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The Firework Maker's Daughter

Outrageously zany and filled with non-stop surprises, Simon Reade's theatrical adaptation of *The Scarecrow and His Servant*, renowned author Philip Pullman's fictional children's tale, is an enchanting play for young readers and performers.

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Delve into the magical world of Scarecrow as you accompany him as Jack, his trusty help-mate, and together you can embark on adventures that will make your head spin. From dodging dangerous bandits and surviving terrifying shipwrecks, to soaring through the skies with wild birds, this play is a roller-coaster ride of never-ending escapades. But when the river-polluting Buffaloni tyrants catch up with you for a final showdown, who will come to your rescue and save the day? A production of *The Scarecrow and His Servant* ran at the Southwark Playhouse in December 2008-January 2009.

Rats

Four Tales brings together *Clockwork*, *The Firework-Maker's Daughter*, *I was a Rat!*, and *The Scarecrow and His Servant*. Four stories and a new prologue and epilogue from the uniquely talented Philip Pullman. Drawing on the rich tradition of fairytales, the collection will amuse, engage, and delight readers.

The Rat on Fire

A chance meeting with Jenny at an Oxford party leaves seventeen-year-old Chris with hope for a summer romance—and no premonition of trouble. Busy with his job and soon in love with Jenny, whose cheerful surface belies the dark uncertainty of

her past, Chris misses all the signs of danger. Before he knows it, he's caught in the sinister web of a criminal whose desire for revenge crushes all those who stand in his way. "The story line will hook readers and hold them . . . a pageturner that raises some unsettling questions about trust and betrayal and the nature of good and evil."—School Library Journal "An engrossing, tragic story with rare depth of feeling. . . . Readers won't be able to turn the pages fast enough."—Kirkus Reviews "Fans of Robert Cormier should appreciate this tense thriller."—The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

Boy Versus Rat Dog: The Lost World Circus Book 4

A riveting, blistering novel about the shady side of the law and the business side of the Boston underworld by the one and only George V. Higgins. Jerry Fein is a small-time lawyer, occasional booking agent, and full-time slumlord. But he's nobody's fool. So when the tenants of his dilapidated buildings refuse to pay rent because of rats, Jerry knows just the man to help him—Leo Proctor, a professional arsonist, who can make a fire marshal look the other way for a little cash. But the heat is on over at the police station as well, and a couple of cops are suddenly feeling pressure from their superiors to produce tangible results, and something has got to give. Full of showboating politicians, hardnosed cops, and lawyers a little too familiar with both sides of the law, *The Rat on Fire* is another Higgins masterpiece and an unflinching portrait of the Boston crime world.

The Year of The Rat

The first book in Philip Pullman's classic SALLY LOCKHART quartet in a beautiful new edition. Soon after Sally Lockhart's father drowns at sea, she receives an anonymous letter. The dire warning it contains makes a man die of fear at her feet. Determined to discover the truth about her father's death, Sally is plunged into a terrifying mystery in the dark heart of Victorian London, at the centre of which lies a deadly blood-soaked jewel. Philip Pullman's ever-popular, action-packed Victorian melodramas are rejacketed for the bicentenary of Charles Dickens in 2012.

I was a Rat!, Or, The Scarlet Slippers

“I Was a Rat!” So insists a scruffy boy named Roger. Maybe it’s true. But what is he now? A terrifying monster running wild in the sewers? The Daily Scourge is sure of it. A victim of “Rodent Delusion”? The hospital nurse says yes. A lucrative fairground freak? He is to Mr. Tapscrew. A champion wriggler and a budding thief? That’s what Billy thinks. Or just an ordinary small boy, though a little ratty in his habits? Only three people believe this version of the story. And it may take a royal intervention—and a bit of magic—to convince the rest of the world. Set against the backdrop of a Royal Wedding—and a playful parody of the press, *I Was a Rat!* is a magical weaving of humor, fairy tale, and adventure.

Four Tales

Lyra and Pantalaimon (now a pine-marten) are back at Oxford, but their peace is shattered by Ragi, the daemon of the witch Yelena, who is searching for a healing elixir to cure his witch.

Sherlock Holmes and the Limehouse Horror

Can you hear the distant howling of hounds and the thunder of ghostly hooves? It's All Souls' Eve and Zamiel the Demon Huntsman has come to claim his prey! He's headed straight for Castle Karlstein, where the evil count has hatched an evil plan; he'll sacrifice his two young nieces to save himself. Can Lucy and Charlotte outwit their uncle and his oily henchmen to escape their dreadful fate? From the award-winning author of *The Golden Compass* and *The Subtle Knife* comes a spooky, funny thriller just right for those middle-grade readers looking for horror--and humor.

The Wonderful Story of Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp

The final book in Philip Pullman's classic SALLY LOCKHART quartet in a beautiful new edition. Jim Taylor, Sally Lockhart's oldest friend, is engaged as bodyguard to

a princess. But Crown Princess Adelaide of Razkavia is not what you'd expect. She's the slum-girl Jim has been searching for ever since she vanished ten years ago. Now her life is in mortal danger, and together they must battle against unknown enemies in a country where no one can be trusted.

The Adventures of John Blake: Mystery of the Ghost Ship

A clever cat wins his master a fortune and the hand of a princess.

Serena and the Sea Serpent

“Fire Season both evokes and honors the great hermit celebrants of nature, from Dillard to Kerouac to Thoreau—and I loved it.” —J.R. Moehring, author of *The Tender Bar* “[Connors’s] adventures in radical solitude make for profoundly absorbing, restorative reading.” —Walter Kirn, author of *Up in the Air* Phillip Connors is a major new voice in American nonfiction, and his remarkable debut, *Fire Season*, is destined to become a modern classic. An absorbing chronicle of the days and nights of one of the last fire lookouts in the American West, *Fire Season* is a marvel of a book, as rugged and soulful as Matthew Crawford’s bestselling *Shop Class as Soulcraft*, and it immediately places Connors in the august company of Edward Abbey, Annie Dillard, Aldo Leopold, Barry Lopez, and others in the

respected fraternity of hard-boiled nature writers.

The Scarecrow and His Servant

Enter the enchanting world of mythical creatures and explore the history behind them in this beautifully illustrated compendium for kids aged 7 to 9. You'll meet an incredible cast of mind-boggling fictional animals from all around the world. Say hello to Bigfoot in the forests of North America and learn about the Native American traditions that inspired its story. Voyage to Japan to meet kitsune, supernatural nine-tailed foxes that can turn into humans. And jump onboard an ancient storm-battered ship to learn why mermaids were the last thing a sailor wanted to see. Learn about the societies that spawned these legendary creatures, from Ancient Greece to the indigenous tribes of Australia, and find out what the beasts tell us about the people who created them. From narwhal tusks inspiring the legend of unicorns, to dinosaur bones creating rumours of dragons, there is an interesting story behind every magical beast. *Mythical Beasts and Magical Creatures* tells you everything you need to know about supernatural animals great and small. Perfect for fans of Harry Potter and other fantasy tales, this is the only kids' e-guide to magical creatures that tells you the history behind the mythology.

Grimms' Tales for Young and Old

From the internationally best-selling author of the His Dark Materials trilogy, a spellbinding journey into the secrets of his art--the narratives that have shaped his vision, his experience of writing, and the keys to mastering the art of storytelling. One of the most highly acclaimed and best-selling authors of our time now gives us a book that charts the history of his own enchantment with story--from his own books to those of Blake, Milton, Dickens, and the Brothers Grimm, among others--and delves into the role of story in education, religion, and science. At once personal and wide-ranging, *Daemon Voices* is both a revelation of the writing mind and the methods of a great contemporary master, and a fascinating exploration of storytelling itself.

Tin Princess

An electrifying new series from Justin D'ath, author of the bestselling extreme adventures. Colt Lawless is on the run, suddenly famous, and more than a little superhuman. But can he save the last animals on earth? Colt doesn't know his own strength. When a showdown with a \$100,000 Rat Dog has tragic consequences, his arch enemy, Officer Katt, seeks revenge. She steals the thing that matters most to Colt, right when his superpowers seem to have disappeared. But superpowers or not, Birdy and Colt are on the case, and the secrets they uncover could change Colt's life forever . . .

Fire Season

Spring-Heeled Jack: The name evoked awe from both criminals and upstanding citizens alike. Some thought he was the devil, but he was actually the original superhero—leaping over the buildings of Victorian England with the help of springs in the heels of his shoes. The story begins as three young innocents escape their orphanage one dark and stormy night. As they make their way through the treacherous streets of London danger lurks, for hiding in the shadows is Mack the Knife, the most villainous of villains. Enter Spring-Heeled Jack, the springiest of heroes. But will Jack's powers be enough to save the orphans? Originally published in paperback, Spring-Heeled Jack is back—now as a hardcover with eye-catching new jacket art.

The Golden Compass

A modern look at the Cinderella story from the point of view of the rat who was turned into a page boy.

The Year of the Rat

Sixteen-year-old Ginny's life is secure. Her mother is dead, but she's inherited her

outstanding artistic talent, and she loves her life with her father in a seaside village in Wales. But the day a social worker arrives and old files are re-opened, Ginny's world cracks apart. Everything her father has told her about her family is a lie. And Ginny must uncover the hidden secrets of the past on a journey that will ultimately lead her to the mother she's never known . . .

Corn & Rat Snakes

In a play that both dramatizes and makes fun of the Sherlock Holmes stories, the great detective and Dr. Watson investigate a report of the Giant Rat of Sumatra and match wits with Professor Moriarty.

The Book of Mythical Beasts and Magical Creatures

Twenty-year-old college undergraduate Lyra is once again thrown together with Malcom Polstead, now a professor, after Lyra and her daemon, Pantalaimon, receive secrets from a dying man about a daemon-haunted city and the origins of Dust.

Puss in Boots

A retelling of the tale of the poor tailor's son, his widowed mother, the lamp, and the genie. Suggested level: intermediate, junior secondary.

Peppa Pig: Peppa's Magical Unicorn

Soldier Bear

For readers of all ages, two hundred and ten tales of the Brothers Grimm, including "Cinderella," "Sleeping Beauty," "Snow White," and "Hansel and Gretel," translated by Ralph Manheim, the highly acclaimed and prize-winning translator. Manheim has rediscovered in the original German Grimms' editions of the tales the unadorned, direct rhythm of the oral form in which they were first recorded. He has retained their ageless magic and mythology and restored the extraordinary vitality and wit, the acute perceptions of human strength and facility mirrored in the facets of these small gems. "The best modern translation of the complete Brothers Grimm."--Choice

Funny Stories for 6 Year Olds

Lila dreams to become a firework-maker, just like her father. In order to become a

true firework-maker, she sets off alone on a perilous journey to reach the terrifying Fire-Fiend. She travels through jungles alive with crocodiles, snakes, monkeys and pirates, and climbs up the scolding volcano. On finding the Fire-Fiend, she realises more is at stake than she ever imagined. Will Lila survive? Lila's is the kind of magical adventure that all children dream of and the gripping story of the fleet-footed heroine will live long in the memory of anyone who enters her world.

Ruby in the Smoke

An orphaned Syrian brown bear cub is adopted by Polish soldiers during World War II and serves for five years as their mischievous mascot in Iran and Italy. Based on a true story.

Clockwork

WINNER- Sainsbury's Children's Book Awards- Favourite Characters! Do you love unicorns? So do Peppa Pig and Suzy Sheep! When Suzy comes over to Peppa's to play, they have a lot of fun with Peppa's new toy horse, Horsey Twinkle Toes. But what they really want to play with is a wonderful, magical, colourful UNICORN! Can Daddy Pig make their dreams come true? Peppa's Magical Unicorn is a lovely picture book, that all unicorn fans will adore. And with a very sparkly front cover,

it's the perfect gift for every little reader.

The Amber Spyglass

Ralph the rat learns what his best qualities really are when his friend Bing needs help after a big bunch of balloons carries him away. Lists the birth years and characteristics of individuals born in the Chinese Year of the Rat.

The Subtle Knife

This bright and varied selection of wonderfully entertaining stories by some of the very best writers for children is perfect for reading alone or aloud and for dipping into time and time again. With stories from Margaret Mahy, David Henry Wilson, Francesca Simon, Tony Bradman and many more, this book will provide hours of fantastic fun."

Count Karlstein

The evil fairy Pernicia has set a curse on Princess Briar-Rose: she is fated to prick her finger on the spindle of a spinning wheel and fall into an endless, poisoned sleep. Katriona, a young fairy, kidnaps the princess in order to save her; she and

her aunt raise the child in their small village, where no one knows her true identity. But Pernicia is looking for her, intent on revenge for a defeat four hundred years old. Robin McKinley's masterful version of Sleeping Beauty is, like all of her work, a remarkable literary feat.

Spring-Heeled Jack

Long ago in Germany, a storyteller's story and an apprentice clockwork-maker's nightmare meet in a menacing, lifelike figure created by the strange Dr. Kalmenius.

The White Mercedes

Lyra and Will find themselves at the center of a battle between the forces of the Authority and those gathered by Lyra's father, Lord Asriel.

Daemon Voices

"What is he? A friend, or an enemy?" "He is a murderer." Will has just killed a man. He's on the run. His escape will take him far beyond his own world, to the eerie disquiet of a deserted city, and to a girl, Lyra. Her fate is strangely linked to his

own, and together they must find the most powerful weapon in all the worlds The second volume in Philip Pullman's incredible HIS DARK MATERIALS trilogy. First published in 1995, and acclaimed as a modern masterpiece, it won the UK's top awards for children's literature.

The Secret Commonwealth

New York Public Library Book for the Teenager New York Public Library Book to Remember PSLA Young Adult Top 40 Nonfiction Titles of the Year "Engaging and lively, informative compendium of facts, theories, and musings."-Michiko Kakutani, New York Times Behold the rat, dirty and disgusting! Robert Sullivan turns the lowly rat into the star of this most perversely intriguing, remarkable, and unexpectedly elegant New York Times bestseller. Love them or loathe them, rats are here to stay-they are city dwellers as much as (or more than) we are, surviving on the effluvia of our society. In Rats, the critically acclaimed bestseller, Robert Sullivan spends a year investigating a rat-infested alley just a few blocks away from Wall Street. Sullivan gets to know not just the beast but its friends and foes: the exterminators, the sanitation workers, the agitators and activists who have played their part in the centuries-old war between human city dweller and wild city rat. Sullivan looks deep into the largely unrecorded history of the city and its masses-its herds-of-rats-like mob. Funny, wise, sometimes disgusting but always compulsively readable, Rats earns its unlikely place alongside the great classics of

nature writing. With an all-new Afterword by the author

Lyra's Oxford

Trapped in the mists of time by a terrible research experiment gone wrong, John Blake and his mysterious ship are doomed to sail between the centuries, searching for a way home. In the ocean of the modern day, John rescues a shipwrecked young girl his own age, Serena, and promises to help. But returning Serena to her own time means traveling to the one place where the ship is in most danger of destruction. The all-powerful Dahlberg Corporation has an ambitious leader with plans far greater and more terrible than anyone has realized, and he is hot on their trail. For only John, Serena, and the crew know Dahlberg's true intentions, and only they have the power to stop him from bending the world to his will

Two Crafty Criminals!

Living among scholars in the hallowed halls of Jordan College, Lyra hears rumors of a magical dust that supposedly possesses powers that can unite whole universes, and begins a difficult and dangerous journey to find it. Reissue. Teacher's Guide available.

Spindle's End

I always thought you'd know, somehow, if something terrible was going to happen. I thought you'd sense it, like when the air goes damp and heavy before a storm and you know you'd better hide yourself away somewhere safe until it all blows over. But it turns out it's not like that at all. There's no scary music playing in the background like in films. No warning signs. Not even a lonely magpie. One for sorrow, Mum used to say. Quick, look for another. The world can tip at any moment ... a fact that fifteen-year-old Pearl is all too aware of when her mum dies after giving birth to her baby sister. Told across the year following her mother's death, Pearl's story is full of bittersweet humour and heartbreaking honesty about how you deal with grief that cuts you to the bone, as she tries not only to come to terms with losing her mum, but also the fact that her sister - The Rat - is a constant reminder of why her mum is no longer around... From the author of How Not to Disappear comes a stunning novel about love and loss, and how to carry on when your whole world is turned upside down. Praise for The Year of the Rat: 'Beautifully written with a dry sense of humour.' The Stylist 'I cried, I laughed, I cried some more... a moving must-read that'll stay with you long after the last page is turned.' Bliss 'The Year of the Rat is already a strong contender for best YA debut of 2014... I never wanted it to end.' Wondrous Reads 'This novel will stay with me for a very long time. A must-read.' The Mile Long Bookshelf 'An assured debutFurniss describes Pearl's journey with sensitivity and humour' The Bookseller - editors pick

section

The Tale of Despereaux

A thought-provoking retelling of the Gospel story from an atheist perspective. Upon its hardcover publication, renowned author Philip Pullman's *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ* provoked heated debates and stirred a frenzy of controversy throughout the clerical and literary worlds alike with its bold retelling of the life of Jesus Christ. In this remarkable piece of fiction, famously atheistic author Philip Pullman challenges the events of the Gospels and puts forward his own compelling and plausible version of the life of Jesus. Written with unstinting authority, *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ* is a pithy, erudite, subtle, and powerful book by a beloved author, a text to be read and reread, studied and unpacked, much like the Good Book itself. "The erudite fantasy author, Philip Pullman, makes explicit his complaint against Christian dogma with [this] challenging deconstruction of the Gospels." —Entertainment Weekly "Inspiring . . . Again and again, [Pullman] displays a marvelous sense of the elemental power of Jesus's instructions and parables." —The Washington Post

I Was a Rat!

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A brave mouse, a covetous rat, a wishful serving girl, and a princess named Pea come together in Kate DiCamillo's Newbery Medal-winning tale. Welcome to the story of Despereaux Tilling, a mouse who is in love with music, stories, and a princess named Pea. It is also the story of a rat called Roscuro, who lives in the darkness and covets a world filled with light. And it is the story of Miggery Sow, a slow-witted serving girl who harbors a simple, impossible wish. These three characters are about to embark on a journey that will lead them down into a horrible dungeon, up into a glittering castle, and, ultimately, into each other's lives. What happens then? As Kate DiCamillo would say: Reader, it is your destiny to find out. With black-and-white illustrations and a refreshed cover by Timothy Basil Ering.

The Broken Bridge

Eleven-year-old Benny Kaminsky leads a rag-tag gang of neighborhood children as they use improbable disguises and crazy ruses while investigating such crimes as counterfeiting and stolen silver in 1894 London.

The Ratline

This book includes a breeding chapter that details the various color varieties and

how to produce them. It also contains a section on finding and photographing snakes in nature. Every species and subspecies of North American rat snake is included. For both beginner and advanced hobbyists, each title in the Complete Herp Care series contains all-new, in-depth, current information on a wide variety of topics, including breeding, housing, nutrition, and health care. All authors are experienced writers and experts in their field. Every book is fully illustrated and contains multiple sidebars and tip boxes.

The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ

Novel in the Aussie Bites series for early primary school-age readers. A fierce sea serpent is scaring the people of Blubber Point and it's up to super-smart Serena Smith to scare him off. Illustrations throughout and large print.

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