



**Reading Unbound: Why Kids Need to Read What They Want—
and Why We Should Let Them**

by Jeffrey Wilhelm, Michael Smith, Sharon Fransen
Y/372.409/WILHELM,K

Grown-ups, here's some reading to give you more information about our new book lists this summer, and why we're doing them this way. And make sure you stop by Info Services and ask them to help you find your next great read; don't let your kids have all the fun!

The books on this list were chosen by Arlington Heights Memorial Library Youth Services staff and Library Media Center staff from School District 25. Visit the library's website, ahml.info, for more great reading ideas.

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KIDS' WORLD

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GRADE 3 AND UP

**MURDER
AND
MAYHEM**

**UP, UP
& AWAY**

**SUPERHERO SUMMER
AT THE LIBRARY**

Stories that are scary and thrilling

If you enjoy scary stories, thrilling tales of true crime, forensic science and the unexplained, then these books are for you!

Read from the beginning of the list when you're short on time but still want a good story. Read from the end of the list when you're up for a more textually and thematically challenging experience.

Not every book on every list will be right for your child. If you have questions about any title, please see Kids' World staff for guidance.

The Last Kids on Earth by Max Brallier

J/FICTION/BRALLIER,M

Diary of a Wimpy Kid meets *The Walking Dead* in the story of 13-year-old Jack Sullivan. Jack lives in his tree house when he's not fighting hordes of zombies and winged wretches and vine thingies, and the monster known only as Blarg.

Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America

by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

Y/BIOGRAPHY/614.5/TYPHOID,M/BAR

This riveting tale of death and disease will ensure that you'll always wash your hands before eating from now on. With archival photographs and text among other primary sources, this biography of Mary Mallon looks beyond tabloid scandal and explores the deplorable way she was treated by medical and legal officials. Discover how her name became synonymous with a deadly disease, and more about the lasting legacy of Typhoid Mary.

The Nest by Kenneth Oppel

Y/FICTION/OPPEL,K

Steve has a lot of things to worry about—like his sick newborn baby brother, how the stress is affecting his parents and the wasp's nest that is hanging from the eaves. Then he starts dreaming about the queen wasp, and she promises him she can fix the baby. But how? That's a whole new thing for Steve to worry about. And who's the mysterious man selling knives from door to door?

Big Top Burning: The True Story of an Arsonist, a Missing Girl, and the Greatest Show on Earth by Laura A. Woollett

Y/974.6/WOOLLETT,L

This is the true story of one of the worst fire disasters in U.S. history. It follows the tragic stories of the Cook family and 15-year-old Robert Segee, a circus employee with a history of playing with fire. Sure to fascinate history and mystery fans alike.

Storyteller trilogy

The Riverman, The Whisper and **The Storyteller** by Aaron Starmer

Y/FICTION/STARMER,A

"Every town has lost a child." So starts the first book in the Storyteller trilogy, which is a trilogy unlike any you've read before. By turns terrifying and heartbreaking, these books will keep you constantly guessing and turning the page to see what happens next and what the truth is. For fans of Harry Potter, *Peter Pan* and Miyazaki films.

The Great War: Stories Inspired by Items from the First World War

Y/FICTION/GREAT

Eleven authors were invited to choose an object that had a connection to World War I and use it as the inspiration for an original short story. The result is a unique anthology that provides readers with a personal window into the Great War and the people affected by it.

Child Soldier: When Boys and Girls are Used in War by Jessica Dee Humphreys

J/BIOGRAPHY/355/CHIKWANINE,M/HUM

Michel Chikwanine's father once told him, "If you ever think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping in a room with a mosquito." Michel was a 5-year-old boy in the Democratic Republic of Congo when he was abducted from his soccer game and forced to become a soldier in a rebel militia. Despite terrible odds, Michel was able to escape and return to his family, but his life was forever altered. In this graphic novel memoir, learn about how Michel survived and how even the smallest person can change the world.

Tommy: The Gun That Changed America by Karen Blumenthal

Y/683.422/BLUMENTHAL,K

John Taliaferro Thompson's submachine gun could deliver a hundred bullets in a matter of seconds but didn't find a market in the U.S. military. Instead, the Tommy gun became the weapon of choice for bootleggers and outlaws and became a deadly American icon. After a bloody decade, Congress moved to take this weapon off the streets, igniting a national debate about gun control.

The Borden Murders: Lizzie Borden & the Trial of the Century

by Sarah Elizabeth Miller

Y/345.744/MILLER,S

"Lizzie Borden took an axe, gave her mother 40 whacks. When she saw what she had done, she gave her father 41." On August 4, 1892, mild-mannered Lizzie Borden was accused of murdering her father Andrew and stepmother Abby Borden. This thrilling title includes images of primary documents, including photos of the murder scene and newspaper clippings from the time.

What's your favorite scary story? Add it here!