



Orange County, CA

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# 5th and 6th Grade

## Children's Intermediate Fiction

Alston, B. B. **Amari and the Night Brothers**

After being called to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs, Amari attempts to locate her missing brother and wrestles with magical talents that are deemed forbidden.

Bowling, Dusti **Across the Desert**

Online at the library, Jolene is the sole witness to a crash and can't convince the authorities of what she saw, so she sets off on an adventure of her own - a rescue mission across the Arizona desert.

Cartaya, Pablo **The Last Beekeeper**

In a future decimated by climate change, 12-year-old Yolanda hopes to save her community's future with an unlikely ally: the honeybee.

Chadda, Sarwat **City of the Plague God**

During a plague that threatens his parents, Iraqi American Sik battles Mesopotamian gods and demons with humor and drama.

Cho, John **Troublemaker**

In the midst of the riots following the Rodney King verdict, Korean American Jordan seeks to prove his family loyalty by venturing out into the Los Angeles streets.

Clayton, Dhonielle **The Marvellers**

Ella is the first Conjuror to enroll in the prestigious Arcanum Training Institute in a challenging first year.

Fawcett, Heather **Ember and the Ice Dragons**

Ember is a dragon who was transformed into a girl by her foster father. She is sent to Antarctica, where she tries to save ice dragons from extinction.

Harrington, C.C. **Wildoak**

When her stutter leads to problems at yet another school, Maggie's parents send her to stay with her grandfather near Wildoak Forest. After befriendng an abandoned snow leopard, Maggie is able to find her voice.

Hernandez, Carlos **Sal & Gabi Break the Universe**

In an attempt to bring his late mother back, Sal uses his power to reach into other universes, while new friend Gabi hopes to utilize Sal's powers to help her ill brother.

Hiaasen, Carl **Squirm**

Billy experiences a series of adventures in the wilderness including escaping a grizzly bear. Yet Billy truly wants to locate his missing father who disappeared during his childhood.

Kelly, Erin Entrada **Lalani of the Distant Sea**

In this Filipino folklore-inspired tale, an island girl must venture across a perilous sea after accidentally endangering her village with a wish. Full of magic and imaginative creatures, this story shows how an ordinary person can do extraordinary things.



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Legrand, Claire **Some Kind of Happiness**

A poignant and honest look at childhood mental illness. When Finley is sent to live with grandparents she's never met, she copes with the "blue days" by creating a magical kingdom that turns out to exist in the woods outside the house. As dark mysteries loom, she realizes that she must save herself in order to save the kingdom.

Levine, Kristin **The Jigsaw Jungle**

Claudia is desperately trying to find her father who is visiting an old friend. She goes on a treasure hunt hoping to bring him home and solve family secrets.

Lloyd, Natalie **Hummingbird**

Olive transfers to a public school after being homeschooled for years and is frustrated at how people have viewed her because of her disability. She hopes wishing on a magical hummingbird will make her wishes come true.

Milford, Kate **Greenglass House**

Greenglass House is a smugglers' inn, and twelve-year-old Milo is the innkeepers' adopted son who stumbles upon a wintertime mystery.

Oppel, Kenneth **The Nest**

Anxious Steve seeks the assistance of a wasp queen in his dreams to help heal his baby brother. The choice he makes has unintended consequences for everyone involved.

Pérez, Celia **Tumble**

Addie finds a mysterious photo which leads her to a Mexican ranch, where she finds that she belongs to a family of luchadores and uncovers her origin story.

Sloan, Holly Goldberg **The Elephant in the Room**

Sila's mother is in Turkey hoping to immigrate back to the United States. Meanwhile, Sila joins her father on a business trip and meets a cast of characters including an elephant!

Young, Brian **Healer of the Water Monster**

Nathan stumbles upon a Water Monster while visiting his grandmother's home during the summer. He learns that he is the only human who can save it with the help of Navajo spirits.

## Children's Upper Fiction

Dumas, Firoozeh **It Ain't So Awful, Falafel**

Cindy and her family immigrate to California from Iran during the 1970s. As she tries to fit in, the hostage crisis in Iran begins and discrimination rises within her community.

Lowe, Mari **Aviva vs. the Dybbuk**

Aviva experiences a tense friendship and claims to witness the chaotic actions of a dybbuk. She later recalls memories of her father's accident after vandalism appears near her synagogue.