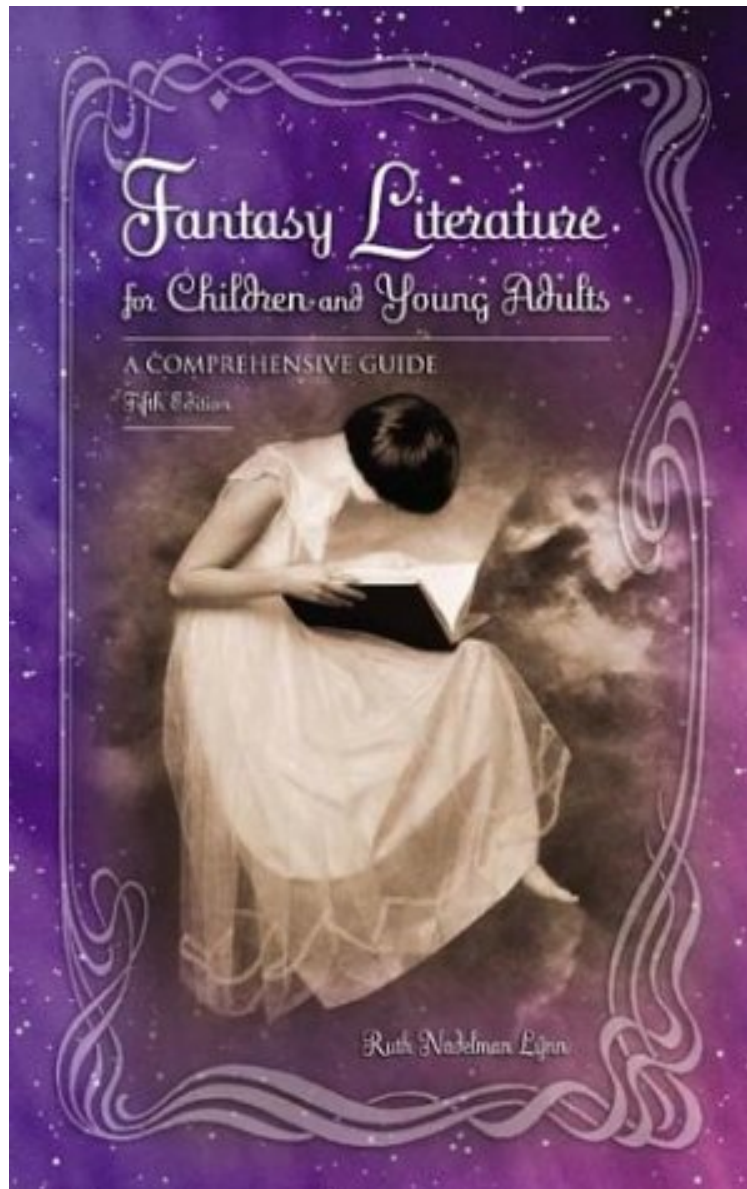


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(Children's and Young Adult Literature Reference)

## **Fantasy Literature for Children and Young Adults: A Comprehensive Guide, 5th Edition (Children's and Young Adult Literature Reference)**

*Ruth E Lynn*

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Since the publication of *Harry Potter* and recently renewed interest in *The Lord of the Rings*, fantasy has become the hottest genre for young readers todaythousands of fantasy novels have flooded into the market, and young readers can't get enough. Librarians can build their collections and advise readers with Lynn's comprehensive guide, describing and categorizing fantasy novels and story collections published between 1900 and 2004. More than 7,500 titlesnearly 2,800 new to this volumefor readers grades 3-12 are organized in chapters based on fantasy subgenres and themes, including animal, alternate worlds, time travel, witchcraft, and sorcery. Lynn provides complete bibliographic information, grade level, a brief annotation, and a list of review citations, and notes recommended titles.

From BooklistFantasy literature has been a popular genre for young readers long before the first *Harry Potter* novel was written. That this reference source is now in its 5th edition is strong support for that notion.For those not familiar with this title, it is a fine example of a bibliography valuable for both readers' advisory and scholarly purposes. Its division of the genre into 12 very narrow subgenres makes it especially appealing for librarians not intimately familiar with the wide varieties of fantasy literature. It covers novels and story collections for readers in grades 3-12, published in English in the U.S. between 1900 and 2004. Exceptions are made for a few nineteenth-century classics. Adult books that appeal to young readers are also included.The introduction offers an overview of the literature that is informative and interesting. Core lists of outstanding titles by genre and lists of award-winning titles precede the annotated lists. Each entry gives author and title, grade level, an annotation (for main titles, none for sequels), edition information, and citations for reviews. Each subgenre section begins with the specifics of how the genre is different from the others. Complete author and illustrator, title, series, and subject indexes finish the book.There is at least one change in this edition that is worthy of comment. The 7,600 titles included in the listings represent a 62 percent increase over the previous edition, necessitating the elimination of the "Research Guide" that had been a large part of the most previous editions. Although this is a loss to scholars, the greater coverage of titles strengthens the readers' advisory and collection development uses of the volume. It would seem wise to retain the previous edition if the "Research Guide" has been useful in the past. Nonetheless, this is an excellent resource, and with its low price and wide applications, the volume should have a place in most school, public, and academic libraries. Danise HooverCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "Fantasy Literature for Children and Young Adults remains a useful resource for librarians, teachers, and children's literature scholars." - Reference s"[D]efinitely a comprehensive annotated guide to fantasy.[a]s a reference guide this book would be very valuable. It would be good to have available for a school system or public library use. Recommended." - Library Media Connection"[A] fine example of a bibliography valuable for both readers' advisory and scholarly purposes.[t]his is an excellent resource, and with its low price and wide applications, the volume should have a place in most school, public, and academic libraries." - Booklist/Youth Reference"This eminently useful and comprehensive volume deserves a place in every school and public library." - VOYA"[I]t's the book's organization which is so unique and makes it such an important tool. For such fantasy synopses are organized under 'Anima', 'Sorcery', 'Time Travel', and the other types of fantasy kids typically ask for, making it easy to cross-reference fantasy novel and story collections published between 1900 and 2004 for kids of all ages. Librarians in particular and any adult regulary working with kids will find *Fantasy Literature for Children and Young Adults: A Comprehensive Guide* includes grade levels and review citations as well as notes on recommended titles." - Internet BookwatchAbout the AuthorRuth Nadelman Lynn is Head, Children's Services Department, Cary Memorial Library, Lexington, Massachusetts.