Fantasy is a type of story that is set in an imaginary world, often involving traditional myths and magical creatures, and sometimes ideas or events from the real world. Subgenres include epic fantasy, urban fantasy, historical fantasy, magical realism, sword and sorcery, fairy tales, paranormal romance, and superheroes. For more recommendations, ask a librarian or visit alamedafree.org.

**A Snake Falls to Earth**
by Darcie Little Badger

15-y.o. Nina and Oli come from different words--she is a Lipan Apache living in Texas and he is a cottonmouth from the Reflecting World--but their lives intersect when Oli journeys to Earth to find a cure for his ailing friend and they end up helping each other save their families.

YA FIC LITTLE BADGER

**Cemetery Boys**
by Aiden Thomas

Determined to prove himself a real brujo to the traditional Latinx family that does not accept his true gender, a trans boy summons the ghost of the resident bad boy, who refuses to return quietly to death.

YA FIC THOMAS

**Furyborn**
by Claire Legrand

Rielle may prove to be one of the Prophesized Queens, if she survives the trials, and a thousand years later bounty hunter Eliana helps a girl who could be the answer to the prophecy.

YA FIC LEGRAND

**Beasts Made of Night**
by Tochi Onyebuchi

After he eats the sin of a royal, Taj, a talented aki, or sin-eater who consumes the guilt of others, is drawn into a plot to destroy the city and must fight to save the princess he loves and his own life.

YA FIC ONYEBUCHI

**Wicked As You Wish**
by Rin Chupeco

Years after the evil Snow Queen desolated the magical kingdom of Avalon, Prince Alexei, his friend Tala, and a ragtag band, inspired by the appearance of the Firebird, try to reclaim their land.

YA FIC CHUPECO

**Strange the Dreamer**
by Laini Taylor

In the aftermath of a war between gods and men, a hero, a librarian, and a girl must battle the fantastical elements of a mysterious city stripped of its name.

YA TAYLOR

**Beasts Made of Night**
by Tochi Onyebuchi

After he eats the sin of a royal, Taj, a talented aki, or sin-eater who consumes the guilt of others, is drawn into a plot to destroy the city and must fight to save the princess he loves and his own life.

YA FIC ONYEBUCHI

**Squire**
by Sara Alfageeh

Hiding her status as a girl from conquered lands while training as a Squire on her quest to become a Knight, the only path to true citizenship, Aiza navigates friendships and rivalries until she discovers the military’s endgame.

YA GN SQUIRE

**Children of Blood and Bone**
by Tomi Adeyemi

Seventeen-year-old Zélie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi, but they are ruthlessly pursued by the crown prince, who believes the return of magic will mean the end of the monarchy.

YA FIC ADEYEMI

**Scythe**
by Neal Shusterman

In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be randomly killed (‘gleaned’) by professional reapers (‘scythes’). Two teens must compete with each other to become a scythe--a position neither of them wants. The one who becomes a scythe must kill the one who doesn’t.

YA S SHUSTERMAN
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**Echoes of Grace**  
by Guadalupe Garcia McCall  
On the Texas-Mexico border, eighteen-year-old Grace’s relationship with her older sister Mercy is fractured when Mercy's two-year-old son dies in an accident, bringing to the surface old family traumas and literal ghosts as the family struggles to heal. YA FIC MCCALL

**We Set the Dark on Fire**  
by Tehlor Kay Mejia  
A society wife-in-training has an uncomfortable awakening about her strictly polarized society after being recruited into a band of rebel spies and falling for her biggest rival. YA FIC MEJIA

**Divine Rivals**  
by Rebecca Ross  
When 18-year-old journalist Iris Winnow’s personal letters fall into the hands of her rival at the paper, she forges a magical connection that follows her into the battle for her family, the fate of humankind, and love. YA FIC ROSS

**Dread Nation**  
by Justina Ireland  
When families go missing in Baltimore County, Jane McKeene, who is studying to become an Attendant, finds herself in the middle of a conspiracy that has her fighting for her life against powerful enemies. YA FIC IRELAND

**The Buried and the Bound**  
by Rochelle Hassan  
Seventeen-year-old Aziza El-Amin, the only hedgewitch in Blackthorn, Massachusetts, teams up with a cursed boy looking for answers and a young necromancer in order to eradicate a new threat in the woods and take back her hometown. YA FIC HASSAN

**Girls of Paper and Fire**  
by Natasha Ngan  
Haunted by the mysterious arrest of her mother a decade earlier, a girl from the kingdom's most persecuted class is unexpectedly chosen to serve the king in the opulent but oppressive palace, before a forbidden romance enmeshes her in a plot that threatens her entire world. YA FIC NGAN

**Little Thieves**  
by Margaret Owen  
Posing as a royal to rob the nobles blind, seventeen-year-old Vanja Schmidt is thrilled by her luck until she crosses the wrong god and is cursed to turn into the jewels she covets unless she can pay back her debts—quickly. YA FIC OWEN

**Before We Disappear**  
by Shaun David Hutchinson  
In this queer ahistorical fantasy set during the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle, two ambitious magician assistants—and rivals—have a near-instant connection but are forced to choose between loyalty and love. YA FIC HUTCHINSON

**Witch Hat Atelier**  
by Kamome Shirahama  
In a world where everyone takes wonders like magic spells and dragons for granted, Coco is a girl with a simple dream: She wants to be a witch. Coco is about to give up on her dream to become a witch...until the day she meets Qifrey, a mysterious, traveling magician. YA GN WITCH V.1

**This Woven Kingdom**  
by Tahereh Mafi  
The long-lost heir to an ancient Jinn kingdom forced to hide in plain sight, servant girl Aliezh waits in the shadows to uproot the kingdom of the crown prince—and the world. YA FIC MAFI