Hilo books in order: how many are there?

Peabody blog · Reading · updated 2026-10-30

All 11 numbered Hilo books in order, the unnumbered Holiday Special from October 2026, and book 12, due 2 February 2027. Why some lists count twelve already.

As of 30 October 2026 there are eleven numbered Hilo books by Judd Winick, from The Boy Who Crashed to Earth (2015) to The Great Space Iguana (2025). There is also The Holiday Special (6 October 2026), which the publisher doesn't number, and Book 12, Attack of the Hungry Monsters, is due on 2 February 2027. Peabody's Hilo page has the numbered books as a checklist that prints as a reading log.

So the honest answer to "how many Hilo books are there?" is eleven numbered, twelve with the special, and thirteen once book 12 comes out. Some lists already say twelve because they count the special as a numbered book. Below is why we don't.

The numbered books, in order

- #: 1 · Title: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth · Came out: 2015
- #: 2 · Title: Saving the Whole Wide World · Came out: 2016
- #: 3 · Title: The Great Big Boom · Came out: 2017
- #: 4 · Title: Waking the Monsters · Came out: 2018
- #: 5 · Title: Then Everything Went Wrong · Came out: 2019
- #: 6 · Title: All the Pieces Fit · Came out: 2020
- #: 7 · Title: Gina: The Girl Who Broke the World · Came out: 2021
- #: 8 · Title: Gina and the Big Secret · Came out: 2022
- #: 9 · Title: Gina and the Last City on Earth · Came out: 2023
- #: 10 · Title: Rise of the Cat · Came out: 2024
- #: 11 · Title: The Great Space Iguana · Came out: 2025
- #: 12 · Title: Attack of the Hungry Monsters · Came out: 2 February 2027

The titles, order and years of books 1 to 11 come from Bookroo's series page. Book 12's title and day come from Penguin Random House Australia and the Bulk Book Store, which agree. We opened all of them on 30 October 2026. Book 12 shows dashed on the checklist until its day.

The Holiday Special

Hilo: The Holiday Special came out on 6 October 2026. It is a stand-alone holiday story in the same world. Penguin Random House's page for it says it is part of Hilo but gives it no number. Bookroo's series page lists it as the twelfth book, which is where the "twelve" on some lists comes from. But the publisher gives the number 12 to Attack of the Hungry Monsters. Two different books can't both be twelve, so we follow the publisher: the special is unnumbered,

and it sits beside the list, not in it.

It works well as a treat between books, or as a short read for a child who has finished the eleven and is waiting for the twelfth.

Does the order matter?

Yes, more than for most comic series. Each book has its own adventure, but a bigger story grows across the whole series: where Hilo came from, and what is coming for the world. The later books assume your child knows the friends. Start at book 1 and go in number order.

The books also shift as they go. Books 7 to 9 turn to Gina, one of Hilo's two friends, who turns out to have a bigger part than she expected. The series page notes that the later books get more serious as the friends learn secrets.

What age Hilo is for

The publisher's pages for The Holiday Special and for Book 12 give ages 8 to 12, grades 3 to 7. That is Penguin Random House's age for the newest books. Bookroo shows 7 to 10 for the first six, and the early books were written for slightly younger readers.

An age is a guess at who will enjoy a book, not a reading level. The panels are bright, the bubbles short and the jokes quick, so many seven-year-olds follow Hilo, especially read aloud. The later books have bigger stakes. The series page tells grown-ups what to expect: monsters, robot fights, peril for the whole world and a lot of jokes.

What else carries the name

- Hilo Presents: The Mighty is a spin-off series. Bookroo lists its first book as out in February 2026.
- Hilo: The Epic Boxed Set (Books 1-10) is the first ten books in one box, in order. It isn't a new book.

Neither is on the checklist.

The reading log and what comes next

On the Hilo page, tap each book your child has read and it says which one is next. The ticks stay on your device; nothing is sent to us and there's no account. Print it for one page with every title and a box beside each. The coming-out calendar lists new books in the series we track by month.

What to read after Hilo has picks by age. Zita the Spacegirl is more space adventure with a longer story, CatStronauts is lighter, and Amulet is a bigger, more serious fantasy.

Questions grown-ups ask

How many Hilo books are there?

Eleven numbered books as of 30 October 2026, plus The Holiday Special, which the publisher doesn't number. Book 12, Attack of the Hungry Monsters, is due on 2 February 2027.

Is The Holiday Special book 12?

No. Penguin Random House lists it as part of Hilo with no number, and gives the number 12 to Attack of the Hungry Monsters. Some sellers list the special as twelfth, which is why counts differ.

Do Hilo books have to be read in order?

It's best to. Each book has its own adventure, but a bigger story runs through all of them, and the later books build on the earlier ones.

Peabody (peabody.kids) is free through the end of 2026. Every series on the book series hub has its books in order with a checklist kept on your device, and our library has stories for every reader.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/hilo-books-in-order