

Bank Street College of Education

**Educate**

---

The Center for Children's Literature

---

3-10-2015

## The Best Children's Books of the Year [2016 edition]

Bank Street College of Education. Children's Book Committee

Follow this and additional works at: <https://educate.bankstreet.edu/ccl>



Part of the [Children's and Young Adult Literature Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Bank Street College of Education. Children's Book Committee (2015). The Best Children's Books of the Year [2016 edition]. Bank Street College of Education. Center for Children's Literature. Retrieved from <https://educate.bankstreet.edu/ccl/3>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by Educate. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Center for Children's Literature by an authorized administrator of Educate. For more information, please contact [kfreda@bankstreet.edu](mailto:kfreda@bankstreet.edu).

BANK STREET COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

THE BEST  
CHILDREN'S  
BOOKS  
OF THE YEAR

2016 EDITION

BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2015

SELECTED BY THE  
CHILDREN'S BOOK COMMITTEE

# THE CHILDREN'S BOOK COMMITTEE

Jina Accardo  
Marilyn Ackerman  
Rita Auerbach  
Alice Belgray  
Allie Bruce  
Mary Clark  
Deborah Cohen  
Linda Colarusso  
Margery Fisher  
Alex Grannis  
Linda Greengrass  
Todd Jackson  
Mollie Welsh Kruger  
Patricia Lakin  
Caren Leslie  
Ann Levine  
Elizabeth (Liz) Levy  
Muriel Mandell

Roberta (Bobbi) Mitchell  
Edna Moy Rome  
Kathryn Payne  
Susan Pine  
Jaïra Placide  
Martha Rosen  
Elizabeth Segal  
Charissa Sgouros  
Nan Shipley  
Susan Stires  
Hadassah (Dassy) Tannor  
Jane Thompson  
Margaret Tice  
Morika Tsujimura  
Morika Tsujimura  
Leslie Wagner  
Cynthia Weill  
Rivka Widerman

## Members Emeritus

Margaret Cooper

Lisa Von Drasek

## Members on Leave

Beryl Bresgi  
Ayanna Coleman  
Nicole Deming

Becky Eisenberg  
Michelle Ryan

## Members at Large

Isadora Carerras  
P. Rebecca Johnson  
Laurent Linn

Martha Rago  
Ellen Rappaport

# CONTENTS

## **Under Five----- 5**

Concept Books -----	16
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)-----	17

## **Five to Nine -----18**

### *Fiction*

Adventure and Mystery-----	18
Animals-----	18
Beginning Readers-----	19
Coming of Age-----	20
Fantasy-----	20
Folk and Fairy Tales -----	21
Historical Fiction -----	22
Holidays-----	23
Humor-----	23
Sports-----	25
Today -----	25
<i>Poetry</i> -----	28

### *Information Books*

Animals-----	30
Arts-----	32
Biography and Memoir -----	32
History -----	35
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) -----	36
World -----	37

## **Nine to Twelve-----38**

### *Fiction*

Adventure and Mystery -----	38
Anthologies and Collections -----	39
Coming of Age -----	39
Fantasy -----	41
Folk and Fairy Tales -----	42
Historical Fiction -----	42
Humor-----	46
Science Fiction-----	46
Sports-----	47
Today -----	47
<i>Poetry</i> -----	48

### *Information Books*

Activities -----	48
Arts-----	49
Biography and Memoir-----	49
Ecology -----	51
History-----	51
Reference-----	53
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)-----	53

## **Twelve to Fourteen ----- 55**

### *Fiction*

Adventure and Mystery-----	55
Coming of Age-----	55
Fantasy -----	57
Historical Fiction -----	59
Science Fiction-----	61
Today -----	62
<i>Poetry</i> -----	63

### *Information Books*

Activities -----	63
Biography and Memoir-----	63
History-----	64
Religion-----	65
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)-----	65

## **Fourteen and Older----- 66**

### *Fiction*

Adventure and Mystery -----	66
Anthologies and Collections-----	67
Coming of Age -----	67
Dramatic Arts -----	70
Fantasy -----	70
Historical Fiction -----	71
Science Fiction-----	73
Today -----	73
<i>Poetry</i> -----	77

### *Information Books*

Biography and Memoir-----	77
History-----	78

## TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Share your enjoyment of books with your child.
- Talk over your reading.
- Continue to read aloud to your child even after he or she reads independently.
- Encourage your child to choose a book to read aloud to someone else.
- Encourage your child to select books on a wide range of subjects.
- Encourage your child to read whatever he or she enjoys even if it appears to be too easy or too hard.
- Let your child see your enjoyment of your own reading.
- Find time for your child to visit and browse in libraries and bookstores.

### KEY

**\* Outstanding Merit**



**Board Book**



**Mature Reading**

**(4–6) Age Range**



**Graphic Format**



**Read Aloud**

## UNDER FIVE

### **15 Things Not to Do with a Baby**

by Margaret McAllister, illustrated by Holly Sterling

(Frances Lincoln Children's Books, \$17.99)  
978-1-84780-752-6

A silly but helpful list lets an older sibling know what *not* to do with the family's new baby. Colorful, joyful illustrations. (3–5)

### **All for a Dime!: A Bear and Mole Story**

written and illustrated by Will Hillenbrand  
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2946-2  
Mole, Bear, and Skunk each have a busy day at the market. Gently humorous mixed-media illustrations. (4–6)

### **\*Ally-Saurus & the First Day of School**

written and illustrated by Richard Torrey  
(Sterling Children's Books/Sterling Publishing, \$14.95) 978-1-4549-1179-1  
Can a dinosaur-loving girl make friends at school? Playful mixed-media illustrations. (4–6)



### **Baa, Baa, Black Sheep**

written and illustrated by Jane Cabrera  
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3388-9  
Black sheep shares his wool with a girl who knits for her nursery rhyme friends. Brightly colored acrylic illustrations with bold outlines. (3–6)

### **Bea in The Nutcracker**

written and illustrated by Rachel Isadora  
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$16.99)  
978-0-399-25231-0  
An adorable toddler and her dance class

don their costumes and perform a famous ballet. Animated pencil, ink, and oil paint illustrations. (3–5)



### **Bear and Bunny**

by Daniel Pinkwater, illustrated by Will Hillenbrand

(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-7153-2

While wandering in the woods, two best friends find their perfect pet. Pastel mixed-media illustrations. (4–6)



### **Bear and Duck**

written and illustrated by Katy Hudson  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-232051-3

Bear asks Duck to teach him how to be a duck but discovers that he's better at being a bear. Gently humorous ink and watercolor illustrations. (4–6)



### **\*Bear and Hare Go Fishing**

written and illustrated by Emily Gravett  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$15.99) 978-1-4814-2289-5

A humorous adventure of two friends is told in sparse text with warm, clever drawings. (3–5)

### **The Bear Ate Your Sandwich**

by Julia Sarcone-Roach  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99)  
978-0-375-85860-4

Who can possibly doubt how a bear inadvertently traveled to the city, unknowingly explored unfamiliar places, ate someone's food, and miraculously

returned home? Surprise! Colorful, impressionistic brushstrokes. (4–6)



### **Beastly Babies**

by Ellen Jackson, illustrated by Brendan Wenzel

(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-0834-0

Baby animals can be mischievous when they're playing or imitating their moms. But no matter what, their mothers always love them. Colorful mixed-media illustrations. (3–5)

### **Beep! Beep! Go to Sleep!**

by Todd Tarpley, illustrated by John Rocco (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-25443-4

A boy's robots are absolutely not ready to go to bed. Clever rhymes with delightful pencil, watercolor, and digital art. (4–6)

### **\*Bob and Flo**

written and illustrated by Rebecca Ashdown

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99) 978-0-544-44430-0

Flo finds a friend on the first day of preschool but loses her lunch pail. Or does she? Whimsical illustrations. (3–5)

### **\*Buddy and Earl**

by Maureen Fergus, illustrated by Carey Sookocheff

(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$16.95) 978-1-55498-712-2

A dog and a hedgehog forge a joyous friendship and banish boredom using their imaginations. Exuberant watercolors. (4–6)



### **Bulldozer's Big Day**

by Candace Fleming, illustrated by Eric Rohmann

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0097-8

What will Bulldozer do when he thinks his friends are not responding to his special day? Striking block prints. (4–6)

### **The Bus Is for Us!**

by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Gillian Tyler

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6983-6

There are many ways to get around, but the bus is the big favorite. Soft watercolor illustrations. (3–5)



### **A Crow of His Own**

by Megan Dowd Lambert, illustrated by David Hyde Costello

(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-447-0

Will the motherly goose be able to help the scrawny new rooster succeed in learning his job and save him from farmyard embarrassment? Expressive watercolors. (3–6)



### **\*Dad's First Day**

written and illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka (Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$16.99) 978-1-61963-473-2

In this twist on the first-day-of-school jitters, Oliver's dad has a hard time letting go. Humorous gouache illustrations. (4–6)

**Everybody Sleeps (But Not Fred)**

written and illustrated by Josh Schneider  
(Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-33924-8

Wide-awake Fred annoys every creature who wants to sleep. Rhyming text with watercolor and pen and ink drawings. (3–5)

**Feet, Go to Sleep**

by Barbara Bottner, illustrated by Maggie Smith

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99)  
978-0-449-81325-6

After an exciting day at the beach, Fiona slowly relaxes one body part at a time as she recalls the day's activities. Colorful mixed-media illustrations. (4–6)

**Fetch**

written and illustrated by Jorey Hurley  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-8969-1

A dog, a beach, a red ball, and lots of water create lots of fun. One well-chosen word tells the story in each soft color spread. (2–4)

**\*Finders Keepers**

written and illustrated by Keiko Kasza  
(G.P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-16898-7

A "found" hat, taking on different properties depending on the finder, makes its way back to its original owner. Large colored-pencil illustrations. (3–5)

**\*Finding Spring**

written and illustrated by Carin Berger  
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-225019-3

What does spring mean to a little bear whose family sleeps through the winter? Joyful collages of paper cut-outs in earthy colors. (3–5)

**Fire Engine No. 9**

written and illustrated by Mike Austin  
(Random House Children's Books, \$16.99)  
978-0-553-51095-9

Readers experience fighting a fire with a fire engine crew. Sound and action words and graphic illustrations tell this dynamic story. Includes fire safety tips. (3–6)

**\*Fly!**

written and illustrated by Karl Newsom  
Edwards  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$15.99)  
978-0-385-39283-9

With the support of his insect garden friends, a young fly tries to find his talent. Simple and action-oriented artwork. (2–5)

**Fright Club**

written and illustrated by Ethan Long  
(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$16.99)  
978-1-61963-337-7

Can the local "cute critters" be scary enough to join the regular monsters on Halloween? Graphite and digitally colored illustrations. (4–6)

**The Full Moon at the Napping House**

by Audrey Wood, illustrated by Don Wood  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$17.99)  
978-0-544-30832-9

The restless inhabitants of a moon-drenched house are calmed by an unexpected visitor at bedtime. Warm, whimsical, detailed illustrations. (4–6)



### **The Fun Book of Scary Stuff**

by Emily Jenkins, illustrated by Hyewon Yum  
(Frances Foster Books/Farrar Straus Giroux  
BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-374-  
30000-5  
A boy and his two dogs confront  
frightening things. Expressive watercolors.  
(4–6)

### **Good Night, Firefly**

written and illustrated by Gabriel Alborozo  
(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan,  
\$16.99) 978-1-62779-222-6  
The light of a trapped firefly makes Nina  
feel safe, but when it grows dimmer, she  
makes a brave decision. Stunning black-  
and-white illustrations. (3–5)

### **The Goodbye Book**

written and illustrated by Todd Parr  
(Megan Tingley Books/Little, Brown and  
Company, \$17.00) 978-0-316-40497-6  
A fish in a bowl goes through the stages of  
loss and grief, learns to remember special  
times, and heals. Bold graphic art. (3–6)

### **Goodnight, Good Dog**

by Mary Lyn Ray, illustrated by Rebecca  
Malone  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99)  
978-0-544-28612-2  
The house and the children are asleep, but  
little dog is wide awake. What's a dog to  
do? Illustrated with soft, childlike acrylic  
drawings. (3–6)

- **Gossie and Friends (series)**  
**Gemma & Gus** (978-0-547-86851-6)  
**Gus** (978-0-547-86761-8)

written and illustrated by Olivier Dunrea  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$9.99)  
The curiosity of friendly goslings leads  
them to explore and enjoy their  
environment. Simple pen and ink  
illustrations. (2–4)



### **Happy in Our Skin**

by Fran Manushkin, illustrated by Lauren  
Tobia  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-  
7002-3  
Rhymes celebrate the uniqueness of each  
person's skin color and how perfect it is.  
Detailed pen and ink digitally assembled  
illustrations depict diverse families. (3–5)



### **Here in the Garden**

written and illustrated by Briony Stewart  
(Kane/Miller/EDC, \$11.99) 978-1-61067-  
348-8  
A child misses his friend and remembers all  
the things they did together and how much  
fun they had. Gentle, soft illustrations.  
(4–6)



### **Hide and Seek Harry:**

#### **At the Playground**

written and illustrated by Kenny Harrison  
(Candlewick Press, \$6.99) 978-0-7636-  
7347-5  
Harry the hippo loves to play hide-and-  
seek, but he's too big. Still, there's fun to  
be had! Bright, colorful illustrations. (1–3)



### **Hoot! Hoot! (Can You Say It, Too? series)**

written and illustrated by Sebastien Braun

(Nosy Crow/Candlewick, \$8.99) 978-0-7636-7588-2

Behind the sturdy flaps are a host of nighttime animals to spot, name, and mimic. Rich tempera illustrations. (0–3)



### **\*Hoot Owl: Master of Disguise**

by Sean Taylor, illustrated by Jean Jullien  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-7578-3

A hungry owl is on the prowl and his wide eyes feign innocence, show determination, and register surprise. Inventive disguises are humorously illustrated. (4–6)



### **Hop! Hop!**

written and illustrated by Leslie Patricelli  
(Candlewick Press, \$6.99) 978-0-7636-6319-3

An excited toddler prepares for Easter by painting eggs, making bunny ears, and generally enjoying the holiday. Boldly outlined and colorful illustrations. (0–3)



### **How the Sun Got to Coco's House**

written and illustrated by Bob Graham  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-8109-8

A girl sleeps while the sun follows the dawns throughout the world traveling to spend the day with her. Lyrical text and soft watercolors. (4–6)



### **How to Catch a Mouse**

written and illustrated by Philippa Leathers  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6912-6

An overly confident cat soon discovers the

best way to catch a mouse. Humorous watercolors. (3–6)

### **I Love Snow!**

by Zetta Elliott, illustrated by Purple Wong  
(Rosetta Press, P \$10.00) 978-1-514-34847-5  
It's great to play in new snow, but sometimes when there's too much of it or it's melting, snow just isn't fun anymore. Colorful wintry illustrations. (3–5)



### **I Used to Be Afraid**

written and illustrated by Laura Vaccaro Seeger  
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-631-2

What seems scary at first can become magical! Simple collage and bright acrylic illustrations. (4–6)



### **\*I'm Cool!**

by Kate McMullan, illustrated by Jim McMullan  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-230629-6

The snow-eating, slush-slurping, triple-tank Zamboni machine refuses to rush its work resurfacing the ice for the hockey game. Large-scale brightly colored watercolor and gouache illustrations. (3–6)



### **In the Canyon**

by Liz Garton Scanlon, illustrated by Ashley Wolff  
(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0348-1  
A girl and her family hike the long, hot,

magnificent trail to the bottom of the Grand Canyon. Rhymed text and linoleum block illustrations. (4–6)

### **Is Mommy?**

by Victoria Chang, illustrated by Marla Frazee

(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster  
BFYR, \$15.99) 978-1-4814-0292-7

Is Mommy mean or nice? Playful reactions to questions challenge her perfection. Will love win out? Humorous, colorful tempera illustrations on Manila paper. (2–4)



### **It's Raining Bats & Frogs**

by Rebecca Colby, illustrated by Steven Henry

(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, \$16.99)  
978-1-250-04992-6

Can the Halloween Parade be saved despite young Delia's imperfect incantations? Humorous watercolors and catchy spells. (4–6)

### **\*Last Stop on Market Street**

by Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson

(Putnam Juvenile/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-25774-2

A grandmother gently helps her complaining grandson see the beauty in his environment of urban poverty. Bold, bright illustrations. (4–6)



### **Leo: A Ghost Story**

by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Christian Robinson

(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-3156-6

Not every question is answered about what is real or imagined, but important things like friendship do not go unseen. Moody blue illustrations. (3–6)

### **Little Miss, Big Sis**

by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-230203-8

Engaging line drawings match the simple rhymed text about a sister's developing love for her newborn sibling. (4–6)

### **\*Little Tree**

written and illustrated by Loren Long  
(Philomel Books/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-399-16397-5

A young tree struggles with the cycle of life. What would he be without his leaves? Sumptuous acrylic, ink, and pencil illustrations (3–6)

### **Lost. Found.**

by Marsha Diane Arnold, illustrated by Matthew Cordell

(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-62672-017-6

When bear loses his red scarf, it is found, played with, and lost by various forest animals until it falls apart. Can they remake it? Humorous watercolors. (3–6)

### **Maple & Willow Apart**

written and illustrated by Lori Nichols  
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$16.99)  
978-0-399-16753-9

When big sister Maple goes to school, Willow is lonely and a bit jealous. Then she

makes a new friend. Gentle, digitally colored pencil illustrations. (4–6)

**Max and Marla**

written and illustrated by Alexandra Boiger (G.P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-399-17504-6

A boy and his pet owl make truly Olympian efforts to go sledding and finally succeed—sort of. Delicate watercolor illustrations. (3–6)

**Monty’s Magnificent Mane**

written and illustrated by Gemma O’Neill (Templar Books/Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-7593-6

Monty is obsessed with his magnificent mane until he is pushed to realize that other things may be more important. Innovative mixed-media illustrations. (3–6)

**The Moon Is Going to Addy’s House**

written and illustrated by Ida Pearle (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-4054-9

As a girl and her family drive home, the moon seems to follow and watch over them. Vibrant cut-paper collages. (4–6)

**Mr. Postmouse’s Rounds**

written and illustrated by Marianne Dubuc, translated from the French by Yvette Ghione (Kids Can Press, \$17.95) 978-1-77138-572-5  
Following Mr. Postmouse on his route allows a unique peek into different animals’ distinctive homes. Extraordinary, colorful detailed illustrations. (3–6)

**Music Class Today!**

by David Weinstone, illustrated by Vin Vogel

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-35131-1

Preschoolers sing, dance, and play instruments in a rhyming, join-in-the-fun (or sit-on-the-side) adventure. Digitally colored illustrations. (2–5)

**My Bike**

written and illustrated by Byron Barton (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-233699-6

A boy on his bike rides past many objects, animals, and people. Bright digital illustrations. (3–6)

**The New Small Person**

written and illustrated by Lauren Child (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-7810-4

Bold color illustrations capture Elmore’s frustration and alienation when his baby brother Albert arrives. Told with heartfelt humor. (3–6)

**\*Night Animals**

written and illustrated by Gianna Marino (Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-451-46954-0

Possum, a nighttime animal, is so afraid of the dark that soon his other nocturnal friends also begin to fear it. Spooky gouache illustrations. (4–6)

**\*On the Ball**

written and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-2329-6

A boy and his soccer ball share spirited, imaginative adventures and then return to the game. Delightfully illustrated with energetic swirls of color. (3–6)

### **Owl Boy**

written and illustrated by Brian Schatell (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3208-0  
Al likes owls. He likes what they do and how they live, and he'd like to be one, until . . . Told with humor and exaggerated watercolor and marker illustrations. (3–6)

### **P. Zonka Lays an Egg**

written and illustrated by Julie Paschkis (Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-819-6  
All the other hens lay eggs, but not P. Zonka. What's wrong with her? Colorful, luminous watercolor illustrations. (4–6)



### **Pig Is Big on Books (I Like to Read series)**

written and illustrated by Douglas Florian (Holiday House, \$14.95) 978-0-8234-3393-3  
When pink pig can't find anything to read, he creates something himself. Appealing full-page acrylic art. (3–6)



### **The Potato King**

written and illustrated by Christoph Niemann (Owlkids Books, \$17.95) 978-1-77147-139-8  
How did a clever king introduce the potato to Europe? Colorful potato prints. (4–6)

### **\*Red: A Crayon's Story**

written and illustrated by Michael Hall (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-225207-4

His label says he's red, but everything he draws is blue. Will other crayons ever understand him? Digitally combined crayon and cut-paper art. (3 and up)

### **Say Hello!**

written and illustrated by Linda Davick (Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-2867-5  
From handshakes to hugs, there are lots of ways to greet someone. Simple rhyming text and lively, colorful illustrations. (2–4)

### **\*Sidewalk Flowers**

by JonArno Lawson, illustrated by Sydney Smith (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$16.95) 978-1-55498-431-2  
In this wordless book, a young child picks flowers and gives them to others. Pen and ink illustrations gradually gain color. (4–6)



### **\*Smick!**

by Doreen Cronin, illustrated by Juana Medina (Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-670-78578-0  
Smick fetches a stick and meets a chick. Will it become a sidekick? Digitally rendered boldly outlined figures with flashes of color. (3–5)

### **Soon**

by Timothy Knapman, illustrated by Patrick Benson (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7478-6  
Elephants Raju and his mother experience the dangers and pleasures of an early

morning walk. Expressive and atmospheric illustrations. (3–5)

### **Spare Parts**

written and illustrated by Rebecca Emberley and Ed Emberley  
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-723-4

Colorful collage and catchy rhymed text explore friendship between two rusty, trusty spare parts. (4–6)



### **Squid Kid the Magnificent**

by Lynne Berry, illustrated by Luke LaMarca  
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4231-6119-6

A burgeoning magician must deal with his cynical sister. Perfect conjurers' patter accompanies bold illustrations. (4–6)



### **Stormy Night**

written and illustrated by Saline Yoon  
(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$14.99) 978-0-8027-3780-9

Bear and his bunny can't get to sleep during a loud thunderstorm. Luckily, Mama Bear and Papa Bear are there to protect them. Bold, colorful photoshopped illustrations. (3–6)

### **\*Supertruck**

written and illustrated by Stephen Savage  
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$12.99) 978-1-59643-821-7

By day he's an ordinary garbage truck, but

at night, during a blizzard, he mysteriously turns into a superhero. Bold graphic art. (3–6)

### **Sweep Up the Sun**

by Helen Frost, photographed by Rick Lieder  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6904-1

Beautiful photographs of birds in action are accompanied by poetic text. Back matter offers additional information, including bird ranges, coloring, and feeding patterns. (3–5)

### **Tad and Dad**

written and illustrated by David Ezra Stein  
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-25671-4

A bullfrog dad enjoys taking care of his little son until the day that Tad starts to grow up. Big changes! Humorous Crayola and watercolor illustrations. (3–5)

### **Tell Me What to Dream About**

written and illustrated by Giselle Potter  
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-37423-1

At bedtime, two little sisters imagine a world of dreams. Fanciful watercolors. (4–6)



### **There, There**

by Sam McBratney, illustrated by Ivan Bates  
(Templar Books/Candlewick, \$7.99) 978-0-7636-7565-3

Comforted by his father after a series of mishaps, Hansie Bear knows just what to

do when Dad has a sore foot. Dynamic full-color illustrations. (1–3)

### **Toys Meet Snow:**

#### **Being the Wintertime Adventures of a Curious Stuffed Buffalo, a Sensitive Plush Stingray, and a Book-Loving Rubber Ball**

by Emily Jenkins, illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky  
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-37330-2  
While the little girl is away, Lumphy, StingRay, and Plastic go outside to explore the first winter snowfall. Painterly digital illustrations. (3–6)

### **Two Is Enough**

by Janna Matthies, illustrated by Tuesday Mourning  
(RP Kids/Running Press, \$15.95) 978-0-7624-5561-4  
When it's me plus you, two can do almost everything—play, celebrate, eat, and comfort. Colorful, endearing illustrations. (3–5)

### **\*Uh-Oh!**

by Shutta Crum, illustrated by Patrice Barton  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.95) 978-0-385-75268-8  
Playing at the seashore while their mothers look on, a toddler twosome exclaim “Uh-Oh!” with each discovery and disaster. Colorful, expressive pencil sketches. (3–6)

### **Virgil & Owen**

written and illustrated by Paulette Bogan  
(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$16.99) 978-1-61963-372-8

Virgil, a penguin, wants to own Owen, a polar bear, but then comes to understand what it means to be a friend. Humorous watercolor illustrations. (3–5)



### **Wait**

written and illustrated by Antoinette Portis  
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-59643-921-4  
Grown-ups are perpetually in a hurry, rushing to the next commitment. A little boy tries to slow down and look around. Pencil, charcoal, and ink illustrations. (2–5)

### **\*Waiting**

written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes  
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-236843-0  
Through the seasons, five toys look out a window together, each waiting for something special to happen. Gentle brown ink, watercolor, and colored pencil illustrations. (3–6)



### **Walk on the Wild Side**

written and illustrated by Nicholas Oldland  
(Kids Can Press, \$16.95 ) 978-1-77138-109-3  
Three friends—a moose, a bear, and a beaver—decide that helping each other is more satisfying than winning a race. Expressive photoshopped artwork. (4–6)

### **Welcome Home, Bear:**

#### **A Book of Animal Habitats**

written and illustrated by Il Sung Na  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-385-75375-3  
After visiting his friends around the world,

Bear realizes that there is no place like home. Digitally enhanced textured paintings. (4–6)

**The Whale in My Swimming Pool**

written and illustrated by Joyce Wan  
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-30037-1  
A little boy wants to swim, but his pool is already occupied. Large, colorful drawings. (3–6)

**\*When the Wind Blows**

by Linda Booth Sweeney, illustrated by Jana Christy  
(G.P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-16015-8  
Lyrical, rhymed text and digitalized pencil sketches describe the activities of a boy and his family as a storm approaches. (4–6)

**When You Were Born**

written and illustrated by Emma Dodd  
(Templar Books/Candlewick, \$12.99) 978-0-7636-7405-2  
Whether they're seals, elephants, or humans, all parents feel joy when their babies are born. Bold, thickly outlined digital illustrations. (2–5)

**\*Where's Walrus? and Penguin?**

written and illustrated by Stephen Savage  
(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-40295-8  
Disguised, Walrus and Penguin escape and stay ahead of the zookeeper, until an accident leads to a happy surprise. Wordless, with digital illustrations. (3–6)

**Wild about Us!**

by Karen Beaumont, illustrated by Janet Stevens  
(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-15-206294-1  
Lively, dramatic watercolor and colored pencil drawings celebrate the differences among animals and (by implication) humans. (3–5)



**Wish**

written and illustrated by Matthew Cordell  
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4847-0875-0  
An elephant couple's wish for a baby eventually comes true. Bamboo pen, india ink, and watercolor illustrations. (3–6)

**Wolfie the Bunny**

by Ame Dyckman, illustrated by Zachariah OHora  
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-22614-1  
When the Bunny family takes in a baby wolf, sister Dot fears the worst. Acrylics on Stonehenge paper. (3–6)

**\*The Wonderful Things You Will Be**

written and illustrated by Emily Winfield Martin  
(Random House Children's Books, \$17.99) 978-0-385-37671-6  
Rhymed text and gentle pastels convey the love and acceptance of children's uniqueness and wonderful attributes as each child grows up. Colorful watercolors. (3–6)



**Written and Drawn by Henrietta**

written and illustrated by Liniers  
(Toon Books, \$12.95) 978-1-935179-90-0  
Henrietta uses her colored pencils to  
create a story and expand her imagination.  
Graphic layout and childlike drawings.  
(4–6)

**Yard Sale**

by Eve Bunting, illustrated by Lauren  
Castillo  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-  
6542-5  
Callie's parents must sell everything before  
they move to a smaller house. Does that  
include Callie? Ink and watercolor  
illustrations. (4–6)

**You Nest Here with Me**

by Jane Yolen and Heidi E. Y. Stemple,  
illustrated by Melissa Sweet  
(Boyd's Mills Press/Highlights, \$16.95) 978-  
1-59078-923-0  
Owls, wrens, and other birds nest every  
night with their families—and so do  
children. Realistic depictions of different  
habitats in watercolor, ink, and gouache.  
(3–6)

**Concept Books****Click, Clack, Peep!**

by Doreen Cronin, illustrated by Betsy  
Lewin  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster  
Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-  
2411-0  
Farmer Brown and his animals welcome  
Baby Duck—until nighttime when she

won't go to sleep. Lovely watercolors and  
lots of "peeps." (3–6)

**The Great and Mighty Nikko!****A Bilingual Counting Book**

written and illustrated by Xavier Garza  
(Cinco Puntos Press, P \$7.95) 978-1-  
935955-83-2

If Nikko isn't the one wrestling on his bed,  
then who is? Bold, vibrant illustrations.  
(4–6)

**Have You Seen My Monster?**

written and illustrated by Steve Light  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-  
7513-4

Can you spot a girl's furry monster as she  
searches for him at a county fair? Black  
pen and ink illustrations with splashes of  
color that highlight various geometric  
shapes.  
(4–6)

**Hi!**

written and illustrated by Ethan Long  
(Abrams Appleseed/Abrams, \$7.95) 978-1-  
4197-1365-1

A variety of animals greet each other,  
concluding with a child saying "Hi!" and his  
mother saying "Good-bye" to the reader.  
Bright, simple digital illustrations. (1–3)

**Hurry Home, Hedgehog!****A Bilingual Book of Sounds**

written and illustrated by Belle Yang  
(Candlewick Press, \$6.99) 978-0-7636-  
6598-2

Hedgehog races to get home before a  
storm which provides many opportunities

for onomatopoeia: Crack! Whoosh! Chinese characters appear alongside English translation. Simple gouache illustrations. (2–5)

**In! Over! and On! (The Farm)**

written and illustrated by Ethan Long  
(G.P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin, \$15.99) 978-0-399-16907-6

Farm animals delightfully illustrate concepts such as in/out, over/under, and on/off. Humorous digitally colored illustrations and flaps to lift. (3–5)

**No, Silly!**

written and illustrated by Ken Krug  
(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0066-4  
Do we sleep on cookies, eat books, or read trucks? Or would that be silly? Bright, colorful oil paintings. (1–2)

**Nobody’s Perfect**

by David Elliott, illustrated by Sam Zuppardi  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6699-6  
A young boy explores the concept behind the statement “nobody’s perfect.” Childlike mixed-media illustrations. (3–6)

**B Rhymoceros**

written and illustrated by Janik Coat  
(Abrams Appleseed/Abrams, \$15.95) 978-1-4197-1514-3  
A blue rhinoceros demonstrates rhyming words and phrases. Minimalist art, with some pages including sensory details, set against a white background. (0–5)

**B Seven Orange Pumpkins:**

**A Counting Book**

written and illustrated by Stephen Savage  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$6.99) 978-0-8037-4138-6  
What becomes of the vanishing pumpkins? Gentle rhymes and dark-hued full-page illustrations. (1–4)

**B Squirrel Round and Round:**

**A Bilingual Book of Seasons**

written and illustrated by Belle Yang  
(Candlewick Press, \$6.99) 978-0-7636-6597-5  
While other animals favor specific seasons, squirrel is busy all year. In English and Mandarin Chinese. Gouache illustrations with bold outlines. (2–5)

**B A Surprise for Tiny Mouse**

written and illustrated by Petr Horáček  
(Candlewick Press, \$8.99) 978-0-7636-7967-5  
Tiny mouse loves all kinds of weather except the rain. Turn the wheel to discover the wonderful surprise he finds afterward. Richly textured collage and die-cut illustrations. (1–3)

**Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)**

**A Bird Is a Bird**

written and illustrated by Lizzy Rockwell  
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3042-0  
What characteristics make a bird a bird? Watercolor and colored pencil illustrations. (2–6)



### **Eric Carle's How Things Grow**

written and illustrated by Eric Carle  
(Grosset & Dunlap/Penguin, \$7.99) 978-0-448-48768-7

What happened to the very hungry caterpillar? Lift the flap to learn how animals and plants change and grow. Brightly illustrated. (2–4)

## **FIVE TO NINE**

### **FICTION**

#### **Adventure and Mystery**

#### **\*Don't Feed the Geckos! (The Carver Chronicles series)**

by Karen English, illustrated by Laura Freeman  
(Clarion Books/HMH, \$14.99) 978-0-544-5729-5

Carlos worries about his pets and his soccer playing and about sharing Papi's affection when his cousin comes to stay with them. Line drawings. (6–9)

#### **\*Lost in NYC: A Subway Adventure**

written and illustrated by Nadja Spiegelman and Sergio García Sánchez  
(Toon Books, \$16.95) 978-1-935179-81-8  
Pablo boards the wrong train but reunites with his class at the Empire State Building. Colorful panels and informative back matter showcase the subway system. Also in a Spanish language edition. (7–10)

#### **• Puppy Pirates series**

**Stowaway!** 978-0-553-51167-3

#### **X Marks the Spot** 978-0-553-51170-3

by Erin Soderberg, illustrated by Russ Cox  
(Stepping Stone/Random House, P \$4.99 each)

Wally sniffs out a band of puppy pirates and wants to join in the adventure and fun. Detailed sketches. (6–9)



#### **Shark Detective!**

written and illustrated by Jessica Olien  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-235714-4

A lonely shark fulfills his dream of becoming a detective like Sherlock Holmes when he spots a "Missing Kitty" poster. Bold, colorful illustrations. (5–8)

#### **Willy's Stories**

written and illustrated by Anthony Browne  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7761-9

Readers are invited to join Willy on his adventures and to guess where he's gone. Intriguing mixed-media illustrations show the world of many classic children's books. (6–10)

#### **Animals**

#### **Groundhog's Dilemma**

by Kristen Remenar, illustrated by Matt Faulkner  
(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-600-9  
Can the anointed predictor of the arrival of spring be bribed to alter his findings to please the wishes of his friends? Detailed gouache and watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

#### **Ketzel, the Cat Who Composed**

by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Amy June

Bates

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6555-5

A young pianist's kitten helps him write an almost award-winning composition. Based on a true story. Pencil and watercolor illustrations. (6–8)

### **Stay!**

written and illustrated by Alex Latimer (Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-884-4  
When Ben's family goes on vacation, leaving his dog, Buster, behind, Ben lists all the things Grampa needs to know to take care Buster. Mixed-media illustrations. (5–8)



### **The Tale of Rescue**

by Michael J. Rosen, illustrated by Stan Fellows  
(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-7167-9

In this lyrical, gentle story, a cattle dog saves a family stranded in a blizzard. Watercolor illustrations. (6–9)

### **Who Wants Broccoli?**

written and illustrated by Val Jones (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-230351-6

Left on the doorstep of an animal shelter, a dog with attention-getting antics and a loud bark finally finds a new home. Animated, humorous illustrations. (5–8)

### **Beginning Readers**

#### **Elephant Joe, Brave Firefighter!**

written and illustrated by David Wojtowycz (Random House Children's Books, P \$3.99)

978-0-385-37406-4

How do you rescue a dragon caught in a tree? Vivid, humorous illustrations. (5–6)

### **I Really Like Slop! (Elephant & Piggie series)**

written and illustrated by Mo Willems (Hyperion Books for Children/Disney, \$9.99) 978-1-4847-2262-6  
Piggie really wants Gerald to try some slop, but it smells awful. Will Gerald do it for Piggie's sake? Soft, colorful line drawings. (5–8)

### **\*Look!**

written and illustrated by Jeff Mack (Philomel Books/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-16205-3  
A determined, attention-grabbing gorilla and a TV-watching boy develop a friendship over books. Told with just two words and colorful full-page mixed-media illustrations. (5–8)

### **Misty (Stanley & Me series)**

by Christine Dencer, illustrated by Jessica Meserve (Simply Read Books, \$12.95) 978-1-927018-59-0  
Will Sophie succeed in conquering her fear of her friend's dog? Lively, colorful illustrations. (6–8)

### **\*Nic Bishop Frogs**

written and photographed by Nic Bishop (Scholastic Press, P \$3.99) 978-0-545-60570-0  
Simple text and extraordinary photographs provide clear, accessible information about

more than 5,000 different kinds of frogs.  
(6–8)

### **Coming of Age**

#### **An A from Miss Keller**

written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco  
(G.P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-399-16691-4

A demanding but dedicated teacher inspires young Trisha to be the best writer she can be. Colored pencil and marker illustrations. (5–8)

#### **The Best Friend Battle (Sylvie Scruggs series)**

by Lindsay Eyre, illustrated by Charles Santoso  
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-545-62027-7

Sylvie Scruggs hatches one crazy plan after another to keep her best friend Miranda from slipping away. Amusing sketches. (6–9)



#### **Felix Stands Tall**

written and illustrated by Rosemary Wells  
(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-6111-3

After Fiona and Felix win the talent contest, Felix is bullied by his friends until Fiona shows him how to stand up for himself. Watercolor and pencil drawings. (5–7)

#### **Freedom's School**

by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome  
(Jump at the Sun/Disney-Hyperion, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-6103-5

After the Civil War, with their parents' support, two black children attend school despite facing racism. Evocative watercolors. (6–10)



#### **\*Mama Seeton's Whistle**

by Jerry Spinelli, illustrated by LeUyen Pham

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-12217-7

As the family changes over decades, the signal to come home for dinner stays the same. Detailed period ink and watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

#### **Sonya's Chickens**

written and illustrated by Phoebe Wahl  
(Tundra Books, \$19.99) 978-1-77049-789-4

When a farm girl loses one of her chickens to a fox, her father consoles her by explaining the interdependence of life in nature. Vibrant painterly illustrations. (6–8)

### **Fantasy**



#### **How to Draw a Dragon**

written and illustrated by Douglas Florian  
(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-7399-7

With humor and an observant eye, a poet invites young artists to imagine their own fanciful creatures. Bold, colorful full-page art. (5–8)

#### **If I Had a Triceratops**

written and illustrated by George O'Connor  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6013-0

A boy muses about how he would take

care of a triceratops and how great the experience would be. Bright cartoon-like illustrations. (4–7)



### **In a Village by the Sea**

by Muon Van, illustrated by April Chu (Creston, \$16.95) 978-1-939547-15-6  
In a remote village, a woman waits with her baby for her fisherman husband to return safely after a storm. Detailed digitally colored pencil illustrations. (5–7)

### **\*The Only Child**

written and illustrated by Guojing (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$19.99) 978-0-553-49704-5  
In this wordless book, a young girl gets lost on the way to her grandmother's and befriends a magical creature to find her way back home. Softly rendered black-and-white pencil illustrations. (6–8)



### **Wherever You Go**

by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Eliza Wheeler (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-40002-2  
Rabbit and animal friends journey over mountain peaks, cities, and winding roads to discover the magical worlds that await. Rich ink and watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

### **The Whisper**

written and illustrated by Pamela Zagarenski (HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-544-41686-4  
A young girl imagines stories for each lavish picture in a magical book that is

missing its words. Dramatic, painterly full-page illustrations. (5–8)

## **Folk and Fairy Tales**

### **Elephant in the Dark:**

#### **Based on a Poem by Rumi**

retold by Mina Javaherbin, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin (Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-63670-4

Is it a snake? A tree? A fan? This tale is a reminder to look at the whole picture. Brilliantly colored illustrations evoking Persian miniatures. (5–8)



### **\*The Grasshopper & the Ants**

written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-40081-7  
In this lovely retelling of Aesop's fable, a grasshopper frolics and plays music while industrious ants prepare for winter. Beautiful watercolor paintings depict the changing seasons. (5–8)

### **Jackrabbit McCabe & the Electric Telegraph**

by Lucy Margaret Rozier, illustrated by Leo Espinosa (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-37843-7  
Can the fastest man in the West outrun the telegraph signal? A tall tale with notes about Samuel Morse and the code he created. Exaggerated nostalgic images. (5–8)



### **Maya's Blanket/La manta de Maya**

by Monica Brown, illustrated by David Diaz,  
Spanish translation by Adriana Domínguez  
(Children's Book Press/Lee & Low, \$17.95)  
978-0-89239-292-6

When Maya's blanket becomes frayed, it is transformed into a skirt and then. . . A Latino version of a Yiddish folk song, told in English and Spanish. Vivid, exuberant illustrations. (6–9)

### **Historical Fiction**

### **Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear**

by Lindsay Mattick, illustrated by Sophie Blackall  
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-32490-8

A young boy listens to the story of the bear his great-great-grandfather placed in the London Zoo during World War I. Gentle watercolors and archival photographs. (5–7)



### **Juneteenth for Mazie**

written and illustrated by Floyd Cooper  
(Capstone Young Readers/Capstone, \$15.95) 978-1-62370-170-3

Mazie is frustrated by her lack of freedom until Dad teaches her about her ancestors. Large oil wash illustrations. (5–8)



### **Mummy Cat**

by Marcus Ewert, illustrated by Lisa Brown  
(Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-34082-4

A mummy cat awakes in an Egyptian tomb

and searches it for his friend, the queen. Hidden hieroglyphics and mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (7–9)

### **New Shoes**

by Susan Lynn Meyer, illustrated by Eric Velasquez

(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2528-0

When Ella Mae is not allowed to try on shoes at the store because she is African American, she and her cousin come up with a plan to improve things. Realistic oil paintings. (7–10)

### **• Tales from Maple Ridge series**

**Logan Pryce Makes a Mess** (978-1-4814-2625-1; 978-1-4814-2624-4 [pbk])

**The Lucky Wheel** (978-1-4814-2628-2; 978-1-4814-2627-5 [pbk])

by Grace Gilmore, illustrated by Petra Brown

(Little Simon/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99; P \$5.99)

The family's farm is failing and Logan's father is looking for work. With his talent for fixing and inventing things, can Logan help? Black-and-white pen and ink drawings. (7–9)



### **Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh**

by Sally M. Walker, illustrated by Jonathan D. Voss

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9715-3

While her owner goes to war, a bear named Winnie stays in the London Zoo where she plays with a boy named Christopher Robin. Watercolor and pen and ink illustrations. (5–7)

## **Holidays**

### **Jingle Bells: A Magical Cut-Paper Edition**

by James Lord Pierpont, illustrated by  
Niroot Puttapipat

(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-0-7636-  
7821-0

Delicate cut-out shapes with black-and-white silhouettes add to the fun of this popular 19th-century song celebrating an old-fashioned winter pastime. Culminates in an elaborate pop-up surprise. (5–8)



### **Lailah's Lunchbox: A Ramadan Story**

by Reem Faruqi, illustrated by Lea Lyon  
(Tilbury House, \$16.95) 978-0-88448-431-8

Lailah is finally old enough to fast for Ramadan, but how can she explain to her teacher and classmates why she isn't eating lunch? Watercolor illustrations in a muted palette. (6–9)



### **Miracle on 133rd Street**

by Sonia Manzano, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster  
Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-0-689-  
87887-9

It's Christmas Eve. Everyone is grumpy and the roast won't fit in the oven. Will José's solution be the Christmas miracle everyone needs? Colorful gouache illustrations. (5–8)

### **Oskar and the Eight Blessings**

by Richard Simon and Tanya Simon,  
illustrated by Mark Siegel

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99)  
978-1-59643-949-8

Sent to America for his safety after

Kristallnacht, a boy walks up Broadway on Hanukkah to his aunt's apartment and encounters caring strangers along the way. Soft watercolor and pencil illustrations. (5–8)

### **Over the River & Through the Wood: A Holiday Adventure**

by Linda Ashman, illustrated by Kim Smith  
(Sterling Children's Books/Sterling

Publishing, \$14.95) 978-1-4549-1024-4

Four diverse families make their way to grandma's house by various means of transportation, but they all end up getting there the old-fashioned way. A contemporary take on the classic song. Colorful digital art. (6–8)

### **The Parakeet Named Dreidel**

by Isaac Bashevis Singer, illustrated by  
Suzanne Raphael Berkson

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan,  
\$17.99) 978-0-374-30094-4

The rescue, on a cold, snowy Hanukkah, of a Yiddish-speaking parakeet results in an unexpected, happy match. Gentle cartoon watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

## **Humor**

### **\*Buddy and Earl**

by Maureen Fergus, illustrated by Carey Sookocheff

(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi  
Press, \$16.95) 978-1-55498-712-2

A dog and a hedgehog forge a joyous friendship and banish boredom using their imaginations. Exuberant watercolors. (5–7)



### **I Don't Want to Be a Frog**

by Dev Petty, illustrated by Mike Boldt  
(Doubleday BFYR/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-385-37866-6

A humorous dialogue between a young dissatisfied frog and a bespectacled adult frog comes delightfully to life with mixed-media illustrations. (4–8)

### **\*It's Only Stanley**

written and illustrated by Jon Agee  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-3907-9

It's very late, and the Wimbledon family keeps being awakened by strange sounds. It's only their dog, Stanley - but what is he really doing? Humorous watercolors. (5–8)



### **Mother Bruce**

written and illustrated by Ryan T. Higgins  
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-3088-1

When eggs produce goslings, Bruce, the bear, has a problem. Humorous illustrations. (5–8)

### **My Family Adventure (Sofia Martinez series)**

by Jacqueline Jules, illustrated by Kim Smith  
(Picture Window Books/Capstone, P \$4.95) 978-1-4795-5790-5

Sofia, an outgoing seven-year-old, makes every day memorable. Three stories recount her adventures with simple Spanish words interwoven into the text. Colorful, cheerful illustrations. (5–7)

### **The Nonsense Show**

written and illustrated by Eric Carle

(Philomel Books/Penguin, \$18.99) 978-0-399-17687-6

Colorful tissue paper collage illustrations heighten engaging rhymes that capture preposterous situations. (5–8)



### **One Word from Sophia**

by Jim Averbeck, illustrated by Yasmeen Ismail

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0514-0

Clever Sophia learns the importance of choosing the best word in order to make a compelling argument for what she wants. Watercolor and colored pencil illustrations. (6–9)



### **Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook**

written and illustrated by Anne Vitur Kennedy

(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-7417-5

Ragweed gives advice on how to behave—and get biscuits. Colorful acrylics. (5–7)



### **\*The Skunk**

by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Patrick McDonnell

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-966-5

No matter where he goes, a man is pursued by a skunk. Will he ever be rid of the obsessive creature? Muted, sketch-like illustrations. (4–7)



### **\*The Story of Diva and Flea**

by Mo Willems, illustrated by Tony

DiTerlizzi

(Hyperion Books for Children/Disney,  
\$14.99) 978-1-4847-2284-8

When a cosseted, timid dog meets an  
intrepid stray cat, both their lives change  
for the better. Colorful, expressive pen and  
ink illustrations. (7–9)



**\*What the Dinosaurs Did Last Night:  
A Very Messy Adventure**

written and photographed by Refe Tuma  
and Susan Tuma

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette,  
\$17.00) 978-0-316-33562-1

An unexplainable mess in your house could  
mean an invasion of plastic dinosaurs. Bold  
colorful photographs of hilarious tableaux.  
(6–10)

**Sports**

**My New Team (Little Rhino series)**

by Ryan Howard and Krystle Howard,  
illustrated by Erwin Madrid

(Scholastic Press, P \$4.99) 978-0-545-  
67490-4

Playing baseball helps stop bullying when  
you have a good coach. Black-and-white  
illustrations. (7–8)

**Today**



**Ask Me**

by Bernard Waber, illustrated by Suzy Lee  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99)  
978-0-547-73394-4

A father and daughter walk through the  
neighborhood, exploring and asking each

other questions as they go. Pencil  
illustrations in bold autumn colors. (5–8)

**Friends of a Feather (The Life of Ty series)**

by Lauren Myracle, illustrated by Jed Henry  
(Dutton BFYR/Penguin, \$12.99) 978-0-525-  
42288-4

Seven-year-old Ty's best friend, Joseph, is  
out of the hospital and back in school. Now  
Ty has to reestablish their friendship.  
Simple black-and-white illustrations. (7–9)

**I'm New Here**

written and illustrated by Anne Sibley  
O'Brien

(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-612-2

Three children, immigrants from different  
lands, face the challenge of adjusting to  
school in America. Digitally enhanced  
watercolor illustrations. (6–8)



**In a Cloud of Dust**

by Alma Fullerton, illustrated by Brian  
Deines

(Pajama Press, \$17.95) 978-1-927485-62-2

In a Tanzanian village, a bicycle library  
improves the lives of Anna and other  
children who have to travel far to get to  
school. Gentle, warm illustrations. (6–8)

**Love Is My Favorite Thing**

written and illustrated by Emma Chichester  
Clark

(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$16.99)  
978-0-399-17503-9

Plum, the dog, loves many things, but her  
family but most of all. Will they stop loving  
her because of her naughtiness? Hand-  
drawn and computer-generated  
illustrations. (5–9)

**Mama's Nightingale:**

**A Story of Immigration and Separation**

by Edwidge Danticat, illustrated by Leslie Staub

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-525-42809-1

Jailed as an undocumented immigrant, Saya's mother sends her daughter stories of her native Haiti, while Saya writes the story of her own life. Bright oil paintings. (7–9)



**Mango, Abuela, and Me**

by Meg Medina, illustrated by Angela Dominguez

(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6900-3

Mia's grandmother comes to live with her, and although the two of them speak different languages, they find new ways to communicate, with the help of a parrot. Ink, gouache and marker illustrations. Also in a Spanish language edition. (5–8)

**Marvelous Cornelius:**

**Hurricane Katrina and the Spirit of New Orleans**

by Phil Bildner, illustrated by John Parra  
(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-2578-7

When Hurricane Katrina floods the city they love, Cornelius and the people of New Orleans rally to revive their battered hometown. Colorful, naïve-style paintings. (6–8)

**\*My Three Best Friends and Me, Zulay**

by Cari Best, illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton

(Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus

Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-38819-5

Zulay, who is blind, loves her classroom and her friends—but not using her cane. She decides to run in a race to prove her mettle. Bright, cheerful illustrations. (5–8)

**\*The Night World**

written and illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-18822-7

When his cat wakes him up before dawn, a young boy discovers that his familiar house and garden look very different in the dark. Extraordinary mixed-media illustrations. (5–7)



**\*A Poem in Your Pocket (Mr. Tiffany's Classroom series)**

by Margaret McNamara, illustrated by G. Brian Karas

(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-307-97947-6

Will Elinor ever find her poet's ear? Colorful gouache, pencil, and acrylic illustrations. (5–8)

**Pool**

written and illustrated by JiHyeon Lee  
(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-4294-4

In this wordless story, two shy swimmers meet underwater in a crowded pool, become friends, and let their imaginations fly. Colored pencil and oil pastel illustrations. (5–7)

**See You Next Year**

by Andrew Larsen, illustrated by Todd

Stewart

(Owlkids Books, \$16.95) 978-1-926973-99-9

A young girl loves the comforting routine of her family's annual vacation at the beach, and this year she makes a new friend there. Illustrations in hazy summer tones. (5–8)

### **Sona and the Wedding Game**

by Kashmira Sheth, illustrated by Yoshiko Jaeggi

(Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-735-9

Sona is excited about her role in her sister's traditional Indian wedding. She is to steal the groom's shoes! Muted watercolors.

(5–8)

### **Stella Brings the Family**

by Miriam B. Schiffer, illustrated by Holly Clifton-Brown

(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-1190-2

Stella decides to bring her two fathers as well as other family members to a Mother's Day celebration at school. Whimsical watercolors. (5–8)



### **Strictly No Elephants**

by Lisa Mantchev, illustrated by Taeun Yoo

(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-1647-4

Excluded from the pet club, a boy and his tiny elephant start their own inclusive club for unusual friends. Digitally rendered linoleum block print and pencil illustrations. (5–8)



### **Sunday Shopping**

by Sally Derby, illustrated by Shadra Strickland

(Lee & Low Books, \$17.95) 978-1-60060-438-6

Every Sunday night Evie and Grandma read ads in the paper and go on an imaginary shopping spree. Bold mixed-media illustrations. (5–8)

### **\*Two White Rabbits**

by Jairo Buitrago, translated from the Spanish by Elisa Amado, illustrated by Rafael Yockteng

(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$18.95) 978-1-55498-741-2

Migrating with her father to the United States, a young girl shares the ways she occupies herself during the harrowing journey. Expressive digital illustrations. End note. (5–8)



### **Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt**

by Kate Messner, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal

(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-1936-6

The flourishing plants and animals above the earth and the roots and animals in the soil below are described as grandmother and child tend a garden. Colorful, detailed illustrations. (6–9)

### **\*A Wave Came through Our Window**

by Zetta Elliott, illustrated by Charity Russell

(Rosetta Press, P \$10.00) 978-1-51503352-3

Benny and her big sister cannot sleep on a hot night, so they enjoy the neighborhood

sounds and smells. Soft, colored illustrations. (6–8)



### **What James Said**

by Liz Rosenberg, illustrated by Matt Myers  
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-59643-908-5

It hurts to lose your best friend, especially through a misunderstanding. Appealing pen and watercolor illustrations. (5–7)



### **When Otis Courted Mama**

by Kathi Appelt, illustrated by Jill McElmurry  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99) 978-0-15-216688-5

A young coyote in New Mexico learns to accept his divorced mother's suitor. Gouache illustrations portray the southwestern desert. (4–8)



### **When Sophie's Feelings Are Really, Really Hurt**

written and illustrated by Molly Bang  
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-78831-1

When Sophie's painting of her favorite tree is criticized, her feelings get hurt. A caring teacher helps. Vivid, bold illustrations. (5–8)

## **POETRY**



### **Amazing Places**

selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins,  
illustrated by Chris Soentpiet and Christy Hale

(Lee & Low Books, \$18.95) 978-1-60060-653-3

An exquisite anthology of historic places and people represents the diverse voices and fresh viewpoints of a group of notable poets. Pencil and digital illustrations. (7–10)

### **Boats Float!**

by George Ella Lyon, and Benn Lyon  
illustrated by Mick Wiggins  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0380-1

Rhyming text and colorful, digitally rendered illustrations depict many different types of boats. (4–7)

### **Flutter & Hum: Animal Poems/**

**Aleteo y zumbido: poemas de animales**  
written and illustrated by Julie Paschkis  
(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62779-103-8

Colorful gouache illustrations and eloquent verses in Spanish and English convey the essence of snakes, herons, whales, moths, and a variety of other creatures. (7–10)

### **\*Goodnight Songs:**

#### **A Celebration of the Seasons**

by Margaret Wise Brown, illustrated by Peter Brown and others

(Sterling Children's Books/Sterling Publishing, \$17.95) 978-1-4549-0447-2

Twelve bedtime poems, set to music and illustrated by a variety of artists, glorify the wonders of nature throughout the year. Extensive end notes. CD. (5–8)



### **My Village:**

#### **Rhymes from around the World**

collected by Danielle Wright, illustrated by Mique Moriuchi, introduction by Michael Rosen

(Frances Lincoln Children's Books, \$17.99) 978-1-84780-627-7

Colorful collages illustrate traditional poems from 50 countries. (6–8)



### **National Geographic Book of Nature Poetry: More than 200 Poems With Photographs That Float, Zoom, and Bloom!**

edited by J. Patrick Lewis  
(National Geographic, \$24.99) 978-1-4263-2094-1

From sky to sea, in splendor and distress, nature is depicted by a wide variety of poets. Full-color photographs. (7–10)

### **\*Neighbors: The Water Critters**

by George Held, illustrated by Joung Un Kim  
(Filsinger & Co., \$25.00) 978-0-916754-31-0  
Thirteen varied short poems combine facts and linguistic whimsy in portraying aquatic creatures. Simple collage illustrations capture the animals' natural environments. Questions stimulate discussion. (6–9)



### **One Today**

by Richard Blanco, illustrated by Dav Pilkey  
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-37144-5  
A lush and lyrical patriotic commemoration of America is enhanced by vivid acrylic and india ink illustrations. (5–8)



### **Orangutanka: A Story in Poems**

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Renée Kurilla

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9839-6

Follow a lively young orangutan as she dances in a wildlife preserve. Written in the Japanese tanka style. Colorful, energetic illustrations. Back matter. (5–8)

### **\*The Popcorn Astronauts:**

#### **And Other Biteable Rhymes**

by Deborah Ruddell, illustrated by Joan Rankin  
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-6555-8  
Food-based rhymed poems centered around the seasons create an imaginary world of delectable treats. Whimsical, detailed watercolors. (6–9)



### **\*Sail Away: Poems by Langston**

#### **Hughes**

illustrated by Ashley Bryan  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-3085-2  
Bold vivid paper-cut collages are paired with 15 child-friendly poems, each expressing the renowned poet's personal connection with water. Look for the surprise in the endpapers. (6–9)

### **\*Salsa:**

#### **Un poema para cocinar/A Cooking Poem**

by Jorge Argueta, translated from the Spanish by Elisa Amado, illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh  
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi

Press, \$18.95) 978-1-55498-442-8

A young girl and her family make red salsa musically to celebrate their culture and ancestry. Flat, stylistic illustrations. Spanish and English text. (5–10)

**The Sky Painter: Louis Fuertes, Bird Artist**

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Aliona Bereghici

(Two Lions/Amazon Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4778-2633-1

The artist and naturalist known as the father of modern bird art is described through free verse and rhyme. Watercolor illustrations. Historical note. (6–9)

## **INFORMATION BOOKS**

### **Animals**



**\*An Ambush of Tigers:**

**A Wild Gathering of Collective Nouns**

by Betsy R. Rosenthal, illustrated by Jago (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-4677-1464-8

The collective nouns for assemblages of animals are presented humorously and poetically with equally clever illustrations. Includes a glossary. (4–8)

**Big Red Kangaroo**

by Claire Saxby, illustrated by Graham Byrne

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7075-7

In the wilds of Australia, a male kangaroo daily feeds his mob and meets the challenges to his leadership. Arresting illustrations. (5–8)

**A Chicken Followed Me Home!:**

**Questions and Answers about a Familiar Fowl**

written and illustrated by Robin Page (Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-1028-1

Fascinating facts about chickens and their eggs will make you want a chicken of your own. Colorful, realistic digital illustrations. Back matter includes a brief bibliography. (5–8)

**Could a Penguin Ride a Bike?:**

**... And Other Questions**

by Camilla de la Bédoyère, illustrated by Aleksei Bitskoff

(QEB Publishing/Hachette, \$15.95) 978-1-60992-734-9

Discover the facts about these popular birds by observing how they would function in everyday human activities. Humorous colorful illustrations. (5–7)

**Daylight Starlight Wildlife**

written and illustrated by Wendell Minor (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-399-24662-3

Lifelike luminous paintings reveal the variety of wild life that surrounds us while we are sleeping and when we are awake. Back matter. (5–8)

**Egg: Nature's Perfect Package**

by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page, illustrated by Steve Jenkins

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99) 978-0-547-95909-2

Different animals lay eggs in different sizes and in different places and store them in

different ways. Accurate collage representations. (7–10)



### **\*High Tide for Horseshoe Crabs**

by Lisa Kahn Schnell, illustrated by Alan Marks

(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-604-7  
Birds, people, and horseshoe crabs meet up each spring on the shores of Delaware Bay where the crabs come to spawn. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (6–9)

### **I (Don't) Like Snakes**

by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Luciano Lozano

(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-7831-9

Will a young girl overcome her aversion to snakes when she learns more about them? Well-explained facts and detailed color illustrations. (6–9)



### **Moon Bears**

written and photographed by Mark Newman

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9344-5

Learn how some of Asia's rescued indigenous moon bears live, what they eat, and why their ears are round and far apart. Detailed photographs. (6–9)

### **The Most Amazing Creature in the Sea**

by Brenda Z. Guiberson, illustrated by Gennady Spirin

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9961-4

In beautifully illustrated two-page spreads, 12 marine animals tell why they deserve to

be considered the most amazing creature in the sea. Bibliography and online resources. (7–10)

### **A Nest Is Noisy**

by Dianna Hutts Aston, illustrated by Sylvia Long

(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-2713-2

An amazing variety of nests of diverse animals—hornets, flamingos, lampreys, and more—are meticulously illustrated. (7–9)

### **Primate School**

by Jennifer Keats Curtis

(Arbordale, \$17.95) 978-1-62855-555-4

Informative text and color photographs show primates in captivity and the kinds of adaptive behavior they learn from using technology and interacting with people. (6–9)

### **Salamander Season**

by Jennifer Keats Curtis and J. Adam

Frederick, illustrated by Shennen Bersani

(Arbordale, \$17.95) 978-1-62855-5561-1

Father and daughter scientists discover the habitats of salamanders throughout the amphibians' life cycle. Photographs and lively, detailed drawings. (6–9)



### **Secrets of Winter:**

#### **A Shine-a-Light Book**

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Georgina Tee

(Kane Miller/EDC, \$12.99) 978-1-61067-369-3

Shine a light behind the page to uncover hidden animals in their habitats during



winter. Written in a Q and A format. Color and black-and-white illustrations. (5–7)



### **Trapped!: A Whale's Rescue**

by Robert Burleigh, illustrated by Wendell Minor

(Charlesbridge, \$17.95) 978-1-58089-558-3  
A humpback whale, caught in fishing nets, is freed by divers. Based on a true story. Vivid gouache illustrations. (5–8)

### **Weird & Wild Animal Facts**

by Jessica Loy, photographed by Jessica Loy and others

(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-7945-6

Some fairly common animals have some very unusual characteristics used for defense, feeding, cleansing, and camouflage. Photographs. (5–8)

## **Arts**

### **Bird & Diz**

by Gary Golio, illustrated by Ed Young  
(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-0-7636-6660-6

When jazz greats Charlie “Bird” Parker and John Birks “Dizzy” Gillespie played together, they created a new musical style called bebop. Pastel, gouache, and ink illustrations. (5–8)



### **Drum Dream Girl:**

#### **How One Girl's Courage Changed Music**

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Rafael López  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99)

978-0-544-10229-3

Though she is continually reminded that only boys play drums, a young girl in Cuba strives to become a drummer. Poetic text. Illustrated in vibrant, tropical colors. (6–9)

### **Ira's Shakespeare Dream**

by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Floyd Cooper

(Lee & Low Books, \$18.95) 978-1-62014-155-7

African American Ira Aldridge left segregated America in the 1800s and achieved success on the stage in England. Softly hued oil wash illustrations. (7–10)

### **My Pen**

written and illustrated by Christopher Myers

(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4231-0371-4

The acclaimed illustrator shares his pen and ink sketchbook and invites kids to pick up a pen and create imaginary worlds. (7–10)

## **Biography and Memoir**

### **\*Ada Byron Lovelace and the Thinking Machine**

by Laurie Wallmark, illustrated by April Chu  
(Creston Books, \$17.99) 978-1-939547-20-0  
Interested in science and math, young Ada wrote what is considered to be the first computer program. Detailed, richly colored Victorian-style illustrations. (7–9)

### **\*The Amazing Age of John Roy Lynch**

by Chris Barton, illustrated by Don Tate  
(Eerdmans BFYR, \$17.00) 978-0-8028-

5379-0

Born a slave, Lynch became a congressman during Reconstruction in the South, experiencing its twists and hardships. Vivid language, watercolor illustrations, time line, and bibliography. (6–10)

### **Earmuffs for Everyone!:**

#### **How Chester Greenwood Became Known as the Inventor of Earmuffs**

written and illustrated by Meghan McCarthy

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0637-6

A boy from Maine with cold ears improves upon and patents his design for earmuffs. Colorful, comical illustrations. Notes and bibliography. (6–10)

### **Elvis: The Story of the Rock and Roll King**

written and illustrated by Bonnie Christensen

(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9447-3

Elvis's shyness and upbringing in a poor white community as well as the mix of both black and white artists' music that moved him are narrated in simple verse. Lovely photo collages painted with oil. (6–9)



### **Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofose Yeboah**

by Laurie Ann Thompson, illustrated by Sean Qualls

(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-449-81744-5

Born with a deformed leg, Emmanuel rides his bike 400 miles across Ghana, gaining

support and proving that disabled doesn't mean unable. Mixed-media illustrations. (5–9)

### **Fab Four Friends:**

#### **The Boys Who Became the Beatles**

by Susanna Reich, illustrated by Adam Gustavson

(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9458-9

John, Paul, George, and Ringo worked tirelessly and coped with pain and trauma to fulfill their dream of being rock-and-roll musicians. Warm oil illustrations. (7–10)

### **\*Frederick's Journey: The Life of Frederick Douglass (Big Words series)**

by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by London Ladd

(Jump at the Sun/Disney-Hyperion, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-1438-3

Taken from his mother as an infant and forced to work as a slave at age six, Frederick Douglass was determined to educate himself and become a free man. Powerful illustrations. (7–10)

### **Henry Aaron's Dream**

written and illustrated by Mart Tavares (Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-7653-7

After Jackie Robinson integrated baseball, great African American athlete Henry Aaron's dream of becoming a major-league player came true. Expressive, realistic mixed-media illustrations. (7–9)



**\*Jake Makes a World:**

**Jacob Lawrence, a Young Artist in Harlem**

by Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts, illustrated by Christopher Myers

(The Museum of Modern Art, \$18.95) 978-0-87070-965-4

The colors and music of his Harlem neighborhood inspire a young boy to paint, create masks, and recreate his world.

Brilliantly illustrated. Back matter with biographical details and reproductions of seven Jacob Lawrence paintings. (6–10)

**Love Will See You Through:**

**Martin Luther King Jr.'s Six Guiding Beliefs (As Told by his Niece)**

by Angela Farris Watkins, illustrated by Sally Wern Comport

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4169-8693-5

A simple explanation provides an understanding of the complexity of the civil rights movement. Charcoal and acrylic drawings. (6–9)

**Mahalia Jackson:**

**Walking with Kings and Queens**

by Nina Nolan, illustrated by John Holyfield (Amistad Press/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-087944-0

Born in poverty, Mahalia Jackson became a great gospel singer whose powerful voice rang out from Carnegie Hall to the March on Washington. Lush acrylic illustrations. (7–9)

**My Name Is Truth:**

**The Life of Sojourner Truth**

by Ann Turner, illustrated by James Ransome

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-075898-1

Transforming herself after a harsh life as a slave, this legendary orator and preacher vigorously advocated abolition and women's rights in the 1800s. Lyrical watercolor illustrations. Well referenced. (6–10)

**One Plastic Bag:**

**Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia**

by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon

(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-4677-1608-6

When plastic bags threaten the health of her Gambian neighborhood, one woman with a crochet hook takes action. Colorful collage illustrations. Map and author's notes. (6–9)

**\*Poet: The Remarkable Story of George Moses Horton**

written and illustrated by Don Tate

(Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-825-7

The long and difficult journey from being enslaved and illiterate to becoming a free man and a published author reveals a poet's resilience. Yellow-toned illustrations. Sources and notes. (7–9)

**Queen of the Diamond:**

**The Lizzie Murphy Story**

written and illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully

(Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-30007-4

In the early 20th century, Lizzie Murphy

proved that baseball wasn't just for men. This fictionalized account celebrates her rise to a major league career. Colorful, animated illustrations. (7–10)

**Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova**

by Laurel Snyder, illustrated by Julie Morstad

(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-1890-1

In Russia before World War I, a young girl who sees her first ballet knows right then what her future will be and becomes a world-famous ballerina. Mixed-media illustrations. (6–9)

**Talkin' Guitar:**

**A Story of Young Doc Watson**

written and illustrated by Robbin Gourley  
(Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-12988-7

The songs and soundscape of rural Appalachia inspired young, blind Arthel Watson to become a great folk singer and bluegrass musician. Gentle watercolors. (7–9)

**History**

**Aaron and Alexander: The Most Famous Duel in American History**

written and illustrated by Don Brown  
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-998-6

Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, two powerful figures of early American history, come to blows with fatal results. Dramatic watercolors. Notes and bibliography. (6–9)

**\*The Case for Loving:**

**The Fight for Interracial Marriage**

by Selina Alko, illustrated by Sean Qualls and Selina Alko

(Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, \$18.99)

978-0-545-47853-3

In the 1960s the Lovings successfully challenged the Virginia law that made their interracial marriage a crime. Subdued mixed-media illustrations. (6–9)

**The Founding Fathers!:**

**Those Horse-Ridin', Fiddle-Playin', Book-Readin', Gun-Totin' Gentlemen Who Started America**

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Barry Blitt  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-4274-0

Witty, evocative ink and watercolor illustrations enhance this lively, whimsical history of America's early leaders. Notes and sources. (6–10)

**\*Game Changer:**

**John McLendon and the Secret Game**

by John Coy, illustrated by Randy DuBurke  
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-1-4677-2604-7

In 1944 in segregated North Carolina, white players and black players broke the law to play basketball together. Muted color illustrations. (7–10)

**\*Seeds of Freedom: The Peaceful**

**Integration of Huntsville, Alabama**

by Hester Bass, illustrated by E. B. Lewis  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6919-5

As civil rights violence rocks the nation,

Huntsville, Alabama, chooses to peacefully integrate its restaurants, its movie theaters, and, finally, its schools. Warm, rich watercolors. Author's note and bibliography. (7–10)

### **Whale Trails: Before and Now**

by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by G. Brian Karas

(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9642-2

A whale-watching trip in Cape Cod today is juxtaposed with the lucrative whaling expeditions of the 18th and 19th centuries. Gouache, acrylic, and pencil illustrations. Back matter. (6–9)

### **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)**



### **Boy, Were We Wrong about the Human Body!**

by Kathleen V. Kudlinski, illustrated by Debbie Tilley

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3792-1

What will we find out in 20 years that will disprove what we know today? A delightful romp through medical history. Humorous watercolors. Time line. (7–9)

### **Boy, Were We Wrong about the Weather!**

by Kathleen V. Kudlinski, illustrated by Sebastià Serra

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3793-8

Throughout recorded history, people had myriad theories about weather—all wrong!

Artwork created with pencil and computer graphics. Time line. (7–9)

### **If You Love Honey: Nature's Connections**

by Martha Sullivan, illustrated by Cathy Morrison

(Dawn Publications, P \$8.95) 978-1-58469-534-9

Bees make honey—but they don't do it alone. They are part of an interactive cycle that includes dandelions, ladybugs, and many other plants and animals. Colorful, detailed illustrations. (7–9)

### **On the Construction Site:**

#### **A Shine-a-Light Book**

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Bee Johnson

(Kane Miller/EDC, \$12.99) 978-1-61067-370-9

Shine a light behind the page to uncover hidden features of a building site.

Presented in a Q and A format. Color and black-and-white illustrations. (5–8)



### **Raindrops Roll**

written and photographed by April Pulley Sayre

(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-2064-8

Outstanding photographs and clear text reveal the science of raindrops as they land. Back matter adds details about the water cycle. (5–8)



### **\*Simple Machines (Let's Read-and-Find-Out Science series)**

by D. J. Ward, illustrated by Mike Lowery (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-

232148-0

Learn about the six basic simple machines—levers, wheels and axles, pulleys, ramps, wedges, and screws. Humorous explanations. Pen, ink, and digital illustrations. (5–8)

### **Simple Machines:**

#### **Wheels, Levers, and Pulleys**

by David A. Adler, illustrated by Anna Raff  
(Holiday House, \$17.95) 978-0-8234-3309-4  
Did you know your teeth are simple machines? Find out how many simple machines there are in our everyday life. Useful, clear illustrations. (6–8)

#### **So You Want to Grow a Pizza? (Grow Your Food series)**

by Bridget Heos, illustrated by Daniele Fabbri  
(Amicus, \$19.95) 978-1-60753-740-3  
A humorous how-to on growing the ingredients for pizza sauce. Warm, colorful illustrations of the process. Recipe and resource list. (5–8)

#### **Sounds of the Savanna**

by Terry Catasús Jennings, illustrated by Phyllis Saroff  
(Arbordale, \$17.95) 978-1-62855-632-2  
From elephants trumpeting and rumbling to baboons shrieking and grunting, the animals of the savanna communicate through many different sounds. Detailed digital and oil illustrations. (7–9)

### **Water Is Water:**

#### **A Book about the Water Cycle**

by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Jason Chin  
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook

Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-984-9

Siblings explore the many different forms that water takes during each season. Lyrical text with realistic watercolor and gouache illustrations. Back matter provides scientific facts and bibliography. (6–9)

#### **What in the World?: Numbers in Nature**

by Nancy Raines Day, illustrated by Kurt Cyrus  
(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0060-2  
Large-scale colorful illustrations and simple rhyming text describe birds two by two, three by three, and in other sets in nature. (6–8)

#### **When the Wind Blows**

by Stacy Clark, illustrated by Brad Sneed  
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8243-3069-7  
From filling sails to turning windmills that produce power, wind can do many things. Poetically told with appealing illustrations. (5–7)

### **World**

#### **The Way to School**

by Rosemary McCarney, with Plan International  
(Second Story Press, \$18.95) 978-1-927583-78-4  
Children around the world share their different and sometimes dangerous experiences going to school. Full-color photographs, (5–8)

## NINE TO TWELVE

### FICTION

#### Adventure and Mystery

##### **Book Scavenger**

by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman, illustrated by Sarah Watts

(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-62779-115-1

When sinister developments threaten the online game *Book Scavenger*, Emily and James join a dangerous race to discover one special book. Black-and-white illustrations. (10–12)

##### **The Book That Proves Time Travel Happens**

by Henry Clark, illustrated by Terry Fan and Eric Fan

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-40617-8

During time travel, Ambrose and his friends find a historical connection between Morse code and ancient Chinese I-Ching hexagrams. Spot illustrations. (8–13)

##### **Finders Keepers**

by Shelley Tougas

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-59643-990-0

Can Al Capone's loot save Christa's summer cabin after her father loses his job? She and new friend Alex are detectives with pluck and wit. (9–12)

##### **The Girl with the Glass Bird**

by Esme Kerr

(Chicken House/Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-545-69984-6

Planted in a boarding school as a spy, Edie unravels the mystery of threats against a wealthy classmate, daughter of a Russian prince. (9–12)



##### **Gooseberry Park and the Master Plan**

by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Arthur Howard

(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-0449-5

A stouthearted dog, a funny, generous bat, a motherly squirrel, and a wise hermit crab come to the rescue during a terrible drought. Whimsical black-and-white illustrations. (8–10)

##### **Nooks & Crannies**

by Jessica Lawson, illustrated by Natalie Andrewson

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-1921-5

In 1907 England, Tabitha Crum is summoned, with five others, to the home of a countess. There Tabitha unlocks a mystery, changing her life forever. Expressive black-and-white drawings. (8–12)

##### **Old Wolf**

by Avi, illustrated by Brian Floca

(Richard Jackson Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$16.99) 978-1-4424-9921-8

An old wolf and his starving pack, a mocking raven, and a boy with a bow and arrow all collide in the Colorado

mountains. Evocative pen and ink drawings. (9–12)

**The Poe Estate**

by Polly Shulman

(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$16.99)  
978-0-399-16614-3

When Sukie goes with her parents to live with Cousin Hepzibah in the haunted Thorne Mansion, she meets an array of odd characters. (9–12)

**The Sign of the Cat**

written and illustrated by Lynne Jonell  
(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt  
BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-  
9683-5

With the help of cats and a tiger, Duncan discovers his true identity. Well-drawn characters, vivid, detailed settings, and finely detailed spot illustrations. (9–12)

**Smashie McPerter and the Mystery of Room 11**

by N. Griffin, illustrated by Kate Hindley  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-  
6145-8

The substitute teacher may be the culprit, but if so, how? Pen and pencil drawings. (8–11)

**Wonder at the Edge of the World**

by Nicole Helget, illustrated by Marcos Calo

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette,  
\$17.00) 978-0-316-24510-4

In the mid-1850s, an adolescent girl, left in charge of her father's artifacts, travels from Kansas to Antarctica with a shrunken head. Spot illustrations. (9–12)

**Anthologies and Collections**

**Terrifying Tales (Guys Read series)**

edited by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Gris Grimly

(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-238558-1

Ten stories by a variety of authors and illustrators go beyond ghouls and gore to explore the frightening supernatural. Black-and-white illustrations. (8–12)

**Coming of Age**

**Auggie & Me: Three Wonder Stories**

by R. J. Palacio

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99)  
978-1-101-93485-2

Three new Auggie tales explore redemption, childhood relationships, and the meaning of friendship. (8–12)

**Blackbird Fly**

by Erin Entrada Kelly, illustrated by Betsy Peterschmidt

(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-223861-0

A Filipino immigrant, bullied by boys for her Asian looks, dreams of running away to New Orleans and finding a new life as a musician. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (9–12)

**Fort**

by Cynthia DeFelice

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan,  
\$16.99) 978-0-374-32427-8

Two 11-year-olds spend the summer building a fort, confronting two bullies, and befriending a boy with disabilities. (8–12)



**\*Genuine Sweet**

by Faith Harkey

(Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-28366-4

A 12-year-old uses her magic to empower others to create positive changes in their communities and then to make changes in her own life. (9–12)

**George**

by Alex Gino

(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-81254-2

George knows she is a girl trapped in a boy's body. If she can be Charlotte in the school play, maybe her mom will understand. (9–12)

**\*Gone Crazy in Alabama**

by Rita Williams-Garcia

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-221587-1

Three Brooklyn sisters spend the summer of 1969 with kinfolk in Alabama, discovering their complicated family history and facing the aftermath of a dangerous tornado. (9–12)

**Listen, Slowly**

by Thanhà Lại

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-222918-2

Mai's grandfather died in the war in Vietnam. When she travels there to help her grandmother fully accept his death, Mai gains a broader view of her own life. Helpful map. (9–12)

**Look Both Ways in the Barrio Blanco**

by Judith Robbins Rose

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7235-5

When 12-year-old Jacinta, child of illegal immigrants, confronts the world outside the barrio, she faces opportunities, challenges, and confusion. (10–13)

**Moonpenny Island**

by Tricia Springstubb, illustrated by Gilbert Ford

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-211293-4

Her best friend leaves, her parents fight, her big sister acts strange, and Flor doesn't know how she will survive as the only eleven-year-old left on the island. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (8–12)

**Paper Things**

by Jennifer Richard Jacobson

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6323-0

After their parents die, 11-year-old Ari and her older brother leave their guardian and attempt to live independently, with unfortunate consequences. (9–12)

**The Penderwicks in Spring**

by Jeanne Birdsall

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-375-87077-4

Part of a family with many secrets, talents, and relationships, Batty reaches her 11th birthday and learns to accept herself. (10–13)



### **\*Sunny Side Up**

written and illustrated by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm, color by Lark Pien (Graphix/Scholastic, \$23.99; P \$12.99) 978-0-545-74165-1; 978-0-545-74166-8 (pbk)  
On a summer trip to visit her grandfather in Florida, Sunny discovers comic book heroes, swamp alligators, and how to cope with family problems. Humorous graphic illustrations. (9–12)

### **\*The Truth about Twinkie Pie**

by Kat Yeh  
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-23662-1  
Armed with her mom's recipe book and her big sister's support, brainy 12-year-old GiGi moves from a trailer park in South Carolina to attend a private school in New York. (10–13)

### **Fantasy**

#### **Alistair Grim's Odditorium**

by Gregory Funaro, illustrated by Vivienne To  
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4847-0006-8  
In the London of the 1800s, a 12-year-old chimney sweep ends up living with Alistair Grim in his magical building and fighting the evil Prince Nightshade. Spot black-and-white illustrations. (9–12)

#### **Confessions of an Imaginary Friend:**

##### **A Memoir by Jacques Papier**

written and illustrated by Michelle Cuevas  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-525-42755-1

After discovering he is imaginary, Jacques asks to be released and embarks on a journey of self-discovery. Spot black-and-white line drawings. (8–11)

#### **Crenshaw**

by Katherine Applegate  
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-250-04323-8  
When fifth-grader Jackson's family runs into money problems and faces homelessness, his old imaginary friend returns to help him through it—again. (9–12)

#### **Diary of a Mad Brownie (The Enchanted Files series)**

by Bruce Coville, illustrated by Paul Kidby  
(Random House Children's Books, \$16.99) 978-0-385-39247-1  
Eleven-year-old Alex and Angus, a brownie, embark on an adventure in the Enchanted Realm to break Alex's family curse. Detailed black-and-white illustrations. (9–11)

#### **The Imaginary**

by A. F. Harrold, illustrated by Emily Gravett  
(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$16.99) 978-0-8027-3811-0  
Rudger likes being Amanda's imaginary friend. When she begins to forget him, he is determined not to fade away. Whimsical black-and-white illustrations. (9–12)

#### **The Jumbies**

by Tracey Baptiste  
(Algonquin Young Readers/Workman Pub., \$15.95) 978-1-61620-414-3

When a strange woman puts her father under an evil spell, Corinne, 11, finds a way to stop her from taking over their Caribbean island home. (9–12)

### **Lilliput**

by Sam Gayton, illustrated by Alice Ratterree  
(Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-806-6  
Kidnapped from her beloved home in Lilliput, three-inch-tall Lily finds herself Gulliver's prisoner. Will she escape? Black-and-white pencil and watercolor illustrations. (9–12)

### **\*A Nearer Moon**

by Melanie Crowder  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-4148-3  
Sisterly love unfolds in two intertwined fantasies. Exquisite prose. (9–12)

### **The Nest**

by Kenneth Oppel, illustrated by Jon Klassen  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-3232-0  
Steve has nightmares about a swarm of wasps as he worries about his sick baby brother. Graphite illustrations. (9–11)

### **Rules for Stealing Stars**

by Corey Ann Haydu  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-235271-2  
Coping with their mother's alcoholism and their father's inability to connect with the world, four sisters discover a magical way to get what they need. (9–12)

## **Folk and Fairy Tales**



### **\*Hiawatha and the Peacemaker**

by Robbie Robertson, illustrated by David Shannon  
(Abrams BFYR, \$19.95) 978-1-4197-1220-3  
Hiawatha, a Mohawk warrior, translates and disseminates the Peacemaker's message to unite the Iroquois nations during the 14th century. Oil paintings. CD included. (9–12)



### **On the Shoulder of a Giant:**

#### **An Inuit Folktale**

retold by Neil Christopher, illustrated by James Nelson  
(Inhabit Media, \$16.95) 978-1-77227-002-0  
The giant Inukpak adopts a human hunter as a son and takes him along on his travels. Dramatic digital illustrations. (8–10)

### **The Treasury of Norse Mythology: Stories of Intrigue, Trickery, Love, and Revenge**

by Donna Jo Napoli, illustrated by Christina Balit  
(National Geographic, \$24.99) 978-1-4263-2098-9  
Meet Thor the thunder god, Loki the trickster, Freyja the magician, and other Norse gods. Lavish, colorful illustrations. (10–14)

## **Historical Fiction**

### **Adam & Thomas**

by Aharon Appelfeld, translated from the Hebrew by Jeffrey M. Green, illustrated by Philippe Dumas

(Triangle Square BFYR/Seven Stories Press, \$18.95) 978-1-60980-634-7

Impending deportation from the ghetto forces two Jewish mothers to leave their sons in a forest. The boys survive due to their friendship and ingenuity. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (9–11)

### **Anastasia and Her Sisters**

by Carolyn Meyer

(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0326-9

The final years of Russia's Romanov dynasty are recounted by the last czar's youngest daughter. (10–13)

### **The Blackthorn Key**

by Kevin Sands

(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-4651-8

Why is a secret cult murdering apothecaries? Apprentice Christopher mourns the death of his master and, with his friend Tom, tries to solve the murders. (9–12)

### **The Boy Who Fell off the Mayflower, or John Howland's Good Fortune**

written and illustrated by P. J. Lynch  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-6584-5

Joining the Pilgrims as an indentured servant, teenager John Howland endures the rigors of an ocean voyage and the creation of a new colony. Watercolor and gouache illustrations. Bibliography. (9–12)

### **Chasing Freedom: The Life Journeys of Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony Inspired by Historical Facts**

by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Michele Wood

(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99) 978-0-439-79338-4

In an imaginary 1904 meeting, Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony talk about their life's work and their achievements. Folk-art style illustrations. (8–11)

### **Chasing Secrets**

by Gennifer Choldenko

(Wendy Lamb Books/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-385-74253-5

In 1900, when San Francisco is threatened with the plague, Chinese immigrants are blamed. A doctor's daughter tries to save those she loves. (9–13)

### **\*The Curious World of Calpurnia Tate**

by Jacqueline Kelly

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-9744-3

A spirited, inquisitive girl shares both her love for science and animals and her thoughts about family relationships and the effects of traumatic historical events. (9–12)

### **Currents**

by Jane Petrlik Smolik

(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-648-1  
A message put in a bottle by an 11-year-old slave in Virginia reaches two other young girls and transforms their lives. (10–13)

### **\*The Detective's Assistant**

by Kate Hannigan

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-40351-1

In 1859 a lively orphan helps her aunt, the first female detective for Pinkerton's, recover stolen money and thwart an assassination. Based on true events. (9–12)

### **Finding Someplace**

by Denise Lewis Patrick

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-4716-5

In New Orleans at the time of Hurricane Katrina, a young teen experiences challenges in her community, her family, and her life. (9–12)

### **\*Full Cicada Moon**

by Marilyn Hilton

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-525-42875-6

In 1969 Mimi moves to Vermont with her Japanese mother and black father. Passionate about the space program, she follows her heart and stands up for her beliefs. Told in free verse. (9–12)

### **\*Granddaddy's Turn:**

#### **A Journey to the Ballot Box**

by Michael S. Bandy and Eric Stein,

illustrated by James E. Ransome

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6593-7

A grandson recalls the day his grandfather tried to vote for the first time in the segregated South. Expressive watercolors, (8–11)

### **Half a Man**

by Michael Morpurgo, illustrated by

Gemma O'Callaghan

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7747-3

Michael, 12, learns how his grandfather was disfigured in the war and about the lonely, isolated life he led afterwards.

Muted ink and screen-printed illustrations. (9–12)

### **Harlem Renaissance Party**

written and illustrated by Faith Ringgold

(Amistad Press/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-057911-1

Lonnie and Uncle Bates take an unforgettable journey to the Harlem of the 1930s and meet W. E. B. Du Bois, Langston Hughes, and other famous leaders and artists. Vibrant illustrations. (8–10)

### **The Iliad**

by Homer, retold by Gillian Cross,

illustrated by Neil Packer

(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-0-7636-7832-6

After Paris abducts Menelaus's wife, Helen, the Greeks and Trojans battle for 10 years, each aided by the gods and goddesses.

Striking mixed-media illustrations. (10–13)



### **Lillian's Right to Vote: A Celebration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965**

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Shane W. Evans

(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-39028-6

En route to vote, 100-year-old Lillian reviews her family's turbulent voting history. Striking large colorful mixed-media illustrations bring the struggle to life. (8–11)

**\*Night on Fire**

by Ronald Kidd

(Albert Whitman, \$16.99) 978-0-8075-7024-1

In 1961, after witnessing violent attacks on the peaceful Freedom Riders in her home town of Anniston, Alabama, Billie, a white 13-year-old girl, bonds with Jarmaine, a black girl. They travel together to Montgomery to join the fight against segregation. (9–13)

**River Runs Deep**

by Jennifer Bradbury

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$16.99) 978-1-4424-6824-5

Sent to Mammoth Cave in Kentucky to cure his tuberculosis, 12-year-old Elias comes upon runaway slaves seeking their freedom. (9–13)

**The Safest Lie**

by Angela Cerrito

(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3310-0  
During World War II, nine-year-old Anna's life changes completely. With a new non-Jewish identity, she is sent out of the Warsaw ghetto, first to a Catholic orphanage and then to a foster home. (9–13)

**\*Sitting Bull: Lakota Warrior and Defender of His People**

written and illustrated by S. D. Nelson  
(Abrams BFYR, \$19.95) 978-1-4197-0731-5  
An imagined autobiography chronicles the great Lakota leader's valiant struggle against white encroachment. Maps,

photographs, and period-style illustrations. (8–12)

**Stella by Starlight**

by Sharon M. Draper

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$16.99) 978-4-4424-9497-8

In 1932, when the Ku Klux Klan returns to Bumblebee, North Carolina, Stella, 11, deals with prejudice in a time of change. (9–12)

**Walking Two Worlds (Pathfinders series)**

by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by David Fadden

(7th Generation/Book Publishing Co., P \$9.95) 978-1-939053-10-7

This fictional account portrays the early life of Ely Parker, a Seneca chief who became leader of the Iroquois nation in the mid-1800s. (8–11)

**\*The Way to Stay in Destiny**

by Augusta Scattergood

(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-53824-4

Theo, 12, wants a home, a friend, and a piano, and he's found them all in the town of Destiny. Unfortunately, Uncle Raymond has other plans for him. (9–12)

**The Wolf Wilder**

by Katherine Rundell

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-1942-0

With the help of a band of children and half-wild wolves, Feo sets out to free her mother from a czarist prison. (10–13)

## **Humor**

### **The Doldrums**

written and illustrated by Nicholas Gannon  
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-232094-0

Archer feels trapped in his boring life until he and two friends decide to go looking for his grandparents, lost on an exploration. Droll, painterly illustrations. (9–12)



### **The Ghastly McNastys:**

#### **The Lost Treasure of Little Snoring**

by Lyn Gardner, illustrated by Ros Asquith  
(Kids Can Press, \$16.95) 978-1-77138-128-4  
Can best friends Tat and Hetty outwit ruthless, repulsive pirates and find the buried treasure? Grossly funny black-and-white illustrations. (8–10)



### **Hamster Princess:**

#### **Harriet the Invincible**

written and illustrated by Ursula Vernon  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$12.99 ) 978-0-8037-3983-3

An evil fairy places a curse on Harriet: she is to fall into a death-like sleep at the age of 12. Until then, however, Harriet thinks she is unbeatable. Bold artwork. (8–12)

### **Lucky Strike**

by Bobbie Pyron  
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, \$16.99)  
978-0-545-59217-8

When Nate is struck by lightning, his bad luck changes—but so do his friendships in the fishing town of Paradise Beach, Florida. (9–12)

### **The Terrible Two**

by Mac Barnett and Jory John, illustrated by Kevin Cornell  
(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$13.95) 978-1-4197-1491-7

Miles's ambition to become the premier prankster at his new school faces stiff competition from a surprising source. Black-and-white drawings. (9–11)

## **Science Fiction**



### **\*The Boy Who Crashed to Earth (Hilo series)**

by Judd Winick, color by Guy Major  
(Random House Children's Books, \$13.99)  
978-0-385-38617-3

After Hilo falls from the sky, Gina and 10-year-old D. J. join him in his quest to save the world. Brightly colored graphics. (8–12)

### **The Flinkwater Factor (The Flinkwater Chronicles series)**

by Pete Hautman  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-3251-1

In her high-tech town, 13-year-old Ginger searches for a way to help the comatose victims of an epidemic caused by viewing computer screens. (9–12)

### **Fuzzy Mud**

by Louis Sachar  
(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$16.99)  
978-0-385-74378-5

Taking a shortcut to avoid a bully, two middle schoolers uncover the threat of an environmental disaster. (8–12)

## **Sports**

### **Game Seven**

by Paul Volponi

(Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-670-78518-6

Sixteen-year-old Julio's father, an ace pitcher, has defected from Cuba. Will that damage Julio's chance to play for Cuba's national baseball team? (9–12)



### **Roller Girl**

written and illustrated by Victoria Jamieson  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, P \$12.99) 978-0-8037-4016-7

A trip to a roller derby inspires Astrid to leave her predictable life and attend roller derby boot camp. Colorful, dynamic, expressive panels. (9–12)

## **Today**

### **Another Kind of Hurricane**

by Tamara Ellis Smith

(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-553-51193-2

A lucky marble connects the lives of Zavion, 10, who lost everything in Hurricane Katrina, and of 10-year-old Henry in Vermont, who has lost his best friend. (9–12)

### **Footer Davis Probably Is Crazy**

by Susan Vaught

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-2276-5

Footer and her friend Peavine decide to help solve the mystery of two kids missing after a house fire, though Footer worries

that she might be becoming sick like her bipolar mother. (9–13)

### **\*Lost In the Sun**

by Lisa Graff

(Philomel Books/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-16406-4

Twelve-year-old Trent struggles with guilt and anger after a fatal accident, but then class outcast Fallon befriends him. (9–12)

### **My Tata's Remedies/**

### **Los remedios de mi Tata**

by Roni Capin Rivera-Ashford, illustrated by Antonio Castro L

(Cinco Puntos Press, P \$8.95) 978-1-935955-89-4

Tata (Grandpa) uses plants to cure illness. Full-page colored illustrations and glossary of medicinal herbs and remedies. In English and Spanish. (8–11)

### **\*The Thing about Jellyfish**

by Ali Benjamin

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-38086-7

Suzy, 12, sets out to meet a jellyfish expert in Australia to prove that an Irukandji sting caused her best friend's death. (9–12)

### **\*Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer**

by Kelly Jones, illustrated by Katie Kath

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-385-75552-8

Moving from Los Angeles to a farm is a difficult adjustment for Sophie and her multiethnic family. Handling supernatural chickens is an even greater challenge.



Detailed black-and-white illustrations.  
(10–13)

## POETRY



### **\*Beastly Verse**

written and illustrated by JooHee Yoon  
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$18.95) 978-1-59270-166-7

These 16 child-friendly animal-themed poems—by Ogden Nash, Lewis Carroll, William Blake, and others—range from nonsensical to sublime. Dazzling fluorescent-colored illustrations, including four foldouts. (8–10)

### **\*Dreams of Freedom:**

#### **In Words and Pictures**

edited by Janetta Otter-Barry, foreword by Michael Morpurgo  
(Frances Lincoln Children's Books in association with Amnesty International, \$18.99) 978-1-84780-453-2

The words of Harriet Tubman, Malala Yousafzai, and other activists and writers express the many freedoms that all people have the right to enjoy. Powerful color illustrations by numerous artists. (10–13)



### **The Maine Coon's Haiku and Other Poems for Cat Lovers**

by Michael J. Rosen, illustrated by Lee White  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-6492-3

Spare haiku verse and digitally created illustrations convey the unique characteristics of 20 breeds of cats. Notes

provide additional facts and explain the history of each breed. (8–12)

### **Poems in the Attic**

by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon

(Lee & Low Books, \$19.95) 978-1-62014-027-7

While visiting her grandmother, a young girl discovers poems her mother wrote when her father was in the Air Force. Mixed-media illustrations. (8–11)

### **\*Should You Be a River:**

#### **A Poem about Love**

written and illustrated by Ed Young  
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-23089-6

How many ways are there to say “I love you”? A breathtaking visual journey in verse. Evocative illustrations combining collage, photographs, and calligraphy. (8–10)

## INFORMATION BOOKS

### Activities

#### **101 Things to Do before You Grow Up**

by Laura Dower, edited by Alexandra Koken, Gemma Barder, and Fay Evans, illustrated by Dan Bramall and Katie Knutton

(Walter Foster Jr./Quarto Pub., \$12.95) 978-1-63322-003-4

Learn how to make a compass, write a spooky story, and much more. Includes materials and complete, clearly illustrated instructions. (8–11)

**The Nitty-Gritty Gardening Book:  
Fun Projects for All Seasons**

by Kari Cornell, photographed by Jennifer S. Larson

(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$26.65) 978-1-4677-2647-4

Learn all about gardening, including what you need and how and when to do each step of the process. Descriptive photographs. (8–12)

**Arts**

**The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore**

by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie

(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-0-7613-3943-4

The inspiring story of Harlem's National Memorial African Bookstore, as told from the point of view of the son of its founder Lewis Michaux, is illustrated with dramatic paintings that incorporate Michaux's proverbs. (8–10)

**\*Funny Bones:**

**Posada and His Day of the Dead *Calaveras***

written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams BFYR, \$18.95) 978-1-4197-1647-8

In the 19th century, a Mexican printer created political cartoons depicting humorous skeletons that have become synonymous with the Day of the Dead festival. Stylized art captures the spirit of the holiday. Back matter. (8–11)

**Rhythm Ride:**

**A Road Trip through the Motown Sound**

by Andrea Davis Pinkney

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$22.99) 978-1-59643-973-3

Ride along with the Groove and follow the exciting history of the music and performers of Detroit, from Diana Ross to the Jackson 5. Illustrated with photographs. (10–13)

**Biography and Memoir**

**\*Enchanted Air:**

**Two Cultures, Two Wings, a Memoir**

by Margarita Engle

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-3522-2

A young girl reflects on her love of her Cuban family and heritage as the rest of America fears an atomic war. (9–12)

**Enormous Smallness:**

**A Story of E. E. Cummings**

by Matthew Burgess, illustrated by Kris Di Giacomo

(Enchanted Lion Books, \$17.95) 978-1-59270-171-1

From early childhood on, Cummings wove words and imagination into poetry. Textured illustrations perfectly picture his life. Back matter includes a chronology, four poems, and an author's note. (8–10)

**Fur, Fins, and Feathers:**

**Abraham Dee Bartlett and the Invention of the Modern Zoo**

written and illustrated by Cassandre Maxwell

(Eerdmans BFYR, \$17.00) 978-0-8028-5432-2

In the late 1800s, the self-taught superintendant of the London Zoo worked tirelessly to improve the lives of the animals in his care. Realistic cut-paper collage illustrations. Time line, sources, bibliography. (8–11)

### **Growing Up Pedro**

written and illustrated by Matt Tavares (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6824-2

Growing up in the Dominican Republic, Pedro Martínez worshipped his older brother, Ramón, and followed him to an extraordinary baseball career. Colorful gouache illustrations. Also in a Spanish language edition. (9–12)

### **The House That Jane Built:**

#### **A Story about Jane Addams**

by Tanya Lee Stone, illustrated by Kathryn Brown

(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9049-9

Opened in Chicago by Jane Addams in 1889, by 1907 Hull House grew to a 13-building complex providing services and opportunities to poor immigrant families. Gentle watercolor and pen and ink illustrations. Bibliography and author's note. (9–12)

### **The Inker's Shadow**

written and illustrated by Allen Say (Scholastic Press, \$19.99) 978-0-545-43776-9

Overcoming indifference and hostility and reaping the benefits of unexpected kindness, a boy who loves to draw

becomes a professional artist. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (10–13)

### **My Story, My Dance:**

#### **Robert Battle's Journey to Alvin Ailey**

by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome

(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-2221-5

Bowlegged as a child, Robert Battle became a dancer, choreographer, and artistic director of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Warm pastel illustrations. Bibliography. (8–11)

### **The Rain Wizard:**

#### **The Amazing, Mysterious, True Life of Charles Mallory Hatfield**

by Larry Dane Brimner

(Calkins Creek/Highlights, \$16.95) 978-1-59078-990-2

In the early 1900s, Charles Mallory Hatfield promised to bring rain to drought-stricken San Diego. Notes, bibliography, archival photographs. (9–12)

### **Tricky Vic:**

#### **The Impossibly True Story of the Man Who Sold the Eiffel Tower**

written and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli (Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-670-01652-5

Robert Miller spent a lifetime bilking rich people by appealing to their avarice. Mixed-media artwork. Glossary and bibliography. (9–12)

### **Trombone Shorty**

by Troy ("Trombone Shorty") Andrews, illustrated by Bryan Collier

(Abrams BFYR, \$17.95) 978-1-4197-1465-8  
When he finds a broken trombone, a young boy in New Orleans fulfills his wish of becoming a musician like his dad and brother. Stunning watercolors and collages. (8–10)

**\*Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall**  
by Anita Silvey, foreword by Jane Goodall  
(National Geographic, \$18.99) 978-1-4263-1518-3

Outstanding photographs enhance this discussion of Goodall and her work with chimpanzees. (9–12)

**\*Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer: Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement**  
by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Ekua Holmes  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-6531-9

Born into extreme poverty in Mississippi in 1917, African American activist Fannie Lou Hamer fought tirelessly for voting rights and social justice. Told in free verse with vibrant collages. (10–13)

## **Ecology**

**The Red Bicycle:  
The Extraordinary Story of One Ordinary Bicycle**  
by Jude Isabella, illustrated by Simone Shin  
(Kids Can Press, \$18.95) 978-1-77138-023-2  
This engaging tale of global sharing raises awareness of our actions in the world. Supportive back matter and playful illustrations. (9–13)

## **Trash Talk!:**

### **Moving toward a Zero-Waste World**

by Michelle Mulder  
(Orca Footprints/Orca, \$19.95) 978-1-4598-0692-4

People create prodigious amounts of garbage. How can we clean up our towns and our planet? (9–12)



### **\*Wangari Maathai: The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees**

by Franck Prévot, illustrated by Aurélia Fronty  
(Charlesbridge, \$17.95) 978-1-58089-626-9  
Maathai, a Kenyan environmentalist and activist, won the Nobel Prize for contributions to sustainable forest management, tribal peace, and democracy. Lush, colorful illustrations. Extensive back matter. (9–12)

### **What's the Buzz?: Keeping Bees in Flight**

by Merrie-Ellen Wilcox  
(Orca Book Publishers, \$19.95) 978-1-4598-0960-4

Colorful photographs accompany information about the life of bees, their role as pollinators, and how we can help to protect them. (8–11)

## **History**



### **\*28 Days: Moments in Black History That Changed the World**

by Charles R. Smith, Jr., illustrated by Shane W. Evans  
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-59643-820-0

Great African American men and women are praised in both poetry and prose. Striking mixed-media illustrations. (8–12)

### **Historium**

#### **(Welcome to the Museum series)**

by Jo Nelson, illustrated by Richard Wilkinson

(Big Picture Press/Candlewick, \$35.00) 978-0-7636-7984-2

This thoughtful selection presents archeological artifacts from ancient cultures and civilizations. Oversize pages with hand-drawn and digitally painted illustrations. (9–13)

#### **\*The Impossible Voyage of Kon-Tiki**

written and illustrated by Deborah Kogan Ray

(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-620-7

In 1947 Norwegian anthropologist Thor Heyerdahl set out to prove, by replicating their journey, that the Incans had voyaged by raft to the South Pacific islands. Dramatic watercolors. (10–13)

### **Jars of Hope:**

#### **How One Woman Helped Save 2,500 Children during the Holocaust**

by Jennifer Roy, illustrated by Meg Owenson

(Capstone Press/Capstone, \$14.95) 978-1-62370-425-4

Irena Sendler, a Polish social worker, smuggled nearly 2,500 Jewish children out of the Warsaw Ghetto before she was arrested. Atmospheric digitally created illustrations. (9–12)



### **\*Mesmerized:**

#### **How Ben Franklin Solved a Mystery That Baffled All of France**

by Mara Rockliff, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno

(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-6351-3

On a visit to Paris, Franklin used the scientific method to prove that Dr. Mesmer's magic wand really had no power. Digitally colored pencil illustrations. Resources. (8–10)

### **Swing Sisters:**

#### **The Story of the International**

#### **Sweethearts of Rhythm**

by Karen Deans, illustrated by Joe Cepeda (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-1970-8

Despite encountering racism and sexism, an integrated, all-female jazz band performed successfully throughout the United States in the 1930s and '40s. Acrylic and oil illustrations offer a jazzy palette of color. (8–10)

### **Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom:**

#### **My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March**

by Lynda Blackmon Lowery, as told to Elspeth Leacock and Susan Buckley, illustrated by PJ Loughran

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$19.99) 978-0-8037-4123-2

Lowery recounts her experiences as the youngest participant in the 1965 voting rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. Photographs and cartoon-like illustrations. (9–12)

## **Reference**

### **United States Encyclopedia:**

#### **America's People, Places, and Events**

by Julie Beer, Mark H. Bockenbauer, Stephan F. Canha, and Michelle Harris (National Geographic, \$24.99) 978-1-4263-2092-7

Entries about each of the 50 states include information about people, cultural sites, and history. Photographs, maps, time line, and copies of historical documents. (10–13)

### **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)**



#### **Be a Beach Detective**

written and illustrated by Peggy Kochanoff (Nimbus Publishing, \$14.95) 978-1-77108-267-9

Can dead jellyfish still sting you? Learn the answer and much more information about common sea creatures and plants. Detailed, well-labeled illustrations. Glossary, references. (8–11)

### **The Call of the Osprey (Scientists in the Field series)**

by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, photographed by William Muñoz (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$18.99) 978-0-544-23268-6

In Montana's mining areas, researchers study ospreys' gigantic nests and close family relations to monitor the effects of mercury contaminants on these fish-catching birds. Vivid photographs. (9–12)

### **Counting Lions: Portraits from the Wild**

by Katie Cotton, illustrated by Stephen Walton (Candlewick Press, \$22.00) 978-0-7636-8207-1

This nontraditional counting book lyrically describes the behaviors and habitats of 10 endangered animals. Realistically detailed charcoal illustrations. (8–12)

### **\*Curious Critters: Marine**

written and photographed by David FitzSimmons (Wild Iris Pub., \$16.95) 978-1-936607-72-3  
Twenty North American ocean inhabitants share their unique stories. Breathtaking photographs. Back matter. (8–11)

### **The Great Monkey Rescue:**

#### **Saving the Golden Lion Tamarins**

by Sandra Markle (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$22.99) 978-1-4677-8030-8

Scientists use unique strategies to save Brazil's golden lion tamarin monkeys from the brink of extinction. Gorgeous color photos. (8–10)



### **\*Human Body Theater**

written and illustrated by Maris Wicks (First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$19.99) 978-1-62672-277-4

Friendly, cartoon-like body parts and components are the characters in this comprehensive, humorous overview of human physiology. Helpful diagrams. (9–12)

### **I See a Pattern Here**

by Bruce Goldstone, photographed by Bruce Goldstone and others  
(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9209-7

Look at diverse patterns in nature, artwork, and more and explore the secrets behind them. Instructions for making your own patterns. Colorful photographs. (8–10)

### **The Kids' Book of Simple Machines: Cool Projects & Activities That Make Science Fun**

by Kelly Doudna  
(Mighty Media Kids, P \$14.95) 978-1-938063-59-6

Use everyday items to learn about and build simple machines. Activities have step-by-step instructions. Concepts are well illustrated with photographs. (8–12)

### **The Octopus Scientists: Exploring the Mind of a Mollusk (Scientists in the Field series)**

by Sy Montgomery, photographed by Keith Ellenbogen  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$18.99) 978-0-544-23270-9

Researchers on the island of Moorea, near Tahiti, search for the elusive octopus and uncover some of its fascinating secrets. Color photographs. Index, bibliography. (8–12)

### **\*Octopuses!: Strange and Wonderful**

by Laurence Pringle, illustrated by Meryl Henderson  
(Boyds Mills Press/Highlights, \$16.95) 978-1-59078-928-5  
Learn all about these solitary, highly

intelligent mollusks who can change color and shape in a fraction of a second and perform complex tasks. Finely detailed watercolor illustrations. Glossary, bibliography, index. (8–11)



### **The Queen's Shadow:**

#### **A Story about How Animals See**

written and illustrated by Cybèle Young  
(Kids Can Press, \$16.95) 978-1-894786-60-7  
The science of eyesight is woven into a clever whodunit involving a haughty queen. Scientific notes. Digitally colored pen and ink illustrations. (8–12)

### **\*Sand Swimmers: The Secret Life of Australia's Desert Wilderness**

written and illustrated by Narelle Oliver  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6761-0

An astonishing variety of wildlife has adapted to the extremely harsh conditions in the desert of Central Australia. Meticulously detailed mixed-media illustrations. (8–12)

### **Small Wonders:**

#### **Jean-Henri Fabre & His World of Insects**

by Matthew Clark Smith, illustrated by Giuliano Ferri  
(Two Lions/Amazon Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4778-2632-4

Admired by Darwin, this little-known naturalist observed insects in the wild, made important discoveries, and published more than 200 works. Detailed watercolors. Sources, time line. (8–11)

### **Spidermania: Friends on the Web**

by Alexandra Siy, photographed by Dennis

Kunkel

(Holiday House, \$17.95) 978-0-8234-2871-7  
Learn about spider anatomy, behavior, and habitats. Dramatic SEM (scanning electron microscope) photographs. Glossary, sources, bibliography. (8–12)

- **STEM Trailblazer Biographies**

**Aerospace Engineer Aprille Ericsson**

by Laura Hamilton Waxman, 978-1-4677-6118-5

**Computer Engineer Ruchi Sanghvi**

by Laura Hamilton Waxman, 978-0-4677-6119-2

**SpaceX and Tesla Motors Engineer Elon Musk**

by Matt Doeden, 978-1-4677-6116-1

**Theoretical Physicist Brian Greene**

by Matt Doeden, 978-1-4677-6115-4

(Lerner Publications, P \$7.99 each)

Meet scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians whose passion for discovery and innovation are changing the world and our understanding of it. Photographs. (10–12)



**The Story of Life:**

**A First Book about Evolution**

by Catherine Barr and Steve Williams, illustrated by Amy Husband

(Frances Lincoln Children's Books, \$18.99) 978-1-84780-485-3

From the hot noisy world of volcanoes four billion years ago to the furry animals that became humans, evolution is explained in clear simple text with helpful illustrations. (8–11)

**This Bridge Will Not Be Gray**

by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Tucker

Nichols

(McSweeney's, \$19.95) 978-1-940450-47-6

How was San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge designed and constructed? Colored paper and collage illustrations. (8–10)

## TWELVE TO FOURTEEN

### FICTION

#### Adventure and Mystery



**\*Last of the Sandwalkers**

written and illustrated by Jay Hosler

(First Second/Roaring Brook

Press/Macmillan, P \$16.99) 978-1-62672-024-4

An intrepid group of beetles leads a scientific expedition and makes fascinating discoveries that challenge their isolated homeland's world-view. Dynamic drawings. (13–15)



**\*Nimona**

written and illustrated by Noelle Stevenson

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-227823-4

Lord Blackheart takes on a shape-shifting sidekick in his battle against Sir Goldenloin and an evil political system. Imaginative digital comic panels. (12–15)

#### Coming of Age

#### **Connect the Stars**

by Marisa de los Santos and David Teague

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-



227465-6

Thirteen-year-old Audrey has given up on friendship. Will being part of a team at a desert wilderness camp restore her ability to trust others? (12–14)

**The Frail Days (Orca Limelights series)**

by Gabrielle Prendergast

(Orca Book Publishers, P \$9.95) 978-1-4598-0464-7

When 16-year-old Stella, a rock musician, seeks a new singer for her band, she must overcome female stereotyping. (12–15)

**\*Goodbye Stranger**

by Rebecca Stead

(Wendy Lamb Books/Random House, \$19.99) 978-0-385-74317-4

Three seventh-grade friends and their siblings deal with family issues, school bullying, viral selfies, and evolving relationships. (11–14)

**The Honest Truth**

by Dan Gemeinhart

(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-66573-5

Twelve-year-old Mark, dying of cancer, decides to climb a mountain with his dog as his final quest for his own identity. (11–14)

**\*The Marvels**

written and illustrated by Brian Selznick  
(Scholastic Press, \$32.99) 978-0-545-44868-0

The story of Billy Marvel, who in 1766 becomes the first member of an acting dynasty, is told in pictures. The story of Joseph Jervis, who searches for his

mysterious uncle in 1990, is told in prose. How do the tales of the two boys connect? (11–13)



**\*Orbiting Jupiter**

by Gary D. Schmidt

(Clarion Books/HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-544-46222-9

On a rural Maine farm, Joseph, 14 years old and a father, joins the family of 12-year-old Jack as a foster child. (12–14)  
Mature Content.

**P.S. I Still Love You**

by Jenny Han

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-2673-3

When an old friend turns up, Lara Jean's life gets complicated. Can she love two boys at once? Positive family relationships help her. (12–15)

**\*The Seventh Most Important Thing**

by Shelley Pearsall

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-553-49728-1

After assaulting the "Junk Man," 13-year-old Arthur is ordered to work for him for 120 hours or go to jail. (12–15)

**Show and Prove**

by Sofia Quintero

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-375-84707-3

In the south Bronx in 1983, three teenagers try to make sense of poverty, drugs, race relations, and war in the Middle East. (12–15)

### **Six Impossible Things**

by Fiona Wood

(Poppy/Little, Brown, and Company  
\$18.00) 978-0-316-24216-5

Reeling from major family traumas, Dan contends with a new school, a sad mother, and a huge crush on the girl next door. (12–14)

### **Stand-Off**

by Andrew Smith

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-1829-4

A high school senior deals with losing his best friend, rooming with a 12-year-old freshman, and longing for his girlfriend. (12–15)

### **This Side of Home**

by Renée Watson

(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$17.99)  
978-1-59990-668-3

Twins Maya and Nikki respond differently as gentrification changes their neighborhood, impacting their friendships and college decisions. (13–15)

### **Fantasy**



#### **Baba Yaga's Assistant**

by Marika McCoola, illustrated by Emily Carroll

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6961-4

When her widowed father becomes engaged to a woman she has never met, tween Masha runs away to become the assistant to a witch. Elegant digitally created illustrations. (11–14)



#### **\*Beastkeeper**

by Cat Hellisen

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan,  
\$16.99) 978-0-8050-9980-5

Thirteen-year-old Sarah works to preserve her humanity when her family is torn apart by curses, revenge, and jealousy. (12–15)

#### **\*Cuckoo Song**

by Frances Hardinge

(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$17.95) 978-1-4197-1480-1

Thirteen-year-old Triss wakes up with a hazy memory, insatiable hunger, and inexplicable hostility from her younger sister. What is happening? (12–15)

#### **\*The Darkest Part of the Forest**

by Holly Black

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette,  
\$18.00) 978-0-316-21307-3

For years, faeries and humans have co-existed in Fairfold. Then Hazel starts a chain of events that will alter both worlds forever. (13–15)

#### **The Disappearance of Emily H.**

by Barrie Summy

(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$16.99)  
978-0-385-73943-6

Raine, an itinerant student with the unusual gift of seeing “sparkles” of people and places that disclose hidden truths, works to solve a mystery in her new town. (11–14)

#### **Great Ball of Light**

by Evan Kuhlman, illustrated by Jeremy Holmes

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster

Children's Publishing, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-6461-2

When twins Fiona and Fenton catch a ball of light that has the magical power of restoring life, unexpected events ensue. Charcoal pencil and watercolor illustrations. (11–14)

### **Hunter**

by Mercedes Lackey, illustrated by Larry Dixon

(Hyperion/Disney, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-0784-5

Joy, a skillful Hunter, battles daily with deadly Othersider creatures. But can she meet the challenges of the political battles in the all-powerful government. Spot decorations. (13–15)



### **Legend: The Graphic Novel**

adapted by Leigh Dragoon, illustrated by Kaari, based on the trilogy by Marie Lu (G.P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin, P \$14.99) 978-0-399-17189-5

This full-color graphic format adaptation of *Lu's Legend* brings the struggle between the Republic and the Patriots and the relationship between Day and June to life. (12–15)

### **Mechanica**

by Betsy Cornwell

(Clarion Books/HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-547-92771-8

Is there a “happily ever after” for the 16-year-old inventor-mechanic who needs to escape her dreary existence with her bullying stepfamily? A different kind of Cinderella story. (11–14)

### **The Second Guard (Second Guard series)**

by J. D. Vaughn

(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4231-6909-3

When Tali reports for military training, as required of all second-born 15-year-olds, she and her two new compatriots discover treason afoot. (12–15)

### **The Shadow behind the Stars**

by Rebecca Hahn

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-3571-0

Chloe describes the world from her perspective as the youngest of a trio of immortal sisters, the Fates of Greek myth. (11–15)

### **The Sin Eater's Daughter**

by Melinda Salisbury

(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-81062-3

With one touch, Twylla executes traitors in the kingdom of Lormere. Then she struggles to unearth the truth, with the help of two suitors, the prince, and her guard. (12–15)

### **Six of Crows**

by Leigh Bardugo

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-62779-212-7

Seventeen-year-old Kaz leads his gang of outcasts to a far-off island as they try to capture the scientist producing a drug that could destroy humanity. (12–15)

### **Star Rise (Horses of the Dawn series)**

by Kathryn Lasky

(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-39717-9

Tijo, a lame boy rejected by his clan, forms an extraordinary bond with a group of wild horses that help them all survive. (13–15)

### **The Storyspinner (The Keepers' Chronicles series)**

by Becky Wallace

(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0565-2

Told by five characters, this fantasy combines magic, romance, political intrigue, warriors, and a missing princess. Johanna, a storyspinner, must confront her destiny. (12–15)



### **Switch**

by Ingrid Law

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3862-1

Although their magic has gone awry, the Beaumonts need to rescue Grandma Pat, who suffers from dementia. (11–13)

### **The Sword of Summer (Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard series)**

by Rick Riordan

(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$19.99) 978-1-4231-6091-5

Magnus dies heroically in battle with the Norse darklord Surt and goes to Valhalla to defend the Nine Worlds from destruction on Ragnarok, the Day of Doom. (11–15)



### **\*The Whisper (The Riverman Trilogy)**

by Aaron Starmer

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-374-36311-6

When 12-year-old Alistair attempts to find his friend in magical Aquavania, he encounters strange truths about himself, others, and the nature of reality. (12–15) Mature Content.

### **Historical Fiction**

#### **After the Ashes**

by Sara K. Joiner

(Holiday House, \$17.95) 978-0-8234-3441-1

In August 1883 two teenagers in the Dutch East Indies colony of Java, with very different ideas about their futures, try to survive a volcanic eruption and the giant waves that follow. (11–14)

#### **\*Audacity**

by Melanie Crowder

(Philomel Books/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-399-16899-4

Clara Lemlich's story of her life as a child in Russia, as a young immigrant in America, and as a labor activist in New York, is vividly told in verse. Includes historical notes and glossary. (12–15)

#### **\*Cast Off: The Strange Adventures of Petra De Winter and Bram Broen**

by Eve Yohalem

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-525-42856-5

Twelve-year-old Petra's discovery as a stowaway on a Dutch merchant ship bound for Batavia in 1663 is the beginning of many incredible adventures. (12–14)

#### **Catch You Later, Traitor**

by Avi

(Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin

Books of Chapel Hill, \$16.95) 978-1-61620-359-7

In Brooklyn in the early 1950s, a 12-year-old dealing with Red Scare accusations and a hostile school environment is determined to ferret out family secrets. (11–14)

**\*Diary of a Waitress: The Not-So-Glamorous Life of a Harvey Girl**

by Carolyn Meyer

(Calkins Creek/Highlights, \$17.95) 978-1-62091-652-0

Deprived of college by her father's business failure, Kitty leaves home to become a Harvey Girl, though her ultimate goal is to be a journalist. (12–15)



**\*Echo: A Novel**

by Pam Muñoz Ryan

(Scholastic Press, \$19.99) 978-0-439-87402-1

With the help of a very special harmonica, three children, in three very different places and circumstances, are able to meet serious challenges. (11–14)

**The Falconer's Apprentice**

by Malve von Hassell

(Namelos, P \$9.95) 978-1-60898-193-9

When Andreas tries to save a hunting peregrine, he becomes involved in the struggle between the papacy and the Holy Roman Empire and unexpectedly finds his true calling. (12–15)

**Finding Fortune**

by Delia Ray

(Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-374-30065-4

The town of Fortune, Iowa, famous for shell buttons, is down on its luck. So is Ren, whose father is in Afghanistan. (11–13)

**The Great War: Stories Inspired by Items from the First World War**

by David Almond and others, illustrated by Jim Kay

(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-0-7636-7554-7

Eleven original short stories evoke the tragedy of the "war to end all wars." A beautifully designed book with striking black-and-white illustrations. (11–14)

**In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse**

by Joseph Marshall III, illustrated by Jim Yellowhawk

(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$16.95) 978-1-4197-0785-8

On a trek with his grandfather, Jimmy, 11, learns about the great warrior Crazy Horse, who, like Jimmy, was teased for not looking like a Lakota. Black-and-white illustrations. (11–14)

**Like a River: A Civil War Novel**

by Kathy Cannon Wiechman

(Calkins Creek/Highlights, \$17.95) 978-1-62979-209-5

In this gripping story of loyalty and courage, two teenage Union soldiers, each hiding a secret, face danger and the horrors of war and imprisonment. (11–14)

**Listen to the Moon**

by Michael Morpurgo

(Feiweil and Friends/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-250-04204-0

On the Scilly Isles, a boy and his father find

an injured girl who is unable to speak and has no memory of how she got there. Can they help her? (11–14)

### **Newt's Emerald**

by Garth Nix

(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-236004-5

In the 19th century, a heroine disguises herself as a boy and experiences romance, magic, and mystery. (12–15)

### **A Night Divided**

by Jennifer A. Nielsen

(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-68242-8

Despite great risk, Gerta, Fritz, and Mama dig a tunnel beneath the Berlin Wall to join father and Dominic in the West. (11–14)

### **The Saga of Gudrid the Far-Traveler**

by Nancy Marie Brown

(Namelos, P \$9.95) 978-1-60898-190-8

Intrepid, resourceful Gudrid prefers adventure to domesticity and succeeds in journeying to Wine Land despite many challenges and obstacles. Based on 11-century Icelandic sagas. (13–15)



### **Terrorist: Gavrilo Princip, the Assassin Who Ignited World War I**

written and illustrated by Henrik Rehr

(Graphic Universe/Lerner, \$33.32; P \$11.99) 978-1-4677-7279-2; 978-1-4677-7284-6 (pbk)

How does a poor student from a tiny village become a terrorist who changes the course of history? Black-and-white drawings set the edgy mood. Map. (13–15)



### **\*The War That Saved My Life**

by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-4081-5

During World War II, Ada, born with a club foot, runs away from her abusive mother with her younger brother when children are evacuated during the London Blitz. (11–14)

### **Science Fiction**

#### **Denton Little's Deathdate**

by Lance Rubin

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-553-49696-3

Today is Denton's deathdate, and he has lots of plans for it—but then his funeral preparations go crazily awry. (12–14)

#### **Masterminds**

by Gordon Korman

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-229996-3

"Special" takes on a new meaning for the 13-year-olds who live in Serenity, New Mexico. Are the Surety guards keeping them safe or in prison? (11–14)

#### **The Orphan Army (The Nightsiders series)**

by Jonathan Maberry

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-1575-0

Eleven-year-old Milo Silk and his mother are members of a small ragtag group of survivors in a dystopian world ravaged by environmental disasters and terrifying alien invaders. (11–14)

## **Today**

### **Boys Don't Knit (In Public)**

by T. S. Easton

(Feiwei and Friends/Macmillan, \$16.99)

978-1-250-05331-2

When Ben Fletcher, 17, inadvertently signs up for a knitting class as part of his probation, he has a hard time keeping it from his friends and family. (12–15)

### **Breakout**

by Kevin Emerson

(Crown BFYR/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-39112-2

A song that Anthony writes for his band goes viral. Then, for a school performance, he is told to censor the lyrics. What should he do? (11–14)

### **Bright Lights, Dark Nights**

written and illustrated by Stephen Emond

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99)

978-1-62672-206-4

Inner city racial tensions and conflict between police and residents form the backdrop of the story of Walter and Naomi's Romeo-and-Juliet relationship. Black-and-white illustrations. (12–15)

### **Everybody Knows Your Name**

by Andrea Seigel and Brent Bradshaw

(Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-670-01562-7

Teenagers Ford and Magnolia, contestants in a reality TV singing competition, have more at stake than just winning; they're trying to escape their pasts. Will they succeed? (13–15)

### **Everything That Makes You**

by Moriah McStay

(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-229548-4

What if? Alternating chapters tell two stories about the same girl. In one she is horribly scarred as a child; in the other there has been no accident. (11–14)

### **The Great Good Summer**

by Liz Garton Scanlon

(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-1147-9

When 12-year-old Ivy's mama runs off to Florida with a preacher named Hallelujah Dave, Ivy and her friend Paul set out from Texas to find her. (12–14)

### **House Arrest**

by K. A. Holt

(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-3477-2

Caring for a baby brother with a birth defect causes 12-year-old Timothy to commit a crime. Under house arrest, he uses a journal to work out his problems. (12–14)

### **Kiki and Jacques**

by Susan Ross

(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3427-5

This story, set in a decaying US mill town originally settled by French Canadians, explores the issues that arise when Somali refugees join the community. (11–13)

### **The Summer We Saved the Bees**

by Robin Stevenson

(Orca Book Publishers, P \$9.95) 978-1-4598-0834-8

Twelve-year-old Wolf's mother is on a crusade to reverse bee-colony collapse and save the world. But can Wolf save his family from the ensuing disruption of their lives? (11–14)

**\*Tiny Pretty Things**

by Sona Charaipotra and Dhonielle Clayton  
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-23439-3

Nothing matters to Bette, Gigi, and June but having leading roles in their elite ballet school—and they'll do anything it takes to get them. (12–14)

**We Are All Made of Molecules**

by Susin Nielsen  
(Wendy Lamb Books/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-553-49686-4  
When their parents move in together, brilliant, nerdy Stewart and beautiful mean-girl Ashley alternate telling ghostly tales of their so-not-the-Brady-Bunch new family. (11–14)

**POETRY**

**\*My Seneca Village**

by Marilyn Nelson  
(Namelos, \$21.95) 978-1-60898-196-0  
The residents, most of whom were free African Americans, of an early 19th-century New York City neighborhood that was razed to create Central Park relate the stories of their lives. Various verse forms. Prose introductions and notes. (11–14)

**INFORMATION BOOKS**

**Activities**

**How to Make a Movie in 10 Easy Lessons (Super Skills series)**

by Robert Blofield, illustrated by Venetia Dean  
(Walter Foster Jr., \$12.95) 978-1-63322-012-6

Lights! Camera! Action! Learn about the process of filmmaking, from script writing to final production. Diagrams and colorful illustrations. (11–14)

**Welcome to New Zealand:  
A Nature Journal**

written and illustrated by Sandra Morris  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7477-9

Learn how to make an extensive nature journal by discovering and closely observing what is in the environment. Detailed mixed-media illustrations. (11–14)

**Writer to Writer:  
From Think to Ink**

by Gail Carson Levine  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-227530-1

The Newbery Honor Book author offers practical advice about every phase of writing a story or a poem. (12–15)

**Biography and Memoir**

**Breakaway: Beyond the Goal**

by Alex Morgan, with Sarah Durand  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-5107-9



Olympic gold medalist Alex Morgan shares her life story and passion for soccer and gives advice on meeting goals and challenges. (12–15)



**\*Honor Girl: A Graphic Memoir**

written and illustrated by Maggie Thrash  
(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-0-7636-7382-6

Maggie, 15, finds herself attracted to an older female camp counselor. Artwork in watercolor, pencil, and pen. (12–15)

**\*I Will Always Write Back:**

**How One Letter Changed Two Lives**

by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda,  
with Liz Welch

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette,  
\$18.00) 978-0-316-24131-1

For a school assignment, Caitlin, 12, sent a pen pal letter to Zimbabwe. Martin received it, and a close friendship began that changed their lives. (11–14)

**Sally Ride: A Photobiography of America's  
Pioneering Woman in Space**

by Tam O'Shaughnessy

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$19.99)  
978-1-59643-994-8

Ride was an introverted teen tennis star, and then she discovered a love of physics that launched her into the previously all-male world of astronauts. Photographs of key people and artifacts. (12–15)

**Somewhere There Is Still a Sun:**

**A Memoir of the Holocaust**

by Michael Gruenbaum, with Todd Hasak-Lowy

(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99)  
978-1-4424-8486-3

Michael Gruenbaum's life in Czechoslovakia, as remembered and retold, changes radically after the Nazi invasion in 1939. Some documents and a brief bibliography. (12–14)

**The Trouble in Me**

by Jack Gantos

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan,  
\$17.99) 978-0-374-37995-7

New to town, Jack idolizes his delinquent next-door neighbor, Gary, and vows to remake himself in Gary's image, with hilarious but fiery results. (12–15)

**A Year without Mom**

written and illustrated by Dasha Tolstikova  
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi  
Press, \$19.95) 978-1-55498-692-7

When her mother goes to study in America, 12-year-old Dasha is left with her grandparents in Moscow during a year of political and personal change. Fully illustrated with pen and ink drawings with a grey wash. (11–14)

**History**

**The Boys Who Challenged Hitler:**

**Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club**

by Phillip Hoose

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan,  
\$19.99) 978-0-374-30022-7

During the World War II Nazi occupation of Denmark, teenage boys took perilous risks to sabotage the invaders and inspired the Danish resistance. Archival photographs and sources. (12–15)

**The Bullies of Wall Street:  
This Is How Greed Messed Up Our  
Economy**

by Sheila Bair

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0085-5

Why did people lose homes, jobs, and public services during the financial crisis of 2008? The former head of the FDIC offers a no-holds-barred analysis. Charts, notes, explanation of key terms, index. (12–15)



**Child Soldier: When Boys and Girls  
Are Used in War (CitizenKid series)**

by Jessica Dee Humphreys and Michel Chikwanine, illustrated by Claudia Dávila (Kids Can Press, \$17.95) 978-1-77138-126-0 In the Democratic Republic of Congo, a five-year-old boy's life changes dramatically after he is kidnapped and forced to become a rebel soldier. Colorful, realistic illustrations. (11–13)

**Choosing Courage: Inspiring Stories of  
What It Means to Be a Hero**

by Peter Collier

(Artisan/Workman Pub., \$18.95) 978-1-57965-596-9

Meet the men and women who were awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery during World War II and the wars in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Background information and photographs. (11–14)



**\*Drowned City:  
Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans**

written and illustrated by Don Brown

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$18.99) 978-0-544-15777-4

Matter-of-fact text coupled with dramatic pen and ink illustrations capture the gut-wrenching story of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and its impact on New Orleans. Source notes and bibliography. (12–15)

**Religion**

**\*Percy Jackson's Greek Heroes**

by Rick Riordan, illustrated by John Rocco (Disney-Hyperion Books, \$24.99) 978-1-4231-8365-5

Capturing flesh-eating horses, fulfilling seemingly impossible tasks, and outwitting the Gods? No problem for Atalanta, Perseus, and other Greek heroes, dude! Dramatic painterly illustrations. (12–15)

**Science, Technology, Engineering, and  
Mathematics (STEM)**

**\*Breakthrough!:**

**How Three People Saved "Blue Babies"  
and Changed Medicine Forever**

by Jim Murphy

(Clarion Books/HMH, \$18.99) 978-0-547-82183-2

In 1944, two white doctors (one a woman) and an African American lab assistant worked together to pioneer heart surgery on babies. Archival photographs. Back matter. (12–15)

**Chocolate: Sweet Science & Dark Secrets  
of the World's Favorite Treat**

by Kay Frydenborg

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$18.99) 978-0-544-17566-2

The Amazon rain forest, Mesoamerica, Spanish conquistadores, exploitation, sustainable farming, and delicious recipes are all part of the often troubling story of chocolate. Illustrated with photographs. Resources. (11–14)

### **Ebola: Fears and Facts**

by Patricia Newman  
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$31.99) 978-1-4677-9240-0  
What are the origin, treatment methods, and ongoing challenges of this deadly disease? Photographs, maps, and back matter. (12–15)

### **\*Fatal Fever:**

#### **Tracking Down Typhoid Mary**

by Gail Jarrow  
(Calkins Creek/Highlights, \$16.95) 978-1-62091-597-4  
In New York in the early 1900s, numerous cases of typhoid fever were traced to one individual. This meticulously researched history is related with clarity and suspense. Archival photographs, notes, bibliography. (12–15)

### **The Human Body: The Story of How We Protect, Repair, and Make Ourselves Stronger (Smithsonian: Invention & Impact series)**

by HP Newquist  
(Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$18.99) 978-0-451-47643-2  
From creating an artificial eye 5,000 years ago to performing CAT scans today, people have found ways to combat injury and illness throughout the centuries. Drawings and historical photographs. (11–14)

### **Running Dry: The Global Water Crisis**

by Stuart A. Kallen  
(Twenty-First Century Books/Lerner, \$33.32) 978-1-4677-2646-7  
Is there enough clean water for everyone? What might be causing the world to run dry? Photographs, index, and bibliography. (12–15)

### **\*This Strange Wilderness:**

#### **The Life and Art of John James Audubon**

by Nancy Plain  
(University of Nebraska Press, P \$19.95) 978-0-8032-4884-7  
Explorer, hunter, and woodsman of the 19th-century frontier, Audubon painted and wrote about the birds of America and became the most famous ornithologist in the world. Reproductions of his paintings. Glossary, bibliography, and copious notes. (12–15)

## **FOURTEEN AND OLDER**

### **FICTION**

#### **Adventure and Mystery**



#### **The Bunker Diary**

by Kevin Brooks  
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-1-4677-5420-0  
Who is the mysterious abductor who imprisons people in an underground bunker? As five more victims are added to Linus's cell, he records the frightening events. (13–17) Mature content.

### **I Am Her Revenge**

by Meredith Moore

(Razorbill/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-1-59514-782-0

Rejected by a lover many years ago, Vivian's mother manipulates Vivian into seeking revenge. (13–15)

### **Lies I Told**

by Michelle Zink

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-232712-3

Adopted into a family of grifters, two foster children accept their roles in major crimes, until they reach the beautiful California town of Playa Hermosa. (13–16)

### **The Secret of the Golden Flower**

by Caroline Stellings

(Second Story Press, P \$11.95) 978-1-927583-63-0

Sixteen-year-old Nicki, born in China and highly trained in martial arts, puts her skills to work as a spy in training in the United Kingdom. (13–17)

### **Trouble Is a Friend of Mine**

by Stephanie Tromly

(Kathy Dawson Books/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-525-42840-4

With the help of side-kick Zoe, intrepid, resourceful, witty Digby succeeds in busting a drug ring. Can he solve the mystery of his kid sister's disappearance? (14–17)

### **Anthologies and Collections**

#### **Half a Creature from the Sea:**

##### **A Life in Stories**

by David Almond, illustrated by Eleanor Taylor

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7877-7

The author introduces eight magical, mysterious stories by giving insight into the writing process and what inspires him. Black-and-white illustrations. (13–17)



##### **Taking Aim:**

#### **Power and Pain, Teens and Guns**

edited by Michael Cart

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-232735-2

These essays and short stories by 16 well-known authors explore the impact of guns on teens in a variety of circumstances and settings. (13–17)

### **Coming of Age**

#### **The Accident Season**

by Moira Fowley-Doyle

(Kathy Dawson Books/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-525-42948-7

Each October, Cara's family is beset by injuries and tragedy. Could the strange disappearance of her childhood friend hold the key? (13–17)

#### **All the Major Constellations**

by Pratima Cranse

(Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-670-01645-7

A high school senior begins attending a fundamentalist Christian group after an

accident leaves his friend, Sara, in a coma. A sensitive exploration of family tensions, identity, faith, and sexuality. (13–16)

### **Blank**

by Trina St. Jean

(Orca Book Publishers, P \$12.95) 978-1-459808-07-2

When 15-year-old Jessica suffers a traumatic brain injury, she has to reconstruct all aspects of her life—past, present, and future. (13–17)

### **Bone Gap**

by Laura Ruby

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-231760-5

Two brothers are nearly torn apart by a deep mystery in Bone Gap, an ordinary, extraordinary, magical place. (13–17)

### **Conviction**

by Kelly Loy Gilbert

(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-9738-6

Braden's father is arrested for murder, and his freedom depends on the testimony of his son, a 16-year-old baseball superstar. (13–17)



### **Eden West**

by Pete Hautman

(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-7418-2

Jason, raised in a fundamentalist cult, has his deep faith challenged by three outsiders—a rebellious boy, a lonely girl, and a wolf—and by the cult's internal machinations. (14–17) Mature Content.

### **First & Then**

by Emma Mills

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62779-235-6

High school senior Devon's life turns upside down with the arrival of a foster brother who is an all-star football player. A witty take on Jane Austen. (13–16)

### **Grounded**

by Sheena Wilkinson

(Fitzhenry & Whiteside, P \$12.95) 978-1-554553-29-7

Declan loves horses and is offered his dream job at a prestigious stable in Germany, but taking it would mean leaving his pregnant girlfriend behind. (14–18)

### **\*Hold Tight, Don't Let Go: A Novel of Haiti**

by Laura Rose Wagner

(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$17.95) 978-1-4197-1204-3

In the aftermath of the Haitian earthquake of 2010, two teenage cousins deal with the emotional and physical consequences of the disaster. (14–18)



### **I Was Here**

by Gayle Foreman

(Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$18.99) 978-0-451-47147-5

While investigating her friend's death, Cody uncovers a support group that encourages people to commit suicide. Disturbing, but powerfully written. (14–18) Mature Content.

### **\*The Last Time We Say Goodbye**

by Cynthia Hand

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-

06-231847-3

The suicide of her beloved younger brother leaves a college-bound, gifted Nebraskan wrestling with regrets and difficult family issues. An insightful story of growth and recovery. (14–18)

**Me Being Me Is Exactly as Insane as You Being You**

by Todd Hasak-Lowy

(Simon Pulse/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-9573-9

Teenage Darren deals with his parents' divorce, his father's revelation that he is gay, his older brother's erratic behavior, and his own confusing love life. Told in a quirky series of lists that are sometimes humorous and often touching. (14–16)

**\*My Heart and Other Black Holes**

by Jasmine Warga

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-232467-2

Two teenagers make a suicide pact, but then love causes them to question their decision. (14–18)



**Punch Like a Girl**

by Karen Krossing

(Orca Book Publishers, P \$12.95) 978-1-4598-0828-7

After Tori is sexually assaulted, she turns inward and is outwardly moody and violent, unable to tell anyone what happened. (13–15) Mature Content.

**\*The Sacred Lies of Minnow Bly**

by Stephanie Oakes

(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-4070-9

Minnow escapes from the brutal cult in which she was raised, only to find herself locked up in juvenile hall, where she learns how to be free. (14–17)



**SuperMutant Magic Academy**

written and illustrated by Jillian Tamaki  
(Drawn & Quarterly, \$22.95) 978-1-77046-198-7

Marsha and her diverse group of friends may have paranormal abilities, but they are just trying to navigate high school like everyone else. Black-and-white illustrations. (13–17) Mature Content.



**The Tightrope Walkers**

by David Almond

(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-7310-9

In the shipbuilding region of northern England after World War II, Dom Hall struggles to rise above poverty and a life of drudgery in the bowels of ships. (13–16) Mature Content.

**The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B**

by Teresa Toten

(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-553-50786-7

Fifteen-year-old Adam, struggling with OCD, tries to be a hero to everyone he loves. (14–18)

**\*Untwine: A Novel**

by Edwidge Danticat

(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-42303-8

After a terrible automobile collision, 16-year-old Giselle wakes up unable to

communicate or ask about the fate of her parents or her identical twin. (14–17)

## **Dramatic Arts**



### **Macbeth**

adapted and illustrated by Gareth Hinds, based on the play by William Shakespeare (Candlewick Press, \$21.99) 978-0-7636-6943-0

This emotional, action-packed adaptation of Shakespeare's tale of murder is dramatically illustrated. (13–18)

## **Fantasy**

### **An Ember in the Ashes**

by Sabaa Tahir  
(Razorbill/Penguin, \$19.95) 978-1-59514-803-2

Laia poses as a servant girl in order to save her imprisoned brother. She finds an ally in the commandant's son, who wants to change his own destiny. (14–18)

### **\*The Emperor of Any Place**

by Tim Wynne-Jones  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-6973-7

Evan struggles with his father's death and conflicting views of his grandfather. Can he believe in a mysterious tale full of zombies and ghosts? (13–17)

### **\*The Girl at Midnight**

by Melissa Grey  
(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-74465-2  
A teenage thief living with the Avicen,

magical bird-like humans, seeks the legendary firebird to end the ancient war with the dragon-like Drakharins. (14–18)

### **A History of Glitter and Blood**

by Hannah Moskowitz, illustrated by Sam Weber and Cathy G. Johnson  
(Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-4521-2942-6

Can three fairies survive in their war-torn city and avoid being eaten by gnomes? A violent, complicated love story. Intermittent graphite illustrations. (14–18)

### **\*Lizard Radio**

by Pat Schmatz  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7635-3  
Fifteen-year-old Kivali is sent to CropCamp to learn to become a responsible adult and to decide on a gender in order to avoid being sent into exile. (13–17)

### **Lois Lane: Fallout**

by Gwenda Bond  
(Switch Press, \$16.95) 978-1-63079-005-9  
At East Metropolis High School, student journalist Lois Lane uncovers a mystery involving video gamers and bullying. Can online friend SmallvilleGuy help her discover what's going on? (13–17)

### **The Orphan Queen**

by Jodi Meadows  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-231738-4  
After her parents and homeland are destroyed in a war, Princess Wilhelmina leads a band of orphaned youth on

missions to reestablish their kingdom.  
(13–16)

### **Red Queen**

by Victoria Aveyard  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-231063-7

In a world where only the silver-blooded rule and have supernatural abilities, red-blooded Mare Barrow, 17, discovers she too possesses an extraordinary power.  
(13–17)

### **The Rest of Us Just Live Here**

by Patrick Ness  
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-240316-2

While the “indie kids” are fighting zombies or ghosts, high school seniors Mikey and his friends live their lives, which are anything but ordinary and uneventful.  
(13–17)

### **There Will Be Lies**

by Nick Lake  
(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$17.99)  
978-1-61963-440-4

Seventeen-year-old Shelby discovers a profoundly disturbing secret that changes everything she thought she knew about her life. A fascinating blend of grim reality, folklore, and fantasy. (15–17)

### **Walk on Earth a Stranger (The Gold Seer Trilogy)**

by Rae Carson  
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-224291-4

A resourceful young girl, who has the magic gift of sensing gold around her,

disguises herself as a boy to escape her murderous uncle and joins the rugged trek to California Gold Country. (13–17).

### **The Walls around Us**

by Nova Ren Suma  
(Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, \$17.95) 978-1-61620-372-6

When the lives of three teenage girls intersect at a juvenile detention center, their secrets and lies are revealed. A skillful blend of psychological thriller with the supernatural. (14–17)

### **Historical Fiction**

#### **Black Dove, White Raven**

by Elizabeth Wein  
(Hyperion/Disney, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-8310-5

In 1930s Ethiopia, Americans Emilia and her African American adopted brother, Teo, both 15, are drawn into the country's war with Italy. (13–17)

#### **Leif's Journey**

by Terry Hokenson  
(Namelos, P \$9.95) 976-1-60898-184-7  
In 1881, Leif finds life in Minnesota with his immigrant father very difficult. His sister and sweetheart help him come to terms with his father and thus maintain the family farm. (13–17)



#### **Out of Darkness**

by Ashley Hope Pérez  
(Carolrhoda LAB/Lerner, \$18.99) 978-1-4677-4202-3

Multiple narrators relate the tragic story,



told against the background of a school explosion, of a romance between a Mexican American girl and an African American boy in Texas in 1937. (14–17) Mature Content.

**\*Paper Hearts**

by Meg Wiviott

(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-3983-1 While an inmate in Auschwitz, Zlatka risks death by stealing and bartering for materials to make her friend a birthday card. (13–17)

**A Prince without a Kingdom (Vango series)**

by Timothée de Fombelle, translated from the French by Sarah Ardizzone (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-7950-7

In pre-World War I Europe and New York City, and later in occupied France, Vango continues his search for his true identity, even as he remains the target of determined, clever assassins. (13–17)



**Razorhurst**

by Justine Larbalestier

(Soho Teen/Soho Press, \$18.99) 978-1-61695-544-1

In 1932, in the gangster-run neighborhood of Sydney, Australia, two very different girls, both of whom can see ghosts, find their survival depends on each other's strengths. (14–17) Mature Content.

**Surviving Santiago**

by Lyn Miller-Lachmann

(Running Press Teens/Running Press,

\$16.95) 978-0-7624-5633-8

Chilean American teenager Tina returns to Santiago in the summer of 1989 during the final months of Pinochet's regime to reconnect with her alcoholic activist father. (13–17)

**These Shallow Graves**

by Jennifer Donnelly

(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$19.99) 978-0-385-73765-4

As she searches for answers to her father's sudden death, a wealthy, privileged upper class girl in New York City in 1890 learns the bitter truth about living in poverty. (13–16)



**\*Under a Painted Sky**

by Stacey Lee

(Putnam Juvenile/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-16803-1

Two girls, a runaway slave and a Chinese American accused of murder, disguise themselves as boys as they set out on the Oregon Trail on a journey filled with danger, racism, and dreams. (14–18) Mature Content.



**X: A Novel**

by Ilyasah Shabazz, with Kekla Magoon (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6967-6

This fictionalized account of Malcolm X's early life portrays his hardships and challenges, including the loss of his parents, a fractured family, limited education, and six years in jail. (14–18) Mature Content.

## **Science Fiction**

### **\*Illuminae (The Illuminae Files series)**

by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$18.99)

978-0-553-49911-7

After their planet is attacked in 2575, teens Kady and Ezra escape in a ship threatened by the enemy, a deadly virus, and an artificial intelligence system gone haywire. Pen and ink illustrations and diagrams. (13–16)

### **Mindwalker**

by A. J. Steiger  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$17.99)

978-0-553-49713-7

Lain, 17, is being trained by a government agency to erase her clients' most painful memories. When a troubled classmate seeks her expertise, complicated questions arise and loyalties are tested. (14–17)

### **The Prom Goer's Interstellar Excursion**

by Chris McCoy  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$17.99)

978-0-375-85599-3

Bennett's dream-come-true of taking Sophie to the prom turns into a nightmare when she is abducted by aliens. Can he rescue her? (13–16)

### **\*The Scorpion Rules (Prisoners of Peace series)**

by Erin Bow  
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-4271-8  
After conflict and climate change devastate Earth, highly sophisticated robots enforce a system created by the leaders of the planet

to ensure the survival of humanity. But everything comes at a price. (13–16)

### **We All Looked Up**

by Tommy Wallach  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-1877-5

With a meteorite hurtling toward Earth, four friends decide how to live their last two months. (13–17)

## **Today**

### **\*All American Boys**

by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-6333-1

When a white police officer unjustly attacks him, Rashad's world changes forever, as does the life of Quinn, a white boy who witnesses the attack. (13–18)

### **A Big Dose of Lucky (Secrets series)**

by Marthe Jocelyn  
(Orca Book Publishers, P \$14.98) 978-1-4598-0668-9

When 16-year-old Malou sets out to find her mother after the orphanage closes, she makes surprising discoveries and is strengthened in her identity as a person of color. (13–17)

### **The Boy in the Black Suit**

by Jason Reynolds  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-5950-2

After his mother dies, Matt, 17, takes a job

in a funeral home, where he eventually comes to terms with his loss. (13–17)

**\*Challenger Deep**

by Neal Shusterman, illustrated by Brendan Shusterman

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-113411-1

This haunting tale of a 15-year-old boy's descent into mental illness includes pen and ink illustrations drawn by the author's son during his own psychotic breakdown. (13–17)

**The Dead I Know**

by Scot Gardner

(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-544-23274-7

Aaron sleepwalks and has dreams he cannot explain. The one thing going right is his new job at a funeral home. (13–17)

**\*Dumplin'**

by Julie Murphy

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-232718-5

Willowdean, an overweight teen, has always felt comfortable in her own skin. But when life intervenes in unexpected ways, she begins to doubt her self-worth. (14–16)

**Emmy & Oliver**

by Robin Benway

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-233059-8

Kidnapped by his father, Emmy's best friend Oliver returns after ten years. The transition is less than seamless. (14–17)

**Every Last Word**

by Tamara Ireland Stone

(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-0527-8

Samantha struggles with OCD. Making a new friend and joining a poetry group seems like taking a big step forward. But is she really getting better? (14–17)



**Fig**

by Sarah Elizabeth Schantz

(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-0-4814-2358-8

In this haunting first-person narrative, 19-year-old Fig recounts her emotional journey growing up with a schizophrenic mother and her struggle to understand her own demons. (14–18) Mature Content.

**The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley**

by Shaun David Hutchinson, illustrated by Christine Larsen

(Simon Pulse/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0310-8

Andrew lives in the hospital, hiding from his past, until a boy set on fire by bigots is brought in. Can they save each other? Occasional black-and-white illustrations. (13–17)

**The Girl with the Wrong Name**

by Barnabas Miller

(Soho Teen/Soho Press, \$18.99) 978-1-61695-194-8

Seventeen-year-old Theo meets a young man with a murky past. She discovers the truth about him and herself as this unreliable narrator searches for answers in NYC. (14–17)

**Hold Me Closer: The Tiny Cooper Story**

by David Levithan

(Dutton BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-525-42884-8

Tiny sings joyously of life, love, and coming out in a funny, bold musical theater presentation. A companion to *Will Grayson, Will Grayson*. (14–18)

**I'll Meet You There**

by Heather Demetrios

(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9795-5

Skylar and Josh have both suffered tremendous loss. Can their unlikely friendship help them both? (14–16)

**Ink and Ashes**

by Valynne E. Maetani

(Tu/Lee & Low, \$19.95) 978-1-62014-211-0  
Claire's father had been a gang member in Japan, although he later turned his life around. A decade after his death, his criminal history affects his family. Includes a glossary. (15–18)

**Kissing in America**

by Margo Rabb

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-232237-1

Through her experiences of loss and friendship, 16-year-old Eva realizes there are all kinds of love. (13–16)

**Little Peach**

by Peggy Kern

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-226695-8

In a raw and terrifying saga, 14-year-old Michelle, alone and scared, falls into a

child prostitution gang. Based on thorough research and true stories. (14–17) Mature Content.

**A Matter of Heart**

by Amy Fellner Dominy

(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-74443-0

Abby, 16, is a star swimmer who lives for winning. No one and nothing can stop her—not her parents, her boyfriend, or even her own heart (13–17).

**Monster: A Graphic Novel**

by Walter Dean Myers, adapted by Guy A. Sims, illustrated by Dawud Anyabwile  
(Amistad Press/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-227500-4

A teenage filmmaker arrested for murder tells his tale. This graphic version of Myers's 1999 book is retold with vivid black-and-white drawings. (14–17) Mature Content.

**No Parking at the End Times**

by Bryan Bliss

(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-227541-7

Can Abigail keep her family from falling apart when her parents sell everything in anticipation of the world ending and wind up homeless and destitute? (13–17)

**One**

by Sarah Crossan

(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-211875-2

Sixteen-year-old conjoined twins venture

into the world, deal with family issues, and confront declining health. (15–17)

### **One Thing Stolen**

by Beth Kephart

(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-2831-3

Living in Florence, Italy, while her father conducts research, 17-year-old Nadia grows increasingly secretive and disconnected from her family. What is causing her disturbing behavior? (14–17)

### **See No Color**

by Shannon Gibney

(Carolrhoda LAB/Lerner, \$18.99) 978-1-4677-7682-0

When Alex realizes that identifying herself as a baseball player isn't enough, she questions whether she fits in with the white family who adopted her and seeks out her black father. (14–16)

### **Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda**

by Becky Albertalli

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-234867-8

After accidentally seeing 16-year-old Simon's online flirtation with another boy, a classmate blackmails him. Will Simon be outed just when he's falling in love? (14–17)

### **\*A Song for Ella Grey**

by David Almond

(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-553-53359-0

This chilling version of the Orpheus myth, set in northern England, is related with

emotional descriptions of love and self-discovery. (14–17)

### **The Start of Me and You**

by Emery Lord

(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$17.99) 978-1-61963-359-9

One year after Paige's boyfriend dies in a swimming accident, she struggles to redefine herself. Strong female friendships and a new love interest help her heal. (13–16)



### **The Truth Commission**

by Susan Juby, illustrated by Trevor Cooper (Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$18.99) 978-0-451-46877-2

Normandy, an artistic high school student, chronicles her involvement with her best friends in searching for the truth and encountering unanticipated consequences. Intermittent black-and-white ink drawings. (14–17) Mature Content.



### **Violent Ends**

compiled by Shaun David Hutchinson, written by Kendare Blake and others (Simon Pulse/ Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-3745-5

What turns a high school senior into a cold-blooded killer? Seventeen different authors seek the answer. (14–18) Mature Content.

### **What We Saw**

by Aaron Hartzler

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-233874-7

When a sexual assault occurs at a high

school party, friendships are tested and an entire town becomes embroiled in controversy. (15–18)

**\*Whippoorwill**

by Joseph Monninger  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$17.99)  
978-0-544-53123-9

In rural New Hampshire, as Clair and Danny bond over training a mistreated dog, Clair senses that something troubling is happening in Danny's life. (14–17)

**\*Written in the Stars**

by Aisha Saeed  
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$17.99)  
978-0-399-17170-3

When her conservative Pakistani parents discover that 17-year-old Naila is seeing a boy, they suddenly visit Pakistan where they try to force her into an arranged marriage. (13–17)

**The Wrong Side of Right**

by Jenn Marie Thorne  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-4057-0

After her mother's death, Kate discovers that the father she never knew is a candidate for president and joins his family and life in the political fishbowl. (13–16)

**POETRY**

**Please Excuse This Poem:**

**100 New Poets for the Next Generation**  
edited by Brett Fletcher Lauer and Lynn Melnick, introduction by Carolyn Forché  
(Viking Juvenile/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-670-01479-8

Acclaimed poets from diverse backgrounds and points of view tackle a wide range of subjects in a variety of poetic forms. Short biographies and interviews. (15–18)

**INFORMATION BOOKS**

**Biography and Memoir**



**Becoming Maria:**

**Love and Chaos in the South Bronx**

by Sonia Manzano  
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-62184-7

The beloved Maria of Sesame Street remembers her troubled childhood and teen years growing up as a Puerto Rican in the 1950s and '60s in New York City. (14–18) Mature Content.

**Make It Messy:**

**My Perfectly Imperfect Life**

by Marcus Samuelsson, with Veronica Chambers  
(Delacorte Press/Random House, \$16.99)  
978-0-385-74400-3

This moving memoir traces Samuelsson's life from his birth in Ethiopia to his adoption in Sweden and his years as a soccer player and then as a world-famous chef. Photographs. (13–17)



**\*March: Book Two**

by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin,  
illustrated by Nate Powell  
(Top Shelf Productions, \$19.95) 978-1-60309-400-9

Congressman John Lewis's participation in nonviolent civil disobedience including the

Freedom Rides is presented in graphic format. Stunning back-and-white artwork. (13–17)

## **History**

### **Courage & Defiance: Stories of Spies, Saboteurs, and Survivors in World War II Denmark**

by Deborah Hopkinson

(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-59220-8

Can one person make a difference? During the Nazi occupation of Denmark these remarkable people in the Danish Resistance thought they could. Copious photographs. (13–16)

### **FDR and the American Crisis**

by Albert Marrin

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$24.99) 978-0-385-75359-3

The life of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the history of the tumultuous times during which he lived are meticulously described. Archival photographs. (13–18)

### **Iron Rails, Iron Men, and the Race to Link the Nation: The Story of the Transcontinental Railroad**

by Martin W. Sandler, maps by Karen Minot

(Candlewick Press, \$22.99) 978-0-7636-6527-2

From Sacramento and from Omaha to Utah, men and their machines struggled through mountains and deserts to connect America from coast to coast. Photographs and maps. (13–17)

### **\*Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War**

by Steve Sheinkin

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$19.99) 978-1-59643-952-8

The history of the Vietnam War is interwoven with Daniel Ellsberg's personal odyssey, which culminates in his leaking the *Pentagon Papers*, a secret history of the war. Photos. Bibliography. (14–18)



### **\*The Prisoners of Breendonk:**

#### **Personal Histories from a World War II Concentration Camp**

by James M. Deem, photographed by Leon Nolis

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$18.99) 978-0-544-09664-6

Carefully researched accounts of the horrors of a little-known World War II concentration camp are supported by archival and contemporary photographs and documents. (13–17) Mature content.



### **\*Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad**

by M. T. Anderson

(Candlewick Press, \$25.99) 978-0-7636-6818-1

The horrors of Stalin's purges and Germany's starvation siege of Leningrad inspired a composer to honor his fellow Russians. Graphic, disturbing descriptions. Photographs and back matter. (13–17) Mature Content.

ISSN: 1523-6471

Children's Book Committee  
Bank Street College of Education  
610 West 112th Street  
New York, NY 10025

online - <http://bankstreet.edu/cbc>

email - [bookcom@bankstreet.edu](mailto:bookcom@bankstreet.edu)





# The Best Children's Books of the Year

**2016 Edition / Books Published in 2015**

Looking for just the right children's books?

Here—for parents, grandparents, relatives and friends, as well as for teachers and librarians—is the perfect guidebook. Each year, the Children's Book Committee issues an annotated guide to more than 600 children's books they consider the best publications of the prior year, in this case 2015.

The fiction listings are divided into sections by age and arranged by topic: adventure, animals, folk and fairy tales, growing up, mystery, science fiction, sports, and more. Another section lists information books and poetry titles, also arranged by topic.

