MYSTERIES, SPIES & CONSPIRACY THEORIES
A Book List

CONFOUNDING, CRYPTIC & CREEPY CONUNDRUMS
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 2021
This is an Interactive Book List

Click on the cover of each book to read descriptions and reviews on Amazon.com

Search for these titles online at the San Diego Public Library, San Diego County Library or on the Libby app to read them for free.
History is full of unsolved mysteries, some of which have gone hundreds of years without being solved. Even when people investigate very thoroughly and do in-depth research, it can still be impossible to find the proof needed to tell exactly what happened. Sometimes there isn’t enough evidence available. Other times we lack the ability to analyze the evidence we do have.

New advances in science occasionally help us solve mysteries. For example, we now know the ancient stories about Kraken (giant squid) are true because deep-water cameras were invented. DNA analysis recently helped determine that King Richard III’s grave site had been paved over to make a parking lot.

If you like trying to solve a mystery, here are some to try your deductive skills on. Some are Fiction but some are real mysteries that have yet to be solved or were only recently solved. Happy sleuthing. --Ms. Furey
mystery (noun) mys·tery |ˈmi-st(ə-)rē | plural mysteries

1: something not understood or beyond understanding: ENIGMA
The mystery of his disappearance has never been solved.

2: a piece of fiction dealing usually with the solution of a mysterious crime
Reading mysteries was her favorite pastime.
Carolyn Keene is the pseudonym of the authors of the Nancy Drew mystery stories and The Dana Girls mystery stories, both produced by the Stratemeyer Syndicate. In addition, the Keene pen name is credited with the Nancy Drew spin-off, River Heights, and the Nancy Drew Notebooks.

According to the Penguin Random House website, the first author to use the pseudonym was Mildred Wirt Benson (1905-2002), who wrote 23 of the original 30 books.
Middle School Fiction

A to Z Mysteries
Super Edition
#5: The New Year Dragon Dilemma
by Ron Roy

Sleuth & Solve:
20+ Mind-Twisting Mysteries
by Victor Escandell

Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Stolen Diamonds
by David A. Adler

Treasure Hunters: Secret of the Forbidden City
by James Patterson
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Boxcar Children:  Books 1-4</td>
<td>Gertrude Chandler Warner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endangered Operation (Carmen Sandiego Chase-Your-Own Capers)</td>
<td>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trapped in A Video Game: Volume 1</td>
<td>Dustin Brady and Jesse Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballpark Mysteries: The Dugout boxed set (books 1-4)</td>
<td>David A. Kelly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Middle School Fiction

Mystery of the Egyptian Scroll
(Kid Detective Zet)
by Scott Peters

Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow
(Nevermoor, Book 1)
by Jessica Townsend

The Magic Misfits:
Book 1
by Neil Patrick Harris

39 Clues: The Maze of Bones
by Rick Riordan
Middle School Fiction

- Bear Bottom (FunJungle) by Stuart Gibbs
- Sammy Keyes and the Skeleton Man by Wendelin Van Draanen
- Encyclopedia Brown Box Set (4 Books) by Donald J. Sobol
- The Great Pet Heist by Emily Ecton
Middle School Fiction

Epic Zero: Tales of a Not-So-Super 6th Grader by R.L. Ullman

Spy Camp (Spy School, Book 2) by Stuart Gibbs

The Candymakers by Wendy Mass

The Complete Moon Base Alpha: Space Case; Spaced Out; Waste of Space by Stuart Gibbs
Middle School Fiction

All the Wrong Questions: A Complete Mystery Paperback Gift Set by Lemony Snicket and Seth

Mr. Lemoncello’s Library, Books 1-4 by Chris Grabenstein

The Mysterious Benedict Society, Books 1-5 by Trenton Lee Stewart

Book Scavenger, Book 1 by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman
Middle School Fiction

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

The Game Master: Summer Schooled by Rebecca Zamolo

The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson

Greystone Secrets #1: The Strangers by Margaret Peterson Haddix
Middle School Fiction

The Lemonade Crime
(The Lemonade War Series, Book 2)
by Jacqueline Davies

The Secret Lake
by Karen Inglis

Linked
by Gordon Korman

The Goldfish Boy
by Lisa Thompson
Middle School Fiction

Sasquatch
by Roland Smith

The Secret Zoo: Book 1
by Bryan Chick

Ali Cross: Book 1
by James Patterson

Spirit Hunters: Book 1
by Ellen Oh
Middle School Fiction

Charlie Thorne and the Lost City by Stuart Gibbs
Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti Bowling
Holes by Louis Sachar
Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett and Brett Helquist
Middle School Fiction

The Dollhouse Murders (35th Anniversary Edition)
by Betty Ren Wright

Serafina and the Black Cloak
(The Serafina Series, Book 1)
by Robert Beatty

The Egypt Game
by Zilpha Keatley Snyder

From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler
by E.L. Konigsburg
Middle School Fiction

A Series of Unfortunate Events: 13 Books by Lemony Snicker

Bunnicula: 40th Anniversary Edition (Bunnicula and Friends) by James Howe, Deborah Howe

Scritch Scratch by Lindsay Currie

Dead Voices by Katherine Arden
Middle School Fiction

- When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead
- Starry River of the Sky by Grace Lin
- Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer, Book 1 by John Grisham
- Tunnel of Bones (City of Ghosts, Book 2) by Victoria Schwab
Middle School Fiction

The Incredibly Dead Pets of Rex Dexter by Aaron Reynolds

Hide and Seeker by Daka Hermon

Framed! by James Ponti

Took: A Ghost Story by Mary Downing Hahn
Middle School Fiction

Among the Hidden (Shadow Children, Book 1) by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool

Doll Bones by Holly Black
Middle School Fiction

- Case Closed: Mystery in the Mansion by Lauren Magaziner
- Best Nerds Forever by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein
- Breakout by Kate Messner
- Explorer Academy: The Nebula Secret by Trudi Trueit
### Middle School Fiction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Mystery of the Missing Lion: A Precious Ramotswe Mystery</td>
<td>Alexander McCall Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artemis Fowl: Book 1</td>
<td>Eoin Colfer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The House with a Clock in Its Walls (Lewis Barnavelt, Book 1)</td>
<td>John Bellairs and Edward Gorey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shakespeare’s Secret</td>
<td>Elise Broach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Middle School Fiction

Charlie Thorne and the Last Equation by Stuart Gibbs
Midnight at the Barclay Hotel by Fleur Bradley and Xavier Bonet
The Secret Keepers by Trenton Lee Stewart
Tales from the Haunted Mansion: The Fearsome Foursome by Amicus Arcane and Kelley Jones
Middle School Fiction

- Fast Pitch by Nic Stone
- Willa of Dark Hollow (Willa of the Wood, Book 2) by Robert Beatty
- Chupacabra (Cryptid Hunters Book 2) by Roland Smith
- Peter Polo and the Snow Beast of Hunza by Craig Bradley
Middle School Fiction

*Dark Waters* (Small Spaces, Book 3) by Katherine Arden

*Daughter of the Deep* by Rick Riordan

*City Spies, Book 1* by James Ponti

*Mine* by Delilah S. Dawson
Middle School Fiction

**The Feather Chase:** (The Crime-Solving Cousins Mysteries, Book 1) by Shannon L. Brown

**Masterminds:** (Masterminds, Book 1) by Gordon Korman

**The Mystery of Black Hollow Lane** by Julia Nobel

**Shadow Jumper** by J.M. Forster
Middle School Fiction

Greenglass House
by Kate Milford

The Elephant’s Girl
by Celesta Rimington

The Amelia Six
(Amelia Earhart)
by Kristin L. Gray

Sophia’s War: A Tale of the Revolution
by Avi
Middle School Fiction

**Al Capone Does My Shirts**
*Tales from Alcatraz, Book 1*
by Gennifer Choldenko

**The Hardy Boys**
*Starter Set*
by Franklin W. Dixon

**Nancy Drew**
*Starter Set*
by Carolyn Keene

**Harriet the Spy**
by Louise Fitzhugh
Middle School Fiction

Death Sets Sail: A Murder Most Unladylike Mystery by Robin Stevens

The Case of the Missing Marquess (An Enola Holmes Mystery, Book 1) by Nancy Springer

The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd

The Guggenheim Mystery (London Eye Mystery, Book 2) by Robin Stevens
Middle School Fiction

The Renegade Spy Project
by Terri Selting David

Wait Till Helen Comes: A Ghost Story
by Mary Downing Hahn

Bloom (The Overthrow, Book 1)
by Kenneth Oppel

Into the Dark
by C.J. Loughty
Middle School Fiction

Risuko: A Kunoichi Tale
by David Kudler

The Traitor’s Blade (The Blackthorn Key, Book 5)
by Kevin Sands

Summer of the Woods (The Virginia Mysteries, Book 1)
by Steven K. Smith

The Mystery of Craven Manor
by Joy Wodhams
conspiracy theory (noun) | plural: conspiracy theories

1: a theory that explains an event or set of circumstances as the result of a secret plot by usually powerful conspirators

the conspiracy theories surrounding Kennedy's assassination

also: a theory asserting that a secret of great importance is being kept from the public

“… is best known for … his conspiracy theory that a secret cabal of reptilian humanoids is running the world.” — Simon Little

“… has often been criticized for promoting conspiracy theories such as "birtherism," the theory that President Obama was not born in the U.S.” — Grace Segers
Dame Agatha Christie, Lady Mallowan, was an English writer. She is known for her 66 detective novels and 14 short story collections and for writing the world's longest-running play, *The Mousetrap*, which was performed in the West End from 1952 to 2020, Guinness World Records lists Christie as the best-selling fiction writer of all time, her novels having sold more than two billion copies. Christie created the well-loved fictional detectives Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple.

Christie herself is the subject of an unsolved mystery. She disappeared for 11 days in 1926 and after had no memory of what had happened to her.
High School Fiction

I Know What You Did Last Summer by Lois Duncan

A Study in Charlotte (Charlotte Holmes, Book 1) by Brittany Cavallaro

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie (Flavia de Luce Mysteries, Book 1) by Alan Bradley

I’d Tell You I Love You, But Then I’d Have to Kill You (Gallagher Girls, Book 1) by Ally Carter
High School Fiction

Greyson Gray: Camp Legend (The Greyson Gray Series, Book 1) by B.C. Tweedt

All In (The Naturals, Book 3) by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Monday’s Not Coming by Tiffany D Jackson

Red Queen (Red Queen, Book 1) by Victoria Aveyard
High School Fiction

- *I Am the Cheese* by Robert Cormier
- *The Haunting of Hill House* by Shirley Jackson and Laura Miller
- *Killing Mr. Griffin* by Lois Duncan
- *The House of Dies Drear* by Virginia Hamilton
High School Fiction

All American Boys by Jason Reynolds

Code of Honor by Alan Gratz

Girl in the Blue Coat by Monica Hesse

The Secret History by Donna Tartt
High School Fiction

- Riverdale: The Collection (Novels #1-4) by Micol Ostow
- Enola Holmes and the Black Barouche by Nancy Springer
- Maximum Ride Box Set (Maximum Ride, School’s Out Forever, Saving the World) by James Patterson
- The Chronicles of Harris Burdick: Fourteen Amazing Authors Tell the Tales by Chris Van Allsburg
High School Fiction

Fear Street The Beginning (The New Girl; The Surprise Party; The Overnight; Missing) by R.L. Stine

One of Us Is Lying by Karen M. McManus

They Wish They Were Us by Jessica Goodman

The Face on the Milk Carton (The Face on the Milk Carton, Book 1) by Caroline B. Cooney
Picnic at Hanging Rock by Joan Lindsay and Maile Meloy
Murder on the Orient Express: A Hercule Poirot Mystery by Agatha Christie
Fer-de-Lance (A Nero Wolfe Mystery, Book 1) by Rex Stout
The Daughter of Time by Josephine Tey
High School Fiction

- **The Sleep Experiment**: An edge-of-your-seat psychological thriller by Jeremy Bates
- **The Catacombs**: (World’s Scariest Places, Book 2) by Jeremy Bates
- **Girl in the White Van**: by April Henry
- **The Clockwork Scarab**: (The Stoker & Holmes Novels Book 1) by Colleen Gleason
High School Fiction

- The Compound by S.A. Bodeen
- Dreamland Burning by Jennifer Latham
- Between Jobs (City Between Series, Book 1) by W.R. Gingell
- Lockdown (Escape from Furnace, Book 1) by Alexander Gordon Smith
High School Fiction

Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25
by Richard Paul Evans

Legend, Book 1
by Marie Lu

Hawk (Maximum Ride: Hawk, Book 1)
by James Patterson

Stormbreaker (Alex Rider, Book 1)
by Anthony Horowitz
High School Fiction

- Paper Towns by John Green
- The Girls I’ve Been by Tess Sharpe
- Monster by Walter Dean Myers
- City of the Dead (Maximum Ride: Hawk, Book 2) by James Patterson and Mindy McGinnis
High School Fiction

- Stalking Jack the Ripper (Stalking Jack the Ripper, Book 1) by Kerri Maniscalco and James Patterson
- The Inheritance Games (The Inheritance Games, Book 1) by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
- These Witches Don’t Burn by Isabel Sterling
- White Smoke by Tiffany D. Jackson
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pride and Premeditation</td>
<td>Tirzah Price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Jane Austen Murder Mysteries, Book 1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They Went Left</td>
<td>Monica Hesse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mary Shelley Club</td>
<td>Goldy Moldavsky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mara, Daughter of the Nile</td>
<td>Eloise Jarvis McGraw</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
High School Fiction

Moriarty: A Novel
by Anthony Horowitz

The Girl I Used to Be
by April Henry

The Naturals, Book 1
by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

This Is Where It Ends
by Marieke Nijkamp
High School Fiction

Lost in the Never Woods
by Aiden Thomas

Behind Rebel Lines: The Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy
by Seymour Reit

Truly Devious: A Mystery (Truly Devious, Book 1)
by Maureen Johnson

Thunderhead (Arc of a Scythe, Book 2)
by Neal Shusterman
Akata Witch
(The Nsibidi Scripts, Book 1)
by Nnedi Okorafor

Fake ID
by Lamar Giles

Ink and Ashes
by Valynne E. Maetani

Endangered
by Lamar Giles
High School Fiction

- *Jackaby, Book 1* by William Ritter
- *The Folk of the Air, Books 1-3 (The Cruel Prince, The Wicked King & The Queen of Nothing)* by Holly Black
- *Elatsoe* by Darcie Little Badger
- *The Forest of Stolen Girls* by June Hur
High School Fiction

Six of Crows, Books 1-2 (Six of Crows, Crooked Kingdom) by Leigh Bardugo

Firekeeper’s Daughter by Angeline Boulley

Five Midnights (Five Midnights, Book 1) by Ann Dávila Cardinal

The Alchemyst (The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel, Book 1) by Michael Scott
High School Fiction

The Cheerleaders
by Kara Thomas

When
by Victoria Laurie

Punching the Air
by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam

An Urchin of Means: An Alternative Sherlock Holmes
by April White
High School Fiction

Ace of Spades
by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé

Pretty Little Liars, Books 1 to 4
by Sara Shepard

The Girl in the Picture
by Alexandra Monir

Orphan Monster Spy
by Matt Killeen
High School Fiction

- The Dead and the Dark by Courtney Gould
- I Am Still Alive by Kate Alice Marshall
- Found (A Mickey Bolitar Novel, Book 3) by Harlan Coben
- A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder, Book 1 by Holly Jackson
High School Fiction

The Night She Disappeared by April Henry

Deep and Dark and Dangerous by Mary Downing Hahn

Not If I Save You First by Ally Carter

Out of the Easy by Ruta Sepetys
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Murders in the Rue Morgue [Annotated]</td>
<td>Edgar Allan Poe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tales of Mystery and Imagination (annotated and illustrated)</td>
<td>Edgar Allan Poe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Complete Sherlock Holmes</td>
<td>Sir Arthur Conan Doyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And Then There Were None</td>
<td>Agatha Christie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
hoax (verb) \ˈhōks\ \hoaxed; hoaxing; hoaxes

1: to trick into believing or accepting as genuine something false and often preposterous

“We were hoaxed by the website.”

hoax (noun)

1: an act intended to trick or dupe : IMPOSTURE

the victim of a cruel hoax

“He assumed the bomb threat was just a hoax.”

2: something accepted or established by fraud or fabrication

“She believes the Loch Ness Monster is a hoax.”

a literary hoax
Alan Bradley is a Canadian mystery writer known for his Flavia de Luce series. Flavia is an 11 year-old with a genius for Chemistry and a deep fondness for poisons. She also has an unfortunate habit of stumbling upon corpses -- at least that’s the opinion of her older sisters.

To date, there are 10 books in this series, which is set in an English village in the days following World War II. Flavia is by turns charming and horrifying. Start with book 1, *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*, and read in order.
**Middle School Nonfiction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>History’s Mysteries: Legends and Lore</em></td>
<td>Anna Claybourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cryptid Creatures: A Field Guide</em></td>
<td>Kelly Milner Halls and Rick Spears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>365 Series Unsolved Mysteries</em></td>
<td>Om Books Editorial Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>History’s Mysteries: Curious Clues, Cold Cases, and Puzzles From the Past</em></td>
<td>Kitson Jazynka</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Middle School Nonfiction

The Story of Titanic for Children: Astonishing Little-Known Facts and Details About the Most Famous Ship in the World by Joe Fullman

What Was the Titanic? by Stephanie Sabol

Where Is the Bermuda Triangle? by Megan Stine

Where Were the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World? by Yona Z. McDonough
MIDDLE SCHOOL NONFICTION

Wreck of the Whale Ship Essex: Original News Stories of Whale Attacks & Cannibals by Owen Chase

Why We Love Pirates: The Hunt for Captain Kidd and How He Changed Piracy Forever by Rebecca Simon

Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the Whydah from Slave Ship to Pirate Ship by Sharon Simpson

Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance by Jennifer Armstrong
Middle School Nonfiction

Giant Squid: Searching for a Sea Monster (Smithsonian) by Mary M. Cerullo

Weird Sea Creatures by Laura Marsh

Sea Monsters: Magic Tree House: Fact Tracker by Mary Pope Osborne

The Nantucket Sea Monster: A Fake News Story by Darcy Pattison and Peter Willis

Hoax?
Creatures of the Deep (Real-Life Monsters) by Matthew Rake

The Ultimate Book of Sharks (National Geographic Kids) by Brian Skerry

Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Sharks and Other Sea Monsters by Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhart

Super Shark Encyclopedia: And Other Creatures of the Deep by DK
Middle School Nonfiction

The Unsolved Mystery of the Loch Ness Monster (Unexplained Mysteries) by Terri Sievert

Tales of the Cryptids: Mysterious Creatures That May or May Not Exist by Kelly Milner Halls

The Unsolved Mystery of Bigfoot (Unexplained Mysteries) by Michael Burgan
Middle School Nonfiction

The Mythical Creatures Bible: The Definitive Guide to Legendary Beings by Brenda Rosen

The Atlas of Monsters: Mythical Creatures from Around the World by Sandra Lawrence and Stuart Hill

Finding Bigfoot: Everything You Need to Know by ANIMAL PLANET

Adventures in Cryptozoology: Hunting for Yetis, Mongolian Deathworms and Other Not-So-Mythical Monsters by Richard Freeman
What Are Hoaxes and Lies? (Searchlight Books — Fake News) by Matt Doeden

Fake News (Rosen Verified: Current Issues) by Jill Keppeler

The Fake News Phenomenon (News Literacy) by Duchess Harris Jd PhD

What Is Propaganda? (Searchlight Books — Fake News) by Matt Doeden
Middle School Nonfiction

- **Codes, Ciphers and Secret Writing**
  by Martin Gardner

- **Explorer Academy Codebreaking Activity Adventure**
  by Gareth Moore

- **George Washington’s Secret Six**
  by Brian Kilmeade

- **George Washington, Spymaster: How the Americans Outspied the British and Won the ...**
  by Thomas Allen
Middle School Nonfiction

Strange Mysteries from Around the World by Seymour Simon

Strange but True: 10 of the world’s greatest mysteries explained by Kathryn Hulick and Mr. Gordy Wright

Sleuth & Solve: History: 20+ Mind-Twisting Mysteries by Ana Gallo and Victor Escandell

National Geographic Kids Ultimate Weird but True 3 by National Geographic Kids
Roanoke: The Lost Colony: An Unsolved Mystery from History
by Heidi E. Y. Stemple, Jane Yolen, et al.

The Wolf Girls: An Unsolved Mystery from History

Where Is Chichen Itza?
by Paula K Manzanero

Where Is Machu Picchu?
by Megan Stine
**Middle School Nonfiction**

- *Where Is Easter Island?* by Megan Stine
- *Where Is Stonehenge?* by True Kelley
- *Where Are the Great Pyramids?* by Dorothy Hoobler
- *National Geographic Guide to the World’s Supernatural Places* by Sarah Bartlett

**Hoax?**
Middle School Nonfiction


How Dinosaurs Took Flight: The Fossils, the Science, What We Think We Know, and Mysteries Yet Unsolved by Christopher Sloan

Dragons and Mythical Creatures: A Magic Tree House Fact Tracker by Mary Pope Osborne

What Was the Ice Age? by Nico Medina

Hoax?
Middle School Nonfiction

What Were the Salem Witch Trials?
by Joan Holub

The Salem Witch Trials: An Unsolved Mystery from History

The Witchcraft of Salem Village
by Shirley Jackson

The Salem Witch Hunt: A Captivating Guide to the Hunt and Trials of People Accused of Witchcraft in Colonial Massachusetts
by Captivating History
Middle School Nonfiction

- Investigating Space Mysteries (Reaching for the Stars) by Mike Downs
- Where Is Area 51? by Paula K. Manzanero
- The Betty & Barney Hill Alien Abduction (Paranormal Mysteries) by Chris Bowman and D. Brady
- UFO Disclosure 2021: The Final Guide on Declassified Reports, Military Sightings... by Robert Davis

Hoax? Hoax? Hoax?
Middle School Nonfiction


Chupacabras! (JR. Graphic Monster Stories) by Steve Roberts


Palaces of Stone: Uncovering ancient southern African kingdoms by Mike Main
truth (noun) \ ˈtrüth \ plural truths \ trüθz, trüths \\n
1: the real facts about something : the things that are true
Are you telling (me) the truth?
At some point you have to face the simple/hard/honest/plain/naked truth that we failed.

2: the quality or state of being true
There's no truth in anything he says. [=nothing he says is true]
I doubt the truth of their accusations. [=I doubt that their accusations are true]
*Her story contains a grain/kernel of truth but also lots of exaggeration.*

3: a statement or idea that is true or accepted as true
Arthur Conan Doyle was the British writer and physician who created the character Sherlock Holmes. Holmes first appeared in Doyle’s 1887 novel *A Study in Scarlet*. In all, Doyle wrote four novels and fifty-six short stories about Holmes and Dr. Watson.

The Sherlock Holmes stories are considered a milestone in the field of crime fiction. Doyle introduced a detective who used forensics, which was still a relatively new science at the time he was writing.

In 2012, Sherlock Holmes was recognized by the Guinness World Records as the most portrayed human literary character in film & TV, ever. More than 75 actors have played the eccentric detective.
Southern California’s Best Ghost Towns: A Practical Guide by Philip Varney

The Big Book of California Ghost Stories by Janice Oberding

50 States 500 Scary Places to Visit: On the Hunt to Uncover America’s Most Haunted Places by Publications International Ltd.

National Geographic Guide to the World’s Supernatural Places by Sarah Bartlett
High School Nonfiction

- The Curse of Oak Island: The Story of the World’s Longest Treasure Hunt by Randall Sullivan
- The Lost Colony and Hatteras Island by Scott Dawson
- Lost Treasures of American History by W.C. Jameson
- Roanoke: Solving the Mystery of the Lost Colony by Lee Miller, Jo Anna Perrin, et al.
High School Nonfiction


True Ghost Stories: Hauntings at Sea by Zachery Knowles

Ghost Ship: The Mysterious True Story of the Mary Celeste and Her Missing Crew by Brian Hicks
High School Nonfiction

- The Watch That Ends the Night: Voices from the Titanic by Allan Wolf
- The Complete Titanic Chronicles: A Night to Remember and The Night Lives On by Walter Lord
- Shadow of the Titanic: The Extraordinary Stories of Those Who Survived by Andrew Wilson
- Titanic 1912: The original news reporting of the sinking of the Titanic by Ken Rossignol and Elizabeth Mackey
High School Nonfiction

Unexplained
Book 1:
16 Baffling Unsolved Mysteries
by Robert Keller

Conspiracies and Secret Societies:
The Complete Dossier
by Brad Steiger and Sherry Steiger

Suspicious Minds:
Why We Believe Conspiracy Theories
by Rob Brotherton

True or False:
A CIA Analyst’s Guide to Spotting Fake News
by Cindy L. Otis

Hoax?
High School Nonfiction

**Dead Mountain:**
The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident
by Donnie Eichar

**The Mystery of the Tunguska Fireball:**
the most popular book on the riddle of the great Siberian explosion of 1908
by Surendra Verma

**The Inspiring Women of World War II:**
Women’s roles on the Home Front, the Frontline, and the Super Spies of World War II
by Florence Sydney

**Unsolved Mysteries of World War II:**
From the Nazi Ghost Train and ‘Tokyo Rose’ to...
by Michael FitzGerald
High School Nonfiction

Forensics: What Bugs, Burns, Prints, DNA, and More Tell Us About Crime by Val McDermid

The Crimes of Paris: A True Story of Murder, Theft, and Detection by Dorothy Hoobler and Thomas Hoobler

Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann

The Poisoner’s Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York by Deborah Blum
Crop Circles: Mysteries of the Fields Revealed by Karen Alexander and Steven Alexander
Mage Merlin’s Unsolved Mathematical Mysteries by Satyan Devadoss
The Golden Ratio: The Divine Beauty of Mathematics by Gary B. Meisner and Rafael Araujo

Hoax?
High School Nonfiction

Adventures in Cryptozoology: Hunting for Yetis, Mongolian Deathworms... by Richard Freeman

Vampire Forensics: Uncovering the Origins of an Enduring Legend by Mark Collins Jenkins

The Resurrectionist: The Lost Work of Dr. Spencer Black by E. B. Hudspeth

Science of Creature Design: understanding animal anatomy by Terryl Whitlatch and Gilbert Banducci
High School Nonfiction

La Llorona: Ghost Stories of the Southwest by Rodarte

Woman Hollering Creek: And Other Stories by Sandra Cisneros

Tracking the Chupacabra: The Vampire Beast in Fact, Fiction, and Folklore by Benjamin Radford

The Codex Borgia: A Full-Color Restoration of the Ancient Mexican Manuscript by Gisele Díaz and Alan Rodgers
High School Nonfiction

- Chariots of the Gods by Erich von Däniken
- The Mayan and Other Ancient Calendars by Geoff Stray
- Mesoamerican Mythology: A Captivating Guide to Maya Mythology... by Matt Clayton
- Star Gods of the Maya: Astronomy in Art, Folklore, and Calendars by Susan Milbrath
High School Nonfiction

Floriography: An Illustrated Guide to the Victorian Language of Flowers by Jessica Roux

Flowerpaedia: 1000 Flowers and their Meanings by Cheralyn Darcey

The Secret Language of Flowers by Samantha Gray

Folklore and Symbolism of Flowers, Plants and Trees by Ernst Lehner and Johanna Lehner
High School Nonfiction

The Complete Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt by Richard H. Wilkinson

Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs by Zahi Hawass and Kenneth Garrett

Tutankhamun: The Treasures of the Tomb by Zahi Hawass and Sandro Vannini

Egyptian Book of the Dead: The Book of Going Forth by Day: The Complete Papyrus of Ani by Ogden Goelet
The Lost City of Z: A Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon
by David Grann

In the Waves: My Quest to Solve the Mystery of a Civil War Submarine
by Rachel Lance

The Writing of the Gods: The Race to Decode the Rosetta Stone
by Edward Dolnick

The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the World’s Oldest Symbols
by Genevieve von Petzinger
High School Nonfiction

- The Mysterious World of Sherlock Holmes by Bruce Wexler
- Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West by Stephen Ambrose
- Hope Diamond: The Legendary History of a Cursed Gem by Richard Kurin
- The Smithsonian National Gem Collection—Unearthed: Surprising Stories Behind the Jewels by Jeffrey E. Post
American Sherlock: Murder, Forensics, and the Birth of American CSI
by Kate Winkler Dawson

The Library Book
by Susan Orlean

Decoding the Heavens: Solving the Mystery of the World’s First Computer
by Jo Marchant

Resurrecting the Shark: A Scientific Obsession and the Mavericks Who Solved the Mystery of a 270-Million-Year-Old Fossil
by Susan Ewing
High School Nonfiction

- Beethoven’s Hair: An Extraordinary Historical Odyssey and a Scientific Mystery Solved by Russell Martin
- The Amber Room: The Fate of the World’s Greatest Lost Treasure by Catherine Scott-Clark
- Khubilai Khan’s Lost Fleet: In Search of a Legendary Armada by James P. Delgado
- The Great Quake: How the Biggest Earthquake in North America Changed Our Understanding of the Planet by Henry Fountain
Lost Cities, Ancient Tombs: 100 Discoveries That Changed the World by National Geographic, Ann Williams, et al.

Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries: Science and Pseudoscience in Archaeology by Kenneth L. Feder

Without a Trace: 1881-1968: How an Aircraft Can Simply Disappear by Sylvia Wrigley

Madhouse at the End of the Earth: The Belgica’s Journey into the Dark Antarctic Night by Julian Sancton
Forgery (noun) forg·ery | \\ 'fôrj-rē , 'fôr-jə- \ plural forgeries

1: archaic : INVENTION

2: something forged

3: an act of forging especially : the crime of falsely and fraudulently making or altering a document (such as a check)
Blue Balliett is an American author, best known for her award-winning mystery trilogy for children. The three books -- titled *Chasing Vermeer*, *The Wright 3* and *The Calder Game* -- follow the adventures of a trio of young sleuths who used logic to solve crimes that involve famous works of art.

Balliett has won a number of awards, including the 2005 Edgar Award in the Best Juvenile category. She also won the Agatha Award in 2004 in the Best Children's or Young Adult category.
Middle School Biography

Grigory Rasputin: Holy Man or Mad Monk? (Wicked History) by Enid A. Goldberg


The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia by Candace Fleming

Who Was Nikola Tesla? by Jim Gigliotti

Hoax?
Middle School Biography

A Spy Called James: The True Story of James Lafayette, Revolutionary War Double Agent by Anne Rockwell

The Woman All Spies Fear: Code Breaker Elizabeth Smith Friedman and Her Hidden Life by Amy Butler Greenfield

Alan Turing and the Power of Curiosity by Karla Valenti

Hana’s Suitcase: The Quest to Solve a Holocaust Mystery by Karen Levine
Middle School Biography

Who Was Amelia Earhart?
by Kate Boehm Jerome,

Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart
by Candace Fleming

Adolf Hitler (A Wicked History)
by Sean Stewart Price

Joseph Stalin (A Wicked History)
by Sean McCollum
Middle School Biography

Alexander the Great (A Wicked History) by Doug Wilhelm
Ivan the Terrible (A Wicked History) by Sean Price
Cixi (A Wicked History) by Sean Price
Julius Caesar (A Wicked History) by Denise Rinaldo
Middle School Biography

Napoleon (A Wicked History) by Kimberley Heuston
Catherine the Great (A Wicked History) by Zu Vincent
Henry VIII: Royal Beheader (A Wicked History) by Sean Price
Mary Tudor (A Wicked History) by Jane Buchanan
Middle School Biography

Fossil Hunter: How Mary Anning Changed the Science of Prehistoric Life by Cheryl Blackford

Jars of Hope: How One Woman Helped Save 2,500 Children During the Holocaust by Jennifer Rozines Roy

Annie Sullivan and the Trials of Helen Keller by Joseph Lambert

Lemony Snicket: The Unauthorized Autobiography (A Series of Unfortunate Events) by Lemony Snicket
Middle School Biography

Passport by Sophia Glock

June Almeida, Virus Detective!: The Woman Who Discovered the First Human Coronavirus by Suzanne Slade

Kate Warne, Pinkerton Detective by Marissa Moss

47 Days: The True Story of Two Teen Boys Defying Hitler’s Reich by Annette Oppenlander
cryptid (noun) cryp·tid | \ˈkrip-təd \ plural cryptids

1: an animal (such as Sasquatch or the Loch Ness Monster) that has been claimed to exist but never proven to exist

“Contrary to popular belief, cryptids don't have to be supernatural, mythical or even all that strange—though many popular creatures acquire these characteristics as their legends grow.” — Hayley Williams

“… fighting the Grafton Monster—a monstrous cryptid vaguely resembling a cross between Bigfoot and a seal …” — Alan Olson
Nancy Springer is an American author of fantasy, young adult literature, mystery, and science fiction. She has had over 50 books published in a career spanning 4 decades. Her series, The Enola Holmes Mysteries, starring the younger sister of Sherlock Holmes, was adapted in 2020 as a Netflix film, Enola Holmes, starring Millie Bobby Brown.

The Enola Holmes Mysteries currently includes 7 books. A second movie is currently in production and due to be released in 2022.
High School Biography

Pharaohs of the Sun: Akhenaten, Nefertiti, & Tutankhamen by Rita E. Freed

Akhenaten: Egypt’s False Prophet by Nicholas Reeves

The Woman Who Would Be King: Hatshepsut’s Rise to Power in Ancient Egypt by Kara Cooney

When Women Ruled the World: Six Queens of Egypt by Kara Cooney
High School Biography

- *Nefertiti: Unlocking the Mystery Surrounding Egypt’s Most Famous and Beautiful Queen* by Joyce A. Tyldesley
- *Alexander the Great: His Life and His Mysterious Death* by Anthony Everitt
- *Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World* by Jack Weatherford
- *The First Emperor of China* by Jonathan Clements
High School Biography

1. The Lost King of France: How DNA Solved the Mystery of the Murdered Son of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette by Deborah Cadbury
2. Marie Antoinette by Stefan Zweig
3. Joan of Arc by Mark Twain
Amelia Earhart: The Truth at Last: Second Edition by Mike Campbell

A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II by Sonia Purnell

Tesla’s Words: A Stunning Utopia of the Future by Ellis Oswalt, Jina Park, et al.

My Inventions: The Autobiography of Nikola Tesla by Nikola Tesla
High School Biography

- The Princes in the Tower: Cold Case Re-opened by Mark Garber
- The Survival of the Princes in the Tower by Matthew Lewis
- The Lost King: How One Remarkable Woman Discovered the Lost Burial Place of Richard III by Philippa Langley
- Digging for Richard III: The Search for the Lost King by Mike Pitts

Hoax?
High School Biography

Tolkien: Maker of Middle-earth by Catherine McIlwaine

HP Lovecraft: The Mysterious Man Behind the Darkness by Charlotte Montague

From Holmes to Sherlock: The Story of the Men and Women Who Created an Icon by Mattias Boström and Michael Gallagher

Conan Doyle for the Defense: The True Story of a Sensational British Murder, a Quest for Justice, and the World’s Most Famous Detective Writer by Margalit Fox
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Book Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Personal Librarian</td>
<td>Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Mystery of Charles Dickens</td>
<td>A.N. Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madame Blavatsky: The Mother of Modern Spirituality</td>
<td>Gary Lachman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queen Victoria’s Mysterious Daughter: A Biography of Princess Louise</td>
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**Hoax?**
High School Biography

The Secret Life of Houdini: The Making of America’s First Superhero by William Kalush

18 Tiny Deaths: The Untold Story of Frances Glessner Lee and the Invention of Modern Forensics by Bruce Goldfarb

Girl Sleuth: Nancy Drew and the Women Who Created Her by Melanie Rehak

The Coming of the Fairies - The Cottingley Incident by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Hoax?
High School Biography

12 Years a Slave
by Solomon Northup

The Professor and the Madman
by Simon Winchester

18 Tiny Deaths: The Untold Story of the Woman Who Invented Modern Forensics
by Bruce Goldfarb

Raoul Wallenberg: The Heroic Life and Mysterious Disappearance of the Man Who Saved Thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Holocaust
by Ingrid Carlberg
High School Biography

- **Black Mass:** Whitey Bulger, the FBI, and a Devil’s Deal by Dick Lehr & Gerard O’Neill
- **The Devil in the White City:** Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America by Erik Larson
- **The Duel:** The Parallel Lives of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr by Judith St. George
- **African Samurai:** The True Story of Yasuke, a Legendary Black Warrior in Feudal Japan by Geoffrey Girard and Thomas Lockley
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<td>Grigori Rasputin: A Life From Beginning to End</td>
<td>Hourly History</td>
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James Patterson is an American author who has written more than 200 novels. His titles for adults, young adults and children frequently top the bestseller list. His accolades include an Edgar Award and nine Emmy Awards.

Patterson has written and co-authored books in a variety of genres but is best known for his Mysteries. Some of his series include: Maximum Ride, Daniel X, Witch & Wizard, Middle School Series, I Funny, Treasure Hunters and Ali Cross.
Middle School Graphic Novel

- The Adventures of Tintin: The Complete Collection by Hergé
- The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick
- Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick
- The Marvels by Brian Selznick
Middle School Graphic Novel

- **Anna Strong and the Revolutionary War Culper Spy Ring:** A Spy on History Book by Enigma Alberti and Laura Terry
- **Mary Bowser and the Civil War Spy Ring:** A Spy on History Book by Enigma Alberti
- **Victor Dowd and the World War II Ghost Army:** A Spy on History Book by Enigma Alberti
- **The Faithful Spy:** Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler by John Hendrix
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<tr>
<td>Spy Runner</td>
<td>Eugene Yelchin</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Chasing Paper Caper (Carmen Sandiego Graphic Novels)</td>
<td>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unsolved Case Files: Escape at 10,000 Feet: D.B. Cooper and the Missing Money</td>
<td>Tom Sullivan</td>
</tr>
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Middle School Graphic Novel

The Salem Witch Trials (Graphic History) by Martin and Brian Bascle

Unsolved Case Files: Jailbreak at Alcatraz: Frank Morris & the Anglin Brothers’ Great Escape by Tom Sullivan

I Survived The Sinking of the Titanic, 1912 by Lauren Tarshis and Haus Studio

Case Closed?: Nine Mysteries Unlocked by Modern Science by Susan Hughes and Michael Wandelmaier
Middle School Graphic Novel

- The Batman & Scooby-Doo Mysteries #1 (2021) by Ivan Cohen
- Hardy Boys #17: Word Up! (Hardy Boys Graphic Novels) by Scott Lobdell and Paulo Henrique
- The Haunted Dollhouse (Nancy Drew Graphic Novels: Girl Detective #3) by Stefan Petrucha and Sho Murase
Middle School Graphic Novel

Nikola Tesla
(Great Lives in Graphics)
by Button Books

History Comics:
The Roanoke Colony:
America’s First Mystery
by Chris Schweizer

Marie Curie: A Quest For Light
by Frances Andreasen Østerfelt, Anja Cetti Andersen, et al.

Cleopatra
(Great Lives in Graphics)
by Button Books
Middle School Graphic Novel

- The Golden Compass: Graphic Novel, Complete Edition (His Dark Materials) by Philip Pullman
- The Mystery of the Moon Tower (The Pathfinders Society) by Francesco Sedita
- Artemis Fowl: The Graphic Novel by Eoin Colfer
- I Survived the Shark Attacks of 1916 by Lauren Tarshis and Haus Studio
Middle School Graphic Novel

Geronimo Stilton: 10 Book Collection (Series 3) by Geronimo Stilton

Batman and Robin and Howard, Book 1 by Jeffrey Brown

The Christmas Thief: Ava & Carol Detective Agency by Thomas Lockhaven

Darkwing Duck: Just Us Justice Ducks: Disney Afternoon Adventures Vol. 1 by Bobbi JG Weiss
Middle School Graphic Novel

- Trespassers: A Graphic Novel
  by Breena Bard

- Secret Coders, Book 1
  by Gene Luen Yang and Mike Holmes

- Surfside Girls: The Secret of Danger Point
  by Kim Dwinell

- Sorceline
  by Sylvia Douyé and Paola Antista
Middle School Graphic Novel

- Study Hall of Justice (DC Comics: Secret Hero Society, Book 1) by Derek Fridolfs and Dustin Nguyen
- Great Lives in Graphics: Anne Frank by Button Books
- Stranger Things: Science Camp by Jody Houser, Edgar Salazar, et al.
- Anti/Herō, Book 1 by Kate Karyus Quinn, Demitria Lunetta, et al.
Middle School Graphic Novel

Lumberjanes,
Vol. 2: Friendship
To The Max
by Noelle
Stevenson,
Grace Ellis, et al.

Explorer 1:
The Mystery
Boxes
by Kazu
Kibuishi

Explorer 2:
The Lost Islands
by Kazu
Kibuishi

Explorer 3:
The Hidden
Doors
by Kazu
Kibuishi
Dog Man: Grime and Punishment (Dog Man #9) by Dav Pilkey

Sherlock Holmes and a Scandal in Bohemia: Case 1 (On the Case with Holmes and Watson) by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Sophie Rohrbach

Yasuke: The Legend of the African Samurai by Jamal Turner

Bad Island by Doug TenNaple
forensic (noun) fo·ren·sic | \fə-ˈren(t)-sik , -ˈren-zik \n
1: an argumentative exercise

2: forensics plural in form but singular or plural in construction : the art or study of argumentative discourse

3: forensics plural in form but singular or plural in construction : the application of scientific knowledge to legal problems especially : scientific analysis of physical evidence (as from a crime scene)
Rex Stout was an American writer noted for his detective fiction. His best-known characters are the detective Nero Wolfe and his assistant Archie Goodwin, who were featured in 33 novels and 39 novellas between 1934 and 1975.

Stout served as head of the Writers' War Board during World War II. He wrote propaganda, hosted three radio shows a week and coordinated the volunteer services of American writers to help the war effort. After the war, Stout returned to writing Nero Wolfe novels.
High School Graphic Novel

- Graceling by Kristin Cashore and Gareth Hinds
- The Alchemist: A Graphic Novel by Paulo Coelho
- Long Way Down: The Graphic Novel by Jason Reynolds and Danica Novgorodoff
Rivers of London
Vol. 4: Detective Stories
by Ben Aaronovitch, Andrew Cartmel, et al.

Thief of Always (Graphic Novel)
by Clive Barker, Kris Oprisko, et al.

City of Glass: The Graphic Novel (New York Trilogy)
by Paul Karasik, David Mazzucchelli, et al.

Sherlock: Series 1 Boxed Set
by Steven Moffat, Mark Gatiss, et al.
High School Graphic Novel

**Black Butler, Vol. 18**
by Yana Toboso

**Death Note Black Edition, Vol. 1**
by Tsugumi Ohba and Takeshi Obata

**DC’s Greatest Detective Stories Ever Told (1937-2011)**
by Various Authors

**Batman: Detective Comics Vol. 2: Fear State**
by Mariko Tamaki and Dan Mora
High School Graphic Novel

The Lost Carnival: A Dick Grayson Graphic Novel by Michael Moreci and Sas Milledge


The Oracle Code, Book 1 by Marieke Nijkamp and Manuel Preitano

The Montague Twins: The Witch’s Hand
by Nathan Page and Drew Shannon

Urban Legendz, Book 1
by Paul Downs, Nick Bruno, et al.

Nancy Drew: The Palace Of Wisdom, Book 1
by Kelly Thompson and Jenn St. Onge

Muhyo & Roji’s Bureau of Supernatural Investigation, Vol. 17
by Yoshiyuki Nishi
Alex Rider: The Graphic Novel Collection by Anthony Horowitz

Malika: Warrior Queen Volume 1 by Roye Okupe, Chima Kalu, et al.

Iyanu: Child of Wonder, Volume 1 by Roye Okupe, Godwin Akpan, et al.

James Patterson Maximum Ride Manga Series by James Patterson
High School Graphic Novel

- **The Hound of the Baskervilles**
  by Martin Powell, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, et al.

- **Case Closed, Vol. 1**
  by Gosho Aoyama

- **Case Closed, Vol. 34**
  by Gosho Aoyama

- **Nimona, Book 1**
  by Noelle Stevenson
Lamar Giles is an American author of young adult novels and short stories. He is best known for his award-winning novels *Endangered* and *Fake ID* but has also written books for younger readers. He is also one of the founding members of the American non-profit We Need Diverse Books.

Giles is a member of the faculty of Spalding University’s graduate program. He served as a judge for the 2018 National Book Awards. Reading Stephen King’s *On Writing* in college inspired him to become an author.
Dictionary definitions used in this book list came from the Merriam-Webster online dictionary.

https://www.merriam-webster.com/
Happy Reading!

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