If You Liked Harry Potter

Black, Holly. The Iron Trial. (series) Raised to distrust magic, Callum, 12, vows to fail the entrance exam for the Magisterium, but finds himself forced to accept a spot at the sinister subterranean school and face the secrets of his past. (Teen)

Epstein, Adam Jay. The Familiars. (series) In this funny, fast-paced tale, a scrappy alley cat passes himself off as a magical animal companion to a wizard-in-training. When an evil queen kidnaps Jack and two other students, the feline and his fellow “familiars” must launch a rescue.

Grau, Sheila. Dr. Critchlore's School for Minions. (series) Runt Higgins’s much-anticipated third year is off to a rocky start: a new student keeps getting him into trouble, his plan for tracking his missing father and secrets must be unraveled.

Hagen, George. Gabriel Finely and the Raven’s Riddle. After turning 12, Gabriel discovers that he is an amicus, a human who can merge with a raven, and this magical ability—and intelligence—will prove vital in tracking down his long-missing father and perhaps even saving the world.

Khan, Joshua. Shadow Magic. Thorn, a resourceful woodcutter’s son sold into slavery, has one year to earn his freedom. Lilith, ruler of Castle Gloom since her family was murdered, is forbidden to practice magic because she’s a girl. The two form an alliance to save her realm from evil.

McMann, Lisa. The Unwanteds. (series) Labeled as “Unwanted” because of his creative streak, Alex, 13, believes he is destined to perish in the Great Lake of Boiling Oil. Instead, he’s rescued by a powerful mage and welcomed to a secret school to train as both artist and magical warrior. (Teen)

Nimmo, Jenny. Midnight for Charlie Bone. (series) The life of ordinary-seeming Charlie is upended when he realizes that he can hear what the people in photos are saying. Packed off to Bloor’s Academy, a school for “gifted” individuals, he finds a world of intrigue and danger.

Park, Linda Sue. Forest of Wonders. (series) When Raffa, a talented young apothecary, concocts a cure for an injured bat from a vine found deep in the forest, the results are nothing less than amazing. A gripping tale with talking animals and dilemmas both ethical and environmental.

Ryan, Carrie. The Map to Everywhere. (series) Fin, a pirate thief, and Marrill, a girl from Arizona, find themselves aboard a sailing ship that travels along a magical waterway connecting different realms. They must find the pieces of a mysterious map before an evil wizard uses it to destroy everything.

Sanderson, Brandon. The Rithmatist. Joel, 16, longs to be a Rithmatist, able to bring two-dimensional chalk renderings to life, but was not chosen to study this magical art. However, when fierce chalklings threaten the American Isles and Armageddon Academy students go missing, he discovers he has an important role to play. (Teen)

Sherman, Delia. The Evil Wizard Smallbone. After running away from his abusive uncle during a blizzard, Nick seeks shelter at Evil Wizard Books where he becomes apprentice to the enchanted shop’s cantankerous proprietor, encounters a dangerous loup garou, and discovers his own magical abilities.

Stroud, Jonathan. The Amulet of Samarkand. (series) Sold by his parents to the British government as a magician’s apprentice at age 5, Nathaniel secretly figures out how to summon an ancient (and arrogant) djinni to steal a powerful artifact, and things go horribly wrong.

Wexler, Django. The Forbidden Library. (series) Left orphaned, Alice is sent to live with a mysterious “uncle” on an estate with a massive—and magical—library where readers can become trapped inside books, monsters need vanquishing, and secrets must be unraveled.

SERIES AND AUTHORS YOU MIGHT LIKE:

- Colfer, Eoin. Artemis Fowl (Teen)
- Collins, Suzanne. Underland Chronicles
- Duane, Diane. Young Wizards
- Flanagan, John. Ranger’s Apprentice (Teen)
- Funke, Cornelia. Inkheart (trilogy)
- Mull, Brandon. Fablehaven (Teen)
- Nix, Garth
- Neff, Henry H. The Hound of Rowan (series)
- Riggs, Ransom
- Riordan, Rick
- Sage, Angie. Septimus Heap (series; Teen)
- Yolen, Jane