

Booktalk!

The 39 Clues Book Five The Black Circle

Written by Patrick Carman

Grades 5 & Up

Blue Case/Mystery and Adventure

176 pages

Where are Amy and Dan Cahill? The two kids were last seen in Egypt, hunting for one of the 39 Clues that could make them the most powerful people on earth. But no one has seen them since. Has the ruthless Irina Spasky finally tracked them down? Or worse...the Madrigals? No one knows where the Clue hunt leads next but one thing is certain: this could be Amy and Dan's most dangerous adventure yet!

More about this book...

Patrick Carman is the author of the best-selling *The Land of Elyon* series. *The 39 Clues* series continues to successfully combine reading and online gaming creating the ultimate adventure experience.



Amulet Book Two The Stonekeeper's Curse

Written by Kazu Kibuishi
Grades 5 & Up
Blue Case/Illustrated Novels
224 pages

In this eagerly anticipated sequel to *Amulet #1: The Stonekeeper*, Emily and her brother Navin head for Kanalis, a beautiful and mysterious city of waterfalls. It is here that they hope to find the antidote for the poison that felled their mother. The cure lies in the eggs of a giant serpent atop Demon's Head Mountain, but the kids' archenemy, Trellis, is headed for the peak, too. A battle that will engulf all of Kanalis is looming. It's up to Emily to triumph over evil while controlling the amulet's power...without losing herself!

More about this book...

Fans of the *Bone* series will love this exciting graphic novel adventure. Go to www.scholastic.ca/titles/amulet for more information on the author, character bios and postcards.

CONTENT

Some illustrations may be frightening for young readers.

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE THAT ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS



The Magic Thief

Written by Sarah Prineas

Grades 4 & Up

Blue Case/Fantasy & Science-Fiction

419 pages

Connwaer (Conn for short) is a thief. He picks the pockets of the rich and he hasn't met a lock that wouldn't open for him. He survives on the streets but some days are better than others. One fateful night he attempts to pick the pocket of someone he thinks is just an old man walking the streets of Wellmet. This is no ordinary old man, it's actually the great wizard Nevery. Conn soon discovers that he has stolen his locus magicalicus, the magical stone carried by all wizards that helps them focus their magic and work spells. Such stones and wizards are common enough in Wellmet but the fact that Conn can hold the stone with no ill effect is extraordinary. No one else is supposed to be able to handle another wizard's magical stone without dire consequences. Not without misgivings, Nevery decides to find out just how special Conn is and starts training him to be an apprentice. Wellmet's survival depends on magic! Nevery and Conn must work together to stop something — or someone — from draining the city's life force before it's too late.

More about this book...

Conn starts out as a lowly pickpocket but, under Nevery's watchful eye he gains the confidence he needs to eventually become a great magician. Using his courage and wit rather than just relying on his newfound magical talents is the key to saving Wellmet. Excerpts and notes from Nevery's diary are interspersed throughout, giving a different perspective to the story. Both boys and girls will enjoy this fantastic adventure.

CONTENT

Supernatural themes, mild fighting, magic

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE THAT ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS

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The 39 Clues Book Four Beyond the Grave

Written by Jude Watson

Grades 5 & Up

Blue Case/Mystery & Adventure

160 pages

A clue found in Book Three sends Amy and Dan jetting off to find out just what's behind the fierce rivalry between the Tomas and Ekaterina branches of the Cahill family. Their hunt leads them to an ancient city that has been a hotbed of Cahill activity for centuries. Was a Clue stolen from the Tomas branch? Where is it now? And can they really solve a mystery that has eluded their ancestors for generations?

More about this book...

One step closer to the Cahill fortune, this time the clues lead Amy and Dan to Egypt where mystery, adventure and ancient secrets are waiting. Jude Watson is the bestselling author of the *Star Wars: Last of the Jedi* series. It's not too late for readers to join the online game and search for clues themselves. Canada has had two first-place prize winners already! Don't delay — the race is on! Six new cards are included with this book.

Booktalk!

Tentacles

Written by Roland Smith

Grades 6 & Up

Blue Case/Mystery & Adventure

336 pages

Six months ago Marty and Grace's world was turned upside down. Marty's parents disappeared in a South American jungle after their helicopter went down, and Grace discovered that their Uncle Wolfe is actually her father. Travis Wolfe is a veterinarian, oceanographer and cryptid hunter. He has made it his life's work to try and track down those creatures that are shrouded in mystery and that may or may not be real. After finding real dinosaur eggs in the Congo, Wolfe is now on a quest to capture the elusive giant squid — alive. Wolfe, Marty, Grace and Marty's best friend, Luther, set out for the South Pacific...but it won't be smooth sailing; their ship is rumoured to be haunted and someone on board is determined to stop them from finding the squid. Something smells fishy and it's up to Marty and Grace to find out what's going on before all of them end up at the bottom of the sea!

More about this book...

Fast-paced and full of adventure and mystery. This follow-up to *Cryptid Hunters* includes a glossary of characters so readers can catch even if they haven't read the first book. Roland Smith is best-selling author of *Peak*, *Elephant Run* and *Jack's Run*, among others.

CONTENT

Violence, kidnapping, murder

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE THAT ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS



Booktalk!

Philippa Fisher's Fairy Godmother

Written by Liz Kessler

Grades 4 & Up

Blue Case/Fantasy & Science-Fiction

240 pages

When her best friend Charlotte moves away, eleven-year-old Philippa Fisher feels like nothing will ever be right again. The afternoon before Charlotte leaves, the girls make a daisy chain to remember each other by. Searching for the best and freshest daisies, Charlotte sees one that seems to bend towards her, willing her to pick it. She even thinks the flower might have smiled at her. She picks it and feels a charge run through her body. In her head Charlotte knows there are no such things as fairies or magic but her sad heart wants to believe that this flower might be a fairy in disguise.

It turns out that Charlotte is right. "Daisy" is a fairy godmother sent to protect her when she needs it most. Since Daisy is in girl form and supposed to be the same age as Charlotte, the girls decide that "godmother" might be a more appropriate term. Daisy grants Charlotte three wishes but after the first two wishes don't have the desired results, Charlotte realizes that Daisy has given her something that has nothing to do with wishes or magic: Charlotte can now be herself and face the world with confidence.

More about this book...

Philippa is believable as a pre-teen navigating the difficulty of middle-school friendships and embarrassing parents. The messages of "being careful what you wish for" and "being true to yourself" are delivered with a humorous touch. Liz Kessler is the author of the popular *Emily Windsnap* series.

CONTENT

Supernatural, bullying, adult situations, magic

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE THAT ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS

Booktalk!

Zoobreak

Written by Gordon Korman

Grades 5 & Up

Blue Case/Mystery & Adventure

240 pages

The "Man with a Plan" is back! When Savannah's pet monkey, Cleopatra, goes missing, the last place that Griffin, Ben and the rest of the gang expect to find the monkey is on a school field trip to a traveling, floating zoo. Dirty, cramped, smelly and run by a corrupt owner, this zoo is no place for animals! Savannah knows that Cleopatra is hers but she can't prove it, and the owner isn't giving up the monkey without a fight. Griffin plans a daring night raid by boat to rescue the monkey. Animal-lover Savannah can't bear the thought of leaving any of the animals behind to suffer in the deplorable conditions. She knows of a real zoo where they would be happy but unfortunately the owner is away on holidays for two weeks. The kids smuggle back reptiles, rodents and birds to their own homes with hilarious results. How long before their parents and neighbours find beavers in the basement or a meerkat in the garden shed? Griffin thought it was over when he broke the animals out of the zoo — now he'll have to think of his biggest plan yet to break them *in*!

More about this book...

In this sequel to *Swindle*, Griffin and his friends prove once again that kids can affect change on their own to fight for what's right. Readers familiar with *Swindle* will enjoy revisiting these likeable characters but this book can also be read as a stand-alone selection.

CONTENT

The horrible living conditions on the floating zoo are described in some detail.

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE THAT ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS

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Percy Jackson and the Olympians: Book Four The Battle of the Labyrinth

Written by Rick Riordan

Teen

Fantasy

368 pages

Time is running out for Percy Jackson and Camp Half-Blood. Kronos's armies are preparing for all-out war and Luke, the evil Titan's second-in-command, will stop at nothing to resurrect his master and ensure the overthrow of the gods. The ancient Labyrinth might give Percy and his friends the answers they need to stop Kronos, but anyone who has gone into the Labyrinth has either never made it out or has been driven insane by what they encountered down there. Horrible monsters, tunnels that change and shift and an ancient evil — nothing is as it seems in the Labyrinth. Percy and his friends will have to use all their intelligence and courage if they hope to get out alive!

More about this book...

Mixing modern sensibilities with ancient myth, Rick Riordan continues the thrilling adventures of Perseus, son of Poseidon, and his friends. Fans of the series will enjoy being one step closer to learning Percy's fate. Readers should be encouraged to start with Book One in the series to become familiar with the storyline and characters.

CONTENT

Fighting, kissing, Greek mythology

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS

 SCHOLASTIC

Booktalk!

Death by Denim

Written by Linda Gerber

Teen

Thriller

224 pages

Aphra Connolly is being chased by some very dangerous people. She knows her survival depends upon staying far away from love interest, Seth, and listening to her mom's lectures on the finer points of anonymity and survival. But how is a girl supposed to live under the radar and not think about her boyfriend when she's in Paris — the most romantic city in the world? When her mom's contact in Paris is found floating in the Seine with a deadly message stuffed in his mouth, Aphra realizes that she will never be able to stop running unless she confronts the situation head-on. Sneaking away from her mom, Aphra tracks down the criminal mastermind in Italy, only to unwittingly reveal Seth's location. Her mistake puts them both in mortal danger...

More about this book...

Aphra Connolly would like to be a normal teenager but she has a mother who is a spy, a boyfriend who is wanted by criminals and she can't help but look over her shoulder wherever she goes. Death, daring escapes and fighting for her life are what she deals with on a daily basis. Aphra is a brave, resourceful heroine who, when faced with difficult circumstances, always comes through for those who need her. This book is part of a series but can easily be read on its own.

CONTENT

Mild language, fighting, murder

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS

 SCHOLASTIC

Booktalk!

Distant Waves

A Novel of the Titanic

Written by Suzanne Weyn

Teen

Relationships

336 pages

Raised by their psychic mother in the small town of Spirit Vale, the five Taylor sisters see their lives going in very different directions. Their future, however, is something they could never have predicted.

Mimi, the oldest sister, has a fate mingled with that of rich society, and threatened by a secret surrounding her birth. Jane, the narrator, becomes involved in a feat of scientific intrigue. The twins, Emma and Amelie, appear ready to follow in their mother's footsteps and the youngest, Blythe, will stop at nothing to make her dreams of wealth and fame come true.

All of the sisters' destinies converge on board the Titanic. The ill-fated transatlantic voyage promises great wonders — and great tragedy. Just as the ship runs into the iceberg, science and the unexplained converge to alter history.

More about this book...

Combining science, spirituality, history and romance, Suzanne Weyn has created an original and exciting read. Her main characters interact with people who were actually alive during this time period lending an authenticity to the story. The author's note at the end explains their background.

CONTENT

Racism, kissing, supernatural, death, occult

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS

Booktalk!

Rebel Power Play

Written by David Skuy

Teen

Relationships

224 pages

All fourteen-year-old Charlie Joyce wants to do is play hockey. But his family just moved to town so he's missed tryouts for the local league. Just when he thinks he won't be able to play AAA hockey this year, he meets Tom Dunn, president of Dunn's Sportmart and new sponsor of the AAA Aeros in the East Metro Hockey League. Tom invites Charlie and his friends to try out for his new team, The Hawks. Things are looking up for Charlie until practices start and the team realizes that Tom is not coach material. For starters the Hawks are losing game after game, then half the players get kicked off the team. With no coach, no sponsor and no players, things look bleak...until the boys decide to take matters into their own hands. Can they rebuild the team and the team spirit, on their own?

More about this book...

Action packed and full of details that will appeal to the true hockey fan, this book captures the essence of Canada's beloved game. David Skuy is the author of *Off The Crossbar*, the first Charlie Joyce novel.

CONTENT

Mild language

CONTAINS MATURE SUBJECTS/LANGUAGE SUITABLE FOR OLDER READERS

 SCHOLASTIC