



Read-alikes compiled by Sioux City Public Library Staff

[Boy, Snow, Bird](#) by Helen Oyeyemi



A reimagining of the Snow White story recast as a story of family secrets, race, beauty, and vanity set in the United States during the 1950s and 1960s.

Works of magical realism:

[Daughter of Fortune](#) by Isabel Allende (Fic All). This tale begins in Valparaiso, Chile, with young Eliza Sommers, who was left as a baby on the doorstep of wealthy British importers. When she is 16, Eliza falls in love with a young man who leaves her pregnant as he heads to California to make his fortune in the gold rush. Eliza decides to follow her lover, and disguises herself as a boy so that she may travel freely and safely as she searches for him.

[The Silence of Bonaventure Arrow](#) by Rita Leganski (Fic Leg). Bonaventure Arrow doesn't speak, but he listens and hears things other people don't, including people's emotions and thoughts, sounds from colors and inanimate objects, and the dearly departed. Set in the 1950s in New Orleans, Bonaventure convinces his family to hire Trinidad Prefontaine as their cook, knowing that her mystical powers, which harmonize with his own, could be instrumental in freeing them from the weight of the past.

[Turtle Moon](#) by Alice Hoffman (Fic Hof). May in Verity, Florida is a month of madness and disorienting heat, and people are seized by bizarre, sometimes destructive, passions. This particular May, a woman is murdered, her baby is missing, and Lucy Rosen's son has vanished. With the assistance of Julian Cash, a reclusive Verity policeman, Lucy sets out to find out who committed the murder and what has become of the missing children.

[The Treasure Box](#) by Penelope Stokes (Fic Sto). Living a life of bitter isolation despite her career as a travel writer, Vita Kirk stumbles across an antique chest and discovers a puzzling link to her past that results in mysterious changes to her physical surroundings.

Contemporary fairy tale adaptations:

[Gretel and the Dark](#) by Eliza Granville (Fic Gra). Decades after a celebrated Viennese psychoanalyst begins working with a woman who claims to be a machine, a young girl retreats into fairy tales, unaware of the dangers in her Nazi-controlled German city.

[After Alice](#) by Gregory Maguire (New Fantasy Mag). When Alice first visited Wonderland over a century ago, Lewis Carroll introduced young readers to a world of imaginative characters and places such as had never been seen before. Now Maguire takes us on the journey again, this time in the company of Ada, who has fallen down the legendary rabbit hole after her friend.

[Briar Rose](#) by Jane Yolen (Fantasy Yol). As a child, Rebecca was enchanted by her grandmother Gemma's stories about Briar Rose, or Sleeping Beauty. Years later, the promise Rebecca makes to her dying grandmother will lead her on a remarkable journey to uncover the truth of Gemma's astonishing claim: I am Briar Rose. Rebecca's investigation takes her to her grandmother's native Poland, from which emerges a tale of Nazi brutality, gas chambers, courage, guilt, and love.

[Cinder](#) by Marissa Meyer (Teen Mey). Cinder, a gifted mechanic, is a cyborg. She's a second-class citizen with a mysterious past, hated by her stepmother and blamed for her stepsister's illness. But when her life becomes intertwined with the handsome Prince Kai's, she suddenly finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle, and a forbidden attraction. Caught between duty and freedom, loyalty and betrayal, she must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect her world's future.

Complex mother-daughter relationships:

[God Help the Child](#) by Toni Morrison (Fic Mor). Bride overcame a traumatic childhood, in which her mother shunned her due to her dark skin, to become a confident, successful adult. Yet, when a childhood lie told to gain her mother's love unexpectedly comes back to haunt her, Bride finds herself regressing to the troubled little girl she once was. As her life seems to fall apart, she discovers the childhood scars of others surfacing around her.

[Unless](#) by Carol Shields (Fic Shi). Reta's daughter suddenly drops out of college to live on the streets with a sign that says "GOODNESS" around her neck. While trying to understand her daughter's behavior, the formerly content writer and translator is forced to reevaluate her life as a mother, feminist, and writer.

[The Bonesetter's Daughter](#) by Amy Tan (Fic Tan). Ruth and her difficult Chinese-born mother Luling are forced together when Luling begins showing signs of Alzheimer's. After discovering her mother's handwritten life story, Ruth slowly uncovers the truth of her mother's past and identity. In the process, she comes to better understand her own life and her new role as a mother to her mother.

[Dreaming Water](#) by Gail Tsukiyama (Fic Tsu). Widowed Cate is caring for her adult daughter Hana, who lives in the declining body of an eighty-year-old woman due to the premature aging of Werner's syndrome. When Hana's childhood friend Laura and her two daughters suddenly come to visit, Hana and Cate find renewed hope and are able to provide a sense of family for Laura and her daughters in a time of need.

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