**Jackaby**
by William Ritter

“Want a refreshing break from dystopia, zombies, and vampires, but still looking for something a bit scary and supernatural? *Jackaby* by William Ritter will fit the bill! Full of Sherlockian suspense, mystery, and the occult, *Jackaby* is great fun, and I hope it is just the first adventure for Abigail Rook and her eccentric employer.”

—Ellen Richmond, Children’s Book Cellar, Waterville, ME

Find out more about this book and others at [WWW.INDIEBOUND.ORG](http://WWW.INDIEBOUND.ORG)

**I’ll Give You the Sun**
by Jandy Nelson

“Noah and Jude have always been competitive, but also completely inseparable, as only twins can be. As they approach their teen years, the competitiveness, plus a multitude of other life changes, rips them apart until misunderstanding and hatefulness are all they seem to know. What will it take for them to forgive each other—and themselves—and once again be ‘Noah and Jude,’ forever together? This is a beautifully written, unforgettable book about love, art, and recognizing truth.”

—Judy Hobbs, Third Place Books, Lake Forest Park, WA

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**Afterworlds**
by Scott Westerfeld

“This is one of the most unusual books I’ve read in a long time. It’s a young adult novel about a girl who writes a young adult novel about a girl! The two stories intertwine to give readers a sneak peek into two very different worlds: that of the young adult writing and publishing scene in New York City, and that of a world whose boundaries exist far beyond death. Both the author and her creation are beautifully captured in unique, yet completely realistic, ways. *Afterworlds* is a captivating work that young adults—and all readers—will both love and learn from.”

—Richard Corbett, Powell’s Books, Portland, OR

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**The Witch’s Boy**
by Kelly Barnhill

“The Witch’s Boy is a story of magic, power, greed, death, war, and personal disabilities, but ultimately it is a tale about the gift of friendship and how that gift can conquer all. This book has it all: a boy with a curse, a girl who is a child of a bandit king, an enchanted forest, stones with great power, two feuding kingdoms, and, finally, peace and forgiveness. This is a true joy and one of the most powerful books I have read this year.”

—Arantzazu Galdos, The Bookloft, Great Barrington, MA

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Little Elliot, Big City
by Mike Curato

“Elliot is a very small elephant in a very large city. Sometimes poor Elliot feels lost in the hustle and bustle around him, until one day he finds an unexpected friend—a friend who is even smaller than Elliot. Curato’s simple story is full of heart, and his 1940s-style illustrations perfectly capture the gentle tone of this book. Cupcakes!”
—Megan Graves, Hooray for Books!, Alexandria, VA

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El Deafo
by Cece Bell

“No what would cause the most popular girl in school to try to commit suicide? This book follows the life of Liz Emerson and the events that lead to her decision. The story is told through Liz’s imaginary friend, who can see Liz slipping into an unhealthy path. Liz feels guilty for bullying some of the other kids in school and for using peer pressure to convince her friends to do things they shouldn’t do. Zhang is a new voice in young adult fiction and I can’t wait to read more by her.”
—Anna Brindley, Blue Phoenix Books, Alpena, MI

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Uni the Unicorn
by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, Brigette Barrager (Illus.)

“With golden hooves, sparkling purple eyes, a shiny mane, and a swirly horn, Uni is just like all the other unicorns except for one thing—Uni is absolutely certain that little girls exist. From the author of Duck! Rabbit! comes this charming tale filled with flowers, rainbows, and everything that is fitting for the story of a unicorn. This adorable twist on the usual unicorn story will have you wishing for your own one-horned friend.”
—Hannah Moushabeck, Odyssey Bookshop, South Hadley, MA

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Skink
No Surrender, by Carl Hiaasen
“Adult fans of Hiaasen know Skink’s colorful past. Here Hiaasen does a masterful job of making his most iconic character accessible to younger audiences. Fiercely independent Skink joins with a teenage acquaintance to rescue an abducted girl in trouble way over her head. No one metes out justice quite like Skink. It’s great to see ‘The Governor’ back in action!”
—Rosemary Pugliese, Quail Ridge Books & Music, Raleigh, NC

The Fourteenth Goldfish
by Jennifer L. Holm
“Eleven-year-old Ellie struggles with starting middle school and finding her way without her best friend, but then Melvin comes into her life. Melvin is actually her grandfather living in the body of a 14-year-old, pimply teen. He ignites Ellie’s love of science as they work together on Melvin’s ‘Fountain of Youth’ experiment. The Fourteenth Goldfish is a perfect read for budding young scientists.”
—Sam Droke-Dickinson, Aaron’s Books, Lititz, PA

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