



Scared Witless: Scary Stories for Older Kids

Updated: Kara Pearson 08/09

Scared Witless: Scary Stories for Older Kids

Scary stories appropriate for older children

Non-Fiction Titles



Place hold

Ask the Bones: Scary Stories From Around the World

By Arielle North Olson and Howard Schwartz

Call #: J 398.25 Ask

A collection of scary folktales from countries around the world including China, Russia, Spain, and the United States.



Place hold

Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your Bones

By Alvin Schwartz

Call #: J398.25 Sch

More traditional and modern-day stories of ghosts, haunts, superstitions, monsters, and horrible scary things.

Fiction Titles



Place hold

The Haunting of Derek Stone: City of the Dead

By Tony Abbott

Call #: JF Abbott

Derek Stone just turned fourteen. He's lived in New Orleans with his dad and older brother, Ronny, his whole life. He's a little overweight and can't hear well out of his left ear. And he's on the run from the dead.



Place hold

Golden & Grey: An Unremarkable Boy and a Remarkable Ghost

By Louise Arnold

Call #: JF Arnold

When a downhearted ghost becomes the "invisible friend" of an 11-year-old boy who is an outcast in his new school, the two help each other find a place in their respective worlds.





Place hold

Wolf Rider

By Avi

Call #: YF Avi

After receiving an apparent crank call from a man claiming to have committed murder, 15-year-old Andy finds his close relationship with his father crumbling as he struggles to make everyone believe him.



Place hold

The Secret of the Painted House

By Marion Dane Bauer

Call #: JF Bauer

When her family moves from Chicago to the country, 9-year-old Emily is drawn to a mysterious playhouse she finds in the woods and soon meets its sad, lonely inhabitant.



Place hold

The Figure in the Shadows

By John Bellairs

Call #: JF Bellairs

A painfully overweight 6th grade boy receives a magic amulet which brings him luck, but also terrifying side effects.



Place hold

Skeleton Man

By Joseph Bruchac

Call #: JF Bruchac

After her parents disappear and she is turned over to the care of a strange "great-uncle," Molly must rely on her dreams about an old Mohawk story for her safety and maybe even for her life.



Place hold

The Dreadful Revenge of Ernest Gallen

By James Lincoln Collier

Call #: JF Collier

When Eugene starts hearing a voice inside his head telling him to do awful things, it leads him to look into his small town's past, and to discover long-hidden secrets about his neighbors and his town.



Place hold

The Boggart

By Susan Cooper

Call #: JF Cooper

After visiting the castle in Scotland which her family has inherited and returning home to Canada, 12-year-old Emily finds that she has accidentally brought back with her a boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes.



Place hold

The Witches

By Roald Dahl

Call #: JF Dahl

A young boy and his Norwegian grandmother, who is an expert on witches, together foil a witches' plot to destroy the world's children by turning them into mice.





Place hold

Ghosthunters and the Incredibly Revolting Ghost

By Cornelia Funke

Call #: JF Funke

A timid boy named Tom reluctantly agrees to help professional ghostbuster Hetty Hyssop dispel an IRG (Incredibly Revolting Ghost) from an old house.



Place hold

The Graveyard Book

By Neil Gaiman

Call #: Award Books Area JF Gaiman

Nobody Owens is a normal boy, except that he has been raised by ghosts and other denizens of the graveyard.



Place hold

All the Lovely Bad Ones: A Ghost Story

By Mary Downing Hahn

Call #: JF Hahn

While spending the summer at their grandmother's Vermont inn, two prankster siblings awaken young ghosts from the inn's distant past who refuse to "rest in peace."



Place hold

Groosham Grange

By Anthony Horowitz

Call #: JF Horowitz

After being expelled from school, 13-year-old David Eliot is sent to Groosham Grange, a spooky and sinister boarding school where nothing seems quite right.



Place hold

The Skull Talks Back and Other Haunting Tales

By Zora Neale Hurston

Call #: JF Hurston

Big, bad Sixteen -- Bill, the talking mule -- Skull talks back -- Witch who could slip off her skin -- High Walker -- Haunted house.



Place hold

Voices

By Shaun Hutson

Call #: JF Hutson (JF Series Area)

Kate hears voices, voices that reveal a horrifying future. Justin's shoes have a life of their own when they start chasing him. Welcome to The Midnight Library.



Place hold

Dial-a-Ghost

By Eva Ibbotson

Call #: JF Ibbotson

A family of nice ghosts protects a British orphan from the diabolical plans of his evil guardians.





Place hold

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

By Washington Irving

Call #: JF Irving

A superstitious schoolmaster, in love with a wealthy farmer's daughter, has a terrifying encounter with a headless horseman.



Place hold

The Ghost's Grave

By Peg Kehret

Call #: JF Kehret

Apprehensive about spending the summer in Washington State with his Aunt Ethel when his parents get an overseas job, 12-year-old Josh soon finds adventure when he meets the ghost of a coal miner.



Place hold

School Spirit

By Elizabeth Cody Kimmel

Call #: JF Kimmel

Like her mother, a professional medium, Kat has been able to see dead people since turning thirteen, and although they would prefer to be normal, Kat and her best friend come to terms with their own talents while helping free a spirit.



Place hold

Nightmare Academy

By Dean Lorey

Call #: JF Lorey

Rescued from a very sheltered life, 13-year-old Charlie learns that the monsters of his nightmares are real when he becomes a student at Nightmare Academy.



Place hold

The Ghost Belonged to Me

By Richard Peck

Call #: JF Peck

In 1913 in the Midwest a quartet of characters share adventures from exploding steamboats to "exorcizing" a ghost.



Place hold

Mystery at Blackbeard's Cove

By Audrey Penn

Call #: JF Penn

This book has everything: secret tunnels, skeletons, hidden treasure, a very mysterious inheritance, a hurricane, pirates, and of course lots of mystery and adventure.



Place hold

Edgar Allan Poe's Tales of Mystery and Madness

By Edgar Allan Poe

Call #: YF Poe

The Masque of the Red Death -- Hop Frog -- The Black Cat -- The Fall of the House of Usher.





Place hold

Sweet Miss Honeywell's Revenge: A Ghost Story

By Kathryn Reiss

Call #: JF Reiss

Just before her mother is to remarry and her stepfamily is set to move in, 12-year-old Zibby gradually realizes that her antique dollhouse is haunted by ghosts.



Place hold

Scared Stiff

By Willo Davis Roberts

Call #: JF Roberts

When their mother disappears, two brothers go to stay with a great uncle in a mobile home park next to an abandoned amusement park and begin a search which puts them in danger.



Place hold

Dare to Be Scared: Thirteen Stories to Chill and Thrill

By Robert D. San Souci

Call #: JF San Souci

Like to get spooked? Then these tales are for you. Even the most ordinary objects can scare your pants off.



Place hold

Darkness Creeping: Twenty Twisted Tales

By Neal Shusterman

Call #: JF Shusterman

Imagine being trapped forever in someone else's nightmare, or caught on one of the most terrifying roller coasters of all time. Enter the world of Darkness Creeping.



Place hold

Monsterology: Fabulous Lives of the Creepy, Revolting, and the Undead

By Arthur Slade

Call #: JF Slade

Get the scoop on many infamous monsters.



Place hold

The Scary States of America

By Michael Teitelbaum

Call #: JF Teitelbaum

12-year-old Jason Specter, self-proclaimed "clearing house for the weird," presents his favorite stories of the paranormal—one from each state of the Union.



Place hold

Stolen

By Vivian Vande Velde

Call #: JF Vande Velde

A girl finds herself running through the forest at the edge of a village with no memory of anything, even her own name, and later learns that she might be 12-year-old Isabelle, believed to be stolen by a witch six years before.





Place hold

Trapped in Death Cave

By Bill Wallace

Call #: JF Wallace

A posthumous letter referring to buried treasure convinces Gary that his grandfather did not die a natural death and, with his friend Brian, he sets out to find both the treasure and his grandfather's killer.



Place hold

A Ghost in the House

By Betty Ren Wright

Call #: JF Wright

Strange things happen when 12-year-old Sarah is alone in the house with Great Aunt Margaret, who appears to be the victim of a ghost seeking revenge for a death in the past.



Place hold

Beware: R.L. Stine Picks His Favorite Scary Stories

By R.L. Stine

Call #: JSC Beware

A selection of unsettling stories by such authors as Ray Bradbury, William Sleator, Edward Gorey, Roald Dahl, Jane Yolen, and Mr. Stine himself.