

Freakling / Lana Krumwiede

After a traumatic accident removes his telekinetic ability, or psy, twelve-year-old Taemon is exiled to the "dud farm," where he is surprised to find kind, open people who enjoy using their hands but there are also mysteries at the colony and when Taemon unwittingly leaks one of the secrets he must find the courage to repair the damage, even if it means returning to the city from which he was banished. *Gr. 5+*

Followed by: **The Sphere of Secrets** (Oct 2013)

The Giver / Lois Lowry

Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives. *Gr. 5+*

Followed by: **Gathering Blue**
Messenger
Son

The Unwanteds / Lisa McMann

In a society that purges thirteen-year-olds who are creative, identical twins Aaron and Alex are separated, one to attend University while the other, supposedly Eliminated, finds himself in a wondrous place where youths learn magic. *Gr. 4+*

Followed by: **Island of Silence**
Island of Fire

The One Safe Place / Tania Unsworth

In a near future world of heat, greed, and hunger, Devin earns a coveted spot in a home for abandoned children that promises the hope of finding a new family. Soon, Devin discovers the home's horrific true mission when he investigates its intimidating Administrator and the zombie-like sickness that afflicts some children. *Gr. 5+*

The Boy at the End of the World / Greg van Eekhout

Born half-grown in a world that is being destroyed, Fisher has instinctive knowledge of many things, including that he must avoid the robot that knows his name. *Gr. 5+*

You'll Like It Here (Everybody Does) / Ruth White

Forced to flee a small town when the neighbors suspect they are aliens, sixth-grader Meggie Blue and her family leave Earth and arrive in Fashion City, where individuality is punished and the greatest crime is being "grossly unique." *Gr. 4+*

Mt. Lebanon Public Library

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DYSTOPIAN & SPECULATIVE FICTION

Suggestions from the Mt. Lebanon Public Library

The following titles may be found in juvenile fiction.

The White Mountains / John Christopher

Young Will Parker and his companions make a perilous journey toward an outpost of freedom where they hope to escape from the ruling Tripods, who capture mature human beings and make them docile, obedient servants. *Gr. 4+*

Followed by: **The City of Gold and Lead**
The Pool of Fire
When the Tripods Came (*prequel*)

The Supernaturalist / Eoin Colfer

In futuristic Satellite City, fourteen-year-old Cosmo Hill escapes from his abusive orphanage and teams up with three other people who share his unusual ability to see supernatural creatures. *Gr. 6+*

Gregor the Overlander / Suzanne Collins

When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy. *Gr. 4+*

Followed by: **Gregor and the Prophecy of Bane**
Gregor and the Curse of the Warmbloods
Gregor and the Marks of Secret
Gregor and the Code of the Claw

Raiders' Ransom / Emily Diamand

In 23rd-century Great Britain, where climate change has caused vast flooding, the piratical Reavers kidnap the Prime Minister's daughter, and thirteen-year-old Lilly Melkun, an English fisher-girl, makes a daring rescue attempt, with a mysterious talking jewel from a past computer age tucked in her belt as ransom. *Gr. 4+*

The Sky Inside / Clare Dunkle

Martin lives in a "perfect world" under the protective dome of suburb HMI, where every year a new generation of genetically-engineered children is shipped out to meet their parents. And it's all about to come crashing down because a stranger has come to take away all the little children, including Martin's sister, Cassie, and no one wants to talk about where they've gone. Martin has a choice either to remain in the dubious safety of HMI, or to break out into the mysterious land outside. *Gr. 6+*

The City of Ember / Jeanne duPrau

In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved underground city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions. *Gr. 4+*

Followed by: **The People of Sparks**
 The Diamond of Darkhold
 The Prophet of Yonwood

Sky Jumpers / Peggy Eddleman

Twelve-year-old Hope lives in a post-World War III town called White Rock where everyone must participate in Inventions Day, though Hope's inventions always fail. Her unique skill set comes in hand when a group of bandits invades the town. *Gr. 4+*

First in a new series.

Dark Life / Kat Falls

When fifteen-year-old Ty, who has always lived on the ocean floor, joins Topside girl Gemma in the frontier's underworld to seek and stop outlaws who threaten his home, they learn that the government may pose an even greater threat. *Gr. 6+*

The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm / Nancy Farmer

In 2194 in Zimbabwe, General Matsika's three children are kidnapped and put to work in a plastic mine, while three mutant detectives use their special powers to search for them. *Gr. 6+*

The House of the Scorpion / Nancy Farmer

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States. *Gr. 6+*

Followed by: **The Lord of Opium**

Among the Hidden / Margaret Peterson Haddix

In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong. *Gr. 5+*

Followed by: **Among the Imposters**
 Among the Betrayed
 Among the Barons
 Among the Brave
 Among the Enemy
 Among the Free

Found / Margaret Peterson Haddix

When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel and two opposing forces, each trying to repair the fabric of time. *Gr. 4+*

Followed by: **Sent**
 Sabotaged
 Torn
 Caught
 Risked

The Vanishing / Christopher Holt

When all humans in his world disappear, Max, a yellow Labrador Retriever, searches for Madame Curie who, he knows, will help find his people but as he and friends Rocky and Gizmo search, they face angry wolves, a gang of subway rats, and the Corporation, a supposed "perfect" society for dogs. *Gr. 4+*

Followed by: **Dark Waters**
 The Long Road (Nov 2013)

The Neptune Project / Polly Holyoke

A group of kids who have been genetically altered to survive in the ocean must embark on a dangerous underwater journey to find refuge--and maybe even a way to save the world. *Gr. 4+*

The Mark of the Dragonfly / Jaleigh Johnson

Since her father's death in a factory in the Dragonfly Territories, thirteen-year-old Piper has eked out a living as a scrapper in Merrow Kingdom, but the arrival of a mysterious girl sends her on a dangerous journey to distant lands. *Gr. 6+*

Bot Wars / J.V. Kade

In a futuristic world where humans and robots are at war, a boy goes on a search to find his missing military father. *Gr. 6+*

The first in a new series