

OLDIES BUT GOODIES



Just as a garden must be weeded so that new plants may flourish, so must a library collection be reviewed for relevancy, accuracy, and attractiveness.

It is easy to discard a book that does not meet the first two criteria, but the last one is more subjective, especially in the area of fiction or picture books. While it would not be a good idea to crowd the shelves with torn, worn, ugly books, it seems a shame to discard a wonderful story simply because it is not packaged attractively by today's standards.

*“Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear:
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.”
--Thomas Gray*

Here are some books discovered during the weeding process—their sweetness would be a shame to waste!

PICTURE BOOKS

FICTION—PRIMARY GRADES

FICTION—UPPER GRADES



And if you discover a “flower” while browsing the shelves, let your librarian know so it can be added to the list!

OLDIES BUT GOODIES



PICTURE BOOKS:

THE OUTSIDE CAT - 1957

By Jane Thayer; illustrated by Feodor Rojankofsky

Samuel, the outside cat, looks for an opportunity to become a comfortable inside cat.

MAYBELLE THE CABLE CAR - 1952

Written and illustrated by Virginia Lee Burton

Maybelle loves to carry people up and down the hilly streets of San Francisco, until it is decided that she should be taken out of service in the name of progress. When plans are announced to shut down San Francisco's cable cars, the citizens work together to ensure that their city will always be home to this unique mode of transportation. Based on a true story.

OLDIES BUT GOODIES



FICTION—PRIMARY GRADES:

HORATIO - 1968

Written and illustrated by Eleanor Clymer

Horatio the cat doesn't like all the fuss and bother of the other animals in the house, so he runs away and learns to care for two homeless kittens.

THE TWILIGHT OF MAGIC - 1930

By Hugh Lofting

Not as well known as Lofting's Dr. Doolittle adventures, this quiet tale is set in medieval times when magic is on the wane and the age of science is dawning. Giles and his sister Anne meet Agnes the Applewoman and her magic whispering shell and come to the aid of their young king.

OLDIES BUT GOODIES



FICTION—UPPER GRADES:

MOON EYES - 1965

By Josephine Poole; illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman
In this supernatural thriller, twelve-year-old Kate opens her home to something sinister when she welcomes in menacing Aunt Rhoda.

THE DARK IS RISING (SEQUENCE) - 1965-1977

By Susan Cooper

The five books that make up this sequence tell of the struggle between good and evil and will satisfy Harry Potter fans. Best to read them in the order in which they were written:

Over Sea, Under Stone, 1965

The Dark is Rising, 1973

Greenwitch, 1974

The Grey King, 1975

Silver on the Tree, 1977

SMITH - 1967

By Leon Garfield

Set in the grimy back streets of London, this Dickensian novel follows an illiterate pickpocket named Smith who finds himself in a dangerous situation when he picks the pocket of an old gentleman, who seconds later is murdered before his terrified eyes. When the murderers begin rifling the dead man's pockets, unable to find what they want, Smith realizes they are after the document that he has just stolen.