

Juvenile Classics

* The Great Illustrated Classics series are a nice way to introduce classics in an abridged format. You may find this series shelved in J Fiction under “Great.”

Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland (sequel Through the Looking Glass) Carroll, Lewis
A little girl falls down a rabbit hole and discovers a world of nonsensical and amusing characters.

Anne of Green Gables Montgomery, L.M.

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

Babe: The Gallant Pig King-Smith, Dick

A piglet destined for eventual butchering arrives at the farmyard, is adopted by an old sheep dog, and discovers a special secret to success.

A Bear Called Paddington Bond, Michael

A very small bear found by Mr. and Mrs. Brown at Paddington station becomes one of the family.

The Borrowers Norton, Mary

Miniature people who live in an old country house by borrowing things from the humans are forced to emigrate from their home under the clock.

Bridge to Terabithia Paterson, Katherine

The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm.

Caddie Woodlawn Brink, Carol Ryrie

Chronicles the adventures of eleven-year-old Caddie growing up with her six brothers and sisters on the Wisconsin frontier in the mid-nineteenth century.

Comet in Moominland (Moomin series; book 1) Jansson, Tove

Moomintroll encounters a mouth organist, a moth collector, and a lovely maiden, and discovers the danger of a threatening comet when he takes a journey to seek advice from the Professor.

The Cricket in Times Square Selden, George

The adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat.

The Enchanted Castle Nesbit, E.

Three children, looking for adventure in the woods adjacent to the school where they are spending their holidays, find a magic ring which leads them into a series of bizarre mishaps as they try to control its powers and solve the mystery of the Enchanted Castle.

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH O'Brien, Robert C.

Having no one to help her with her problems, a widowed mouse visits the rats whose former imprisonment in a laboratory made them wise and long lived.

The Great Brain Fitzgerald, John D.

The exploits of the Great Brain of Adenville, Utah, are described by his younger brother, frequently the victim of the Great Brain's schemes for gaining prestige or money.

Half Magic (The Magic series; book 1) Eager, Edward

Faced with a dull summer in the city, Jane, Mark, Katharine, and Martha suddenly find themselves involved in a series of extraordinary adventures after Jane discovers an ordinary-looking coin that seems to grant wishes.

Harriet the Spy Fitzhugh, Louise

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.

The Hundred Dresses Estes, Eleanor

When shabby Wanda Petronski claims that she has one hundred dresses at home, she becomes a target for teasing by classmates who scorn her because she is different. Despite their cruelty, it is Wanda who triumphs and is remembered for her sterling character.

The Incredible Journey Burnford, Sheila Every

A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

Island of the Blue Dolphins O'Dell, Scott

Left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, a young Indian girl spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.

Julie of the Wolves George, Jean Craighead

While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.

The Jungle Book Kipling, Rudyard

Presents the three adventures of Mowgli, a young boy raised by the animals in an Indian jungle, as well as other animal stories and songs.

Little House in the Big Woods (Little House series) Wilder, Laura Ingalls

A year in the life of two young girls growing up on the Wisconsin frontier, as they help their mother with the daily chores, enjoy their father's stories and singing, and share special occasions when they get together with relatives or neighbors.

Little Women Alcott, Louisa May

Chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young ladies in nineteenth-century New England.

Mary Poppins Travers, P.L.

Two English children's new nanny arrives on the East Wind, slides up the bannister, carries an empty carpet bag with all kinds of things in it, and introduces Jane and Michael to some delightful people and experiences.

Mr. Popper's Penguins Atwater, Richard

The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

Mrs. Piggle Wiggle MacDonald, Betty Bard

A woman with a magic way of curing children's bad habits tries her hand with a bully, a whisperer, and a slowpoke and formulates cures for a show-off and a crybaby.

Old Yeller Gipson, Fred

The story of a Texas pioneer family and the big yellow stray dog that affects their lives.

The Phantom Tollbooth Juster, Norton

A journey through a land where Milo learns the importance of words and numbers provide a cure for his boredom.

Peter Pan Barrie, J.M.

The adventures of Peter Pan, the boy who would not grow up.

Pippi Longstocking Lindgren, Astrid

Escapades of a lucky little girl who lives with a horse and a monkey--but without any parents--at the edge of a Swedish village.

The Secret Garden Burnett, Frances Hodgson

Ten-year-old Mary comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

Stuart Little White, E.B.

The adventures of the debonair mouse Stuart Little as he sets out in the world to seek out his dearest friend, a little bird who stayed a few days in his family's garden.

Tuck Everlasting Babbitt, Natalie

The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older.

The Twenty-one Balloons DuBois, William Pene

The adventures of a disillusioned schoolteacher who sails across the Pacific Ocean in a giant balloon, and witnesses the explosion of the island of Krakatoa.

Where the Red Fern Grows Rawls, Wilson

Desperate for his own hunting dogs, Billy scrimps and saves to make his dream a reality. His investment pays off. Billy and his dogs Old Dan and Lil' Ann win the top prize at the annual raccoon hunting contest. This is a classic story for all ages that teaches the importance of faith, honesty, loyalty and persistence.

The Wind in the Willows Grahame, Kenneth

The escapades of four animal friends who live along a river in the English countryside-- Toad, Mole, Rat, and Badger.

White Fang London, Jack

Part wolf and part dog, orphaned White Fang relies on his instincts as well as his inborn strength and courage to survive in the Yukon wilderness despite both animal and human predators but eventually comes to make his peace with man.