilapidated old house, Michael retreats to the garage and finds a mysterious stranger who is something like a bird and something like an angel. *Gr. 5+*

The Wikkeling / Steven Arnston
Henrietta and her pals Gary and Rose all have headaches with an unknown cause and experience other strange incidents—including the appearance of a threatening creature called the Wikkeling—and are hopeful that an ancient bestiary can help solve these mysteries. *Gr. 5+*

The Night Gardener / Jonathan Auxier
Irish orphans Molly, fourteen, and Kip, ten, travel to England to work as servants in a crumbling manor house where nothing is quite what it seems to be, and soon the siblings are confronted by a mysterious stranger and secrets of the cursed house. *Gr. 5+*

The Seer of Shadows / Avi
In New York City in 1872, a 14 year-old photographer's apprentice accidentally frees the ghost of a dead girl bent on revenge. *Gr. 5+*

The Cabinet of Curiosities: 36 Tales Brief and Sinister / Stefan Bachmann
Thirty-six eerie short tales, most of which were originally published on the blog of the same name, relate to an imaginary museum of creepy artifacts and are arranged into such thematic "drawers" as love, luck, song, and fairy tales. *Gr. 5+*

Darkside / Tom Becker

While running from kidnappers, Jonathan comes upon Darkside, a terrifying & hidden part of London ruled by descendants of Jack the Ripper. *Gr. 6+*

The House with a Clock in Its Walls / John Bellairs

A boy goes to live with his magician uncle in a mansion that has a clock hidden in the walls which is ticking off the minutes until doomsday. *Gr. 4+*

Doll Bones / Holly Black

Zach, Alice, and Poppy, friends from a Pennsylvania middle school who have long enjoyed acting out imaginary adventures with dolls and action figures, embark on a real-life quest to Ohio to bury a doll made from the ashes of a dead girl. *Gr. 5+*

Skeleton Man / Joseph Bruchac

Dreams of a chilling Mohawk legend, the Skeleton Man, begin when Molly's parents disappear. *Gr. 5+*

The Beast of Noor / Janet Lee Carey

Fifteen-year-old Miles Ferrell uses the rare and special gift he is given to break the curse of the Shriker, a murderous creature reportedly brought to Shalem Wood by his family's clan centuries before. *Gr. 5+*

Things That Go Bump in the Night / Patrick Carman

Collects ten tales of terror that are presented in three parts each, beginning with links and passwords to an online audio introduction, followed by the written text in the book, and ending with links to online video finales. *Gr. 5+*

Gustav Gloom and the People Taker / Adam-Troy Castro

Fernie What, an adventurous young horror fan, moves into the house across the street from the dark mansion of a mysterious boy whose residence is haunted by evil shadows. First in a series. *Gr. 4+*

The Dreadful Revenge of Ernest Gallen / James Lincoln Collier

When Eugene starts hearing a voice inside his head telling him to do awful things, it leads him to look into his small town's past before the Depression, and to discover long-hidden secrets about his neighbors and his town. *Gr. 5+*

The Ghost of Fossil Glen / Cynthia C. DeFelice

Allie knows it's not her imagination when she hears a voice and sees in her mind's eye the face of a girl who seems to be seeking Allie's help. *Gr. 4+*

More Short and Shivery: Thirty Terrifying Tales / Robert San Souci

(j 398.25 San)

A collection of scary folktales from the United States, China, England, Italy, Russia, and other countries around the world. *Gr. 4+*

Also Even More Short & Shivery: Thirty Spine-Tingling Stories

Zombie Kid / Scott Savage

The Halloween plans of monster enthusiasts Nick, Carter, and Angelo are thrown into turmoil when a magical amulet acquired from Nick's voodoo queen aunt turns Nick into a zombie and prompts an uproarious effort to break the curse. First in a series. *Gr. 4+*

The Tanglewood Terror / Kurtis Scaletta

When a giant glowing fungus encroaches upon thirteen-year-old Eric's small town, he, his little brother Brian, and a runaway girl try to stop it--and figure out what happened to the Puritan town that had mysteriously disappeared from the same spot. *Gr. 4+*

Splendors and Gloom / Laura Amy Schlitz

When Clara vanishes after the puppeteer Grisini and two orphaned assistants were at her 12th birthday party, suspicion of kidnapping chases the trio away from London. Soon the two orphans are caught in a trap set by Grisini's ancient rival, a witch with a deadly inheritance to shed before it's too late. *Gr. 5+*

Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark / retold by Alvin Schwartz (j 398.25 Sch)

Stories of ghosts and witches, "jump" stories, scary songs, and modern-day scary stories. *Gr. 4+*

The Gruesome Guide to World Monsters / Judy Sierra**The Duplicate / William Sleator**

David thinks it's great when he finds a machine that duplicates himself until the duplicate turns against him. Also other titles by this author. *Gr. 5+*

The Egypt Game / Zilpha Keatley Snyder

A group of children, entranced with the study of Egypt, play their own Egypt game, are visited by a secret oracle, become involved in a murder, and befriend the Professor before they move on to new interests, such as Gypsies. *Gr. 5+*

Barnaby Grimes series / Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell

A Victorian messenger boy who traverses the city by rooftop instead of road becomes involved in several bloodthirsty adventures. *Gr. 5+*

The Spindlers / Lauren Oliver

Accompanied by an eccentric, human-sized rat, Liza embarks on a perilous quest through an underground realm to save her brother Patrick, whose soul has been stolen by the vilest of creatures—the spider-like spindlers. *Gr. 4+*

Ask the Bones: Scary Stories from Around the World / retold by Arielle North Olson (j 398.25 Ols)

A collection of 22 scary folktales from countries around the world including China, Russia, Spain, and the United States. *Gr. 4+*

More bones: Scary Stories from Around the World / Arielle Olson (j 398.25 Ols)

The August House Book of Scary Stories / Liz Parkhurst (j 398.25 Par)
An anthology of spooky stories drawn from folklore, local history, and the storytellers' imaginations, and divided into the categories "Just Desserts and Lessons Learned," "Ghostly Guardians," "Dark Humor," "Urban Legends and Jump Tales," and "Fearless Females." *Gr. 5+*

The Young Oxford Book of Nasty Endings / Dennis Pepper
Frightening stories by well-known writers. *Gr. 6+***The Satanic Mill** / Otfried Preussler

In seventeenth century Germany, a boy desperately wants to escape from a school for Black Magic where he is held captive by demonic forces. *Gr. 6+*

Clockwork / Philip Pullman

Long ago in Germany, a storyteller's tale and an apprentice clockwork-maker's nightmare meet in a menacing, lifelike figure created by the strange Dr. Kalmenius. *Gr. 5+*

Nightmare / Willo Davis Roberts

Nick suspects an apparent suicide is a murder and finds his life in danger when he tries to investigate. Also other titles by this author.

Haunted Houses / Robert San Souci

Ten chilling tales about untraditional haunted houses: a mansion full of pirate treasure, a ghost trapped in a mysterious dollhouse, a boy whose vacation house comes complete with people-eating spiders, and many more. *Gr. 4+*

Revenge of the Witch / Joseph Delaney

Tom starts working for the village spook, whose job is to protect ordinary folk from "ghouls and wicked beasties." First in *The Last Apprentice* series. *Gr. 6+*

Scare Scape / Sam Fisher

Morton, James, Melissa, and their father have just moved into an old house in a new town, and when Morton finds a creepy gargoyle buried in the yard, he and his siblings each make a wish—and find out that they have unleashed chaos. *Gr. 4+*

Ghost Knight / Cornelia Funke

Eleven-year-old Jon Whitcroft and new friend Ella summon the ghost of Sir William Longspee, who may be able to protect Jon from a group of ghosts that threatens him harm from the day he arrives at Salisbury Cathedral's boarding school. *Gr. 4+*

Coraline / Neil Gaiman

In a hidden world disturbingly like her own, Coraline tries to save herself and the lost souls trapped behind the mirrors. *Gr. 6+*

Also: *Coraline* graphic novel adaptation (j GRAPHIC CORALINE)

The Graveyard Book / Neil Gaiman

Nobody Owens is a normal boy who has been raised by ghosts in a graveyard. *Gr. 6+*

A Tale Dark and Grimm / Adam Gidwitz

Follows Hansel and Gretel as they walk out of their own story and into eight more tales, encountering such wicked creatures as witches, along with kindly strangers and other helpful folk. Based in part on the Grimms' fairy tales. *Gr. 4+*

When Nobody's Home / Judith Gorog

Scary stories about what happens to the babysitters after the kids have gone to bed. Also other collections by this author. *Gr. 5+*

The Crossroads / Chris Grabenstein

After Zack's family moves to Connecticut they must deal with the ghosts left behind by a terrible accident, as well as a ghost from Zack's past. *Gr. 6+*

Wait Till Helen Comes / Mary Downing Hahn

Molly and Michael try to save their stepsister when she seems ready to follow a ghost child to her doom. Also other titles by this author. *Gr. 5+*

The House of Dies Drear / Virginia Hamilton

When a family moves into an old house, the secret passageways they find and the mysterious sounds they hear make them think they are in grave danger.

Gr. 5+

The Dark Way: Stories from the Spirit World / Virginia Hamilton

(j 398.25 Ham)

A collection of folk tales, legends, and myths involving the supernatural, from cultures around the world. *Gr. 5+*

Raven's Gate / Anthony Horowitz

At his English foster home, Matt finds that Raven's Gate, an ancient portal to the world of evil, is about to be opened. First of **The Gatekeepers** series. *Gr. 6+*

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow / retold by William Moses (j IRVING)

A superstitious schoolmaster, in love with a wealthy farmer's daughter, has a terrifying encounter with a headless horseman. *Gr. 4+*

The Ribbajack & Other Curious Yarns / Brian Jacques

Six all-new tales of horror and suspense. *Gr. 5+*

The Paradise Trap / Catherine Jinks

Eleven-year-old Marcus is spending a week at the beach with his mother in a tiny old travel trailer, but boredom turns to terror when a new friend discovers a cellar that has magical doors through which people keep disappearing. *Gr. 4+*

The Ghost's Grave / Peg Kehret

Apprehensive about spending the summer in Washington State with his Aunt Ethel when his parents get an overseas job, twelve-year-old Josh soon finds adventure when he meets the ghost of a coal miner. *Gr. 4+*

The Girl Behind the Glass / Jane Kelley

Moving from Brooklyn to a rental house in the country strains the relationship between eleven-year-old identical twins Hannah and Anna Zimmer, a situation made worse by the ghost of a girl who is trapped in the house because of problems with her own sister eighty years before. *Gr. 4+*

Skulduggery Pleasant / Derek Landy

Twelve-year-old Stephanie joins forces with Skulduggery Pleasant, a skeleton mage, to save the world from the Faceless Ones. First in a series. *Gr. 5+*

The Shadow Hunt / Katherine Langrish

Wolf, on the run from the oppressive monastery where he was raised, rescues a strange child on Devil's Edge, home of ghosts and demons. He takes her to a grand castle and strikes up an unlikely friendship with a girl named Nest, thinking he's finally found a place to call home. But dark forces are conspiring, and a sinister enemy is looming closer than they could ever realize. *Gr. 6+*

Wipeout of the Wireless Weenies and Other Warped and Creepy Tales /

David Lubar

Thirty-three stories about clothes-eating bacteria, a zombie apocalypse, a monstrous butcher shop, and other frightening things. Includes notes on how the author got his ideas for these stories. *Gr. 4+*

Also other titles by this author.

A Book of Spooks and Spectres / Ruth Manning-Sanders (j 398.25 Man)

Twenty-three ghostly tales from around the world. *Gr. 4+*

The Witch's Guide to Cooking with Children / Keith McGowan

Sol and his sister try to escape the clutches of Hansel and Gretel's witch, to whom they have been led by their parents. *Gr. 5+*

The Dark-Thirty: Southern Tales of the Supernatural / Patricia McKissack

A collection of ghost stories with African American themes, designed to be told during the Dark Thirty—the half hour before sunset—when ghosts seem all too believable. *Gr. 4+*

The Hunt for the Seventh / Christine Morton-Shaw

When his father starts a new job at Minerva Hall as gardener, twelve-year-old Jim discovers an ancient curse that needs to be unraveled before disaster happens. *Gr. 5+*

Night Terrors / Jim Murphy

A gravedigger shares chilling tales he has heard in cemeteries. *Gr. 5+*

Sabriel / Garth Nix

Sabriel, daughter of the necromancer Abhorsen, must journey into the mysterious and magical Old Kingdom to rescue her father from the Land of the Dead. *Gr. 6+*

The Haunting / Joan Lowery Nixon

After her parents move into an old family plantation, Lia must find the courage to battle the evil that haunts it. Also other titles by this author. *Gr. 6+*