

Fifty Favorite Children's Books

Several Rules: (1) I have listed these books in alphabetical order by the author's last name, rather than in order of preference—though I've marked each of my ten very favorites with an asterisk. (2) I have chosen no more than one book (or series) per author, and only books that have been published in editions expressly intended for children. (3) I have tried to be honest, which is why there are so many works of fantasy on this list, along with so many books I read when I myself was a child. —Kevin Brockmeier, July 6, 2010

1. *Fairy Tales* by Hans Christian Andersen
2. *Feed* by M. T. Anderson
3. *The Girl in the Castle Inside the Museum* by Kate Bernheimer
4. *The Folk Keeper* by Franny Billingsley (*)
5. *Superfudge* by Judy Blume
6. *The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily* by Dino Buzzati (*)
7. *Italian Folktales* by Italo Calvino
8. *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
9. *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass* by Lewis Carroll (*)
10. *Frindle* by Andrew Clements
11. *Matilda* by Roald Dahl (*)
12. *The Transmogrification of Roscoe Wizzle* by David Elliott
13. *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm* by Nancy Farmer
14. *Charlotte Sometimes* by Penelope Farmer
15. *The Reappearance of Sam Webber* by Jonathan Scott Fuqua (*)
16. *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman
17. *The Red Magician* by Lisa Goldstein
18. *The Swan Lake Trilogy* by Mark Helprin
19. *The Saggy Baggy Elephant* by Kathryn and Byron Jackson
20. *Moominland Midwinter* by Tove Jansson
21. *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster
22. *Collected Stories* by Richard Kennedy (*)
23. *King Matt the First* by Janusz Korczak
24. *Tender Morsels* by Margo Lanagan
25. *The Wrinkle in Time Quintet* by Madeleine L'Engle
26. *Pretty Monsters* by Kelly Link
27. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (*)
28. *The Stones Are Hatching* by Geraldine McCaughrean
29. *The World of Pooh* by A. A. Milne
30. *Travel Light* by Naomi Mitchison
31. *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson
32. *Alan Mendelsohn, the Boy from Mars* by Daniel Pinkwater (*)
33. *King Dork* by Frank Portman (*)
34. *The His Dark Materials Trilogy* by Philip Pullman (*)
35. *The True Meaning of Smekday* by Adam Rex
36. *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* by Salman Rushdie
37. *The Dreamer* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
38. *Holes* by Louis Sachar
39. *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
40. *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* by George Saunders
41. *Meanwhile* by Jason Shiga
42. *Bone* by Jeff Smith
43. *When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead
44. *The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trenton Lee Stewart
45. *The Bee-Man of Orn and Other Fanciful Tales* by Frank R. Stockton
46. *The Monster at the End of This Book* by Jon Stone
47. *Letters to Anyone and Everyone* by Toon Tellegen
48. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst
49. *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White
50. *Complete Fairy Tales* by Oscar Wilde