THIS LIST WILL BE PERIODICALLY UPDATED, as authors come out with new tales and/or as I discover others.

Most of the links lead to the Kindle versions of the books.

**Ratings:**

These are reading GUIDELINES. Reading ages and abilities vary widely, so please keep in mind that I don’t even pretend to know what you or your kids/siblings/whoever can handle. These ratings are determined based on general reading levels and general content tolerance levels.

The rating means a book has one or more of that kind of content, not necessarily all of them. Not every book rated PG-13 is going to have swearing, for example. Sometimes it’s rated that for violence.

PG-13 does not necessarily mean ‘clean’. That’s why I’ve added clean to the series that qualify.

**G**: as safe as a kids’ book or family documentary

**PG**: mild violence, mild clean/sweet romance handled lightly, and/or exciting adventures that aren’t too tense.

**PG-13**: some violence, mild physicality and sexuality, and/or mild swearing.

**PG-16**: high levels of violence, psychologically medium-dark scenes, and/or mid-level sexual content, adult concepts, and/or medium-level swear words and frequency.

**Mature**: intense violence, high level sexual content, intense ‘dark’ content, psychologically dark scenes or concepts, and/or lots of swearing.

**Clean**: little to no mild swearing, violence that isn’t graphic, kissing and sexual content handled the same way you’d find in a Hallmark movie.
Genre definitions:

**High fantasy:** takes place in a secondary world that has no knowledge of Earth, contains magic/fantasy races/fantasy creatures

**Contemporary fantasy:** takes place on Earth in our modern time with magic or fantasy races/creatures added, usually lighter in tone than urban fantasy

**Urban fantasy:** Earth, our modern time, includes magic, set in a city or contains a city as the primary setting, usually grittier than contemporary fantasy, often includes vampires and werewolves

**Steampunk (fantasy):** fantasy with technology equivalent to the Victorian era

**Gaslamp (fantasy):** historical eras with technology pre-Industrial Revolution but post-medi eval age (roughly equivalent to Regency-era technology)

**Allegory:** a moral, spiritual, or political story retold using symbolism

**Dystopian:** a story set in a world, Earth or other, in which everything is bad, frequently ruled by a tyrant or psychotic person.

Contact:

Questions and comments? Do you have a retelling you want to recommend? You can email me at chocolate4thebrain@gmail.com.

List compiled by Arielle Bailey.

For more recommendations, follow the Fairy Tale Central blog: [https://thefairytalecentral.com/](https://thefairytalecentral.com/), where you’ll find book reviews for several books on this list, and the bookstagram/instagram accounts of all our bloggers.

You can also follow Fairy Tale Central at: [https://www.instagram.com/thefairytalecentral/](https://www.instagram.com/thefairytalecentral/) or my bookstagram: [https://www.instagram.com/arrow_song_reads/](https://www.instagram.com/arrow_song_reads/).
Rumpelstiltskin

YA

A Curse as Dark as Gold
Bunce, Elizabeth C.
historical fantasy (with gothic undertones), PG-13

The Princess Pact
Cellier, Melanie
high fantasy, PG-13, The Four Kingdoms #3, clean

The Miller's Girl
Clare, Nina
high fantasy, PG-13

Goldheart
Davidson, Kenley
high fantasy, PG-13, clean, Andari Chronicles #2, no magic in this book but there is some in other books in this series

Rumplestiltskin
James, Jenni
high fantasy, PG, clean

Spinners
Napoli, Donna Jo
high fantasy, PG-16

Spinning Silver
Novik, Naomi
high fantasy, PG-16
**Rumpled**  
Pennington, J. Grace  
steampunk, YA, PG-13, Once collection, clean

**The Wish Granter**  
Redwine, CJ  
high fantasy, PG-13

**Spinning Into Gold**  
Savant, Emma  
contemporary fantasy, PG-13, Glimmers Universe

**Rumpelstiltskin**  
Shea, K.M.  
high fantasy, PG-13, Timeless Fairy Tales #4, clean

**The Queen of Gold and Straw**  
Tapscott, Shari L.  
high fantasy, PG-13, Fairy Tale Kingdoms #2, clean

**Spinner of Secrets**  
Twitchell, Annie Louise  
high fantasy, PG-13, clean

**The Crimson Thread**  
Weyn, Suzanne  
historical fiction, America 1880s, PG-13

---

**MIDDLE GRADE**

**The Spinner and the Slipper**  
Lockhart, Camryn  
high fantasy, G, Rumpelstiltskin + Cinderella, clean
The Curse of Gold
Marshall, A.G.
high fantasy, PG, clean, Once Upon a Short Story #5, clean

Straw Into Gold
McKay, Hilary
fantasy, G, short story collection

Straw Into Gold
Schmidt, Gary D
high fantasy, PG

Rump
Shurtliff, Liesl
high fantasy, G, comedic

The Rumpelstiltskin Problem
Velde, Vivian Vande
high fantasy, G

Children’s

Rumpelstiltskin
Zelinsky, Paul
picture book, G