

# Recent Titles for Boys

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List of guy titles: [www.talestoldtall.com](http://www.talestoldtall.com) (Link there to follow my reviews on Goodreads.com, Twitter)  
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## Emergent Readers:

**Artie Bennett, Pranas T. Naujokaitis (illus.), *Belches, Burps, and Farts-Oh My!* (Blue Apple Books, 2014)**  
What's better than a book about gas? One with unforgettable pictures and easy-to-remember rhymes! In typical Artie Bennett fashion, this book puts the logical in scatological, making sense of the things we all have in common without ever lessening the gut-busting humor. Watch out! If your kids laugh too hard they might slip up and learn something!

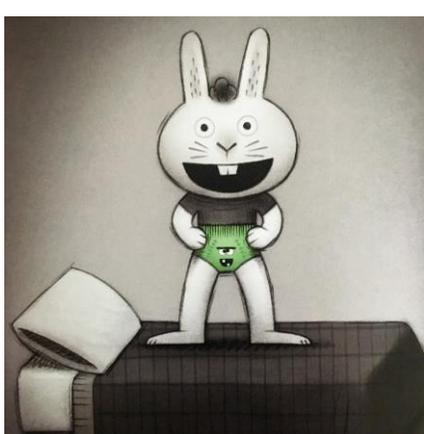
**Other books by this author: *The Butt Book* and *Poopendous*.**

**Derek Harvey. *Animal Antics*. (DK Children, 2104)**

Just cover the captions and show everyone the funny pictures and see who can come up with a better caption than the author!

**Steve Jenkins. *Eye to Eye: How Animals See The World*. (HMH Books for Young Readers, 2014)**

The endless variations on how animals see, and just enough general information to see how it all fits together.



For those kids who can name EVERY animal at the zoo, Jenkins consistently finds new and fascinating corners of the natural world.  
**Plus, well, ANYTHING by Steve Jenkins, especially *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest***

**Alex Latimer. *Never Follow a Dinosaur*. (Peachtree, 2016)**

What would you do if you saw footprints bigger than YOU? Yeah, well you aren't five years old!

**Aaron Reynolds, Peter Brown (illus.). *Creepy Paid of Underwear*. (Simon & Schuster, 2017)**

You can throw them away, but they KEEP. COMING. BACK!

## Middle Readers:

**Ann Bausum. *Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog*. (National Geographic Children's Books, 2014)**

A grizzled veteran in a uniform dripping with medals marches in a parade for a war long since ended. Kids who weren't even born when he fought, took a hunk of shrapnel in the chest, single-handedly captured an enemy soldier, and saved a comrade in the middle of a fierce battle strain to see. He marches in step with his unit, snaps his head around on the command "Eyes right", and stops and salutes the superior officer reviewing the parade. Then he drops back to all four feet, his tongue hangs out, and the most famous mutt to fight in World War I marches on.

... paired with ...

**Kate Klimo, illustrated by Tim Jessell. *Stubby*. [Dog Diaries, #7] (Random House, 2015)**

A bandy-legged mutt from Connecticut comes nose to nose with a sergeant in the US Army in World War I. He then proceeds to become a hero on the battlefields of France, saves wounded soldiers, and even catches a German spy. He is inducted into the army, wins medals, and meets presidents. Don't you just wish you knew what was going through his mind? Well now you can. Stubby, maybe the greatest real life dog hero ever, tells his own story.

**Mac Barnett, Jory John, illustrated by Kevin Cornell. *The Terrible Two*. (Amulet, 2015)**

"On my honor I will do my best: to be good at being bad; to disrupt, but not destroy; to embarrass the dour and amuse the merry; to prove the world looks better turned upside down; for I am a prankster."

**Guy Bass, illustrated by Pete Williamson. *Stitch Head*. (Capstone, 2013)**

One seriously goofy introduction to the Frankenstein legend.

**Terry Lynn Johnson. *Overboard!* [Survivor Diaries] (HMH Books, 2017)**

Future books in the series: *Avalanche!* And *Lost!*

**Timothy Roland. *Monkey Me and the Golden Monkey* [Monkey Me #1] (Scholastic, 2014)**

Joey Pigza meets Captain Underpants in this comic/graphic mash-up series where a boy's uncontrollable energy goes from his curse to his superpower. Release your inner monkey!

**Book 2: *Monkey Me and the Pet Show***

**Book 3: *Monkey Me and the New Neighbor***

**Book 4: *Monkey Me and the School Ghost***



**Mamoru Hosoda, Renji Asai (Visual Art). *The Boy & the Beast*. [Manga] (Yen Press, 2015- )**

A twist on the martial artist and his young disciple story. A boy gets lost in the streets of his home city, and emerges in a world where the animals are the masters and humans are pets. He must not only prove his worth as a real person, but prove to the fearful of masters that he is worthy of great trust, that indeed the master cannot achieve his dreams without his weak, little, hairless assistant.

#### **Teen Readers:**

**Taran Matharu. *The Novice* [Summoner #1] (Feiwel and Friends, 2015)**

An excellent start to a dark fantasy series. The human world are caught between competing wars with the orcs on one front and the elves on another, and must contend with the dwarves as a subjugated people within their empire. The battlemages are their greatest weapons, unleashing magic and demons on the enemy. But there are far too few; so few that commoners and other marginalized adepts are now being trained. But a nameless orphan from the very edges of the empire? Ultimately, what really matters is power, and power can come from all kinds of sources. For those who love Jonathan Stroud, wish John Flanagan had more of a supernatural edge, or have simply outgrown Harry Potter.

**Book #2: *The Inquisition* (2016)**

**Book #3: *The Battlemage* (2017)**

**Ruth Owen. *Exploring Distant Worlds as a Space Robot Engineer*. [Get to Work With Science and Technology] (Ruby Tuesday Books, 2016)**

With all our emphasis on teaching STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), it is easy to forget that kids will teach themselves by reading so much more than we can ever teach them, if only we have the books to point them to. Where high-tech meets high-interest, that is where future scientists and engineers are born. Space Robot Engineer brings you inside the most advanced labs on Earth, and to the most desolate landscapes on Mars, not to show you a glimpse of the future but to portray amazing work going on today. Want kids to join a robotics club? Try showing them what real robots can do.

**Other books in this series: *Asteroid Hunters*      *The Wild World of a Zoo Vet*  
*The Wonderful Worlds of a Video Game Designer***

**Jonathan Stroud. *The Screaming Staircase* (Lockwood & Co. #1)**

Jonathan Stroud, the creatively twisted mind behind the Bartimaeus Trilogy, brings another sure-fire, darkly gothic world to life in Lockwood & Co. When ghosts drifted out of the closet half a century ago, a whole new social order, economy, and profession for young adepts came to life... defending the world against the dead. Yet even with the crucial talent in the hands of teens and pre-teens, adults can't help manipulating them for their own ends. Enter Anthony Lockwood, a dashing, brash, and proud teen determined to fight "The Problem" on his own terms. With his two young associates, Lockwood & Co. take on the most haunted place in the world, and a living enemy that may be far more dangerous.

**Book #2: *The Whispering Skull***

**Book #3: *The Hollow Boy***

**Book #4: *The Creeping Shadow***

**Book #5: *The Empty Grave***

**Scott Westerfeld, Margo Lanagan, and Deborah Biancotti. *Zeroes*. [Zeroes, Book 1] (Simon Pulse, 2015)**

Not all powers are super. Not all consequences are intended. And when you are a teenager with abilities you don't understand and nobody else has, using that power is always dangerous. What do you do? Where do you turn? And is teaming up with a handful of other teens in the same boat a comfort, an alliance, or just a chance to multiply all that power, be it beneficial or destructive?

**Book Two: *Swarm* (2016)**

**Book Three: *Nexus* (2018)**