The lightning thief
by Rick Riordan
After learning that the father he never knew is Poseidon, God of the Sea, Percy Jackson is sent to Camp Half-Blood, a summer camp for demigods, and becomes involved in a quest to prevent a catastrophic war between the gods.

Sanity & Tallulah
by Molly Brooks
When Sanity’s illegally created three-headed kitten escapes, she and her best friend Tallulah turn their space station upside down to find her.

The false prince
by Jennifer A. Nielsen
In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king’s long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war.

Maximum Ride: the angel experiment
by James Patterson
After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the “bird kids,” who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose.

The School for Good and Evil
by Soman Chainani
Best friends Sophie (princess wannabe) and Agatha (witchy loner) are headed (via kidnapping) to the School for Good and Evil, but their assumed destinies are reversed: Sophie’s dumped into the School for Evil for Uglification and Henchmen Training, while Agatha attends Princess Etiquette at the School for Good.

Lafayette!: a Revolutionary War tale
by Nathan Hale
Designed for particular appeal to young Hamilton fans, a lively introduction to the French nobleman who helped save the American Revolution traces his rise from an orphan to a major contributor to history.
Reluctant Reader Quick Picks
Grade 6: Friends & Family

The witch boy
by Molly Ostertag
When a boy goes missing during a night of shape-shifting, thirteen-year-old Astor risks going against family tradition by using his magic to help locate him.

Al Capone does my shirts
by Gennifer Choldenko
A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Listen, slowly
by Thanhha Lai
Assisting her grandmother's investigation of her grandfather's fate during the Vietnam War, Mai struggles to adapt to an unfamiliar culture while redefining her sense of family.

Hello universe
by Erin Entrada Kelly
Lives of four misfits are intertwined when a bully's prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen band together in an epic quest to find and rescue him.

One for the Murphys
by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
An award-winning first novel follows the experiences of foster kid Carley, who uses humor and street smarts to cope with her unpredictable life until the loving, bustling Murphy family offers her more stability and a greater sense of belonging than she ever thought possible.

Booked
by Kwame Alexander
Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

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Reluctant Reader Quick Picks
Grade 6: Funny Stories

Hoot
by Carl Hiaasen
Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy’s attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

El Deafo
by Cece Bell
The author recounts in graphic novel format her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including using a bulky hearing aid, learning how to lip read, and determining her “superpower.”

Field tripped
by Allan Woodrow
The fifth graders of Liberty Falls Elementary have a reputation for trouble, but they still have a field trip to the mansion of Edward Minks (local inventor, founder of the town, and great-great-great grandfather of fifth-grader Eddie). While there, they search for secret inventions that are rumored to be hidden in the mansion—but they find that they are not the only ones searching, and somehow this class of trouble-makers must work together to thwart the thieves.

Funny girl : funniest. stories. ever.
by Betsy Bird
Presents a collection of humorous stories from over two dozen contemporary female writers, as well as autobiographical essays, comics, poems, and comic strips.

My big fat zombie goldfish
by Mo O’Hara
A first entry in this laugh-out-loud series finds Tom’s goldfish horrifically transformed after his evil scientist big brother’s experiment goes wrong, an accident that imbues the goldfish with hypnotic powers and a thirst for revenge.

Nothing but trouble
by Jacqueline Davies
Two smart girls in one small town use their combined genius to liven up their world—one prank at a time.

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Amazon adventure: How Tiny Fish are Saving the World's Largest Rainforest by Sy Montgomery
Explains how tiny fish called piaba are harvested from the Amazon basin to support sustainable practices in the region, and how they can help preserve not only the rainforest but the fate of the entire environment.

Breakaway: Beyond the Goal by Alex Morgan
The Olympic gold medal-winning soccer player details her path to success, from her childhood in California to her time on the United States' National team.

Treasury of Norse Mythology: Stories of Intrigue, Trickery, Love, and Revenge by Donna Jo Napoli
A lavishly illustrated anthology of Norse myths includes the classic stories of the thunder god Thor, the one-eyed Allfather Odin and trickster Loki.

How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous by Georgia Bragg
A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and the circumstances surrounding those deaths.

No Summit Out of Sight: The True Story of The Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits by Jordan Romero
A record-setting teen mountaineer recounts the story of how he successfully climbed Mount Everest at the age of 13 and completed all seven summits two years later, describing the inspiration, training and challenging work that enabled his achievements.

Human Body Theater by Maris Wicks
A humorous and informative skeleton introduces each system of the human body, gaining a layer of her “costume” by the end of each act, becoming a fully formed human by the end of the play.

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