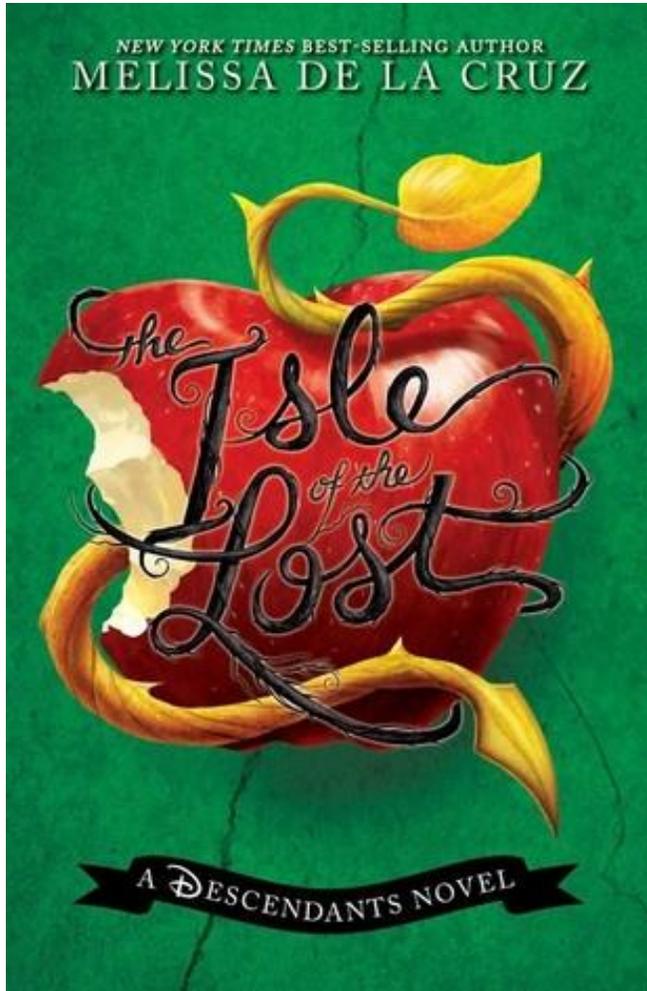


# Recommended Fiction for Elementary and Middle School Readers



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 **BROWN DEER**  
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## Zack Delacruz : Me and My Big Mouth

By Jeff Anderson

**J ANDERSON NEW**

Zack Delacruz is unnoticed at his middle school—and that's just the way he likes it. But a school assembly, a typhoon of spit, and an uncharacteristic moment of bravery are all it takes to change everything. Suddenly Zack is in charge of the class fundraiser. Worse, his partner is the school's biggest bully! If they don't sell all the chocolate bars, there will be no dance for the sixth grade. Zack never wanted to be a hero, but with his classmates' hopes on the line, can he save the day?

## The Indian in the Cupboard

By Lynne Reid Banks

**J BANKS**

A nine-year-old boy receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and finds himself involved in adventure when the Indian comes to life in the cupboard and befriends him.

## The Worst Class Trip Ever

By Dave Barry

**J BARRY NEW**

When the eighth grade civics class of Miami's Culver Middle School goes on a trip to Washington, D.C., Wyatt Palmer finds himself in deep trouble before the plane even lands because his best friend Matt's decided the men sitting behind them are terrorists--and it's up to the boys to stop them.

## The Penderwicks on Gardam Street

By Jeanne Birdsall

**MS BIRDSALL**

The four Penderwick sisters are faced with the unimaginable prospect of their widowed father dating, and they hatch a plot to stop him.

## The Mouse and the Motorcycle

By Beverly Cleary

**J CLEARY**

A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

## The Cottage in the Woods

By Katherine Coville

**MS COVILLE**

Presents the story of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" as told by young Teddy's governess, who came to work at the Vaughn family "cottage" shortly before a golden-haired girl, ragged and dirty, entered the home and soon became a beloved foster child, until evil characters tried to take her away.

**Matilda**

By Roald Dahl

**MS DAHL**

Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

**The Isle of the Lost**

By Melissa de la Cruz

**J DE LA CRUZ NEW**

Imprisoned on the Isle of the Lost, the teenaged children of Disney's most evil villains search for a dragon's eye--the key to true darkness and the villains' only hope of escape.

**The City of Ember**

By Jeanne DuPrau

**MS 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 city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

**The Ruins of Gorlan****The Ranger's Apprentice: Book 1**

By John Flanagan

**MS FLANAGAN**

When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.

**George**

By Alex Gino

**J GINO NEW**

When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. George thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever. Then her teacher announces that their class play is going to be Charlotte's Web. George really, really, REALLY wants to play Charlotte. But the teacher says she can't even try out for the part . . . because she's a boy.

**Sunny Side Up**

By Jennifer Holm

**J GRAPHIC HOLM NEW**

Following the lives of kids whose older brother's delinquent behavior has thrown their family into chaos, **Sunny Side Up** is at once a compelling "problem" story and a love letter to the comic books that help the protagonist make sense of her world.

**The Zodiac Legacy: Convergence**

By Stan Lee and Stuart Moore

**MS LEE**

Follows the experiences of a Chinese-American teen who is thrown into the middle of an epic global chase involving the release of twelve magical superpowers.

**Boys are Dogs**

By Leslie Margolis

**J MARGOLIS**

When her mother gets a new boyfriend, sixth-grader Annabelle gets to cope with a new town, a new school, and a new puppy and, while training her puppy, she decides to apply some of the same techniques to tame the unruly boys that are making her middle-school life miserable.

**Wonder**

By R.J. Palacio

**J PALACIO**

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

**The Bad Beginning****Series of Unfortunate Events: Book 1**

By Lemony Snicket

**J SNICKET**

After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that the distant relative who is appointed their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune.

**The Witch of Blackbird Pond**

By Elizabeth George Speare

**MS SPEARE**

In 1687, Kit Tyler moves from the Caribbean to Connecticut Colony. Her friendship for a strange, old woman leads to her trial for witchcraft.