

Scary Stories Reading List



AUGUST HOUSE BOOK OF SCARY STORIES: SPOOKY TALES FOR TELLING

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Liz Parkhurst
ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION

Scary stories: everybody loves to hear them, and everybody loves to tell them. They are popular for sharing in many settings—campouts, sleepovers, classroom or youth-group gatherings—as well as just plain fun to read. Selected especially for appeal to upper-elementary and middle-school students, each story has been crafted through multiple performances in school and library settings. Stories include traditional folktales, local legends, and original stories; some have historical settings and some are set in current times. All are sure to engage the most reluctant reader.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** W / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874839-15-9

CIVIL WAR GHOSTS

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Martin Harry Greenberg Frank McSherry Jr. Charles Waugh
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

A Union Lieutenant keeps his promise to return to his sweetheart in Brooklyn and waltz to "The Blue Danube," even in death. In rural Virginia, a group of privileged pranksters suffer for dismissing the legend of the ghost who guards a Confederate shot tower. In a small town in South Carolina, a washer woman goes mad when she hears an army of the dead march through the streets night after night, at the stroke of midnight. After a war where passions were so intense, where so many died before they could finish the business of living, is it any wonder that stories of ghosts persist 130 years later? Some of these stories were written at the time of the Civil War, and some decades later. They vary from the interior horror of Ambrose Bierce's "Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" to the deceptively nostalgic tone of Mary Elizabeth Councilman's "Shot-Tower Ghost." Some center on Union soldiers, others on Confederates. But what unifies these stories is the horror of the losses we sustained, a horror that cannot be measured in numbers or dollars but can only be conveyed in

the language of our nation's imagination.

READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 6th-9th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: Y / LEXILE:
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-874831-73-3 / HARDCOVER:
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CLASSIC AMERICAN GHOST STORIES

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: Deborah Downer ILLUSTRATOR:
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DESCRIPTION	Young or old, playful or terrifying, clad in the brocades of the 16th century or the jeans of today, the phantoms of these tales vary as much as the places they haunt. Whatever their demeanor, wherever they are, however their actions are explained or dismissed, these ghosts have a common power: anyone reading this anthology will see that they still haunt us today.
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READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 5th-8th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: / LEXILE: 1160L
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-874831-18-4 / HARDCOVER:
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FAVORITE SCARY STORIES OF AMERICAN CHILDREN (GRADES 3-6)

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: Richard Young Judy Dockrey Young ILLUSTRATOR:
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DESCRIPTION	Everybody loves a good scary story and nobody more than kids, but these tales—collected from kids themselves—are particular favorites. These traditional scary stories are the ones that kids ask for the most. Children love to hear how Wylie outwitted the terrible Hairy Man and how Skunnee Wundee and an unexpected friend got the best of the fierce Stone Giant. Shivery stories of vengeful ghosts, spooky stories of witches and spirits, and giggly stories that turn fear into fun are all parts of this collection. Symbols precede each story to indicate the most appropriate age group. The stories in this multicultural collection come from the Ozark Mountains, the desert Southwest, even Japan and Hawaii, as well Native American
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tribal stories, Yiddish tales, and even Laotian legends.

READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 3rd-5th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: R / LEXILE: 830L
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-874835-63-2 / HARDCOVER:
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GHOST CATCHER

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss ILLUSTRATOR: Kristen Balouch
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DESCRIPTION	This story is a retelling of a traditional Bengali tale in which a kind and generous Indian barber, pressed by his father and then his wife to earn more money, cleverly persuades a ghost to bring him riches.
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READING LEVEL	INTEREST: K-3rd / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: L / LEXILE: 660L
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: / HARDCOVER: 978-0-874838-35-0
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GHOST STORIES FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: W.K. McNeil ILLUSTRATOR: Jacqueline Froelich
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DESCRIPTION	More than 100 tales of the supernatural, drawn from Tidewater Virginia to the Lone Star State, are included in this collection. The author W.K. McNeil's introduction traces themes peculiar to the South, such as the screaming bridge and the levitating railroad light. Line drawings contribute to the mood of the stories and an index references various Southern localities by town and state.
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READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 5th-8th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: Y / LEXILE: 970L
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-935304-84-8 / HARDCOVER:
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GHOST STORIES FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Richard Young Judy Dockrey Young

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

Over 140 spine-tingling tales from the hills of the Missouri Valley, the mesas of Texas, the great plains, the swamps of the Bayou and even the cities of California. These classic, timeless ghost stories range from the Monster of Mongollon Run, to the Blue Lady, to the Wolf Girl to Haunted places, to Native American spirits and to ghostly lights.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Y / **LEXILE:** 1010L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874831-74-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

GHOST STORIES FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Margaret Read MacDonald

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

In this collection of eerie tales, a ghostly gazetteer chronicles the numerous contemporary accounts of Northwestern hauntings and other strange happenings reported around British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon. The typical Northwestern ghost almost always appears alone, in the form of a faint, often grayish wisp.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 6th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 980L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-37-6 / **HARDCOVER:**

GHOSTWISE

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Dan Yashinsky
ILLUSTRATOR: Kevin Sollows

DESCRIPTION

For this mix of “midnight stories,” Dan Yashinsky has collected ghost stories and other strange and scary tales from around the world. From Cathy Miyata's ghost story from Japan to Jamie Oliviero's Central African tale about the limits of grief to Gail de Vos's contemporary legend about a ghostly premonition from Canada, *Ghostwise* offers true stories, tall tales, and scary yarns. These spooky stories are rooted in many cultures: some are old tales retold, others are new tales created, all are told by masters of their craft who have successfully made the transition to the written word in this collection.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 6th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** X / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-99-4 / **HARDCOVER:**

MOMENTOS MAGICOS/MAGIC MOMENTS

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Olga Loya
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

In Latin American culture—with its blend of Indian, Spanish, Catholic, and African influence—magic is a part of the everyday world. *Momentos mágicos*, or magic moments, can come in many forms. For storyteller Olga Loya, magic occurs every time an ancient story is passed from teller to listener. The sixteen stories here are full of *momentos mágicos*. Presented in equally vibrant English and Spanish, they include stories of the supernatural, such as the Mexican tale of *La Llorona*, the Wailing Woman; of animals and tricksters, such as the Mayan story of how Monkey tricked Crocodile; of strong women, like *Blanca Flor* (White Flower); and myths, such as *La Diosa Hambrienta*, the hungry goddess. In stories from Mexico, Cuba, Guatemala, the Yucatan, Nicaragua, Baja California, Puerto Rico, and the Mayan *Popol Vuh*, Olga Loya works her magic to create humorous, vital, and powerful renditions of centuries-old legends.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-7th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** W / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-97-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

QUEEN OF THE COLD-BLOODED TALES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Roberta Simpson Brown
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

Twenty-three original, horrific tales of vengeful spirits and nefarious supernatural creatures are made all the more sinister by the comfortable, contemporary settings of these cold-blooded tales.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** X / **LEXILE:** 700L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-08-6 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874833-32-4

SCARED IN SCHOOL

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Roberta Simpson Brown
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

13th Street School, actually an elementary school, middle school, and high school, is located at the corner of 13th Street and Waiting Place. You might call it a magnet school, but instead of attracting the gifted and talented, it draws the creepy and warped.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** S / **LEXILE:** 780L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-96-3 / **HARDCOVER:**

SCARED WITLESS: THIRTEEN EERIE TALES TO TELL

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss
ILLUSTRATOR: Kevin Pope

DESCRIPTION

Kids love to tell stories among themselves, and the two most popular types are funny stories and scary stories. Scared Witless delivers double dividends - it

contains thirteen stories that are funny and scary. These tales are surefire entertainment for sleepovers, summer camps, and parties.

READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 3rd-5th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: P / LEXILE: 800L
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-95-9 / HARDCOVER: 978-0-874837-96-4
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SCARY STORY READER

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: Richard Young Judy Dockrey Young ILLUSTRATOR: Wendell Hall
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DESCRIPTION	Back by popular demand, these timeless, scary and spine-tingling thrillers are collected together for young readers.
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READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 5th-8th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: W / LEXILE: 880L
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-874833-82-9 / HARDCOVER: 978-0-874832-71-6
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SPIDERS IN THE HAIRDO: MODERN URBAN LEGENDS

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: David Holt Bill Mooney ILLUSTRATOR: Kevin Pope
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DESCRIPTION	This collection of urban myths assembles 50 brief stories from modern oral tradition. Commonly attributed to FOAFs (friend of a friend), they are intriguing and often frightening tales passed along in casual conversation. These tales are the substance of modern folklore, an evolving treasury of narratives. From the famous Vanishing Hitchhiker to incredulous tales of alligators in the New York City sewer system, these stories still live in our collective imagination.
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READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 6th-9th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: Z / LEXILE: 760L
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ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-8748-3525-0 / HARDCOVER:
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SPIRITS DARK AND LIGHT: SUPERNATURAL TALES FROM THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Tim Tingle

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

In the Native American tradition, a strong connection exists between the spirit world and the natural world. It is believed that what happens in one has a definite impact on the other. In this collection, Choctaw storyteller Tim Tingle draws from the rich heritage of the Five Civilized Tribes - the Creek, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Seminole nations.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** W / **LEXILE:** 890L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-78-0

TALES OF ENCHANTMENT (BOOKS OF NINE LIVES BOOK 7)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain

ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

A collection of nine traditional tales about leprechauns, dwarfs, shape shifters and other enchanted creatures from various countries, including Russia, Norway, and Germany.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** O / **LEXILE:** 640L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-11-7

TALES OF HOLIDAYS (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 5)

AUTHOR &

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain

ILLUSTRATOR	ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell
DESCRIPTION	These nine short folktales feature stories about traditional holidays celebrated from Czechoslovakia, Russia, France, the United States, and other parts of the world.
READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 3rd-5th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: 0 / LEXILE: 690L
ISBNs	PAPERBACK: / HARDCOVER: 978-0-874836-67-7

TALES OF NONSENSE & TOMFOOLERY (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 2)

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell
DESCRIPTION	A hilarious collection of short folktales from all over the world featuring silly characters, nonsensical situations, and general tomfoolery.
READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 3rd-5th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: 0 / LEXILE: 830L
ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-45-5 / HARDCOVER: 978-0-874836-70-7

TALES OF TRICKSTERS (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 1)

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR	AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell
DESCRIPTION	This book contains nine short traditional and very entertaining folktales about tricksters, featuring selections from Persia, India, Poland, France, and other parts of the world.
READING LEVEL	INTEREST: 3rd-5th / FOUNTAS & PINNELL: 0 / LEXILE: 770L
ISBNs	PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-44-8 / HARDCOVER: 978-0-874836-69-1

TALES TO FRIGHTEN AND DELIGHT (BOOKS OF NINE LIVES)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

A collection of nine traditional scary stories from various parts of the world, including Japan, Uruguay, and other countries. The stories are sure to entertain young readers.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 650L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874839-16-6 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-12-4

WALKING TREES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Roberta Simpson Brown
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

There are trees that walk, statues that accuse, and white-faced ticket-takers with gentle names like "Dave" that send people on very long journeys. These stories are short, creepy, and perfect for reading around a campfire when the sky is full of stars.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** / **LEXILE:** 730L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874831-43-6 / **HARDCOVER:**

WHITE WOLF WOMAN

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Teresa Pijoan
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

With the aid of more than 40 myths from the oral traditions of 30 native American tribes, ranging from the Eskimos to the Indians of Guiana, Pijoan invites readers to take a close look at the common spirit that binds together all forms of life. The native American heroes and heroines in these myths, imbued with the strength of this common spirit, possess the power to transform themselves into snakes, birds, bears, wolves, and occasionally, as in the Sikyatki tale "Water Jar Boy," into everyday objects.

READING LEVEL**INTEREST:** 6th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Y / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874832-00-6 / **HARDCOVER:**