

# Great Books for Girls: More Than 600 Books to Inspire Today's Girls and Tomorrow's Women

Kathleen Odean

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The first reference of its kind, **Great Books for Girls** is an invaluable list of more than six hundred titles--picture books, novels, mysteries, biographies, folktales, sports books, and more--that will encourage, challenge, and ultimately nurture in girls the strong qualities our culture so often suppresses.

Kathleen Odean, a librarian and former member of the prestigious Caldecott and Newbery Award committees, has gathered and annotated a list of books starring bold, confident heroines for children from toddlers to age fourteen. Here are old favorites such as Eloise, Harriet the Spy, Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, and Ramona the Pest; new inspirations such as Cinder Edna, Sheila Rae the Brave, Herculeah Jones, and Princess Smartypants; and real-life admirable women such as Eleanor of Aquitaine, Jane Goodall, Toni Morrison, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Helen Keller.

In these books, girls and women are creative, capable, articulate, and intelligent, solving problems, facing challenges, resolving conflicts, and going on quests. They are not sidekicks or tokens, waiting to be rescued; they are doing the rescuing. Nor are they waiting for a male to provide a happy ending; they are fashioning their own stories and their own endings. Packed with expert guidance, **Great Books for Girls** is an essential volume that will give girls of all ages the power of hope.



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