Can’t decide which great prize book you want to choose?

We’ve collected links to Novelist Plus and Common Sense Media to help you! Novelist Plus contains reviews, appeal factors, genre, reading levels, and more to help you figure out if it’s a book you’d like. And Common Sense Media contains reviews and information about the book as well.

Please note – these titles are available while supplies last, and each library does not have every title – they are spread out throughout the District. Prize books for ages 0 - 11 do not appear on this list.

Happy choosing!

A confusion of princes
by Garth Nix
Targeted by hostile rivals the moment he is proclaimed a prince, Khemri learns of dark mysteries in the heart of the Empire before discovering the ruins of a space battle and meeting a young woman who challenges everything he has ever believed.

Novelist Plus
Common Sense Media

A Properly Unhaunted Place
by William Alexander
In a world full of ghosts, Rosa and Jasper live in the only unhaunted town—but must spring to action when they realize the ghosts are lying in wait to take the town back

Novelist Plus

A song of wraiths and ruin
by Roseanne A. Brown
A first entry in a planned duology inspired by West African folklore finds a grieving crown princess and a desperate refugee on a collision course to destroy each other despite their growing attraction.

Novelist Plus
Common Sense Media

All the best liars
by Amelia Kahaney
Told in alternating voices, childhood friends Syd, Rain, and Brie’s final weeks of high school end tragically when one dies in a fire, another goes missing, and the third is left to pick up the pieces.

Novelist Plus
All the things we do in the dark
by Saundra Mitchell
Hiding the truth about her distinguishing facial scar, a tattooed teen falls in love with a sweet newcomer before finding everything she cares about threatened by another person’s dangerous secret.

All the things we never knew
by Liara Tamani
A seemingly idyllic romance between rising basketball stars Carli and Rex is challenged by Carli’s secret distaste for the game, her parents’ crumbling marriage and a lack of family affection that causes Rex to doubt himself.

All these bodies
by Kendare Blake
When the suspect in a grisly string of murders refuses to talk to anyone but him, aspiring journalist Michael Jensen, the son of the town sheriff, must learn to separate fact from fiction to discover the truth.

Along for the ride
by Sarah Dessen
When Auden goes to stay with her father, stepmother, and new baby sister the summer before she starts college, all the trauma of her parents’ divorce is revived, even as she is making new friends and having fun new experiences.

Angel mage
by Garth Nix
An ageless young woman with terrifying angelic powers resolves to reunite with her Ystara archangel lover, risking the lives of four young Sarancians who have caught her attention. By the best-selling author of the Old Kingdom series.

Angel of Greenwood
by Randi Pink
Angel and Isaiah share a hidden love for black literature, and now each other, when tragedy and triumph emerge during the Greenwood Massacre of Tulsa, Oklahoma.
Anne of Green Gables
by L. M. Montgomery
"A new paperback edition of the classic novel featuring the outspoken orphan Anne Shirley and her adoptive family, siblings Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, in the quirky town of Avonlea"

B*witch
by Paige McKenzie
Anxiety-prone Iris, secretly a witch, is surprised to be welcomed by a coven at her new high school, which soon teams up with their rivals to discover who murdered one of their own.

At the bottom of the world
by Bill Nye
Traveling to Antarctica for a prestigious science competition, twelve-year-old Jack and his genius foster siblings, Ava and Matt, become caught up in a mystery involving a missing scientist

Blood countess
by Lana Popović
In 1578 Hungary, sixteen-year-old Anna is elevated from scullery maid to chambermaid by the young and glamorous Countess Elizabeth Báthory, falling completely under the Countess’s spell until Anna realizes that she is not a friend but a prisoner of the increasingly cruel and murderous Elizabeth.

Attack of the killer Komodos
by Summer Rachel Short
Ready for her next adventure, 11-year-old Magnolia Stone gets her wish when she and her best friend Nate are stranded after a major earthquake along with other unusual creatures and must save Yellowstone National Park—and themselves.

Blood water paint
by Joy McCullough
In Renaissance Italy, Artemisia Gentileschi endures the subjugation of women that allows her father to take credit for her extraordinary paintings, rape and the ensuing trial, and torture, buoyed by her deceased mother’s stories of strong women of the Bible
Bone Gap
by Laura Ruby
Knowing that his sister has been kidnapped by a dangerous assailant and that she did not abandon the family like their mother did years earlier, Finn confronts town secrets to organize a search.

Breathless
by Jennifer Niven
When her college ambitions are upended by her father’s sudden abandonment, an aspiring writer relocates with her mother to a mosquito-infested island off the coast of Georgia, where her efforts to rebuild are complicated by a local photographer’s complicated secret.

Bright burning stars
by A. K. Small
Kate and Marine, best friends and longtime students at the intensely competitive Paris Opera Ballet School, must decide what price they are willing to pay to win the only available spot in the professional ballet company that operates the school.

By night. Volume one
by John Allison
High school best friends Jane and Heather discover a strange device in the abandoned mansion in their South Dakota town, a machine with the power to open up a doorway to another dimension.

Campfire
by Shawn Sarles
Camping in a remote location with her friends, Maddie hears a local legend about camper-hunting mountain men before finding herself lost deep in the woods and targeted by beings from her worst nightmares.

Circle of shadows
by Evelyn Skye
While on a scouting mission, apprentice warriors Sora and Daemon uncover evidence that Prince Gin, who attempted to rebel against the kingdom and sacrifice its citizens to the gods, may still be alive.
City of beasts
by Corrie Wang
Glori has to question everything she’s been taught when a desperate rescue mission brings her to a strange city where she encounters men for the first time.

Novelist Plus

City of the uncommon thief
by Lynne Bertrand
Passing his teenage years under an open sky on the rooftops of the mile-high iron guild towers that surround their mysterious city, Errol Thebes witnesses the first uncommon event in his life when a guildmaster breaks tradition to protect her child.

Novelist Plus

Clean getaway
by Nic Stone
An 11-year-old boy confronts the realities of race relations past and present and the mysterious agenda of his unconventional grandmother during an unplanned spring break road trip through the once-segregated American South.

Novelist Plus
Common Sense Media

Color me in: a novel
by Natasha Diaz
Fifteen-year-old Nevaeh Levitz is torn between two worlds, passing for white while living in Harlem, being called Jewish while attending her mother’s Baptist church, and experiencing first love while watching her parents’ marriage crumble.

Novelist Plus

A crack in the sea
by H. M Bouwman
Pip, a young boy who can speak to fish, and his sister Kinchen set off on a great adventure, joined by twins with magical powers, refugees fleeing post-war Vietnam, and some helpful sea monsters.

Novelist Plus
Common Sense Media

The Curse of the Werepenguin
by Allan Woodrow
In an attempt to meet his long-lost parents, Bolt Wattle travels to Brugaria, where he encounters the leader of a whale cult and the world’s greatest bandit on his quest to stop a mysterious baron from taking over the country.

Novelist Plus
Common Sense Media
Damsel
by Elana K Arnold
Waking up in the arms of Prince Emory, Ama has no memory of him rescuing her from a dragon's lair, but she soon discovers there is more to the legend of dragons and damsels than anyone knows and she is still in great danger

El Deafo
by Cece Bell
The author recounts in graphic novel format her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including using a bulky hearing aid, learning how to lip read, and determining her "superpower."

Deeplight
by Frances Hardinge
Discovering the still-beating heart of a formidable deity believed long dead, 15-year-old Hark races to keep the dangerous object out of the hands of smugglers, scientists and cult fanatics in the hope of saving a best friend's life.

Finding Mighty: a mystery
by Sheela Chari
"Along the train lines north of New York City, twelve-year-old neighbors Myla and Peter search for the link between Myla's necklace and the disappearance of Peter's brother, Randall. Thrown into a world of parkour, graffiti, and diamond-smuggling, Myla and Peter encounter a band of thugs who are after the same thing as Randall. Can Myla and Peter find Randall before it's too late, and their shared family secrets threaten to destroy them all?"

Dope sick
by Walter Dean Myers
Jeremy "Lil J" Dance, who sees no way out of his hard life in Harlem, flees into a house after a drug deal goes awry and meets a strange man who shows various turning points in Lil J's life when he could have made better choices.

Fire with fire
by Destiny Soria
Raised to kill dragons along with her sister, Dani Rivera unexpectedly forges a rare and magical bond with one who makes her question everything she thought she knew about dragons, which pits her against her sister.
Forging silver into stars
by Brigid Kemmerer
When the King's Courier, Lord Tycho, stops in the small town of Briarlock he is quick to befriend Jax and Callyn, but the town has long been an outpost for the anti-magic Truthbringers, and soon they find themselves embroiled in a world of shifting alliances and ancient magic.

From the desk of Zoe Washington
by Janae Marks
Receiving an unexpected letter on her 12th birthday from the incarcerated father she has never met, a courageous young baker prepares for a cooking-show competition while scrambling to determine her father's innocence.

Game changer
by Neal Shusterman
Transported into other dimensions by a seemingly random hit, a young football player visits alternate worlds that evolved differently in accordance with respective belief systems.

Girl on fire
by Jeremy Whitley
When Tara Smith loses her bracelet and is outed as an alien, she is captured by government agents, who demand that she join a school for extraterrestrial girls, but after managing to escape, she begins a search for her parents and her true identity.

I killed Zoe Spanos
by Kit Frick
Hoping for a new start when she accepts a summer nanny job in the Hamptons, Anna is drawn into the disappearance case of a local teen who she eerily resembles while a local podcaster searches for answers, in a tale of suspense inspired by Daphne du Maurier's Rebecca.

In the hall with the knife
by Diana Peterfreund
A debut entry in a modern, game-inspired series by the author of the Killer Unicorn duology finds a motley band of students stranded at an elite prep school and navigating secrets and danger when they discover the murdered body of their headmaster.
Lintang and the pirate queen
by Tamara Moss
Lintang's dream of adventure on the high seas comes true when Captain Shafira invites her to join her pirate crew, but Lintang's best friend, Bayani, has stowed away and is keeping secrets.

Midnight sun
by Stephenie Meyer
"When Edward Cullen and Bella Swan met in Twilight, an iconic love story was born. In this companion novel, the tale is retold through Edward's eyes with a new and decidedly dark twist.

Lotus Bloom and the Afro revolution
by Sherri Winston
From the author of President of the Whole Fifth Grade comes a story about Lotus Bloom, a young Black girl attending an elite arts academy, who stands up for herself against a racist dress code after a prank gone wrong targeting her and her "mega-'fro" hairstyle gets her into trouble.

More scary stories to tell in the dark
by Alvin Schwartz
Presents a selection of tales about haunted houses, ghastly deeds, wailing specters, and other terrifying phenomena.

Members only: secret societies, sects, and cults--exposed!
by Julie Tibbott
An introduction to some of history's most noteworthy and notorious secret societies and underground cults includes profiles of Opus Dei, the Freemasons, and the Skull and Bones.

Moxie!
by Jennifer Mathieu
In a small Texas town where high school football reigns supreme, Viv, sixteen, starts a feminist revolution using anonymously-written zines.

Night of the Living Ted
by Barry Hutchison
Horrified when their new teddy bears come to life, Lisa-Marie and her older brother, Vernon, discover zombie, ghost, alien and other monster teddies wreaking havoc throughout the world and organizing an evil teddy-bear army.
**Nowhere on Earth**
by Nick Lake
Discovering a lost child wandering in the woods, a 16-year-old runaway learns that the boy is not from Earth and that he is being pursued by zealous government forces, a situation that is complicated by a dangerous accident.

**Of curses and kisses**
by Sandhya Menon
Told in two voices, Jaya Rao, an East Indian princess, and Grey Emerson, an English lord, suffer the effects of a centuries-old feud when they meet at an elite Colorado boarding school.

**One trick pony**
by Nathan Hale
When electricity-stealing aliens arrive on an Earth of the future, Strata, a girl from a family of digital rescuers, teams up with her brother and a beautiful rare robot pony to outmaneuver the invaders and humans who would take advantage of the chaos to become outlaws.

**Ophie's ghosts**
by Justina Ireland
Discovering her ability to see ghosts when a cruel act ends her father’s life and forces her to move in with relatives in 1920s Pittsburgh, young Ophelia forges a helpful bond with a spirit whose own life ended suddenly and unjustly.

**The plain Janes**
by Cecil Castellucci
Teaming up with fellow misfits in her new hometown, an aspiring young artist fights suburban apathy using rebellious works of art, in a compilation that includes the first two graphic-novel series installments, The Plain Janes and Janes in Love, plus a never-before-seen third story, Janes Attack Back.

**The backstagers. : Rebels Without Applause Volume one, Rebels without applause**
by James Tynion
Transferring to an all-boys school, Jory befriends the Backstagers, the school's lowly stage crew, who are determined to put together the best show the school has ever seen while dealing with the magical underground world located under the school.
Retribution rails
by Erin Bowman
Forcibly conscripted into a gang because of a mysterious gold coin in his possession, Reece vows to win his freedom by tracking down the man who gave him the coin only to cross paths with an ambitious woman journalist who is investigating a decade-old quest for vengeance.

Revenge of the witch
by Joseph Delaney
Despite knowing the doomed outcome of the apprentices before him, twelve-year-old Thomas Ward is determined to learn everything he will need to know to stay alive when his time comes to ward off boggarts, witches, ghosts, and other evil-spirited creatures from the land that he was born to protect.

Ronan Boyle and the bridge of riddles
by Thomas Lennon
Ronan, fifteen, the youngest and lowliest recruit to Ireland’s secret Garda, faces untold danger from the wee people while trying to prove his imprisoned parents were framed.

The Athena protocol
by Shamim Sarif
As a member of the Athena Protocol, an elite organization of female spies who enact vigilante justice around the world but are prohibited from using deadly force, Jessie Archer is forced to go rogue after breaking the rules and must fight not only a dangerous human trafficker she’s been hunting but also members of her former team who have been ordered to bring her down.

The beckoning shadow
by Katharyn Blair
Terrified of her magical power after a horrifying incident resulting from her lack of control, teenage runaway, Vesper Montgomery, enters a dangerous tournament for a chance to rewrite the past and reverse the mistakes that have changed her forever.

The Black Kids
by Christina Hammonds Reed
Enjoying the luxuries of a privileged life in 1992 Los Angeles, a black high school senior is unexpectedly swept up in the vortex of the Rodney King Riots while her closest friends spread a rumor that could derail a fellow black student’s future.
The empire of dreams
by Rae Carson
The award-winning author of The Girl of Fire and Thorns presents a standalone tale in which a foundling orphan with a veiled past is barred from being adopted into the royal family before she becomes a first woman recruit into the legendary Royal Guard.

Novelist Plus
Common Sense Media

The lake
by Natasha Preston
Seventeen-year-old best friends Esme and Kayla return to Camp Pine Lake as counselors in training, but the dark secret they have been hiding for nine years is back to haunt them.

Novelist Plus

The Enigma game
by Elizabeth Wein
Fifteen-year-old Jamaican Louisa Adair uncovers an Enigma machine in the small Scottish village where she cares for an elderly German woman, and helps solve a puzzle that could turn the tide of World War II.

Novelist Plus
Common Sense Media

The language of ghosts
by Heather Fawcett
A trio of royal exiles on an enchanted island unlock a forgotten magical language in their effort to reclaim their stolen throne and prevent an older sibling from succumbing to the temptations of his dark powers. By the author of Ember and the Ice Dragons.

Novelist Plus

The horror at Happy Landings
by R. L. Stine
Family camping trips are supposed to be fun, but for Parker, Annie, and the Walden family, their trip turns into a nightmare when Parker and Annie get stuck in a swarm of bees, and their mom is attacked by a Martian bird, which belongs to two stranded aliens trying to find their way home.

Novelist Plus

The last human
by Lee Bacon
After machines take control of Earth, following the extinction of humans, twelve-year-old robot XR 935A confronts its prejudices about humans and begins to reconsider its own existence within robot society after discovering and befriending a twelve-year-old human girl.

Novelist Plus
The Nameless City
by Faith Erin Hicks
Every time it is invaded the City gets a new name, but to the natives it is the Nameless City, and they survive by not letting themselves get involved— but now the fate of the City rests in the hands of Rat, a native, and Kaidu, one of the Dao, the latest occupiers, and the two must somehow work together if the City is to survive.

by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
A full-color graphic novel based on the hit Netflix series finds Carmen Sandiego and her crew zooming off to Dubai, where they race to prevent VILE from stealing a high-speed supercar.

The plentiful darkness
by Heather Kassner
Orphaned twelve-year-old Rooney de Barra chases a thieving boy into a magician’s realm of darkness.

The prey
by Tom Isbell
After the apocalyptic Omega, a group of orphaned teen boys learn of their dark fate and escape and join forces with twin girls who have been imprisoned for the “good of the Republic,” as they all must find the best in themselves to fight against their enemies.

The other side of the sky
by Amie Kaufman
A first entry in a planned duology by two best-selling authors finds the prince of a sky city and an earth goddess linked by a terrifying prophecy that forces them to choose between saving their people or succumbing to their forbidden love.

Sleepless domain: The Price of Magic Book one
by Mary Cagle
Team Alchemical: A group of Magical Girls who defend their city from fiendish monsters that prowl by night. The adoring idol culture surrounding these girls, along with the genuine life-or-death struggles they face each night, forces them to grow up quickly and under severe pressure. When tragedy strikes, the team’s least confident supporting member, Undine, must step up and learn to fight her own battles.
**The red zone / An Earthquake Story**  
by Silvia Vecchini  
A vivid and poignant portrayal of a boy and his town in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake in Italy.  
-Novelist Plus

**The thirteenth cat**  
by Mary Downing Hahn  
Unnerved by the overgrown forest near her aunt's house and the wild black cats that live there, Zoey encounters a mean old woman who claims to be their owner and makes a discovery that places her life in danger.  
-Novelist Plus

**Tigers, not daughters**  
by Samantha Mabry  
Three sisters in San Antonio are shadowed by guilt and grief over the loss of their oldest sister, who still haunts their house.  
-Novelist Plus

**Tooth & claw : the dinosaur wars**  
by Deborah Noyes  
Tells the story of the feverish race between two competitive scientists to uncover dinosaur fossils in the newly opened Wild West  
-Novelist Plus

**Tracker**  
by Gary Paulsen  
Thirteen-year-old John must track a deer in the Minnesota woods for his family's winter meat, and in doing so finds himself drawn to the doe who leads him and hating his role as hunter.  
-Novelist Plus

**Treasure in the lake**  
by Jason Pamment  
When Iris and Sam discover a hidden city and a forgotten tale of friendship, they must discover the truth to save their own friendship or watch history repeat itself and be pulled apart forever.  
-Novelist Plus

**Treasure Island**  
by Robert Louis Stevenson  
Sneaky pirates, sailing ships, buried treasure, exotic lands, and murderous mutiny—what could be better to win over even the most reluctant reader?  
-Novelist Plus

**Under the ashes**  
by Cindy Rankin  
Eleven-year-old Elizabeth is sent to live with an aunt in San Francisco where she must survive an earthquake and a fire  
-Novelist Plus
What happens next
by Claire Swinarski
A young astronomy enthusiast, desperate to escape the pain of her sister’s commitment to an eating-disorder treatment facility, teams up with a visiting astronomer to help track down a long-lost telescope.

Witch for hire
by Ted Naifeh
When a series of high school pranks get out of hand, teen witch Faye Faulkner is the only one who can solve the case.

White Fang
by Jack London
Presents the adventures in the northern wilderness of a dog who is part wolf and how he comes to make his peace with man.

Why we broke up
by Daniel Handler
Writing a letter to her ex-boyfriend about the reasons for their breakup, Min Green assembles items from their relationship to put into a box of mementos.

Witchlight
by Jessi Zabarsky
Meeting in the marketplace amid community fears about witchcraft, Sanja and Lelek begin uncovering difficult magical secrets about Lelek’s past while making unexpected discoveries about friendship, family and falling in love.

Wingbearer
by Marjorie M. Liu
When a sinister force threatens the life-giving magic of the Great Tree, Zuli, along with her guardian owl, Frowly must get to the root of it, and so embark on an epic journey to find the truth.

A wrinkle in time
by Madeleine L'Engle
Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.