

## **Juvenile Horror/Scary Fiction**

### **Frightening Creatures & Monsters**

#### ***Small Spaces* (series: book 1) Arden, Katherine (Gr 5-8)**

After eleven-year-old Ollie's school bus mysteriously breaks down on a field trip, she has to take a trip through scary woods, and must use all of her wits to survive the monsters within. She must stick to small spaces...

#### ***What Lives in the Woods* Currie, Lindsay (Gr 4-7)**

When Ginny's father surprises the family with a trip to Michigan, they aren't staying in a hotel. No, they're staying in a mansion. A century-old building surrounded by forest, rumored to be haunted. Ginny begins to realize there's more than one legend roaming Saugatuck, Michigan, and they definitely aren't after local campers. They're after her...

#### ***The Squeals on the Bus* Dahl, Michael (Gr 3-7)**

Jordan and his friend Evan are picked up by a different school bus, driven by a shadowy figure, a bus where all the other children are bizarrely deformed, except for one girl at the back, and when the children see their reflections in the dirty windows they start to scream--but what will happen when they get off the bus at school?

#### ***The Thirteenth Cat* Hahn, Mary Downing (Gr 3-7)**

Zoey loves spending the summer with her Aunt Alice, and her aunt's new house is the perfect place to cozy up with a good book. But she's unnerved by the overgrown forest next door, which is creepy even in the daytime and full of eerie sounds at night. Worse, there are rumors in town of a dark force in those woods. And Zoey can't deny that the wild black cats who live there seem to be watching her...

## **Frightening Creatures & Monsters cont.**

### ***Thirteens* (Secrets of Eden Eld series: book 1) Marshall, Kate Alice (Gr)**

Neil Gaiman's *Coraline* meets *Stranger Things* in a dark and twisted story about a sleepy town with a dark secret-and the three kids brave enough to uncover it.

### ***No Place for Monsters* Merritt, Kory (Gr 4-6)**

Nothing ever seems out of place in the safe, suburban town of Cowslip Grove. Lawns are neatly mowed, sidewalks are tidy, and the sounds of ice cream trucks fill the air. But now . . . kids have been going missing--except no one even realizes it, because no one remembers them. Not their friends. Not their teachers. Not even their families...

### ***The Nest* Oppel, Kenneth (Gr 5-8)**

When wasps come to Steve in a dream offering to fix his sick baby brother, he thinks all he has to do is say yes. But yes may not mean what Steve thinks it means...

### ***Where the Woods End* Salter, Charlotte (Gr 6-10)**

Twelve-year-old Kestrel lives in a seemingly endless forest, and in order to escape she will need to defeat her Grabber, a creature that builds its body to reflect her greatest fear.

### ***The Shadow Hand* (Babysitting Nightmares series: book 1) Shepherd, Kat (Gr 3-6)**

When babysitter Rebecca discovers that a sinister ruler of darkness has replaced the baby with a changeling, she and her friends must save him by surviving a chilling journey through the Nightmare Realm.

## **Hauntings**

### ***The Forgotten Girl* Brown, India Hill (Gr 3-7)**

When Iris sneaks out at night, she doesn't expect to raise the ghost of Avery Moore, a girl her own age; but bringing to light the segregated and abandoned black cemetery seems like the perfect way to help Avery get the recognition she craves. Only it seems that if Avery gets everything she wants, Iris will join her as a ghost, best friends forever...

### ***Scratch Scratch* Currie, Lindsay (Gr 5-8)**

Haunted after helping her father on his ghost-themed Chicago bus tour, twelve-year-old Claire must discover what the spectral boy from the bus wants before it is too late.

### ***Ghost Hunter's Daughter* Poblocki, Dan (Gr 5-8)**

Claire's dad is a ghost hunter on TV, and one day her dad disappears. A strange boy in her class, Lucas, knows something about ghosts. One of them has a message for her: Her dad has been taken, and he's in grave danger. Together, Claire and Lucas set out for the town of Hush Falls, where her dad was last seen. Legend says that a tall man in a dark tattered coat lurks near the local reservoir, and anyone who gets too close to old Lemuel Hush is never heard from again...

### ***The Screaming Staircase* (Lockwood & Co series: book 1) Stroud, Jonathan (Gr 6-9)**

Lucy Carlyle teams up with Anthony Lockwood, the charismatic leader of Lockwood & Co, a small agency that runs independent of any adult supervision. After an assignment leads to both a grisly discovery and a disastrous end, Lucy, Anthony, and their sarcastic colleague, George, are forced to take part in the perilous investigation of Combe Carey Hall, one of the most haunted houses in England.

## **Sinister Games & Possessed Toys**

### ***The Hiddenseek Cernosek, Nate (Gr 4-6)***

A brother and sister are transported to a strange world based on the game hide-and-seek, where they are pursued by a cursed witch.

### ***Hide and Seeker Hermon, Daka (Gr 4-6)***

Something is wrong with Zee, who has returned after a year's absence; nobody knows what happened to him, but now he is distracted and violent, freaking out when he sees his friends playing an odd game of hide-and-seek. Soon his friends are pulled into a shadowy world ruled by a monstrous, shape-shifting Seeker, and are forced to play a terrifying game of hide-and-seek where they will have to confront their worst nightmares in order to find their way home.

### ***Frightville: Don't Let the Doll In Ford, Mike (Gr 3-5)***

When Mara hears about a new store called Frightville, she can't wait to check it out. There she comes face-to-face with Charlotte, a small figurine of a friendly-looking girl. But once Charlotte is in the dollhouse, strange things start to happen. There are odd noises in the night, and objects from Mara's room start to go missing...

### ***Hush-a-Bye Mott, Jody Lee (Gr 4-8)***

Lucy and her younger sister find a broken doll that has astonishing powers - and a sinister agenda.

## **Spooky Story Collections**

### ***Only if You Dare: 13 Stories of Darkness and Doom* Allen, Josh (Gr 3-8)**

A collection of thirteen short stories showing how horribly wrong food, dating, jobs, and even a bed pillow can be...creepy, crunchy horror.

### ***The Puppet's Payback and Other Chilling Tales* Hahn, Mary Downing (Gr 3-5)**

This collection of 10 stories ranges from ghosts to witches and everything in between, and the stories included tend more on the side of creepy, eerie incidents. *Note: These stories are more accessible for sensitive readers who are still looking for a scare, but are not ready to delve into more ghastly selections.*

### ***Scary Stories for Young Foxes (series: book 1)* Heidicker, Christian McKay (Gr 4-7)**

An ancient fox storyteller presents eight interwoven tales to seven intrepid fox kits. The kits' eyes are opened to real-world trauma as they follow the harrowing journeys of Mia and Uly, two young foxes who encounter disease, humans, predators, hunger, separation, and loss.

### ***Don't Turn Out the Lights: A Tribute to Alvin Schwartz's Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark***

**ed. Maberry, Jonathan (Gr 4-8)**

Flesh-hungry ogres...Brains full of spiders...Haunted houses you can't escape! This collection of 35 terrifying stories from the Horror Writers Association has it all, including ghastly illustrations that will absolutely chill readers to the bone.

### ***Hide and Don't Seek & Other Very Scary Stories* Rissi, Anica Mrose (Gr 4-6)**

If you're feeling brave, turn the page. A game of hide-and-peek goes on far too long... A look-alike doll makes itself right at home... A school talent show act leaves the audience aghast... And a summer at camp takes a turn for the braaaains...

**Authors to Check Out:**

**Mary Downing Hahn**

**R.L. Stine**

**Ronald L. Smith**

**Dan Poblocki**

**Alan Schwartz**

**Other Series to Check Out:**

***Nightmares* by Jason Segel**

***City of Ghosts* by Victoria Schwab**

***Eerie Elementary* by Jack Chabert**

***Notebook of Doom* by Troy Cummings**

***Desmond Cole, Ghost Patrol* by Andres Miedoso**