

# Best Friends

## **Amina's Voice**

Khan, Hena

**Find It: J KHA**

Amina, a Pakistani-American Muslim girl, struggles to stay true to her family's culture while dealing with the vandalism of the local Islamic Center and mosque and her best friend Soojin's new friendship with their former nemesis.

## **Baloney and Friends**

Pizzoli, Greg

**Find It: J GN BAL**

Meet Baloney! He's a pig. This book is about him. And also Peanut, his best friend. There's Bizz, too, of course. And Krabbit. He'd rather not be here, but what can you do?

## **The Best Friend Battle**

Eyre, Lindsay

**Find It: J EYR**

Sylvie Scruggs and Miranda Tan have been best friends their whole lives, but Georgie, a new boy in the neighborhood, could change that--and Sylvie will do just about anything to hold on to her friend.

## **Best Friend Next Door**

Mackler, Carolyn

**Find It: J MAC**

Meet Hannah. Her name is a palindrome. Her birthday is on New Year's. She wants a cat. She's medium height and a little awkward. Her life has NOT been fun lately. Her dad and stepmom are having a baby and, worst of all, her best friend next door just moved away. Now a new girl is here, taking over her best friend's bedroom, and her own identity. Meet Emme. Her name is a palindrome. Her birthday is on New Year's. She loves her cat. She's so short that last week she was mistaken for a kindergartener. She's found moving hard, but at least there's the girl next door, Hannah. Maybe they'll become friends?

## **Best Friends**

Hale, Shannon

**Find It: J GN FRI V.2**

Sixth grade is supposed to be perfect. Shannon has a sure spot in the in-crowd called The Group, and their leader is her best friend, Jen, the most popular girl in school. However, the rules constantly change and Shannon scrambles to keep up. She never knows which TV shows are cool, what songs to listen to, and who she's allowed to talk to. Who makes these rules? Does Shannon even have to follow them?

## **Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid: Rowley Jefferson's Journal**

Kinney, Jeff

**Find It: J SER DIA ROW**

In his first journal, middle schooler Rowley Jefferson, Greg Heffley's sidekick, records his experiences and misguided decision to write a biography of Greg, who he believes is destined to become rich and famous.

## **Friend or Fiction**

Cooper, Abby

**Find It: J COO**

Soon after her father is diagnosed with cancer, Jade invents an imaginary best friend in her notebook she can depend on: Zoe. When Zoe somehow magically shows up in real life, Jade wonders how genuine their friendship can possibly be if Jade's controlling Zoe through what she writes in her notebook.

**The Friendship Code**

Deutsch, Stacia

**Find It: J DEU**

Looking forward to joining the new coding club at school so that she can develop her app idea, Lucy is disappointed by the lukewarm reception she receives from the club's other members, who work with her to decipher mysterious coding notes.

**The Friendship Riddle**

Blakemore, Megan Frazer

**Find It: J BLA**

When her former best friend gets popular and leaves her behind, sixth-grader Ruth prefers to be alone, studying for the school spelling bee, until she finds a riddle in an old book.

**Making Friends**

Gudsnuik, Kristen

**Find It: J GN MAK**

When she and her friends are placed in different classes and begin exploring separate interests at the start of seventh grade, Danny inherits a magic sketchbook and uses it to create a perfect best friend, with unexpected results.

**The Missing Piece of Charlie O'Reilly**

Ansari, Rebecca K.S.

**Find It: J ANS**

When he keeps insisting that his little brother is missing even though no one else can remember that Liam ever existed, Charlie and his best friend Ana are determined to follow the instructions on a note that may help them find out what happened to Liam.

**Not If I Can Help It**

Mackler, Carolyn

**Find It: J MAC**

Willa lives on the upper West Side of Manhattan with her divorced father and her younger brother and attends fifth grade with her best friend, Ruby. She likes things to be a certain way because it makes life with her Sensory Processing Disorder manageable. Willa certainly doesn't like surprises, but her father's just thrown her a big one: he's been dating Ruby's mother. Suddenly, Willa's life seems to be spiraling out of her control; part of the trouble is that she can't explain why she thinks this is a horrible idea when everyone else thinks it's wonderful.

**Not Your All-American Girl**

Rosenberg, Madelyn

**Find It: J ROS**

Sixth-graders Lauren and Tara have always done everything together, so it's only natural they both try out for their middle school musical play about an "all-American" girl in 1958. Tara gets the lead role, as usual, because, in the teacher's mind, Lauren, who is half-Jewish and half-Chinese, doesn't fit the image of an all-American girl. Lauren is hurt but resolved to support her friend, but her two grandmothers are furious and they intend to do something about it.

**Our Friend Hedgehog: The Story of Us**

Castillo, Lauren

**Find It: J CAS**

When a storm separates Hedgehog from her lifelong friend, Mutt, she bravely sets out to find him and makes some very good new friends in the process.

**Open If You Dare**

Middleton, Dana

**Find It: J MID**

During their last summer before going to different middle schools, best friends Birdie, Ally, and Rose follow clues found in a mysterious box labeled Open If You Dare.

**Parker Bell and the Science of Friendship**

Platt, Cynthia

**Find It: J PLA**

Parker really wants to win the school Science Triathlon, but first she'll have to figure out how to keep her BFF from being stolen.

**Pottymouth and Stoopid**

Patterson, James

**Find It: J PAT**

Two bullied underdogs finally win the day when their troubles inspire a hit TV show.

**So Done**

Chase, Paula

**Find It: J CHA**

When best friends Metai and Jamila are reunited after a summer apart, their friendship threatens to combust from the pressure of secrets, middle school, and looming auditions for a potentially life-changing new talented-and-gifted program.

**The Someday Suitcase**

Haydu, Corey Ann

**Find It: J HAY**

Clover and Danny are the kind of best friends who make each other better: Clover makes lists, and Danny makes fun. Clover is thoughtful and quiet and loves science. Danny is chatty and funny and loves art. They're so important to each other that Clover believes they're symbiotic, which describes two beings who can't function without the other. When Danny comes down with a mysterious illness and the doctors can't figure out what's wrong, Clover takes matters into her own hands by making lists: Danny's symptoms, his good days, his bad days, and his moods. As the evidence piles up, it becomes clear: Danny is only better when Clover is around. When they're separated, he's in danger. Clover knows they need to find a cure together. Will science save Danny, or can magic overcome the unthinkable?

**The Song from Somewhere Else**

Harrold, A.F.

**Find It: J HAR**

Saved from bullies by the class misfit, Nick, Frank is drawn to Nick's house by strange music, discovers he has incredible secrets that bring danger, and decides to help him as he helped her.

**Stargazing**

Wang, Jen

**Find It: J GN STA**

Growing up in the same Chinese-American suburb, perfectionist Christine and artistic, confident Moon become unlikely best friends whose friendship is tested by jealousy, social expectations, and illness.

**Sunday Sundaes**

Simon, Coco

**Find It: J SER SPR #1**

Allie, Sierra, and Tamiko have been best friends since kindergarten. Now, Allie's parents are divorced and Allie has moved one town away. She can still see her friends but she no longer goes to the same middle school, which means new teachers, new classrooms, and new students to deal with, all without her BFFs for support. When Allie's mom decides to fulfill her lifelong dream and open up an ice cream shop, Allie has an idea. Maybe she and her friends can work in the shop every Sunday! It's a way for them to stay in touch every week and have fun, until they actually start working. The girls discover working in the shop is more than just scooping cones and adding toppings. It's serious work and Allie feels the pressure of having to "be the boss" around her friends. Can the girls work together every week and still remain BFFs?

**Super Narwhal and the Jelly Jolt**

Clanton, Ben

**Find It: J GN NAR V.2**

Collects three stories that describe the adventures of the waffle-loving narwhal and no-nonsense jellyfish, including one in which Super Narwhal brings out the superpower in a crab.

**Tenney in the Key of Friendship**

Hertz, Kellen

**Find It: J SER AME TEN #2**

Tenney's manager books her and new drummer Logan to play at Nashville's City Music Festival the same day as she's supposed to perform at her friend Jaya's charity fund-raiser, and Tenney must decide if friendship or her career is more important.

**The Thing About Jellyfish**

Benjamin, Ali

**Find It: J BEN**

Twelve-year-old Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.

**True to Your Selfie**

McCafferty, Megan

**Find It: J MCC**

Twelve-year-old Ella hasn't started seventh grade yet, but she's already drawn into the fire of social media because "popular" Morgan has designated her as a best friend and has ambitious plans to turn "Morgan and Ella" into an online sensation. The role of Morgan's best friend comes with sacrifices, such as dropping her own best friend Sophie and letting Morgan organize Ella's life around their "brand." Soon, Ella starts to wonder if popularity is worth it, and if she can be both Morgan's friend and still be true to herself...if she can only figure out who "herself" really is.

**When Friendship Followed Me Home**

Griffin, Paul

**Find It: J GRI**

Seventh-grader Ben, always an outsider, is led into a deep friendship with Halley, who is being treated for cancer, by the special dog he and his adoptive mother take in.