

# Scary Stories

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## Fiction

Arden, Katherine. *Small Spaces* (series). Eleven-year-old Ollie discovers a chilling ghost story about a deal made with "the Smiling Man," a sinister specter who grants a wish for the ultimate price. Ollie begins to wonder if the Smiling Man might be real when she stumbles upon the graves of the very people she's been reading about.

Auxier, Jonathan. *The Night Gardener*. Orphans Molly and Kip travel to work as servants at a creepy, crumbling English manor house—but the house and its family are not quite what they seem. Soon they are confronted by a mysterious spectre and an ancient curse that threatens their lives.

Baptiste, Tracey. *The Jumbies* (series). Corinne claims she isn't afraid of anything, certainly not jumbies, tricksters made up by parents to frighten their children. Then one night Corinne chases an agouti all the way into the forbidden forest, and shining yellow eyes follow her to the edge of the trees. Corinne must call on her courage and learn to use ancient magic she didn't know she possessed to save her island home.

Beatty, Robert. *Serafina and the Black Cloak*. Serafina has never had a reason to venture beyond the Biltmore estate grounds. But when children there start disappearing, only she knows why: it's the terrifying man in a black cloak who stalks Biltmore's corridors at night.

Berk, Josh and Sandra Mitchell. *Camp Murderface* (series). Ohio, 1983: one-scary-as-heck camp. Corryn and Tez are ready for summer, but before they can so much as toast one marshmallow, terrifying happenings start...happening. Can they survive the summer?

Brennan, Sarah Rees. *Unspoken* (Tween series). Kami's life seems to be in order, until the screaming in the woods begins and the manor overlooking the town lights up for the first time in 10 years. Now Kami can see that the town she has known and loved all her life is hiding a multitude of secrets—and a murderer. The key to it all just might be the boy in her head.

Brooks, Elizabeth. *The Whispering House*. Visiting the bewitching Byrne Hall, near where her sister Stella died, Freya discovers a portrait of Stella—one she had no idea existed, in a house Stella never visited. As Freya lingers in this mysterious house, the darkness behind the locked doors of the estate threatens to spill out.

Bruchac, Joseph. *Skeleton Man*. Molly's father, who grew up on the Mohawk Reserve of Akwesasne, always had the best scary stories. One of her favorites was a gruesome tale about a man with such insatiable hunger he ate his own flesh before devouring those around him. But ever since her parents mysteriously vanished, those spooky tales have started to feel all too real.

Fleming, Candace. *On the Day I Died*. Set in an actual graveyard outside Chicago, each story takes place during a different time period from the 1860s to the present, and ends with the narrator's death. Some teens die heroically, others ironically, but all due to supernatural causes.

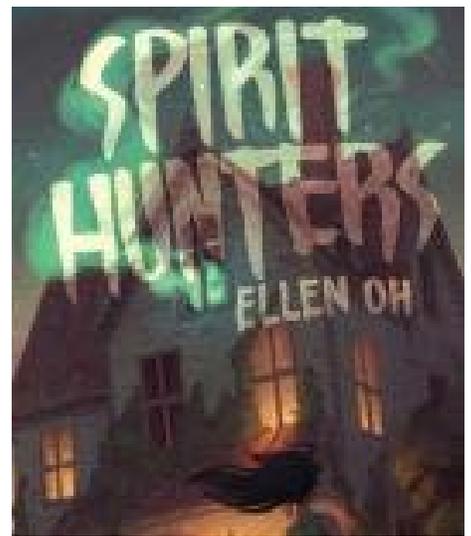
Garza, Xavier. *Creepy Creatures and Other Cucuys*. The stories in this collection curdle with the creepy and crawling characters of traditional folklore and brim with the supernatural: the mysterious disappearance of children who made deals with duendes, the ghostly specter of La Llorona, and even the Devil himself. These are all cucuys, who haunt the imagination in these tales of wonder and warning.

Gidwitz, Adam. *A Tale Dark and Grimm* (series). Hansel and Gretel walk out of their own story and into eight other classic fairy tales. As the siblings roam a forest brimming with menacing foes, they learn the true story behind the famous tales, as well as how to take charge of their destinies and create their own happily ever after.

Hahn, Mary Downing. *Girl in the Locked Room*. Jules's parents love the old abandoned house they just moved to, but Jules is frightened and feels a sense of foreboding. When she sees a pale face in an upstairs window, she can't stop wondering about the eerie presence on the top floor—in a room with a locked door.

Hamilton, Virginia. *The House of Dies Drear* (series). The house has a century-old legend: two fugitive slaves had been killed by bounty hunters after leaving its passageways, and Dies Drear himself, the abolitionist who had made the house into a station on the Underground Railroad, had been murdered there. The ghosts of the three were said to walk its rooms...

Heidicker, Christian McKay. *Scary Stories for Young Foxes* (series). When Mia and Uly are separated from their litters, they discover a dangerous world full of monsters. In order to find a home, they must face unspeakable things that dwell in the darkness: a zombie a witch, a ghost who hunts them...and other things too scary to mention.



Howe, Barbara and James. *Bunnica* (series). Before it's too late, Harold the dog and Chester the cat must find out the truth about the newest pet in the Monroe household—a suspicious-looking bunny with unusual habits...and fangs!

Jones, Gareth P. *Constable & Toop*. Something mysterious and terrible is happening throughout Victorian London: ghosts are disappearing. The Black Rot has arrived—a spiritual infestation where empty haunted houses suck in unsuspecting ghosts and imprison them. The living and dead must work together if they hope to destroy the Black Rot, before it destroys both the ghost and human worlds.

Kramer, J. Kasper. *The List of Unspeakable Fears*. When anxious Essie moves to North Brother Island, where her strange and scary new stepfather runs a quarantine hospital, she imagines all manner of horrors, including the ghost of a little girl—which might not be imaginary after all.

Lawrence, Lorien. *The Stitchers* (series). Thirteen-year-old Quinn knows that there's something off about her neighbors, "the Oldies" who have lived there for as long as anyone can remember and never seem to age. Are they vampires? Aliens? Getting secret experimental surgeries? The closer Quinn and her friend Mike get to uncovering the answers, the more they realize just how terrifying the truth may be.

Mafi, Tahereh. *Whichwood*. Laylee can barely remember the happier times before she was left as the sole remaining mordeshoor in the village of Whichwood, destined to spend her days scrubbing the skins and souls of the dead in preparation for the afterlife. It's become easy to forget and easier still to ignore not only her ever-increasing loneliness, but the way her overworked hands are stiffening and turning silver, just like her hair. But soon Laylee's world is turned upside down as she rediscovers color, magic, and the healing power of friendship.

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McKissack, Pat. *The Dark-Thirty*. A collection of ghost stories with African American themes, designed to be told during the Dark Thirty—the half hour before sunset—when ghosts seem all too believable.

Oh, Ellen. *Spirit Hunters* (series). Harper doesn't trust her new home, but she isn't sure she believes the rumors it's haunted, either—until her younger brother starts acting strangely.

Peck, Richard. *The Ghost Belonged to Me* (series). When Alexander notices an eerie light coming out of the barn, he thinks his friend Blossom Culp is trying to spook him. But slimy footprints appear out of nowhere, whimpering sounds float down from the hayloft, and now there's a ghost standing right in front of him, warning him of great danger ahead.

Poblocki, Dan. *Ghost Hunter's Daughter*. Claire doesn't believe in ghosts, even though her dad is a ghost hunter on TV, but classmate Lucas does. When a ghost tells them that Claire's dad has been taken and he's in grave danger, Claire and Lucas are determined to rescue him. But how can they save him from the ghost of Hush when everyone knows that seeing the ghost means that you're destined to die?

Poe, Edgar Allen. *Tales of Mystery and Madness*. A sweet little cat drives a man to insanity and murder...The grim death known as the plague roams a masquerade ball dressed in red...A sister calls to her beloved twin from beyond the grave. Prepare yourself. You are about to enter a world where you will be shocked, terrified, and secretly thrilled.

Riazi, Karuna. *The Gauntlet*. When twelve-year-old Farah and her two best friends get sucked into a mechanical board game called The Gauntlet of Blood and Sand, a puzzle game akin to a large Rubik's cube, they know it is up to them to defeat the game's diabolical architect in order to save themselves and those who are trapped inside, including her baby brother Ahmed.

Selznick, Brian. *The Boy of a Thousand Faces*. Alonzo has always loved monsters. But no one would ever guess that he lives in a haunted house with a graveyard, communicates with the dead, turns into a six-armed, slime-covered creature, or is a walking encyclopedia on horror films! Will he be able to solve the mystery of the creature stalking his town?

Shumaker, Heather. *The Griffins of Castle Cary*. Meg, Will, and Ariel are off on an adventure, visiting their eccentric aunt in England. But apparently this town has a ghost problem and the children must race to solve the mystery to save Ariel from a ghost intent on keeping her as a friend.

Smith, Ronald L. *Hoodoo*. Hoodoo Hatcher was born into a family with a rich tradition of practicing folk magic. When the mysterious Stranger comes to town, Hoodoo starts dreaming of the dead rising from their graves. The entire town is at risk from the Stranger's black magic, and only Hoodoo can defeat him. He'll just need to learn how to conjure first.

Smy, Pam. *Thornhill*. 1982: Mary is a lonely orphan at the Thornhill Institute For Children as it closes. When she's left to face a volatile bully alone, her revenge will have a lasting effect on the bully, Mary, and Thornhill itself. 2017: Ella's new house has a perfect view of the abandoned Institute—and a girl in its window. Ella is determined to befriend the girl and unravel Thornhill's shadowy past.

Stroud, Jonathan. *Lockwood & Co.: The Screaming Staircase* (series). All nature of unfriendly ghosts, haunts, spirits, and specters are appearing throughout London. Lucy Carlyle and Anthony Lockwood are forced to take part in the perilous investigation of one of the most haunted houses in England. Will they survive?

White, J.A. *Archimancy* (series). Cordelia Liu knew Shadow School was going to be different, but she didn't expect the school grounds to be filled with ghosts. She and her new friends are determined to find out why the ghosts are there, but someone is willing to go to extreme lengths to ensure that the ghosts remain trapped forever.

William, Alexander. *A Properly Unhaunted Place*. Rosa Ramona Díaz comes from a family of librarians who specialize in ghost appeasement, but her mother has moved them to the world's only unhaunted town. Jasper can't imagine his town any other way...until an angry apparition thunders in and turns it upside down.

Wright, Betty Ren. *Christina's Ghost*. Christina is not looking forward to spending the summer with Uncle Ralph in his spooky, isolated Victorian mansion, but things change when she sees the ghostly figure of a small, sad boy who disappears before she can talk to him. Could he be linked to the murders that happened in the house thirty years before?

## Graphic Novels

Alvarez, Lorena. *Nightlights* (series). Every night, tiny stars appear out of the darkness in little Sandy's bedroom. She catches them and creates wonderful creatures to play with until she falls asleep, and in the morning brings them back to life in the whimsical drawings. When a mysterious new girl appears at school, her fascination with Sandy's talent soon turns into something far more sinister.

Bagieu, Pénélope and Roald Dahl. *The Witches*. Witches are real, and they are very, very dangerous—and there's nothing they despise more than children. When an eight-year-old boy and his grandmother come face-to-face with the Grand High Witch herself, they may be the only ones who can stop the witches' latest plot to stamp out every last child in the country!

Cloonan, Becky. *Welcome to Gotham Academy* (Tween series). Gotham City's most prestigious prep school is a very weird place. It's got a spooky campus, oddball teachers, and rich benefactors always dropping by...like that weirdo Bruce Wayne. But nothing is as strange as the students! And did you hear the rumor about the ghost in the North Hall?!

Grime, Chris. *Secrets of Camp Whatever*. Eleven year-old Willow doesn't want to go to her dad's weird old summer camp, but soon she finds herself neck-deep in a confounding mystery involving stolen snacks, suspected vampires, and missing campers, all shrouded in the sinister fog that hides a generation of secrets.

Ly, Ginger. *Suee and the Shadow*. When Suee transfers to the dull and ordinary Outskirts Elementary, she doesn't expect to hear a strange voice speaking to her from the darkness of the school's exhibit room, or to see her shadow come to life. Soon, Suee must confront a stunning secret that her shadow has been hiding under her own two feet—something very dark and sinister that could put Suee and her friends at risk!

## Nonfiction

Atwood, Megan. *Real Life Ghost Stories: The Greenbrier Ghost* (series). (133.1 ATW)

Bielski, Ursula. *Creepy Chicago: A Ghosthunter's Tales of the City's Scariest Sites*. (977.311 BIE)

Claybourne, Anna. *Don't Read this Book Before Bed*. (133.1 CLA)

Everett, J.H. *Haunted Histories*. (133.122 EVE)

Giannini, Alex. *Horror in Illinois*. (133.1 GIA)

Goddu, Krystyna Poray. *Creepy Chicago*. (977.311 GOD)

Jones, Dan Sasuweh (Ponga Nation). *Living Ghosts and Mischievous Monsters: Chilling American Indian Stories*. (398.2 JON)

San Souci, Robert D. *Short and Shivery: Thirty Chilling Tales*. (398.25 SAN)

Schwartz, Alvin. *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* (series). (398.25 SCH)