

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

In 2006 Pat became more and more intrigued with the idea of writing stories for children. She went to school on the lessons learned by other such writers, and followed the universal dictum of all good writers: Read, read, and read good books in the genre you're writing in. So she's working her way through the Newberry honor books, children's bestsellers, books recommended by her own grandchildren, and (when she can find them) favorites from her own childhood. Here's what she's read so far. And enjoyed every one of them.

Abel's Island (William Steig, 1976)
Adventures of Dr. Dolittle, The (Hugh Lofting, 1922)
Borrowers, The (Mary Norton, 1952)
Bridge to Terabitha, The (Katherine Paterson, 1977)
Bud, Not Buddy (Christopher Paul Curtis, 1999)
Charlie Bone and the Castle of Mirrors (#4 in series, Jenny Nimmo, 2005)
Charlotte's Web (E. B. White, 1952)
Crash (Jerry Spinelli, 1996)
Cricket in Times Square, The (George Selden, 1960)
Down the Rabbit Hole (Peter Abrahams, 2005)
Egypt Game, The (Zilpha Keatley Snyder, 1967)
Five Go Adventuring Again (Enid Blyton, 1942)
Giver, The (Lois Lowry, 1993)
Great Gilly Hopkins, The (Katherine Patterson, 1978)
Hardy Boys: The Dangerous Transmission (#184 in series, Franklin Dixon, 2004)
Harriet the Spy (Louise Fitzhugh, 1964)
Hatchet (Gary Paulsen, 1988)
Holes (Louis Sachar, 1998)
Hoot (Carl Hiaasen, 2002)
Indian in the Cupboard, The (Lynne Reid Banks, 1980)
Loser (Jerry Spinelli, 2002)
Maniac Magee (Jerry Spinelli, 1990)
Nancy Drew: Without a Trace (Carolyn Keene, 2004 edition)
Number the Stars (Lois Lowry, 1989)
Rabbit Hill (Robert Lawson, 1944)
Ruby in the Smoke, The (Philip Pullman, 1988)
Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes (Chris Crutcher, 1993)

Stuart Little (E.B. White, 1974)

Swallows and Amazons (Arthur Ransome, 1085)

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (Judy Blume, 1972)

The Trumpet of the Swan (E. B. White, 1970)

Watership Down (Richard Adams, 1972)

Wrinkle in Time, A (Madeleine L'Engle, 1962)