The Best Children's Books of the Year [2024 edition]

Bank Street College of Education. Children's Book Committee.
THE CHILDREN’S BOOK COMMITTEE OF BANK STREET COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

THE BEST CHILDREN’S BOOKS OF THE YEAR 2024 EDITION

BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2023
THE BEST CHILDREN’S BOOKS OF THE YEAR

2024 EDITION
BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2023

SELECTED BY THE CHILDREN’S BOOK COMMITTEE
This year’s Best Books List is dedicated to the memory of our deeply insightful, empathetic, humorous, and hardworking colleague

Sheila Esther Rothgart Browning
(1945–2023)
# THE CHILDREN’S BOOK COMMITTEE

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<td>Jina Miharu Accardo</td>
<td>Caren Leslie</td>
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<td>Marilyn Ackerman</td>
<td>Susan Levine</td>
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<td>Alice Belgray</td>
<td>Elizabeth (Liz) Levy</td>
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<td>Jennifer Brown</td>
<td>Zach Libresco</td>
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<td>Miriam Lang Budin</td>
<td>Muriel Mandell</td>
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<td>Teresa Chang</td>
<td>Kim McLeveighn</td>
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<td>Deborah Cohen</td>
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<td>Jonah Dragan</td>
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<td>Becky Eisenberg</td>
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<td>Gloria Koster</td>
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<td>Mollie Welsh Kruger</td>
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<td>Patricia Lakin</td>
<td>Mary Anne Wolpert</td>
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<td>Lynne Einbender</td>
<td>Charissa Sgouros</td>
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<td>Margery Fisher</td>
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## CHILDREN’S BOOK COMMITTEE FELLOW

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<td>Lisa Von Drasek</td>
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In evaluating books for their literary merit, the Bank Street Children’s Book Committee (CBC) recognizes the importance of diversity in children’s literature and acknowledges and celebrates the voices and cultures of all of our readers. Diversity encompasses the varied and unique identities, experiences, perspectives, and cultural communities of a book’s main and supporting characters, whose attributes include (but are not limited to):

- race
- ethnicity
- gender
- abilities
- sexuality
- class
- religion
- family structure
- local and global challenges

All children benefit from seeing themselves reflected in what they read, and from seeing characters with different identities, depicted accurately and without stereotypes, in texts and/or illustrations. The CBC values representations of characters who are change agents and advocates for social justice, inclusivity, and equity.

The Committee supports modeling proper sourcing of nonfiction writing. For informational books for children nine and older, we seek works that contain supporting references including, at a minimum, sources, quote attributions, and photo credits. Book annotations may also refer to “back matter” to indicate that additional reference material has been provided.

KEY

- Board Book
- Diversity
- Graphic Format
- Mature
- Outstanding Merit
- Read Aloud
- (4-6) Age Range
TIPS FOR READING WITH CHILDREN

• Show how much you enjoy reading along with your child.
• Discuss your reading together.
• If your child is willing, don’t stop reading aloud to them, even when they can read independently.
• Encourage your child to choose books to read aloud to someone else.
• Help your child to select books from a wide range of subjects, formats, and genres.
• Encourage your child to read, and reread, whatever they enjoy, even if it appears to be too easy or too hard.
• Find time for your child to visit and browse in libraries and bookstores.
• Let your child see you enjoying your own reading.
2024 AWARDS

The Josette Frank Award
for a work of fiction of outstanding literary merit for young readers in which children or young people deal in a positive and realistic way with difficulties in their world and grow emotionally and morally

*The Labors of Hercules Beal*
by Gary D. Schmidt
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins)

The Claudia Lewis Award
for the best poetry book of the year for young readers
(for younger readers)

*At the Poles*
by David Elliott, illustrated by Ellen Rooney
(Candlewick Press)
(for older readers)

*Kin: Rooted in Hope*
by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Jeffery Boston Weatherford
(Atheneum Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster)

The Flora Stieglitz Straus Award
for a distinguished work of nonfiction that serves as an inspiration to young readers
(for younger readers)

*The Indestructible Tom Crean: Heroic Explorer of the Antarctic*
written and illustrated by Jennifer Thermes
(Viking/Penguin Random House)
(for older readers)

*Harboring Hope: The True Story of How Henny Sinding Helped Denmark's Jews Escape the Nazis*
by Susan Hood
(HarperCollins)
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D Abuela’s Super Capa
by Ana Siqueira, illustrated by Elisa Chavarri
(Harper/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-311365-7
When Luis’s Saturday playmate, his grandmother, falls ill, he continues their superhero antics with his younger sister. Abuela, now in a wheelchair, joins in. Animated colorful illustrations. Spanish glossary. Also available in Spanish. (5-6)

D All the Beating Hearts
by Julie Fogliano, illustrated by Cátia Chien
(Neal Porter/Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5216-3
This wise, soulful book celebrates our common humanity, evocatively capturing joy, sorrow, light, darkness, and the meaning of life itself. Illustrations evoke tenderness. (4-6)

D All’s Right with the World
by Jennifer Adams, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-296248-5
In a Black family, children spend many precious moments with their mother throughout the day. Upbeat, lyrical text. Animated, colorful digital illustrations. Inspired by a poem by Robert Browning. (4-6)

D Baby Be
by Alison McGhee, illustrated by Sean Qualls
(Caitlin Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-5344-0539-4
Lots of hip dads, male caregivers, and a few moms cherish their babies. Lyrical, swinging text emphasizing music and dance. Active mixed-media illustrations. (1-3)

D ∗ Baby, Sleepy Baby
by Atinuke, illustrated by Angela Brooksbank
(Candlewick Press, $9.99) 978-1-5362-2990-5
Celestial elements—wind, clouds, stars, black sky—are called to care for beloved babies in diverse families. A cozy, warm bedtime read. Soft, mixed-media illustrations. (1-3)

D Baking with Mi Abuelita (Step into Reading series)
written and illustrated by Julissa Mora
(Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $14.99) 978-0-593-65197-1
Making a surprise birthday cake for Papi is such fun, especially when Grandma lets you help, Some Spanish text. Cheerful, colorful watercolor illustrations. (4-6)

D Banana
written and illustrated by Zoey Abbott
(Tundra Books/Tundra/Penguin Random House of Canada, $18.99) 978-0-7352-7141-8
A girl’s relationship with her father is disrupted by his growing obsession with a mysterious banana. Cartoon-style illustrations in pencil and Risograph printing. (3-5)

B Barn in Winter: Safe and Warm on the Farm
by Chambrae Griffith, illustrated by Taia Morley
(Cottage Door Press, $9.99) 978-1-64638-885-1
It’s cold and snowy, but all the farm animals are happy and cozy in the barn. Sweet illustrations using warm and soothing colors. (1-2)

D Bear Is Never Alone
by Marc Veerkamp, illustrated by Jeska Verstegen,
translated from the Dutch by Laura Watkinson
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $17.99) 978-0-8028-5603-6
Pianist Bear needs a break, but the forest creatures keep demanding more music. Can gentle Zebra help out? Stark black, white, and red illustrations. (4-6)

D Bear with me
written and illustrated by Kerascoët
(Random House Studio/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-30767-0
A toddler copes when they have to leave a well-loved stuffed bear home on the first day of school. Ink and watercolor illustrations convey the nearly wordless story splendidly. (3-5)

D A Bed of Stars
written and illustrated by Jessica Love
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-1239-6
To alleviate his son’s nighttime fears, a father takes him on a camping trip to connect him to a universe that he can trust. Scenic illustrations in soft colors. (4-6)
Beneath
written and illustrated by Cori Doerrfeld
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-31226-4
To heal Finn’s grief, Grandpa draws him outside for a walk. An ode to the magic of looking below the surface. Cozy digital artwork grounds the lofty themes. (4-6)

Bibi
written and illustrated by Jo Weaver
(Peachtree Publishing, $18.99) 978-1-68263-553-7
Bibi (Swahili for “grandmother”), the oldest flamingo in the flock, must guide her chicks across drought-stricken land to water. Can she survive the arduous trek? Atmospheric charcoal and digital illustrations. (4-6)

Big Kids No Everything
written and illustrated by Wednesday Kirwan
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster, $8.99)
978-1-6659-3241-7
Kids say “no” in different situations as they are growing up and learning to be independent. Children interact with adults and animals in the amusing digital illustrations. (3-5)

The Biggest Mistake
written and illustrated by Camilla Pintonato, translated from the Italian by Debbie Bibo
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $17.99)
978-0-8028-5611-1
A young lion goes to hilarious lengths to catch a clever gazelle. Can he do it? And what will happen when he does? Zany cartoon-style digital art. (3-5)

Bing! Bang! Chugga! Beep!
by Bill Martin Jr. and Michael Sampson, illustrated by Nathalie Beavois
(Brown Books Kids, $18.99) 978-1-61254-599-8
Chime in and bounce along with a child and his toy car. Rhyming text can be sung to the tune of “This Old Man.” Vibrant acrylic art. (2-5)

The Brand-New, Never-Used, Perfect Crayons
written and illustrated by Leanne Hatch
(Margaret Ferguson Books/Holiday House, $18.99)
978-0-8234-5230-9
Violet is thrilled with her brand-new box of crayons. Then her younger sister draws a picture for her, ruining their perfect points. Digitally created color illustrations. (3-6)

Brave Little Bear
written and illustrated by Steve Small
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-6659-5110-4
Arlo finds it hard to be brave . . . until his sister gets lost on a snowy mountain trek. Expressive, painterly art. (4-6)

BrindleFox
written and illustrated by John Sandford
(WorthyKids/Hachette, $18.99) 978-1-5460-0372-4
An unlikely connection forms between a surly fox with a tree growing from his back and a cheeky heron playing in the branches. Bright, energetic oil paintings. (4-6)

Bunny & Tree
written and illustrated by Balint Zsako
(Enchanted Lion Books, $29.95) 978-1-59270-393-7
Hand-painted scenes tell the heartwarming, wordless story of a rabbit separated from its friends, and the shape-shifting tree that becomes a loyal companion. The drama unfolds in nine acts. (4-6)

Cape
by Kevin Johnson, illustrated by Kitt Thomas
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $18.99)
978-1-250-84050-9
Cloaked in a cape given to him by his dad, a young brown-skinned boy finds strength and resilience on the day of his father’s funeral. Immersive digital art. (4-6)

The Concrete Garden
written and illustrated by Bob Graham
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-3380-3
To celebrate the arrival of spring, a diverse group of neighborhood kids get together and create a colorful chalk garden outside their building. Exuberant watercolor and ink illustrations. (4-6)
Daddy & Me, Side by Side
by Pierce Freelon. illustrated by Nadia Fisher
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0316-05586-4
On a camping trip, a brown-skinned father and son’s experiences hiking, fishing, and meditating in nature evoke memories of the boy’s beloved grandfather. Lush, emotive illustrations. (4-6)

Dear Stray
by Kirsten Hubbard, illustrated by Susan Gal
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-11000-3
Diary entries reveal how a young girl and her adopted stray kitten learn to connect and trust each other. Animated, digitally assembled watercolor and ink illustrations. (4-6)

A Delicious Story
written and illustrated by Barney Saltzberg
(Hippo Park/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-6626-4016-2
Little Mouse wants a story, but Big Mouse has eaten it. Cartoon-style illustrations on white background follow sparse conversational text, leading to a surprising ending. (3-6)

The Digger and the Butterfly
written and illustrated by Joseph Kuefler
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-323794-0
Trucks discover a caterpillar in their work area and slow down to feed it. Digger then patiently supports his new friend’s metamorphosis. Colorful artwork. (4-6)

Dim Sum, Here We Come!
written and illustrated by Maple Lam
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-239698-3
A young girl loves going to the dim sum restaurant every Sunday, eating and sharing lots of delicious dishes with her extended family. Bright watercolor and color pencil illustrations. (4-6)

Disagreement
written and illustrated by Nani Brunini
(Tapioca Stories, $19.95) 978-1-7347839-7-1
A dispute between two people builds to a mighty neighborhood quarrel, but a lone person shows a way toward possible reconciliation and collaboration. Wordless. Sweeping mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

Do You Remember?
written and illustrated by Sydney Smith
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99)
978-0-8234-4262-1
In a series of snapshot memories, a boy and his mother in their new home recall the peace and turmoil of their lives. Warm, hazy paintings. (4-6)

Doris
written and illustrated by Sarah Jacoby
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $18.99)
978-1-250-82938-2
A performing show horse leaves the safety of home to explore the world beyond and discovers a kindred spirit. Expressive watercolor and digital illustrations. (3-6)

Elbert in the Air
by Monica Wesolowska, illustrated by Jerome Pumphrey
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-32520-9
Elbert can float, but as everyone else tries to keep him on the ground, his mother unalteringly encourages him to be himself. Digitally created vintage-style art. (4-6)

Elena Rides
written and illustrated by Juana Medina
(Candlewick Press, #9.99) 978-1-5362-1635-6
With encouragement from a bird friend, an elephant, frustrated by many attempts to ride a two-wheeler, finally succeeds. Simple rhymed couplets. Bold digital illustrations. (4-6)

Finding Papa
by Angela Pham Krans, illustrated by Thi Bui
(HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-0630-6096-8
Years after Mai’s father leaves Vietnam for a better life in America, she and her mother make the dangerous journey to join him. Muted pastel illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

Fix and Stitch
by Barbara Nass, illustrated by Liza Woodruff
(Sleeping Bear Press, $18.99) 978-1-5341-1170-7
Squirrel tries to prepare for the coming winter, but he is constantly interrupted by friends who need help. Will he be ready in time? Expressive color illustrations. (4-6)
Forever Our Home
by Tonya Simpson, illustrated by Carla Joseph
(Orca Book Publishers, $21.95) 978-1-4598-3563-4
Enter the prairie with this gentle lullaby honoring
the land and First Nations people of North America.
Vibrant acrylic art with close-ups of wildlife and
expansive landscape imagery. Also available in Plains
Cree and English. (3-5)

Full Moon Pups
by Liz Garton Scanlon, illustrated by Chuck Groenink
(G. P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-525-51455-8
A litter of wolves born under a full moon learn the ways
of the world in their first month of life. Glowing mixed-
media art. Engaging back matter.

Giraffe Is Too Tall for This Book
written and illustrated by DK Ryaland
(Page Street Kids/Page Street Publishing, $18.99)
978-1-64567-985-1
Can you help the cramped animals fit in this interactive
topsy-turvy book? Fun for everyone! Bright cartoon-
style digital art. (3-6)

Gray Fox in the Moonlight
written and illustrated by Isaac Peterson
(The Collective Book Studio, $17.95)
978-1-68555-032-5
A mother fox explores the sights and sounds of the
forest at night before returning to her sleeping
kits. Pensive, minimalist text and cool, two-toned
illustrations. (2-4)

Gustav Is Missing!!
A Tale of Friendship and Bravery
written and illustrated by Andrea Zuill
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's
Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-48747-1
Little Cap, a mushroom, expands his comfort zone
for the sake of his true friend, a slug named Gustav.
Engaging ink and Photoshop illustrations. (4-6)

Hamza Attends a Janaza
by Shabana Hussain, illustrated by
Ataebeh Mohammazadeh
(Kube Publishing, $11.95) 978-0-86037-893-8
When a friend and neighbor passes away, Hamza must
forgo a fun day with his grandparents to attend an
Islamic funeral. Stylized illustrations. Extensive back
matter. (4-6)

Happy Birthday to Me
written and illustrated by Thao Lam
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $19.99)
978-1-7730-6872-5
A girl's special day with diverse party guests brings a
racing range of emotions, and ultimately, the comfort of
her mom. Vibrant detailed cut-paper collage art. (3-6)

Hidden Gem
written and illustrated by Linda Liu
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $18.99) 978-1-250-83507-9
An ordinary looking pebble tumbles into a Museum of
Rocks, and while wondering at the marvels there, finds
worth in his plain self. Handsome design, striking digital
and watercolor art. (4-6)

The Hidden World of Gnomes
written and illustrated by Lauren Soloy
(Tundra Books/Tundra/Penguin Random House of
Canada, $19.99) 978-0-7352-7104-3
This guide book introduces a merry band of gnomes,
following their lunar calendar, customs, values, and
joyful interactions with nature. Busy little figures
inhabit earth-toned digital spreads. (4-6)

Holey Moley
by Bethan Clarke, illustrated by Anders Frang
(Kane Miller/EDC Publishing, $15.99)
978-1-68464-549-7
An overly exuberant goat, using cumulative, silly,
rhyming suggestions, insists on trying to guess where
a mole lives. Engaging, amusing text and playful
illustrations. (4-6)

The House with 100 Stories
written and illustrated by Toshio Iwai, translated from
the Japanese by Yukiko Hanes
(Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5568-3
Tochi climbs a tower with 100 floors to meet a new
friend, encountering many busy creatures along the
way. Detailed, colorful illustrations. Vertical format.
(3-6)

How Dinosaurs Went Extinct: A Safety Guide
by Ame Dyckman, illustrated by Jennifer Harney
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $17.99) 978-0-3165-9329-8
Don't run with scissors! Look both ways! Careful or
you might end up like the dinosaurs! A father uses
an encounter with extinction as a teaching moment.
Humorous digital art. (4-6)
How to Get Your Octopus to School
by Becky Scharnhorst, illustrated by Jaclyn Sinquett
(Flamingo Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-20522-8
A little girl must persuade her pet octopus to attend school. Amusing, detailed digital illustrations. Facts about these intelligent creatures round out the fun. (4-6)

A Human for Kingsley
written and illustrated by Gabriel Evans
(Little Hare Books/Hardie Grant Children’s Publishing, $17.99) 978-1-76050-691-9
The search for the proper human is quite perplexing for this dog, until the importance of feeling needed is considered. Simple, engaging color illustrations. (4-5)

I Love You, Baby Burrito
written and illustrated by Angela Dominguez
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $8.99) 978-1-250-88684-2
An infant is welcomed home with open arms. Some Spanish text. Delicate watercolor and pencil illustrations. (0-2)

I’m From
by Gary R. Gray, Jr., illustrated by Oge Mora
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-308996-9
Paint and patterned paper are among the many artistic tools used to illustrate a young brown-skinned boy’s perspective on where, what, and who he is from. (4-6)

I’m Going to Build a Snowman
written and illustrated by Jashar Awan
(Simon & Schuster BFGY/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-6659-3817-4
A brown-skinned child has a snow day plan. His snowman may not be perfect, but it is his best yet. Emotive, expressive charcoal pencil and digital illustrations. (3-6)

In the Night Garden
written and illustrated by Carin Berger
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99)
978-0-8234-4986-6
In this lyrical bedtime story, a young girl observes all the nighttime activity in her garden as she and her cat head home to sleep. Intricate collage illustrations. (4-6)

Kind Crocodile
written and illustrated by Leo Timmers, translated from the Dutch by Bill Nagelkerke
(Gecko Press, $16.99) 978-177657-470-4
A mouse, a warthog, an antelope, a rhinoceros, and a crocodile find that, with teamwork, they are invincible. Humorous, expressive illustrations. Longer board book format. (2-4)

Later, When I’m Big
by Bette Westera, illustrated by Mattias De Leeuw, translated from the Dutch by Laura Watkinson
(Eerdmans BFGY/Eerdmans, $17.99) 978-0-8208-5610-4
A young white child on a visit to the local swimming pool imagines daring future adventures. Playful watercolor illustrations full of wonder and humor. (4-6)

Let’s Go! (I Like to Read Comics series)
written and illustrated by Michael Emberley
(Holiday House, $14.99) 978-0-8234-4652-0
Five persistent, adorable creatures find a wild way to a party. Digital, vibrant cartoon-style art provides much to share with beginning readers. (4-6)

The Light Inside
written and illustrated by Dan Misdea
(Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, $8.99) 978-0-583-52162-5
A nearly wordless picture book/graphic novel hybrid with an eerie grey palette depicts a young creature facing his nightmares on a quest for a lost toy. Both spooky and comforting, it is an evocative tale of bravery, kindness, and light. (3-5)

Little Black Lives Matter
by Khodi Dill, illustrated by Chelsea Charles
(Triangle Square/Seven Stories Press, $13.95)
978-1-644-21186-1
In rhyming text, 15 great Black lives come alive in memorable quotes. Empowering message encourages young children to find their inner heroes. Richly colored illustrations. (4-6)
Lola's Heart
written and illustrated by Alexandra Boiger
(Philomel Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-399-16590-0
A woman, a wolf, and a giant red bird rescue a mysterious butterfly on an odyssey through a landscape of wonders. Vivid, expressive pencil illustrations. (4-6)

D Lola’s Nana-Bibi Comes to Visit
by Anna McQuinn, illustrated by Rosalind Beardshaw
(Charlesbridge, $16.99) 978-1-62354-335-8
The excitement of Lola’s Tanzanian grandmother’s visit, and the fun they share with Lola’s mother, are captured in warm, mixed-media illustrations. (3-5)

D * Lolo’s Sari-Sari Store
by Sophia N. Lee, illustrated by Christine Almeda
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)
978-1-5344-9447-3
A young Filipina girl brings her grandfather’s lessons with her when she joins her mother in the United States and starts building her new community. Expressive digital illustrations. (4-6)

The Lost Mitten (I Like to Read Comics series)
written and illustrated by Janne Ho
(Holiday House, $14.99) 978-0-8234-5315-3
When Rabbit and Mouse find a lost mitten, they have quite an adventure searching for the rightful owner. Bold, expressive illustrations. (5-6)

D B * The Making of Butterflies
by Zora Neal Hurston, adapted by Ibram X. Kendi,
illustrated by Kah Yangni
(Amistad BFYR/HarperCollins, $9.99)
978 0 06 311158 5
In this African American folktale, the Creator, bored with his new earth, creates flowers. When they become lonely, He creates “flutter-bys,” little pieces cut out of everything. Bright collage illustrations. (4-6)

D B Marta!:
Big and Small
by Jen Arena, illustrated by Angela Dominguez
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $8.99)
978-1-250-88685-9
Clever little Marta compares herself to a variety of animals, outwitting a snake along the way. Bold graphic art. Bilingual in Spanish and English. (1-3)

Milo Walking
by James Howe, illustrated by Sakika Kikuchi
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-5520-0
Every day Milo and his mom go walking and have adventures. What will they discover today? Subtle mixed-media illustrations. (3-6)

* Mine!
by Candace Fleming, illustrated by Eric Rohmann
978-0-593-18166-9
A number of animals covet a lone apple hanging at the “tip-tippy top” of a tree. When it falls, chaos ensues. Imaginative rhyme. Bold relief prints. (3-6)

Monster-Scared
by Bettina Birkjær, illustrated by Zarah Juul,
translated from the Danish by Katrine Øgaard Jensen and Orien Longo
(Transit Children’s Editions, $18.95)
978-1-945492-74-7
Overcome bedtime fears with a child who ultimately braves the scary attic. Pen and ink art. (4-6)

Mouse & Giraffe
by Kelly DiPucchio, illustrated by Jen Corace
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-46503-5
Mouse and Giraffe don’t seem to agree on anything. Can they learn to take each other’s perspective? Bright, cartoon-style art in gouache, ink, and pencil. (3-5)

My Dad Is a Tree
written and illustrated by Jon Agee
(Rocky Pond Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-53137-2
When Madeleine’s father reluctantly joins her play, pretending to be a tree, he has no idea of the consequences, which include becoming an animal habitat! Wry colorful collage-style illustrations. (4-6)

D B * My Dad Loves Me and I Love My Dad
by Sara Miller, illustrated by Flavio Remonti
(Cottage Door Press, $9.99) 978-1-64638-480-8
Children narrate all the ways their fathers show their love for them. Exuberant, colorful illustrations depict diverse families. (1-3)
My Dog and I
by Luca Tortolini, illustrated by Felicita Sala
(Milky Way Picture Books/Comme des géants, $20.99)
978-1-990252-30-3
A girl is devastated when the unusual dog she finds, a wonderful playmate, goes missing. Then she finds a cat . . . and another surprise. Soft jewel-toned watercolors. (4-6)

My Dog Just Speaks Spanish
written and illustrated by Andrea Cáceres
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-2278-4
Aurora’s dog responds only to Spanish, but their words and love are clearly understood in their new country. Digital illustrations. (3-6)

Nell Plants a Tree
by Anne Wynter, illustrated by Daniel Miyares
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-286577-9
Dual time lines follow a young Black girl planting a seed and her grandchildren playing under the fully grown tree. Poetic text and warm, mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

Nesting Dolls
written and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton
Anyiaka, the youngest in her Gullah Geechee family, compares herself and her darker skin tone to that of her beautiful big sister and other relatives. Engaging illustrations. (4-6)

The Night Frolic
by Julie Berry, illustrated by Jaime Zollars
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-59183-6
Animal spirit guides whisk children away on a marvelous journey through the nighttime world. Swirling graphite and digital illustrations. (3-6)

Night in the City
written and illustrated by Julie Downing
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99)
978-0-8234-5206-4
What happens in the city when kids are sleeping? Lots of people are just waking up and going to work to do a variety of important jobs. Colorful illustrations. (2-4)

Oh, Olive!
written and illustrated by Lian Cho
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-0632-3749-0
Greyscale illustrations represent the limited imaginations of adults in Olive Chen’s world. When other children embrace the freedom and excitement of her art, Olive’s unique paintings enliven their humdrum world with color. (4-6)

Oh, Panda
written and illustrated by Cindy Derby
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-56472-1
With encouragement from a sympathetic narrator, Panda tries to climb an icy slope in search of a beautiful red butterfly. Hazy mixed-media illustrations. (3-5)

Okra Stew:
A Gullah Geechee Family Celebration
written and illustrated by Natalie Daise
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-84966-3
A father shares rich childhood memories with his son as the two prepare a special family dinner. Vibrant symbol-filled mixed-media art. Recipes, Gullah glossary, cultural/historical notes. (4-6)

One More Jar of Jam
by Michelle Sumovic, illustrated by Gracey Zhang
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, $18.99) 978-0-393-11267-0
A young girl and her multiracial family experience joy and sorrow through the life, death, and rebirth of a mulberry tree. Second-person narration paired with lively ink, watercolor, and gouache art. (4-6)

Papa’s Home
written and illustrated by David Soman
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-42783-8
A bear cub worries about being cared for by his aunt when his dad goes to work, but Papa and Aunt Jessie provide love and assurance. Gentle watercolor art. (3-5)

Pass the Baby
by Susanna Reich, illustrated by Raúl Colón
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99)
978-0-8234-5085-5
Pull up a chair and join a family’s joyful feast as they bounce their baby around. Detailed soft mixed-media art. (2-5)
Penny & Pip  
by Candace Fleming, illustrated by Eric Rohmann  
(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon  
& Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-6659-1331-7  
On a class field trip to the natural history museum,  
Penny, a brown-skinned child, meets Pip, a newly  
hatched dinosaur, and a beautiful friendship ensues.  
Imaginative pencil and digitally colored illustrations.  
(4-6)

Perfect Presents!  
written and illustrated by Anke Kuhl, translated from  
the German by Melody Shaw  
(Gecko Press, $9.99) 978-1-77657-499-5  
Sometimes finding the right gift can be unexpectedly  
challenging. Humorous illustrations with perfectly  
matched spare text. (4-5)

Puddle Song  
by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Monique Felix  
(Creative Editions, $10.99) 978-1-56846-383-4  
A puddle invites young friends to explore its delights.  
Poetic text and delicate detailed illustrations. (2-4)

Quiet Time with My Seeya  
written and illustrated by Dinalie Dabarera  
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $18.99)  
978-1-2508-2427-1  
A girl and her grandfather cross their language divide  
by joyfully sharing special activities together. Colored  
pencil art draws readers in. (4-6)

The Real Story  
written and illustrated by Sergio Ruzzier  
(Abrams Appleseed/Abrams, $16.99)  
978-1-4197-5526-2  
When Cat finds the cookie jar broken and all the  
cookies gone, he asks Mouse what happened.  
Mouse comes up with some tall tales. Mixed-media  
illustrations. (4-6)

The Red Tin Box  
by Matthew Burgess, illustrated by Evan Turk  
(Chronicle Books, $17.99) 978-1-4521-7973-5  
Accompanied by her granddaughter, a Black  
grandmother retrieves a time capsule she buried  
as a child and shares a lifetime of special memories.  
Luminous, painterly art. (4-6)

Rosie Runs  
written and illustrated by Marika Majiela, translated  
from the Finnish by Mia Spangenberg  
(Elsewhere Editions, $19.95) 978-1-953861-60-3  
Rosie, a race track dog, makes an adventurous escape  
to freedom. Childlike crayon art. (4-6)

The Shape of You  
by Nguyễn Thị Văn, illustrated by Miki Sato  
(Kids Can Press, $19.99) 978-1-5253-0545-0  
In gentle flowing language, a mother tells a child about  
the shapes in their lives, from the concrete to intangible  
things, like learning and warmth. Exquisite dimensional  
collage art. (4-6)

Simon and the Better Bone  
written and illustrated by Corey R. Tabor  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)  
978-0-06-327555-3  
Trying to retrieve his bone from another dog, Simon  
ever realizes he’s seeing his own reflection. Happily he  
finds sharing is the key to friendship. Mixed-media art.  
(4-6)

Slowly Slowly  
written and illustrated by Toni Yuly  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)  
978-1-6659-1718-6  
As life changes all around them, a boy and his dog  
uncover wonders in their own backyard. Gentle mixed-  
media illustrations add much to discover. (3-6)

Sometimes It’s Nice to Be Alone  
by Amy Hest, illustrated by Philip Stead  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99)  
978 0 8234 4947 7  
A celebration of a child’s rich imagination during  
solitary activities. Serene yet lively mixed-media  
illustrations. (4-6)

Soon, Your Hands  
by Jonathan Stutzman, illustrated by Elizabeth Lilly  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children’s Books/PRH,  
$18.99) 978-0-593-42707-1  
Three diverse families, all neighbors, savor time with  
their young children even as they foresee them growing  
less dependent. Colorful watercolor illustrations.  
American Sign Language glossary. (4-6)
**Spicy Spicy Hot!**
written and illustrated by Lenny Wen
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-28102-7
Lintang perseveres until she is able to eat her grandmother’s spicy traditional Indonesian dish, bridging their cultural divide. Bright humorous mixed-media art. Includes recipe for sambal. (4-6)

**Stay My Baby**
by Lana Button
(Orca Book Publishers, $10.95) 978-1-4598-3615-0
Parents express love for their little ones. Told in verse. Illustrated with photographs of diverse families. (0-1)

**This Is a Story**
by John Schu, illustrated by Lauren Castillo
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-0452-0
The joy and life-changing power of reading shine in this ode to libraries, librarians, and young readers. Immersive watercolor and pastel artwork. (4-6)

**The Three Little Mittens**
by Linda Bailey, illustrated by Natalia Shaloshvili
(Tundra Books/Tundra/Penguin Random House of Canada, $17.99) 978-1-77488-011-1
Celebrate differences when mismatched, lone mittens pair up. Socks, shoes, and children follow suit. Soft mixed-media art. (4-6)

**Together We Swim**
by Valerie Bolling, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita
(Chronicle Books, $16.99) 978-1-7972-1249-4
Spare text and mixed-media and digital illustrations tell the almost step-by-step process of a Black mother teaching her son to swim. A simple ode to overcoming fear. (4-6)

**Together with You**
by Patricia Toht, illustrated by Jarvis
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-2351-4
A grandmother and grandchild frolic through four seasons. Rhymed verse and colorfully illustrated activities depict joy and a loving relationship. (3-5)

**Too Green! (Feelings & Firsts series)**
by Sumana Seeboruth, illustrated by Maribel Castells
(Barefoot Books, $8.99) 978-1-64686-993-0
After a little taste, a toddler finds that the green soup is yummy! Amusing detailed illustrations depict a biracial family with two moms. Also available in a bilingual Spanish-English edition. (1-3)

**The Truth about Dragons**
by Julie Leung, illustrated by Hanna Cha
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $18.99) 978-1-250-82058-7
A child with grandmothers from different cultures learns the worldview of each through their traditional tales. Vibrant detailed mixed-media art. (4-6)

**The Truth about Max**
written and illustrated by Alice Provensen and Martin Provensen
(Enchanted Lion Books, $18.95) 978-1-59270-375-3
A newly published story about a mischievous family cat introduces a new generation to the renowned author-illustrators. Includes reminiscences by the couple’s daughter. Hand lettering. Watercolor and ink artwork. (3-6)

**The Umbrella**
by Beth Ferry, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-35-844772-6
Dreary, rainy days don’t stop an irrepressible young girl and her pup. Concise, simple rhyming text. Pencil and watercolor illustrations. (4-6)

**Under the Blanket Sky**
written and illustrated by Tim Fischer
(Doubleday BFYR/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-64591-8
A boy and a large, mysterious bird spend the summer immersed in idyllic play, then bid each other a sweet goodbye when fall arrives. Hazy, pastel-toned digital illustrations. (4-6)

**Very Good Hats**
by Emma Straub, illustrated by Blanca Gómez
(Rocky Pond Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-2943-0
This imaginative ode to hats reveals many creative possibilities: raspberries are hats for fingers, and even a cat can be a hat. Colorful stylized digitally enhanced collage art. (2-5)

**The Wave**
written and illustrated by Tyler Charlton
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $18.99) 978-1-250-84203-9
A child describes depression as a threatening wave; thoughtful self-reflection and family support helps him through. Stark pencil and digital art. Back matter includes mental health resources. (4-6)
**Ways to Play**
by Lyn Miller-Lachmann, illustrated by Gabriel Alborozo
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $18.99) 978-1-64614-259-0
Soft, watercolor artwork and the authentic voice of a young narrator reassure any child who has been ridiculed for playtime choices. A carefree dog amplifies the message. (3-6)

**Welcome to the World**
by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury
Rhyming text and lush watercolor illustrations show a diverse group of babies and toddlers beginning to explore the wide world. (1-4)

**What Does Little Crocodile Say at the Beach?**
written and illustrated by Eva Montanari
An action-packed camping adventure at the beach moves along with joyful sound effects. Vibrant chalk art. (3-6)

**What Happened to You?**
by James Catchpole, illustrated by Karen George
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-50647-2
On a playground, a boy with one leg tires of other kids asking about it. They conclude it’s not important to know, and their play resumes. Gouache and colored pencil illustrations. Endnotes. (4-6)

**What If One Day ...**
by Bruce Handy, illustrated by Ashleigh Corrin
(Enchanted Lion Books, $19.95) 978-1-59270-383-8
With playful call and response, the author asks us to consider what would happen if various attributes of our daily lives were to disappear. Splashy illustrations, double-page spreads. (4-6)

**Who Will Win? (I Like to Read series)**
written and illustrated by Arih honni David
(Holiday House, $15.99) 978-0-8234-4948-4
A Native American elder tells the tale of a clever poky turtle who, with the help of his family, outraces a bear. Crisp cartoon digital art. (4-6)

**The Wilderness**
written and illustrated by Steve McCarthy
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-3137-3
Fearful young Oktober Vasylenko leaves the safety of home and finds his courage. Witty, fanciful text and vibrant, dynamic digital art. (4-6)

**Wintergarden**
by Janet Fox, illustrated by Jasu Hu
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99) 978-1-8234-5101-1
A young girl helps her mother plant and harvest a winter herb garden on their kitchen windowsill. Told in free verse. Mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

**The Wishing Machine**
by Jonathan Hillman, illustrated by Nadia Alam
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-6659-2230-2
On his final visit to the laundromat with his mom, Sam imagines a washing machine is a wishing machine. Will his wish to stay in his neighborhood be granted? Colored-pencil illustrations. (4-6)

**Wombat**
written and illustrated by Philip Bunting
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-391-4
Simple cartoon-style paper-cut illustrations and short humorous lyrical word play give these endearing marsupials center stage in this heartwarming rhyming picture book. (3-6)

**Woo Hoo! You’re Doing Great!**
written and illustrated by Sandra Boynton
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $17.99) 978-0-316-48679-8
An exuberant chicken, assisted by a supportive mouse, brings joyous encouragement to all. Bright cartoon art. (2-5)

**Worm and Caterpillar Are Friends (Ready-to-Read Graphics series)**
written and illustrated by Kaz Windness
(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, $17.99) 978-1-6659-2001-8
Can Worm and Caterpillar still be best friends in spite of their differences? Cheery digital cartoon art adds to the lively fun for beginning readers. (4-6)
You Go First
by Ariel Bernstein, illustrated by Marc Rosenthal
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-6659-1151-1
Duck and Cat are excited to try the new slide until they’re at the front of the line. Understated, amusing story. Simple, uncluttered illustrations support the text. (3-6)

Biography and Memoir

D Little Rosetta and the Talking Guitar:
The Musical Story of Sister Rosetta Tharpe, the Woman Who Invented Rock and Roll
written and illustrated by Charnelle Pinkney Barlow (Doubleday BFYR/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-57106-4
A young African American phenom created an entirely new musical genre, for which she did not initially get any credit. Lyrical text. Engaging collage art. Back matter. (5-6)

Concept Books

* 10 Cats
written and illustrated by Emily Gravett
(Boxer Books/Sterling Publishing, $16.99) 978-1-914912-58-0
Ten playful kittens romp with paint pots as their mother sleeps blissfully through their antics. Pencil and watercolor digital illustrations. (2-5)

Alphabuddies: G Is First!
by Beth Bacon and Karen Kane, illustrated by Eric Barclay
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-305597-1
G and Z suggest changing the order of the alphabet song. A protests strongly, claiming that would destroy reading. Will it? Humorous expressive character illustrations with dialogue bubbles. (4-6)

D Apart, Together:
A Book about Transformation
by Linda Booth Sweeney, illustrated by Ariel Rutland
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-326461-8
How can separate things come together to make something wholly new? Brightly colored, energetic full-page illustrations. (3-6)

B Is for Bananas
by Carrie Tillotsoni, illustrated by Estrella Lourenço
(Flamingo Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-52806-8
Guided by zany alphabet hijinks, wild banana flees bedtime. Engaging cartoon-style digital art. (4-6)

Catside Up, Catside Down:
A Book of Prepositions
written and illustrated by Anna Hrachovec
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $18.99) 978-1-250-84126-1
Quirky cat behaviors help introduce prepositions to young readers. Each photographed, colorful knitted kitty is positioned to express its relation to another object. (2-5)

D Dia de Muertos Números:
A Day of the Dead Counting Book
written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh
(Abrams Appleseed/Abrams, $15.99) 978-1-4197-6446-2
Family members add items, on successive pages, to an altar to honor a departed loved one. Bold, stylized images evoke Mesoamerican art. Bilingual in Spanish and English. (3-5)

Eat Your Superpowers!:
How Colorful Foods Keep You Healthy and Strong
by Toni Buzzo, illustrated by Serge Bloch
(RISE X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-593-52295-0
Twenty-five nutritious foods are organized by color, each introduced by a simple sentence, providing information about the health benefits of each. Humorous line drawings, clear photographs. (4-6)

D Everybody Has a Body
by Molli Jackson Ehlert, illustrated by Lorian Tu
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $18.99) 978-1-250-85444-5
Examples of differences in appearances are linked by what they have in common: we all have bodies. Expressive drawings of bodies engaged in many activities. (4-6)

D Good Morning, Good Night
written and illustrated by Anita Lobel
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-5344-6549-7
A young child walks through a French city with his parents, discovering myriad items to compare and contrast. Full-page boldly colored scenes. (4-6)
Happy
written and illustrated by Mies van Hout,
translated from the Dutch
(Pajama Press, $19.95) 978-1-77278-287-5
An exuberant parade of two-page spreads: on one side, a one-word emotion, and on the other, a colorful, expressively drawn fish, rendered in chalk and pastel on paper. (3-6)

I Help at Home!:
I Can Clean My Room, Fold Laundry, Set the Table, and More (Montessori Life Skills series)
by Saniyyah Khalilallah, illustrated by Yu Kito Lee, photographed by Jared Leeds and others
(Storey Publishing, $16.99) 978-1-63586-5233
Youngsters proudly learn to independently complete 12 housekeeping tasks. Colorful illustrations and photographs. Includes child-friendly skills chart. Back matter. (3-5)

Invisible Things
written and illustrated by Andy J. Pizza and Sophie Miller
(Chronicle Books, $17.99) 978-1-7972-1520-4
“There’s more to life than meets the eye,” such as sensory experiences, patience, and moods. Once you start noticing, you’ll be surprised by what you find. Amusing digital art. (4-6)

Ketchup On My Sundae (Mix-and-Match series)
written and illustrated by Nelleke Verhoeff
(Barefoot Books, $12.99) 978-1-64686-849-0
An invitation to explore multiple combinations of kid-friendly foods. Split-page board book format. Muted illustrations of anthropomorphized comestibles. (2-4)

One
by Ruth Forman, illustrated by Katura Gaines
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster, $8.99) 978-1-6659-3936-2
One by one by one, Black girls form a soccer team. Cheerful, vibrant illustrations. (0-3)

Peaceful Me
by Sandra V. Feder, illustrated by Rahele Jompeour Bell
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $19.99) 978-1-77306-341-6
A Black child shares many strategies for staying calm in a variety of situations. Mixed-media art carries the mood. (4-5)

Reading Time!:
A Tummy Time First Words Book for Babies
written and illustrated by Mama Makes Books
(Little Comet, $8.99) 978-1-63655-068-8
Simple concepts and bright colors engage infants’ eyes. In verse. A foldout book with mirror. (0-1)

Sometimes I Cry
by Jess Townes, illustrated by Daniel Miyares
(Farrar Straus Giroux BYR/Macmillan, $18.99) 978-0-374-30825-4
Soothing, lyrical text and expressive, realistic illustrations provide assurance that tears are a normal part of both the happy and sad events in our lives. (3-6)

Twenty Questions
by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Christian Robinson
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-1513-7
Neither the spare text nor the playful, colorful double-page illustrations reveal the answers to a set of intriguing questions, demanding imagination and language for myriad possibilities. (4-6)

Ups and Downs:
A Book of Emotions
written and illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-53622737-6
A wide range of shifting emotions, labeled and modeled by three children throughout their school day, expand and encourage children’s emotional literacy. Colorful animated illustrations. (4-6)

We Share This School:
A Community Book
by Dan Saks, illustrated by Brooke Smart
(Rise X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, $8.99) 978-0-593-65825-3
A rhyming tribute to the classroom and the importance it plays in the lives of young children. Vibrant illustrations. (2-4)

Who I Am:
Words I Tell Myself
by Susan Verde, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $15.99) 978-1-4197-7091-3
In this collection of gentle positive affirmations, a diverse group of children are encouraged to welcome the full range of emotions and speak kindly to themselves. Delicate watercolor art. (5-6)
**The World and Everything in It**
written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-324564-8
Young children discover how they connect to the small, big, and in-between things around them and in the wider world. Gentle watercolor and brown ink illustrations. (4-6)

**You Are a Story**
by Bob Raczka, illustrated by Kristen Howdeshell and Kevin Howdeshell
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99)
978-0-8234-4914-9
“Tell your story to others. Then listen to theirs.” An empowering and moving exploration of identity from many perspectives. Animated print-like digital illustrations. (4-6)

**Otto the Ornament**
written and illustrated by Troy Cummings
(Random House Children's Books/Penguin Random House, $12.99) 978-0-593-48120-2
Egotistical Otto falls from the top of a spectacular tree, giving him a sense of humility and appreciation for being part of a family. Word play. Festive illustrations. (4-6)

**Poetry**

**AfiKomen**
by Tziporah Cohen, illustrated by Yaara Eshet
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $19.99)
978-1-77306-606-6
When children playfully hide under the seder table, they are magically transported, witnessing Moses’s inspiring life story. Wordless. Evocative watercolor and ink illustrations. Author’s note. (4-6)

**Chloe’s Lunar New Year**
by Lily LaMotte, illustrated by Michelle Lee
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-307651-8
A young girl can’t wait to celebrate the holiday with her family, carrying out old traditions and helping to prepare a feast. Mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

**Hanukkah Upside Down**
by Elissa Brent Weissman, illustrated by Omer Hoffmann
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-6296-3
Two cousins who live on opposite sides of the globe compete about whose holiday celebration is best. Urbane, witty illustrations. (4-6)

**An Ofrenda for Perro**
by Judith Valdés B., illustrated by Carlos Vélez Aguilera
(Little Bee Books, $18.99) 978-1-4998-1387-6
Benito’s parents help him deal with his beloved dog’s death by including offerings for Perro on their Día de los Muertos altar. Warm, colorful illustrations. (4-6)

**Black Girls: A Celebration of You!**
by Dominique Furukawa, illustrated by Erika Lynne Jones
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 9780063205314
Lively and musical text honors Black girls of every shade, size, and culture while exploring the many aspects of Black girlhood. Bright, whimsical, collage-like digital illustrations. (4-6)

**Peek-A-Boo Haiku (A Lift-the-Flap Book series)**
by Danna Smith and illustrated by Teagan White
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster, $8.99)
978-1-6659-2646-1
Journey through the seasons with woodland creatures and haikus. Engaging digital art. (1-3)

**Woven of the World**
by Katey Howes, illustrated by Dinara Mirtalipova
(Chronicle Books, $17.99) 978-1-4521-7806-6
Follow the many strands of a global, multicultural, multigenerational history of weaving, told in gorgeous verse. Vibrant illustrations. Back matter. (5-6)
**STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)**

**Cicada Symphony**
by Sue Fliess, illustrated by Gareth Lucas
(Albert Whitman & Company, $18.99)
978-0-8075-1161-9
Lively rhyming text and fun facts invite readers to explore these raucous insects. Colorful digital art. Back matter. (4-6)

**I’m Trying to Love Germs**
written and illustrated by Bethany Barton
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-32672-5
Playful dialogue and zany cartoon illustrations describe four categories of pathogens in a highly accessible manner for a young audience. (4-6)

**Bia & Luis: Puzzled! (Storytelling Math series)**
by Ana Crespo, illustrated by Giovana Medeiros
(Charlesbridge, $16.99) 978-1-62354-322-8
Brazilian American twins learn some new spatial skills when their Vovó (grandma) sends them a jigsaw puzzle with a secret message. Bold, colorful digital illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

**Little Land**
written and illustrated by Diana Sudyka
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-30176-3
Over millions of years, a single piece of land undergoes change, including destructive pollution and welcome green renewal. Dynamic gouache and digital illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

**Night Owl Night**
by Susan Edwards Richmond, illustrated by Maribel Lechuga
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-251-1
Venturing out at night with her scientist mother to study saw-whet owls, Sova, a brown-skinned child, learns to watch and wait along the way. Mixed-media art. Back matter. (4-6)

**Not a Monster**
by Claudia Guadalupe Martínez, illustrated by Laura González
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-303-7
Explore the life cycle and environmental challenges of the endangered axolotl and learn its Aztec origin story. Told in a mix of Spanish and English. Watercolor art. Author’s note. (4-6)

**Sneak! (Slide-and-See series)**
by Beatriz Giménez de Ory, illustrated by Paloma Valdivia, translated from the Spanish by Lisa Rosinsky
(Barefoot Books, $19.99) 978-9-88859-019-5
Guess the camouflaged animals from their descriptions. Slide-and-see pages. Colorful folk-art-like illustrations. (1-4)

**Stinkbird Has a Superpower**
by Jill Esbaum, illustrated by Bob Shea
(G. P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-52952-2
A father hoatzin explains their unique features to his chick. Bright digital illustrations. (4-6)

**Time to Move South for Winter**
by Clare Helen Welsh, illustrated by Jenny Løvlie
(Nosy Crow, $17.99) 978-9-88777-019-2
Follow the tiny arctic tern on the world’s longest animal migration, as it passes species like humpback whales and caribou, all searching for a warmer home. Lyrical text. Exquisite blue-toned illustrations. (4-6)

**Tumble**
written and illustrated by Adriana Hernández Bergstrom
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, $18.99)
978-1-339-82866-5
Sparse rhyming text and evocative illustrations depict the trajectory of the tumbleweed and the life forms it passes on its way. Back matter. (4-6)

**Whose Egg Is That?**
by Darrin Lunde, illustrated by Kelsey Oseid
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-623-54329-7
Color, shape, and texture are clues for pairing seven eggs with their parents. Double-page spreads capture the animals in their natural habitats. Bright, colorful illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

**Whose Prints?**
by Kari Allen and illustrated by Kim Smith
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster, $8.99)
978-1-6659-2959-2
Join a father and daughter as they walk through the snow, exploring animal tracks. Die-cut footprints add to the journey. Bright digital art. (1-3)
FICTION

Adventure and Mystery

활동과 비밀

**The Baddies**
by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Axel Scheffler (Scholastic Press, $17.99) 978-1-339-00906-3
Using their special powers, a troll, a witch, and a ghost compete to be the first to steal from a girl, with surprising results. In rhyming text. Sendak-style illustrations. (5-8)

**Dakota Crumb and the Secret Bookshop: A Tiny Treasure Hunt (Dakota Crumb series)**
by Jamie Michalak, illustrated by Kelly Murphy (Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-2330-9
Dakota, a treasure-hunting mouse, follows ingenious clues in her search for a rare book. Detailed, colorful pen and ink illustrations. (5-8)

**Evergreen**
written and illustrated by Matthew Cordell (Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $18.99) 978-1-250-31717-9
A fearful young squirrel finds courage through a series of action-filled encounters during a journey through the dangerous Buckthorn Forest. Pen and watercolor art in earth tones. (4-7)

**Harriet Spies**
by Elana K. Arnold, illustrated by Dung Ho (Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-301213-6
During a summer at her grandmother’s B&B, Harriet solves mysteries, makes friends, and learns something about truth-telling. Sequel to Just Harriet. Spot art. (7-9)

**The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish**
written and illustrated by Chloe Savage (Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2851-9
Dr. Morley and her crew search the Arctic Ocean in hopes of encountering the fabled giant jellyfish. Meticulously detailed ink and watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

**Stranded!:**
A Mostly True Story from Iceland
by ÁEvar Þór Benediktsson, illustrated by Anne Wilson (Barefoot Books, $17.99) 978-1-64686-991-6
When two adventurers travel to a newly formed volcanic island in Iceland to explore it, their ride home forgets to pick them up. Humorous mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

**A Way to the Stars**
by David Almond, illustrated by Gill Smith (Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-3125-0
A father encourages his son’s dream to find a way to defeat gravity. After several failed attempts, they discover a great way to soar among the stars. Mixed-media illustrations. (6-8)

Animals

**Cat’s Very Good Day**
by Kristen Tracy, illustrated by David Small (G. P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-1-9848-1520-0
Rhyming couplets capture a house cat’s varied daily adventures. Digitally rendered illustrations match the active, ever-changing spirit of the feline. (5-8)

**Every Dreaming Creature**
written and illustrated by Brendan Wenzel (Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-51253-4
A succession of nighttime visions slip from the mind of one animal to another, exploring the interconnectedness of all life. Hypnotic prose poetry and vibrant mixed-media art. (5-7)

Beginning Readers

**Billy & Rose:**
Just the Way They Are (Billy & Rose series)
by Amy Hest, illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton (Candlewick Press, $16.99) 978-1-5362-1420-8
Expressive and humorous illustrations capture the close relationship of two friends. (5-7)
Doggo and Pupper Search for Cozy (Doggo and Pupper series)
by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Charlie Adler
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $9.99)
978-1-250-62102-3
Canine characters help Cat understand that you can’t create coziness—it just is. Accepting change takes time, especially when you’ve been given a new bed. Engaging digital art. (4-7)

Fish and Worm (I Can Read Comics! series)
written and illustrated by Sergio Risvoir
(HarperAlley/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-329035-8
Fish develops an unlikely friendship with what was to be his meal. A lighthearted introduction for those who question eating living beings. Pastel colored illustrations. (4-7)

Gigi and Ojiji:
Food for Thought (Gigi and Ojiji series/I Can Read! series)
written and illustrated by Melissa Iwai
(Harper/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-320812-4
A young girl from a multicultural family strengthens her relationship with her Japanese grandfather by preparing breakfast and sharing it with him. Colorful cartoon-style illustrations. (5-7)

How to Love a Pony (Beginner Books series)
by Michelle Meadows, illustrated by Sawyer Cloud
(Beginner Books/Random House/PRH, $9.99)
978-0-593-48316-9
In gentle rhymes, a young Black girl tells how she cares for her pony on the family farm. Full-color illustrations show the changing seasons. (4-6)

Makeda Makes a Birthday Treat (I Can Read! series)
by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich, illustrated by Lydia Mba
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $17.99)
978-0-06-321726-3
Although most of the class brings cupcakes to school for their birthdays, Makeda, a Black child, brings her favorite treat—coconut drops. Will the others like them? Colorful illustrations. (5-6)

The Mambo Rescue! (Tow on the Go! series/Ready-to-Read series)
by Patricia Lakin, illustrated by Chiara Galletti
(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-6659-2007-0
When ten cars all get stuck in the snow, they call Mo the tow truck to help. Can he tow them all together? Bright colorful illustrations. (4-7)

Nat the Cat Takes a Nap (Nat the Cat series/Ready-to-Read series)
written and illustrated by Jarret Lerner
(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-6659-1891-6
Sleepy Nat really wants to take a nap but keeps getting interrupted. Simple rhyming text. Colorful cartoon illustrations. (5-7)

Oslo Learns to Swim (Rex & Oslo series/Ready-to-Read series)
written and illustrated by Doug Cushman
(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-6659-2648-5
Simple balloon text captures the humor and trust when two friends go swimming. Colorful digital art. (4-7)

Reina Ramos Meets a BIG Puppy (Reina Ramos series/I Can Read! series)
by Emma Otheguy, illustrated by Andrés Landazábal
(Harper/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-322315-8
Reina is afraid of her friend Lila’s big dog. Lila is scared to try Reina’s signature cartwheels. Can they overcome their fears? Colorful illustrations. Spanish glossary. Also available in Spanish. (6-7)

The Talent Show (Confetti Kids series)
by Samantha Thornhill, illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez
(Lee & Low Books, $15.95) 978-1-64379-493-8
Henry, encouraged by his mom and her partner, Joy, decides to do something new for the school performance—dance! Engaging cartoon-style illustrations. (5-7)

When Things Aren’t Going Right, Go Left
by Marc Colaggiovani, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, $18.99)
978-1-338-83118-4
A brown-skinned boy narrates a day full of worries and doubts. His fears become manageable, and he changes course. Cheerful cartoon-style illustrations. (5-7)
Concept Books

💫 Are We There Yet?
written and illustrated by Sven Völker
(Cicada Books, $16.99) 978-1-80066-037-3
Bear learns to appreciate the journey he is taking with Butterfly and all they experience during it, rather than focusing only on getting to their destination. Simple tonal illustrations. (7-9)

💫 The Bear and the Wildcat
by Kazumi Yumoto, illustrated by Komako Sakai,
translated from the Japanese by Cathy Hirano
(Gecko Press/Lerner, $19.99) 978-1-8774-6770-7
Bear struggles with grief after his best friend’s death, until a music-playing cat leads him gently back into the world. Charcoal art complements the text. (6-8)

💫 More Than Words:
So Many Ways to Say What We Mean
written and illustrated by Roz MacLean
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $18.99) 978-1-250-86450-5
Glowing illustrations accompany limited text, celebrating myriad ways of communicating: words, gestures, art, music, collaboration, listening, acts of friendship, and more. (4-7)

💫 Sensitive
by Sara Levine, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, $18.99) 978-1-7284-5092-6
Other people's words crowd inside a sensitive child, but with time and creativity, she rearranges them, revealing hidden strength. Mixed-media collage blends text and illustrations. (5-8)

💫 Small Places, Close to Home:
A Children’s Declaration of Rights
by Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by Kate Gardiner
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-0630-9258-7
A poetic and moving statement of the rights of children and the responsibility to respect the rights of others. Illustrations in a muted palette depict people of diverse races and cultures. (7-9)

💫 You Rule!
written and illustrated by Rilla Alexander
(Handprint Books/Chronicle Books, $17.99)
978-1-7972-1179-4
A range of possible answers to questions about feelings and thoughts depict ways to measure the intangible. Colorful digital art. (5-7)

💫 Let’s Read Animal Words
written and illustrated by Ji Lee
A variety of animals are drawn using the letters that make up their names. Information about each creature accompanies the images. An innovative, visually arresting presentation. (5-8)

💫 Enough Is . . .
by Jessica Whipple, illustrated by Nicole Wong
(Tilbury House, $18.95) 978-0-88448-932-0
A child considers what lies “between a little and a lot” and finds the value and joy of “just enough.” Soft pastel chalk and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

💫 Boyogi:
How a Wounded Family Learned to Heal
by David Barclay Moore, illustrated by Noa Denmon
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-53621-370-6
A young African American boy notices the persistent sadness of his father, who has returned from military service. Yoga helps the whole family. Varying color palettes reflect the emotional changes. Digital illustrations. (6-8)

💫 The Moon Is a Ball:
Stories of Panda & Squirrel
by Ed Franck, illustrated by Thé Tjong-Khing, translated from the Dutch by David Colmer
(Gecko Press/Lerner, $19.99) 978-1-7765-7493-3
Nine interlinked contemplative tales show the multifaceted nature of a deep and lasting friendship. Watercolor and ink illustrations. (6-8)

Contemporary Issues
Ganesha Goes Green
by Lakshmi Thamizhmani, illustrated by Debasmita Dasgupta
(Barefoot Books, $17.99) 978-1-64686-997-8
Concerned that the Ganesha Chaturthi celebration will pollute the river, Prema and her friends create a safe, earth-friendly alternative to the event’s traditional statues. Mixed-media art. Back matter. (5-8)

Hello, Mister Blue
written and illustrated by Daria Peoples
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-320675-5
A young girl and her grandfather spend a day playing music with Papa’s old friend, now unhoused, but nonetheless a popular neighborhood fixture. Oil paint and graphite illustrations. (5-8)

That Flag
by Tameka Fryer Brown, illustrated by Nikkolas Smith
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-309344-7
Two best friends, one Black and one White, are challenged and changed while learning about Black history at a museum and experiencing violent racism. Powerful digital artwork. Extensive back matter. (7-9)

These Olive Trees:
A Palestinian Family’s Story
written and illustrated by Aya Ghanameh
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-52518-0
Hand-drawn earth-toned illustrations accompany this poignant story centering on cherished olive trees and a Palestinian child whose family is forever exiled from their homeland. Author’s note provides historical background. (8-10)

We Are Here
by Tami Charles, illustrated by Bryan Collier
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, $18.99)
978-1-338-75204-5
A celebration of Black creativity delivers its message through powerful free verse and arresting watercolor/collage illustrations. Includes a list of historic figures, glossary, and author’s and illustrator’s notes. (5-8)

The Words We Share
written and illustrated by Jack Wong
(Annick Press, $18.99) 978-1-77321-797-0
Angie translates and paints signs for her father and other non-English-speaking Chinese immigrants. But when she mistranslates something, her father’s knowledge of dialects saves the day. Gently humorous illustrations. (5-8)

Ecology

The Tree and the River
written and illustrated by Aaron Becker
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2329-3
The effects of human settlement and industrialization through time are reimagined in the presence of an aging tree. Wordless. Pencil, gouache, and digital illustrations. (6-9)

Family/School/Community

Ali the Great and the Market Mishap
by Saadia Faruqi, illustrated by Debby Rahmali
(Picture Window Books/Capstone, $16.99)
978-1-66639-387-3
Pakistani American Ali repeatedly and inventively rescues little brother Fateh from mischief as they shop with their grandfather for traditional snacks. Cheery cartoon-style art. Glossary. (5-6)

Always Sisters:
A Story of Loss and Love
by Saira Mir, illustrated by Shahrzad Maydani
(Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-6659-0156-7
Raya can’t wait to be a big sister, but when she learns the baby won’t be coming home, she is devastated. How can she grieve this loss? Soft, blurred illustrations. (6-9)

Bábo:
A Tale of Armenian Rug-Washing Day
by Astrid Kamalyan, illustrated by Anait Semirdzhyan
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-358-7
Four siblings spend their day helping their grandmother clean their Armenian rugs and having fun playing in the soapy water. Digitally created illustrations. Glossary. Author’s note. (5-8)
**Big**
written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $19.99) 978-0-316-35322-9
A brown-skinned girl navigates a world that makes her feel small because of her size. Digital pink-hued illustrations and spare text convey love and warmth in this emotionally powerful story. (4-7)

**Bitsy Bat, School Star (Bitsy Bat series)**
written and illustrated by Kaz Windness
An autistic kindergartner finds a way to fit in and helps herself and others find their unique qualities. Graphite on paper and digital paintings. Back matter about autism. (5-8)

**Building a Dream: How the Boys of Koh Panyee Became Champions (Spectacular STEAM for Curious Readers series)**
by Darshana Khiani, illustrated by Dow Phumiruk
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $18.99)
978-0-8028-5547-3
Vivid illustrations and lyrical text capture the determination of young Thai boys obsessed with playing soccer despite living in a water-based community. Author’s note. (5-8)

**Cloud Babies**
by Eoin Colfer, illustrated by Chris Judge
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-3107-6
Colorful illustrations accompany this heartfelt story of Erin, a child who endures many hospital stays. Her imagination ultimately enables her to bridge hospital and school life. (6-8)

**Empty and Me: A Tale of Friendship and Loss**
by Azam Mahdavi, illustrated by Maryam Tahmasebi, translated from the Persian by Parisa Saranj
(Lee & Low Books, $21.95) 978-1-64379-622-2
Until she is ready to rejoin the world, a young girl whose mother has died is accompanied through her grief by a translucent creature. Mood-matching digital art in a muted palette. Bilingual in Persian and English. (5-8)

**A Garden in My Hands**
by Meera Sriram, illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-42710-1
A mother paints henna designs, mehndi, on her little daughter’s hands in preparation for an Indian wedding. Poetic text and vivid, stylized digital illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

**Gloria’s Promise (American Ballet Theatre Presents series)**
by Robin Preiss Glasser and Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser
(Random House Studio/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-18100-3
When a young girl, passionate about dancing, auditions for the American Ballet Theatre school, she falls! Can she possibly be accepted? Gouache and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

**Grandma’s Tipi: A Present-Day Lakota Story**
written and illustrated by S. D. Nelson
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-3192-1
Clara learns about her rich tribal heritage while spending the summer on the reservation with her grandmother. Immersive acrylic art. Extensive author’s note. (6-8)

**Grandpa and the Kingfisher**
by Anna Wilson, illustrated by Sarah Massini
(Nosy Crow, $17.99) 978-8-8777-017-8
While they observe river birds through the seasons, a grandfather gently teaches his grandchild that no one lives forever, but nature and the world abide. Digital art. Includes link to audiobook. (5-8)

**Henry, Like Always**
by Jenn Bailey, illustrated by Mika Song
(Chronicle Books, $14.99) 978-1-7972-1389-7
When his teacher announces a parade, Henry gets upset that the classroom routine will change. Then he finds a way to manage. Early chapter book. Gentle ink and blue wash illustrations. (6-7)

**Homeland: My Father Dreams of Palestine**
by Hannah Moushabeck, illustrated by Reem Madooh
(Chronicle Books, $18.99) 978 1 7972 0205 1
A young girl shares the stories her father told about life in Palestine before his family left their homeland in 1948. Colorful, detailed illustrations. (5-7)

**The Hospital Book**
written and illustrated by Lisa Brown
(Neal PorterBooks/Holiday House, $18.99)
978-0-8234-4665-0
A young brown-skinned girl is hospitalized with abdominal pain. After surgery, she recovers and returns home. Detailed india ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)
I Absolutely, Positively Love My Spots
by Lid’ya C. Rivera, illustrated by Niña Mata
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-311997-0
Inspired by her own experience, the author pens a
celebratory ode to children with vitiligo. Vibrant, joyful
illustrations. Back matter about the author’s life. (7-9)

I Can Open It for You
written and illustrated by Shinsuke Yoshitake,
translated from the Japanese by Lisa Wilcut
(Chronicle Books, $15.99) 978-1-7972-1994-3
A child, frustrated at being unable to open a candy
wrapper, dreams of being able to do it independently.
Simple, colorful illustrations. (4-7)

* In the Dark
by Kate Hoefler, illustrated by Corinna Luyken
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children’s Books/PRH,
$18.99) 978-0-593-37283-8
When strangers arrive from the dark woods, townsfolk
must overcome prejudice to recognize their new
neighbors’ humanity. A vertically flipped book with ink,
watercolor, and pencil art. (5-7)

* Jump In!
written and illustrated by Shadra Strickland
(Bloomsbury Children’s Books/Bloomsbury, $18.99)
978-1-61963-580-7
From Double Dutch to hip hop, all movement styles are
welcome in effervescent jump rope play in a diverse
neighborhood. Free verse with an off-beat rhythm. Sun-
drenched digital art. (4-7)

Just Like Grandma
by Kim Rogers, illustrated by Julie Flett
(Heartdrum/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-304924-6
Becca learns traditional beading, painting, and dancing
with her role-model Native American grandma who
shares in her granddaughter’s basketball tryouts.
Lyrical text paired with evocative earth-toned
illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

* Kicks in the Sky
written and illustrated by C. G. Esperanza
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-297623-9
Everyone wonders how some colorful sneakers ended
up on telephone wires. Then the kicks are knocked
down, and amazing things happen when kids wear
them. Bouncing, rhythmic, rhyming text. Vibrant mixed-
media art. (5-8)

Like Lava in My Veins
by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Shawn Martinbrough,
colors by Adriano Lucas
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House,
$18.99) 978 0 525 51874 7
Bobby Beacon, a Black boy, enters a new superhero
school, but can’t always control his powers. A teacher
who recognizes his strengths and issues helps him.
Dynamic, action-packed graphic panels. (7-10)

Listening to the Quiet
by Cassie Silva, illustrated by Frances Ives
(Lantana, $18.99) 978-1-915244-48-2
Soft colors and slightly blurred artwork echo the loss
of a mother’s hearing in this poignant story of a child
learning new ways to continue a loving relationship.
(6-8)

Martina Has Too Many Tías
by Emma Otheguy, illustrated by Sara Palacios
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)
978-1-5344-4536-9
A young Latina girl uses her imagination to escape from
her lovable but boisterous family. Humorous, colorful
mixed-media illustrations. Also available in Spanish.
(4-7)

Masala Chai, Fast and Slow
by Rajani LaRocca, illustrated by Neha Rawat
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-1940-1
Aarav loves the ritual of making chai with his
grandfather every day. When Thatha is injured, can
Aarav make the spiced drink for him just the way
Thatha likes it? Digital illustrations. (5-8)

Maurice
written and illustrated by Jessixa Bagley
In a Paris whose inhabitants are anthropomorphic dogs,
accordionist Maurice redisCOVERs his musical spirit and
passion for the world around him. Bright, energetic
watercolor and digital illustrations. (5-8)

Maybe a Whale
by Kirsten Pendreigh, illustrated by Crystal Smith
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi, $21.99)
978-1-77306-664-6
A young girl takes a kayaking camping trip with her
mother, finding peace while she grieves as they seek the
whales her grandfather loved. Digital art. (5-8)
Mina Belongs Here
by Sandra Niebuhr-Siebert, illustrated by Lars Baus,
translated from the German by Polly Lawson
(Floris Books, $17.95) 978-1-78250-811-3
A girl starts kindergarten in a new country and slowly adapts, learning the language, making friends, and helping other children. Monochrome illustrations change to bright colors as the protagonist’s sense of belonging grows. (5-8)

My Powerful Hair
by Carole Lindstrom, illustrated by Steph Littlebird
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-5843-7
A Native American child shares the importance of growing hair long in her culture. Spare text and vibrant pencil artwork. Back matter. (6-8)

My Strange Shrinking Parents
written and illustrated by Zeno Sworder
(Thames & Hudson, $17.95) 978-1-760-76295-7
A symbolic representation of the sacrifices that Chinese immigrant parents make to give their child clothes, books, and an education, until the child grows up and takes care of them. Dreamlike woodblock-inspired illustrations. (7-10)

Never Forget Eleanor
by Jason June, illustrated by Loren Long
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-303962-9
Elijah, an anthropomorphized elephant, loves his grandmother, her stories, and her cleverness with language. When she starts to be forgetful, he helps her create pathways for her words. Gouache illustrations. (5-8)

Only Only Marisol Rainey (Maybe Marisol series)
written and illustrated by Erin Entrada Kelly
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-297048-0
Filipina American Marisol is afraid of the big dog that just escaped from his backyard, and wonders what she should do if she sees him. Black-and-white illustrations. (7-9)

Our Pool
written and illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-5344-9923-2
On a hot summer day, the narrator and their mom head to the local city pool to cool off, along with the whole neighborhood. Gouache and color pencil illustrations. (5-8)

Our Roof Is Blue
by Sara E. Echenique, illustrated by Ashley Vargas
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-233-7
After a hurricane in Puerto Rico blows the roof off the family house, Antonio stops speaking. Can his older sister help restore his voice? Digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

Outside Amelia’s Window
by Caroline Nastro, illustrated by Anca Sandu Budisan
(Two Lions, $17.99) 978-1-542-02785-4
Amelia, a shy wheelchair user, is reluctant to play with her new neighbors, until she finds inspiration from a family of birds. Soft, dreamy illustrations in pencil and watercolors. (5-7)

Papá’s Magical Water-Jug Clock
by Jesús Trejo, illustrated by Eliza Kinkz
(Minerva/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-6626-5104-5
Mexican American Jesús doesn’t realize that the jug of water that he and his gardener father take with them must last their entire working day. Vivid, detailed mixed-media illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (5-7)

Plátanos Go with Everything
by Lissette Norman, illustrated by Sara Palacios
(Harper/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-306751-6
Yesenia, a young Dominican American girl, relates the ways her family uses plátanos to feel close to home. Vibrant digital illustrations. Plátanos recipe included. Bilingual edition in Spanish and English also available. (6-9)

The Promise
by Bridget Hodder and Fawzia Gilani-Williams,
illustrated by Cinzia Battistel
(Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, $19.99) 978-1-7284-6024-6
In Morocco, Jacob, who is Jewish, and Hassan, who is Muslim, tend their garden together until World War II threatens. Will the garden and their friendship survive? Expressive color illustrations. (6-9)
**Rainbow Shopping**
written and illustrated by Qing Zhuang
(Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-82334-4977-4
A girl discovers the wonders of Chinatown as she shops with her mother for dinner in her Chinese American family who are recent immigrants. Impressionistic illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

**Remembering**
by Xelena González, illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-5344-9963-8
On the Day of the Dead, a young girl collects favorite items to make an ofrenda for her beloved pet dog who has passed away. Bold acrylic illustrations. Author’s and illustrator’s notes. (7-9)

**Salut in Secret**
by Jamilah Thompkins Bigelow, illustrated by Hatem Aly
(Random House Studio/Random House Children’s Books /PRH, $18.99) 978-1-984-848-093
A Muslim boy receives a prayer rug for his seventh birthday and becomes empowered by his faith. Digital illustrations. (5-7)

**Skating Wild on an Inland Sea**
by Jean E. Pendziwol, illustrated by Todd Stewart
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $19.99) 978-1-77306-704-9
Two siblings experience the glory of nature as they skate on the frozen surface of Lake Superior. Poetic text. Digital art with screen-printed textures. (5-7)

**A Smart, Smart School**
by Sharon Creech, illustrated by Aniat Semirdzhyan
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-305961-0
The principal becomes ill and is replaced by a substitute who demands testing rather than creativity. Will the popular Mr. Keene return? Colorful, expressive digital illustrations. (5-8)

**Something Wild**
written and illustrated by Molly Ruttan
Hannah loves to play the violin, but performing before an audience makes her nervous. Her imagination helps her find a way. Playful full-page illustrations. (5-8)

**Summer Is for Cousins**
by Rajani LaRocca, illustrated by Abhi Alwar
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $17.99) 978-1-4197-5733-4
Ravi is excited about spending summer vacation with his extended family. But will his favorite cousin, who has matured, still want to spend time with Ravi? Vibrant digital illustrations. (5-8)

**The Together Tree**
by Aisha Saeed, illustrated by LeUyen Pham
(Saleem Reads/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-5344-6296-0
When Rumi, a new student, is bullied for being different, a classmate steps in to play with him, and soon others join them under an old willow tree. Expressive illustrations. (5-7)

**¡Vamos! Let’s Go Read (World of ¡Vamos! series)**
written and illustrated by Raúl the Third, colors by Elaine Bay
(Versify/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-35-853936-0
Celebrate libraries and books with Little Lobo and his friends at a Libro Love book festival. Enthusiastic, colorful graphic-style illustrations. Spanish glossary. Author’s note. (5-8)

**Veo, Veo, I See You**
written and illustrated by Lulu Delacre
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-6659-1191-7
Mami, who lost her job during COVID, plays I Spy with her children, spotting essential workers in their diverse community. Dialogue alternates between Spanish and English. Vibrant collage illustrations. (4-6)

**The Walk (A Stroll to the Poll)**
by Winsome Bingham, illustrated by E. B. Lewis
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-4772-4
A Black grandmother takes her granddaughter on an important walk to corral a community to come out together to vote. Detailed, watercolor illustrations. (4-7)

**We Are Lions!**
by Jens Mattsson, illustrated by Jenny Lucander, translated from the Swedish by B. J. Woodstein
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $19.99) 978-1-77306-701-8
Two biracial siblings play at being lions, until one falls ill. Even while dealing with hospitalization and hair loss, they continue to have wild adventures. Unusual mixed-media illustrations show the savanna and everyday life. (5-7)
Willow and Bunny
by Anita Rowe Schulte, illustrated by
Christopher Denise
(Two Lions, $17.99) 978-1-542-02569-0
Willow has always provided Bunny with a safe home. When a tornado damages Willow’s beautiful branches, Bunny knows it is time to help her friend. Atmospheric digital illustrations. (6-8)

The Yellow Handkerchief/El pañuel amarillo
by Donna Barbra Higuera, illustrated by Cynthia Alonso
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-6014-3
Conflicted by her embarrassment of, and love for, her Mexican grandmother, a young girl comes to appreciate the language and culture that made her feel different. Colorful illustrations. (5-8)

Folklore and Fairy Tales

The Amazing and True Story of Tooth Mouse Pérez
by Ana Cristina Herreros, illustrated by Violeta Lópiz, translated from the Spanish by Sara Lissa Paulson
(Enchanted Lion Books, $18.95) 978-1-59270-359-3
A storyteller recounts how the tooth mouse (the Hispanic equivalent of the tooth fairy) got his start, long ago and far away in Spain. Mixed-media art sets the mood. (6-8)

Ancient Night
by David Álvarez, with David Bowles, illustrated by David Álvarez
(Em Querido Books/Levine Querido, $18.99) 978-1-64614-251-4
After Opossum steals the nectar used to illuminate the moon, he finds a way to bring different light to the world. Acrylic and oil paintings. Detailed source notes. (6-9)

Carina Felina: A Cuban Retelling of a Favorite Folktale
by Carmen Agra Deedy, illustrated by Henry Cole
(Scholastic Press, $19.99) 978-1-338-74916-8
A greedy cat learns a lesson with the help of two crustaceans. Colorful illustrations. (4-7)

The Courage of the Little Hummingbird: A Tale Told around the World
by Leah Henderson, illustrated by Magaly Morales
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-5455-5
A little hummingbird refuses to give up, doing all he can and calling others to action. Vivid illustrations. Back matter. (5-7)

The North Wind & the Sun
written and illustrated by Philip Stead
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5583-6
When three elderly sisters take a walk, the cold North Wind and the warm Sun compete to take their coats away. Who will win this tug-of-war? Textured color pencil illustrations. (7-10)

One Chicken Nugget
written and illustrated by Tadgh Bentley
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-268982-5
Celeste cooks up a scheme to rid herself of a monster whose insatiable appetite for chicken nuggets threatens Celeste’s business. Animated mixed-media illustrations. Author’s note. (5-8)

Paul Bunyan: The Invention of an American Legend
written and illustrated by Noah Van Sciver, with additional stories and art by Marlena Myles, introduction by Lee Francis IV, postscript by Deondre Smiles
(TOON Books/Astra Publishing House, $17.99) 978-1-6626-6522-6
The legend of a lumberjack whose enormous strength could alter landscapes is revisited, showing how forests and Indigenous peoples are devastated for profit. Dramatic graphics. Back matter. (7-10)

The Shade Tree
written and illustrated by Suzy Lee, translated from the Korean by Helen Mixter
(Aldana Libros Books/Greystone Kids/Greystone Books, $18.95) 978-1-77840-018-6
Capitalizing on the greed of a man who’s monopolizing the shade of a large tree, a traveler secures shade for all in the community. A retelling of a Korean folktale. Spare, painterly illustrations. (6-9)

Tokyo Night Parade
by J. P. Takahashi, illustrated by Minako Tomigahara
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-322496-4
A child living in New York returns to Tokyo for the annual parade of mythical Japanese creatures, knowing this may be the last time she can attend it. Dreamlike mixed-media illustrations. (4-7)
Where’s Joon?
written and illustrated by Julie Kim
(Little Bigfoot/Sasquatch Books, $22.00)
978-1-63217-415-4
Jin and Joon embark on a mystical adventure through the world of Korean folktales to find their grandmother’s pot, encountering magic, friendship, and hilarious twists. Vibrant detailed color panels. (6-9)

Historical Fiction

Rivka’s Presents
by Laurie Wallmark, illustrated by Adelina Lirius
(Random House Studio/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-48207-0
When her father’s illness keeps her from school, disappointment can’t keep a young girl from fulfilling her desire to learn. Realistic artwork captures scenes of 1918 New York City. Yiddish glossary. (5-8)

The Night before Freedom: A Juneteenth Story
by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Corey Barksdale
Vibrant and imaginative illustrations depict this historical view of Juneteenth through the words of “Grandma’s Story” about anticipation, emancipation, and jubilation, which has been retold across generations. (7-10)

Humor

The Boo-Boos of Bluebell Elementary
by Chelsea Lin Wallace, illustrated by Alison Farrell
(Chronicle Books, $17.99) 978-1-7972-1081-0
Rhyming text and lively watercolor and ink illustrations capture a brown-skinned school nurse’s workday. She tends to ills, large and small, with humor and warmth, then finally goes home for some TLC. (5-8)

The Red Jacket
written and illustrated by Bob Holt
A gift of outerwear gives seagull Bob a new sense of style, helping him become recognized as an individual. Bright pencil and digital cartoons. (4-7)

Historical Fiction

How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney?
by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Jon Klassen
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2376-7
An author speculates about one of life’s greatest mysteries. Hilarious illustrations. (4-7)

The Hole Story
written and illustrated by Kelly Canby
(Star Bright Books, $16.99) 978-1-59572-939-2
Charlie seeks to find a new owner for the troublesome hole he discovers. Will he find a willing taker? Endpapers provide a thoughtful twist. Brushstroke illustrations. (5-7)

Hornbeam All In (Hornbeam series)
by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Arthur Howard
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)
978-1-6659-2481-8
Three short stories featuring a goofy moose focus on themes of supporting friends, being generous, and understanding shortcomings. Cartoon-style art captures the gentle humor. (4-6)

The King Penguin
written and illustrated by Vanessa Roeder
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-32441-7
A want-to-be ruler from Antarctica realizes through a variety of humbling experiences that a society functions best as a democracy. Acrylic and pencil artwork. (6-8)

Luna Ranchera
by Rodrigo Morales, illustrated by Mariana Ruiz Johnson, translated from the Spanish by Sara Lisa Paulson
(Minerva/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99)
978-1-66265-110-6
Luna and Ranchera, a canine mother-daughter singing act, become famous all over the world. Colorful marker and digital illustrations filled with amusing people and animals. (7-9)
See the Ghost:
Three Stories about Things You Cannot See
by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Mike Wohloutka
(Candlewick Press, $9.99) 978-1-5362-1982-1
An invisible ghost scares a yellow dog and a blue cat.
The arrival of a tiny fairy causes real havoc for the three.
Comical gouache illustrations. (5-8)

Sick Day Jitters (Jitters series)
by Julie Danneberg, illustrated by Judy Love
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-6235-4424-9
Mrs. Hartwell is ill and cannot teach her class. A lack
of dependable substitutes sends it into disarray.
Watercolor, transparent dye, and india ink illustrations.
(5-7)

A Snow Day for Plum!
written and illustrated by Matt Phelan
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, $17.99)
978-0-06-307920-5
Zoo animals visiting a local elementary school get
snowed in. Some scurrying school pets set them free,
setting some issues in motion. Entertaining black-and-
white illustrations. (6-8)

Why Did the Monster Cross the Road?
by R.L. Stine, illustrated by Marc Brown
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, $18.99) 978-1-338-81525-2
Larger Funny tries to make smaller Hunny laugh and
cheer up by telling Monster jokes. Bold artwork. (6-9)

Magical Realism

Cargo
by Adèle Tariel, illustrated by Jérôme Peyrat
(Orca Book Publishers, $21.95) 978-1-4598-3376-0
A young boy, missing his ocean-going father, imagines
himself as a seagull following the container ship on its
voyage. Colorful, stylized art. (6-8)

Sports

Obioma Plays Football
by Chika Unigwe, illustrated by Chinyere Okoroafor
(Cassava Republic Press, $20.95) 978-1-9131-7537-5
In Nigeria, mischievous young Obioma loves to play
football (soccer) in her wheelchair. A move to the city
is lonely. Can a new friend help her shine again? Bold,
colorful drawings. (5-7)

Wei Skates On
by Nathan Chen, illustrated by Lorraine Nam
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-328282-7
Wei loves figure skating, but competitions scare him.
His wise mom gives him some good advice, but will it
help? Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

As Night Falls:
Creatures That Go Wild after Dark
by Donna Jo Napoli, illustrated by Felicita Sala
(Random House Studio/Random House Children’s
Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-37429-0
Lyrical writing and lively illustrations evoke the world
of nocturnal animals, some exotic and little known, in their
roles as predator and prey. Children’s bedtime antics
included. (5-8)

Bompa’s Insect Expedition
by David Suzuki, with Tanya Lloyd Kyi, illustrated by
Qin Leng
(Greystone Kids/Greystone Books, $18.95)
978-1-77164-882-0
Spending time with their grandfather, two children
discover the fascinating tiny world of bugs. Detailed
watercolor art. Back matter. (5-8)

Eclipse
written and illustrated by Andy Rash
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-338-60882-3
A boy and his father bond as they witness the dramatic
total eclipse of the sun in 2017. Lively cartoon-style
digital art. Brief back matter on eclipses. (6-8)

Friends beyond Measure
written and illustrated by Lalena Fisher
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-321052-3
With pencil, marker, and Photoshop illustrations,
this book features 12 types of infographics depicting
different aspects of the friendship between two girls,
even after one moves away. (6-9)

The Most Important Animal of All
by Penny Worms, illustrated by Hannah Bailey
(Jolly Fish Press/North Star Editions, $19.99)
978-1-63163-701-8
At the end of the school year, children share their
research on seven important animals. Detailed
color illustrations. Back matter includes additional
information, glossary, and index. (7-9)
Sejal Sinha Swims with Sea Dragons (Sejal Sinha series)
by Maya Prasad, illustrated by Abira Das
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, $17.99), 978-1-6659-1181-8
A science loving South Asian Indian American girl goes on magical adventures with her marine biologist aunt. Black-and-white illustrations. (6-8)

You and the Bowerbird
by Maria Gianferrari, illustrated by Maris Wicks
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $19.99) 978-1-250-84987-8
With binoculars and notepad, a curious brown-skinned child watches Satin, a male bowerbird, collecting and defending his collection of items (mostly blue), in preparation for mating. Cheerful illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

POETRY

Animals in Surprising Shades:
Poems about Earth’s Colorful Creatures
by Susan Johnston Taylor, illustrated by Annie Bakst
(Gnome Road Publishing, $18.99) 975-1-957655-04-8
Various forms of poetry and playful, colorful artwork depict brilliantly hued creatures, from orange newts to red velvet ants, on double-page spreads. Glossary. Sources. (5-8)

Winner of the 2024 Claudia Lewis Award

At the Poles
by David Elliott, illustrated by Ellen Rooney
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-0599-2
A rhyming lyrical look at musk oxen, emperor penguins, and other creatures that inhabit the North and South Poles. Rich mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (4-7)

Remember
by Joy Harjo, illustrated by Michaela Goade
An adaptation of a renowned poem that explores how deeply we are interconnected with the earth. An homage to nature and Indigenous culture. Watercolor, gouache, and pencil illustrations. (7-10)

Where I Live:
Poems about My Home, My Street, and My Town
selected by Paul B. Janeczko, illustrated by Hyewon Yum
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-0094-2
This posthumous collection includes the work of 34 established poets, capturing the meaning of home and neighborhoods. Colored pencil and watercolor illustrations accompany each poem. (5-8)

Windrush Child:
The Tale of a Caribbean Child Who Faced a New Horizon
by John Agard, illustrated by Sophie Bass
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2853-3
Vibrant gouache and pen illustrations and lyrical text evoke a child’s personal experience of a challenging period in mid-20th century history, evoking the universal hope that stories of immigration can bring. (6-8)

You So Black
by Theresa tha S.O.N.G.B.I.R.D., illustrated by London Ladd
(Denene Milliner Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-6659-0034-8
Musical language celebrates everything about being Black, from history to family to religion. Mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

Zap! Clap! Boom!:
The Story of a Thunderstorm
by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Elly MacKay
(Bloomsbury Children’s Books/Bloomsbury, $18.99) 978-1-5476-0225-4
A beautiful summer day is interrupted when a sudden thunderstorm sends three children scurrying for home. Rhyming text. Colorful, fluid illustrations. Engaging back matter. (4-5)

INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

Arts

Breaking to the Beat!
by Linda J. Acevedo, illustrated by Frank Morrison
(Lee & Low Books, $19.95) 978-1-64379-639-0
Determination and passion permeate the history of hip-hop, which was conceived in the Bronx and then became a nationwide phenomenon. Persistence bred success. Bold, acrylic illustrations. Extensive back matter. (7-10)
Mary’s Idea
written and illustrated by Chris Raschka
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-321050-9
Spare text and impressionistic watercolor illustrations of her hands and keyboard poetically evoke the spirit of piano prodigy and jazz icon Mary Lou Williams (1910–1981). Back matter includes a biographical sketch and archival photo. (5-8)

There Was a Party for Langston
by Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Jerome Pumphrey
and Jarrett Pumphrey
(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-5344-3944-3
An homage to Langston Hughes (1901–1967) and the generations of poets he influenced. Joyful, graphical illustrations interwoven with the text. (6-9)

Twice As Many Friends/¡El doble de amigos!
(Barefoot Singalongs series)
by Brian Amador, illustrated by Vanina Starkoff
(Barefoot Books, $16.99) 978-1-6468-845-2
Being able to speak two languages means being able to make twice as many amigos! Colorful, expressive acrylic illustrations. Back matter includes the song. (4-7)

Biography and Memoir

All Rise:
The Story of Ketanji Brown Jackson
by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Ashley Evans
Taught that she could overcome any obstacles through hard work and determination, Brown Jackson became the first African American woman on the Supreme Court. Bold digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

Cut!!
How Lottie Reiniger and a Pair of Scissors Revolutionized Animation
by C. E. Winters, illustrated by Matt Schu
(Greenwillow Books/Harper Collins, $18.99)
978-0-06-306739-4
Creating the first animated full-length movie, a German woman used her paper silhouette figures and multiplane camera to provide motion and depth to images. Silent-film-style illustrations. Extensive back matter. (7-9)

Dream by Dream:
The Story of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise
by Geri Kolesar, illustrated by Sofia Moore
(Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, $19.99)
978-1-7284-6793-1
While studying, Wise questioned Jewish traditions, such as the unequal treatment of women, and then brought his ideas of modernizing Judaism to the United States. Watercolor digital illustrations. (7-10)

Ellen Takes Flight:
The Life of Astronaut Ellen Ochoa
by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by Oliver Dominguez
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $19.99) 978-0-7595-5494-8
An accomplished flutist and electrical engineer, Ochoa later traveled in space, becoming the first Latina astronaut and the first Latinx director of the Johnson Space Center. Dynamic illustrations. Back matter. (8-10)

The Girl Who Heard the Music:
How One Pianist and 85,000 Bottles and Cans Brought New Hope to an Island
by Marni Fogelson, with Mahani Teave, illustrated by Marta Álvarez Miguens
(Sourcebooks Explore/Sourcebooks, $18.99) 978-1-7282-6231-4
Teave, an award-winning musician and environmentalist, was born on Rapa Nui and, using garbage in its construction, created a school of the arts there. Digital paintings. Back matter. (6-9)

Good Books for Bad Children:
The Genius of Ursula Nordstrom
by Beth Kephart, illustrated by Chloe Bristol
(Ane Schwartz Books/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-7957-8
Never forgetting what it felt like to be a child, Nordstrom revolutionized children’s book publishing, working with Maurice Sendak, E. B. White, Margaret Wise Brown, and others. Evocative drawings of the 1950s. (6-9)

The Green Piano:
How Little Me Found Music
by Roberta Flack, with Tonya Bolden, illustrated by Hayden Goodman
The Grammy-winning singer, songwriter, and pianist shares how her parents’ extraordinary support made her early start to a shining musical career possible. Gouache artwork. Back matter. (6-8)
How Do You Spell Unfair?: MacNolia Cox and the National Spelling Bee
by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Frank Morrison
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-1554-0
Despite the practice of excluding Black children from the competition as well as numerous other barriers, one brave, talented girl made history in 1936. Oil paintings convey deep emotion. Foreword and epilogue. (7-10)

Josephine and Her Dishwashing Machine: Josephine Cochrane’s Bright Invention Makes a Splash
by Kate Hannigan, illustrated by Sarah Green
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-63592-621-7
In 1893, despite facing gender discrimination, a woman determined to alleviate the drudgery of a household chore won recognition for her invention. Colorful sketches and diagrams. Back matter. (5-8)

Kati’s Tiny Messengers: Dr. Katalin Karikó and the Battle against COVID-19
by Megan Hoyt, illustrated by Vivien Mildenberger
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06321-662-4
Karikó’s lifelong determination to disrupt the spread of viruses by using the power of messenger RNA led to the creation of the COVID-19 vaccine. Mixed-media digital illustrations. Extensive back matter. (6-9)

Kozo the Sparrow
written and illustrated by Allen Say
In Japan after World War II, an eight-year-old boy saved an abandoned baby sparrow from neighborhood bullies and raised it to adulthood. Pencil, pen, and watercolor illustrations. Author’s note. (4-7)

Lion on the Inside: How One Girl Changed Basketball (CitizenKid series)
by Bilqis Abdul-Qaadir, with Judith Henderson, illustrated by Katherine Ahmed
(Kids Can Press, $21.99) 978-1-52531003-4
Barred from competitions because she refused to remove her hijab, a rising basketball star became an activist for Muslim women. Digital illustrations capture a Muslim American environment. Back matter. (6-9)

The Little Books of the Little Brontës
by Sarah O’Leary, illustrated by Briony May Smith
(Tundra Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-7352-6369-7
Four young siblings loved stories and wrote their own match-box size books, and then grew up to be famous British authors. Painterly illustrations. Time line, author’s note, sources. (7-10)

Masked Hero: How Wu Lien-teh Invented the Mask That Ended an Epidemic
by Dr. Shan Woo Liu and Kaili Liu Gormley, illustrated by Lisa Wee
(Engine Kids Press/Candlewick, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2898-4
Discrimination under British rule did not stop the dedicated Chinese Malaysian doctor who introduced face masks to combat a 1910 plague, a protocol still recommended today. Realistic artwork. Time line. (7-9)

Miloo’s Mind: The Story of Maryam Faruqi, Trailblazer for Women’s Education
by Reem Faruqi, illustrated by Hoda Hadadi
In India in the 1930s, a young girl pursued her love of learning, and then founded schools for girls in Pakistan after the 1947 Partition. Vibrant collages. Glossary, author’s note. (6-9)

Pitch Perfect and Persistent!:
The Musical Debut of Amy Cheney Beach
by Caitlin DeLemos, illustrated by Alison Jay
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-66268-008-3
Folk-art-style illustrations and lively text introduce a musical prodigy whose impact and reputation were diminished by 19th-century attitudes toward women. (7-10)

Rock, Rosetta, Rock! Roll, Rosetta, Roll!:
Presenting Sister Rosetta Tharpe, the Godmother of Rock & Roll
by Tonya Bolden, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-299438-7
A little girl with a big guitar and a big voice grew up to blend many musical traditions, inspiring the birth of a new genre. Exuberant gouache artwork. Back matter. (6-9)
Rooting for Plants: The Unstoppable Charles S. Parker, Black Botanist and Collector
by Janice N. Harrington, illustrated by Theodore Taylor III (Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-6626-8019-9
Lyrical text and eye-catching cartoon-style illustrations introduce a pioneering Black botanist whose extensive study of plants and their diseases inspired young Black science students. Extensive back matter. (7-10)

The Snow Man
by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Jeanette Winter (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-6659-3239-4
For over 51 years, while living alone in the Rocky Mountains, billy barr made observations about changes in nature, helping scientists studying climate change. Simple folk-art-style illustrations. (7-8)

This Is Tap: Savion Glover Finds His Funk
by Selene Castroville, illustrated by Laura Freeman (Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-3863-1
Glover's influence on dance is conveyed through rhythmic text and energetic, digitally created color illustrations. (7-9)

Tiny Jumper: How Tiny Broadwick Created the Parachute Rip Cord
by Candy Dahl, illustrated by Maithili Joshi (Little Bee Books, $18.99) 978-1-4998-1394-4
A little-known heroine leapt from hot air balloons and airplanes to try to make parachutes safe for all. Bright digital art. Back matter. (6-9)

To See Clearly: A Portrait of David Hockney
written and illustrated by Evan Turk (Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $19.99) 978-1-4196-5290-2
Mixed-media art in Hockney’s style accompanies the life story of this world-famous English artist, encouraging readers to look closely at the world. Back matter and sourcing. (6-9)

Tomfoolery: Randolph Caldecott and the Rambunctious Coming-of-Age of Children’s Books
by Michelle Markel, illustrated by Barbara McClintock (Chronicle Books, $18.99) 978-0-8118-7923-1
In the 1870s an irrepressible Englishman’s dynamic illustrations revolutionized the once-staid field of children's publishing. Exuberant pen and watercolor tableaux. Back matter includes time line and sources. (7-9)

Virginia Wouldn’t Slow Down: The Unstoppable Dr. Apgar and Her Life-Saving Invention
by Carrie A. Pearson, illustrated by Nancy Carpenter (Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, $18.95) 978-1-324-00393-9
Persevering despite numerous obstacles, Apgar became an anesthesiologist when the field was new and used her experience to develop the diagnostic test that has an impact on newborns’ lives to this day. Warm, humorous illustrations. (7-9)

What Rosa Brought
by Jacob Sager Weinstein, illustrated by Eliza Wheeler (Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-305648-0
What will Rosa take with her when her family has to leave their home? A true story of one child’s experience of the Holocaust. Immersive mixed-media art. (6-8)

Yukie’s Island: My Family’s World War II Story
A lighthouse family in a remote island in northern Japan seemed largely untouched by war. Then the bombs came; yet life went on. Cinematic illustrations and archival images and photographs. Authors’ notes. (7-9)

Contemporary Issues

Just One Pebble:
One Boy’s Quest to End Hunger
by Dianna Wilson Sirkovsky, illustrated by Sara Casilda (Clavis Publishing, $18.95) 978-160537767-4
After he encountered an unhoused man, nine-year-old Braeden Mannering was challenged to figure out how he could help people struggling with food insecurity. Mixed-media drawings. Back matter. (6-9)
Stand As Tall As the Trees: How an Amazonian Community Protected the Rain Forest
by Patricia Gualinga and Laura Resau, illustrated by Vanessa Jaramillo
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354236-8
With members of her Ecuadorean Kichwa community, Gualinga fought in the Court of Human Rights against the commercial exploitation that was devastating the rainforest. Lyrical text. Poignant watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

Ecology

At Home with the Prairie Dog: The Story of a Keystone Species
by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, photographed by William Muñoz; graphics by Marlo Garnsworthy
(Web of Life Children’s Books, $17.95) 978-1-970039-06-1
A comprehensive exploration of sustainability and the important role of one species in preserving and restoring an ecosystem. Vivid color photographs and clear graphics. (6-9)

The Day the River Caught Fire: How the Cuyahoga River Exploded and Ignited the Earth Day Movement
by Barry Wittenstein, illustrated by Jessie Hartland
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-5344-8083-4
KABOOM! A 1969 explosion and fire on Cleveland’s Cuyahoga River sparked the creation of Earth Day in 1970 and new environmental laws. Evocative gouache illustrations. Extensive back matter. (7-9)

Emperor of the Ice: How a Changing Climate Affects a Penguin Colony
by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Cathrine Rayner
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2839-7
As Antarctic penguins undertake the breeding process, their survival is threatened as the number of nesting ice blocks shrinks due to global warming. Evocative glowing illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

The River That Flows beside Me
by Charlotte Guillain, illustrated by Jo Empson
(Quarto Publishing Group, $26.00) 978-07112-8349-7
Journey down a river from its source to the sea, exploring wildlife and history along the way. Concertina-style format with bright, mixed-media art. (6-9)

Tibbles the Cat
by Michal Sanda, illustrated by David Dolenský
(Albatros, $14.95) 978-80-00-07005-6
In 1894 David Lyall moved to New Zealand with his cat to be a lighthouse keeper on Stephens Island, with tragic consequences for a rare indigenous bird. Vintage-style illustrations. (6-9)

Whale Fall: Exploring an Ocean-Floor Ecosystem
by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Rob Dunlavey
(Random House Studio/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-38060-4
A 50-year food chain is detailed as a whale’s body descends to the ocean floor. Watercolor, mixed-media, and digital artwork illustrate the process. Back matter. (6-9)

History

The Bees of Notre-Dame
by Meghan P. Browne, illustrated by E.B. Goodale
(Random House Studio/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-37456-6
In 2013 beekeepers began tending hives on an iconic cathedral’s roof, but in 2019 a fire changed everything. Lyrical text and evocative mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

Gertie, the Darling Duck of WWII
by Shari Swanson, illustrated by Renée Graef
(Sleeping Bear Press, $18.99) 978-1-53411-171-4
In 1945 a duck built her nest on precarious pilings in the Milwaukee River as the whole town cheered her and her ducklings on. Sepia-toned illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

Great Carrier Reef (Books for a Better Earth series)
by Jessica Stremer, illustrated by Gordy Wright
(Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5268-2
The retired carrier USS Oriskany, refitted as an artificial reef off the coast of Florida, serves as a protective environment for endangered coral reef ecosystems. Detailed illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)
Holidays and Religion

**Moon's Ramadan**
written and illustrated by Natasha Khan Kazi
(Versify/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-35-869409-0
The cycle of the moon during the Islamic month of fasting is interwoven with Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr customs in many countries. Intensely colored mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

**Two New Years**
by Richard Ho, illustrated by Lynn Scurfield
(Chronicle Books, $18.99) 978-1-7972-1281-4
A multicultural family celebrates both the Jewish new year and the Asian Lunar new year. Colorful ink and digitally collaged illustrations illuminate the customs. Rich back matter. (5-7)

Sports

**Ready, Set, Run!**
*The Amazing New York City Marathon*
by Leslie Kimmelman, illustrated by Jessica Hartland
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-43365-2
Playful illustrations and lively language evoke the spirit of an annual athletic event in the Big Apple. Includes a hand-drawn city map. (5-8)

**Behold the Octopus!**
by Suzanne Slade, illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez
(Peachtree Publishing, $18.99) 978-1-68263-312-0
What animal species has no bones and eight arms, lives in the ocean, varies in size from one inch to 30 feet, and can change color? Luminous photorealistic art. Back matter. (7-9)

**The Book of Turtles**
by Sy Montgomery, illustrated by Matt Patterson
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-35-845807-4
A clear, comprehensive, and enthusiastic introduction to all aspects of these venerable reptiles. Includes suggestions for helping save the species. Acrylic paintings. Sources. (6-9)

**The Clues Are in the Poo:**
*The Story of Dinosaur Scientist Karen Chin*
by Jane Kurtz and Karen Chin, illustrated by Francisco Riobobos
(Reycraft, $18.95) 978-1-4788-7617-5
A multiracial paleontologist explores what fossilized dinosaur dung reveals about prehistoric creatures and their world. Bold, colorful illustrations. (6-9)

**Darwin's Super-Pooping Worm Spectacular**
by Polly Owen, illustrated by Gwen Millward
(Wide Eyed Editions/Quarto Publishing, $19.99)
978-0-7112-7597-3
Darwin's research with worms revealed how they feed the world with the superpower of poop, as well as how they "see" and "hear." Colorful, detailed illustrations. Back matter. (7-9)

**Destiny Finds Her Way:**
*How a Rescued Baby Sloth Learned to be Wild*
by Margarita Engle, photographed by Sam Tull
(National Geographic, $16.99) 978-1-4263-7234-6
Scientists simulated the diet of an orphaned sloth found in a Costa Rican rain forest and encouraged her socialization, preparing her to return to her natural habitat. Stunning photographs. Back matter. (5-8)

**Follow the Flyway:**
*The Marvel of Bird Migration*
by Sarah Nelson, illustrated by Maya Hanisch
(Barefoot Books, $17.99) 978-1-64686-632-8
A variety of birds travel South following their annual path. Rhyming, lyrical text. Soft mixed-media illustrations. Extensive back matter. (5-8)

**The Gentle Genius of Trees**
written and illustrated by Philip Bunting
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-56781-4
An introduction to trees, containing clear descriptions of topics such as photosynthesis. Simple digital art supports the playful text with many diagrams. (5-8)

**Glitter Everywhere!**
*Where It Came From, Where It’s Found & Where It’s Going*
by Chris Barton, illustrated by Chaaya Prabhat
(Charlesbridge, $19.99) 978-1-62354-252-8
Explore the art, science, history, and negative social and environmental impact of these sparkling specks. Colorful digital art. Back matter includes extensive bibliography. (7-9)
How Birds Sleep
by David Obuchowski and Sarah Pedry, illustrated by Sarah Pedry
(Mineditionus/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $17.99) 978-1-6626-5097-0
Charcoal, ink, and gouache illustrations accompany this informative text on how a wide variety of birds sleep. Extensive back matter. (5-8)

* How the Sea Came to Be: And All the Creatures in It (Spectacular STEAM for Curious Readers series)
by Jennifer Berne, illustrated by Amanda Hall (Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $18.99) 978-0-8028-5478-0
How did life begin on Earth? Dramatic, sweeping illustrations capture single-celled creatures, invertebrates, arthropods, and finally, fish. Told in rhyming verse. Sources, glossary, time line. (7-10)

Jumper:
A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider
written and illustrated by Jessica Lanan (Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $19.99) 978-1-250-81036-6
A child at play outdoors is prompted to consider the sensory experiences and survival challenges of a tiny arachnid. Watercolor art illustrates the spider’s perspective. Rich back matter. (6-9)

Mama Mammals:
Reproduction and Birth in Mammals
by Cathy Evans, illustrated by Bia Melo (Cicada Books, $16.99) 978-1-80066-026-7
Detailed drawings and clear text depict how different mammals create a family, from fertilization to pregnancy to birth. Glossary. (8-10)

* The Moon Tonight:
Our Moon’s Journey around Earth
by Jung Chang-hoon, illustrated by Jang Ho, translated from the Korean by Paige Morris (Blue Dot Kids Press, $18.95) 978-1-7376032-5-2
A father and daughter observe the waxing and waning of the Moon on its 29-day journey around Earth. Full-color illustrations. (7-10)

Nature Is a Sculptor:
Weathering and Erosion
by Heather Ferranti Kinser (Millbrook Press/Lerner, $29.32) 978-1-7284-7719-0
Water, ice, and wind etch shapes and carve land into natural forms of beauty. Poetic text and stunning photographs. Back matter. (7-10)

Poop for Breakfast:
Why Some Animals Eat It
by Sara Levine, illustrated by Florence Weiser (Millbrook Press/Lerner, $20.99) 978-1-7284-5796-3
A highly informative explanation of various animals’ propensity to eat their own excrement. Pencil, paper, and digital illustrations add to the fun. Back matter. (6-9)

The Power of Snow
by Bob Raczkas, illustrated by Bryony Clarkson (Millbrook Press/Lerner, $20.99) 978-1-7284-5091-9
Rhyming text and paper collage/digital illustrations introduce a landscape growing increasingly snow-covered as snowflakes multiply exponentially. Math formulas on each page. Endnotes. (4-7)

Rise to the Sky:
How the World’s Tallest Trees Grow Up
by Rebecca E. Hirsch, illustrated by Mia Posada (Millbrook Press/Lerner, $20.99) 978-1-7284-44087-3
How do sunlight, water, and carbohydrates produce immensely tall trees? The growth process of arboreal giants is presented in poetic text. Textured cut-paper collage and watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

A River of Dust:
The Life-Giving Link between North Africa and the Amazon
by Jillanne Hoffmann, illustrated by Eugenia Mello (Chronicle Books, $18.99) 978-1-7972-1175-6
Follow the surprising and important journey of dust across the planet from the Sahara to the Amazon rainforest. Lyrical text. Vibrant digital art. Extensive back matter. (7-10)

Science, Matter and the Baseball Park
by Catherine Ciochi, illustrated by Chantelle Thome and Burgen Thome (Gnome Road Publishing, $18.99) 978-1-957655-02-4
Action-oriented illustrations and rhyming text link matter—solid, liquid, and gas—to a baseball game. (7-9)
Shall We Dance?
written and illustrated by Robin Page
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)
978-1-6659-1605-9
Simple words, accompanied by explanatory paragraphs
and brightly hued illustrations, feature animals from
seahorses to eagles dancing to court a mate, to alert
others, or maybe just to have fun. (6-9)

* Shigeru Ban Builds a Better World (Art for
Good series)
by Isadoro Saturno, illustrated by Stefano Di Cristofaro
(Tra Publishing, $19.99) 979-8-9866406-3-1
A world-famous Japanese architect turns paper into
lasting buildings for disaster victims. Simple, elegant
illustrations. Interview with Ban, time line, and booklet
insert included. (7-10)

The Sky Is Not the Limit (Spectacular STEAM for
Curious Readers series)
written and illustrated by Jérémie Decalf, translated
from the French by Jérémie Decalf
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $18.99)
978-0-8028-5602-9
In lyrical text, the Voyager 2 space probe narrates
the trajectory of its adventures in outer space. Digital
illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

The Smallest Owlet
written and illustrated by Georgia Grahm
(Fitzhenry & Whiteside, $24.95) 978-1-55455-614-4
Follow along over winter, spring, and summer as two
great horned owls care for and raise their three young
owlets. Realistic, exquisitely detailed illustrations. Back
matter. (7-10)

Supermoms! (Animal Heroes series)
by Heather Lang and Jamie Harper, illustrated by
Jamie Harper
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-1797-1
In comic-style panels with humorous speech bubbles, a
variety of animals are displayed in their maternal roles
as teachers, protectors, builders, transporters, and
foragers. Back matter. (4-7)

Tee Time on the Moon:
How Astronaut Alan Shepard Played Lunar Golf
by David A. Kelly, illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House,
$18.99) 978-1-6626-8017-5
An Apollo 14 astronaut carried out an "unauthorized"
experiment—hitting a golf ball in an environment with
no gravity. Dramatic digital illustrations. (7-9)

We Go Way Back
by Idan Ben-Barak, illustrated by Philip Bunting
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $18.99)
978-1-250-85079-9
Simple text and bold, humorous cartoon-like
illustrations reveal how life began. Dramatic vertical
gatefold depicts a family tree of Earth’s fauna. (7-10)

When Moon Became the Moon
written and illustrated by Rob Hodgson
(RISE X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House,
$18.99) 978-0-593-52362-9
The moon narrates the story of its origin, its orbit, and
its effect on the earth. Colorful whimsical art. (5-8)

* Wind:
Discovering Air in Motion (Spectacular STEAM for
Curious Readers series)
written and illustrated by Olga Fadeeva, translated
from the Russian by Lena Traer
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $18.99)
978-0-8028-5599-2
What is wind? Where does it come from, how does
it affect plants and animals, and how do we use it?
Sweeping, bold illustrations. Author’s notes. (7-10)

Your One and Only Heart
by Rajani LaRocca, MD, illustrated by
Lauren Paige Conrad
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-32633-6
Lyrical language and bold, colorful images convey the
power of this vital organ. The juxtaposition of complex
information with familiar experiences makes the content
accessible. Text boxes. Diagrams. (6-8)

World

Nomads:
Life on the Move
written and illustrated by Kinchoi Lam
(Cicada Books, $22.99) 978-1-80066-032-8
Copious colorful detailed illustrations and informative
text depict how seven tribes in seven different
environments create the culture, objects, and shelters
needed for nomadic life. Back matter. (8-10)
We, the Curious Ones
by Marion Dane Bauer, illustrated by Hari and Deepti
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-6382-1868-8
Poetic text and shimmering paper-cut art illuminate
the connection between long-held beliefs and our
ever-changing knowledge of the universe. Important
contributions in back matter. (6-9)
Adventure and Mystery

⭐ The Jules Verne Prophecy
by Larry Schwarz and Iva-Marie Palmer, illustrated by Euan Cook
(Christy Ottaviano Books/Little, Brown/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-34981-9
In Paris for the summer, Owen joins new friends who encounter danger in their spirited attempt to unravel a complicated treasure hunt. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

⭐ The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams
by Daniel Nayeri, illustrated by Daniel Miyares (Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $21.99) 978-1-64614-303-0
An orphaned 12-year-old novice monk narrates his travels with a conniving merchant along the Silk Road in the 11th century. Whimsical paintings introduce each chapter. Extensive back matter. (9-12)

Mr. Whiskers and the Shenanigan Sisters
by Wendelin Van Draanen, illustrated by Laura Catalán (Alfred A. Knopf(Random House Children's Books/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-593-64430-0
Mr. Whiskers, a street-smart stray dog, helps two sisters rescue their kidnapped father—and uncovers a mysterious pirate’s treasure. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (8-10)

⭐ The Remarkable Rescue at Milkweed Meadow
by Elaine Dimopoulos, illustrated by Doug Salati (Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-333-4
Butternut, a rabbit, is supposed to stay close to home. Piper, a robin, persuades her to venture out to help a hurt fawn. Graphite and gouache illustrations. (8-10)

The Swifts: A Dictionary of Scoundrels
by Beth Lincoln, illustrated by Claire Powell (Dutton Children's Books/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-593-53323-9
At a family reunion in a labyrinthine mansion, three clever and resourceful young sisters try to solve a series of murders. Playful wordsmithing. Gothic, comical black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)

To the Ice
by Thomas Tidholm, illustrated by Anna-Clara Tidholm, translated from the Swedish by Julia Marshall (Gекko Press, $18.99) 978-1-776-57507-7
When the ice of the creek on which they are playing cracks, Ida, Max, and Jack float out to the river, then to the sea. Striking color illustrations of the children’s adventurous journey. (8-11)

Turtles of the Midnight Moon
by María José Fitzgerald (Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $17.99) 978-0-593-48870-6
Excited to be visiting Honduras, 12-year-old Abby agrees to help her new friend Barana stop local poachers from stealing sea turtles’ eggs. Map and author’s note. (9-12)

Anthologies and Collections

We the Sea Turtles: A Collection of Island Stories
by Michelle Kadarusman, illustrated by Doug Panton (Pajama Press, $18.95) 978-1-77278-285-1
The lives of young people intersect with the natural world, including the turtles that inhabit it and the effects of climate change. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

Contemporary Issues

Banned Book
by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Gary Kelley (Creative Editions, $18.99) 978-1-56846-394-0
An allegorical and slyly humorous story of a book and the people who want to censor it. Powerful art in a somber palette. (8-11)
Joy, to the World
by Kai Shappley and Lisa Bunker, illustrated by Noah Grigni
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-324275-3
Joy, 12, decides to fight back when she is kicked off the cheer squad for being transgender. Black-and-white illustrations. Based on the author’s own story. (10-12)

Conjure Island
by Eden Royce
Delphinia is sent to South Carolina to live with her great-grandmother. Why had no one ever mentioned that magic based in Gullah tradition runs in her family? (9-12)

The Dubious Pranks of Shaindy Goodman
by Mari Lowe
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $18.99) 978-1-64614-264-4
Shaindy, an awkward sixth grader in an Orthodox Jewish community, is overjoyed when popular Gayil asks her help in pranking some classmates. But will she become the next target? (10-13)

Eli Over Easy
by Phil Stamper, illustrated by Violet Tobacco
After Eli’s mother dies of COVID, he discovers cooking videos on her laptop and is inspired to follow them as a way to heal. Recipes. Black-and-white illustrations. (10-13)

Enlighten Me
by Minh Lê, illustrated by Chan Chau
(Little, Brown Ink/Little, Brown/Hachette, $24.99) 978-0-7595-5547-1
Binh's outrage over being targeted at school for his Vietnamese identity turns reflective during a family meditative retreat where several Buddhist parables are told. Graphic autumnal-palette illustrations. Bibliography. (8-11)

Four Eyes (Four Eyes series)
by Rex Ogle, illustrated by Dave Valeza, colors by Ash Szymanik
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-338-57497-5
Being bullied at middle school gets even worse for Rex when he has to wear glasses, especially since his family can only afford the cheapest pair. Colorful textured cells. (10-13)

Julia and the Shark
by Kiran Millwood Hargrave, illustrated by Tom de Freston
(Union Square Kids, $18.99) 978-1-4549-4868-1
A ten-year-old deals with her mother’s depression. Compelling artwork in black, white, grey, and yellow. Back matter provides environmental and mental health resources. (10-13) Mature Content

Ecology

Big Tree
written and illustrated by Brian Selznick
(Scholastic Press, $32.99) 978-1-338-18063-3
In the final days of the dinosaurs, two sycamore seedlings search for a safe place to grow in an unsafe world. Pencil drawings. Extensive notes on the science. (8-11)

Saving H’Non: Chang and the Elephant
by Trang Nguyên and Jeet Zdung, illustrated by Jeet Zdung, translated from the Vietnamese by Trang Nguyên and Jeet Zdung
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $23.99) 978-0-593-40673-1
Chang and a team of conservationists rescue H’Non, an Asian elephant, and assist her in transitioning to life in a national park in Vietnam. Based on a true story. Detailed mixed-media and cartoon-style illustrations. (9-12)

The Wild Robot Protects (The Wild Robot Series)
written and illustrated by Peter Brown
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $17.99) 978-0-316-66941-2
The emotionally intelligent robot, Roz, takes on the fight against environmental pollution. Action-packed monochromatic illustrations. (9-12)

Family/School/Community

Call Me Adnan
by Reem Faruqi
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-328494-4
Adnan’s triumph at a table tennis competition turns to tragedy for his Pakistani American family when they suffer a devastating loss. How will they cope? Back matter. (9-12)
**Lost inside My Head**
written and illustrated by Vigg, translated from the French by David Warriner
(Orca Book Publishers, $21.95) 978-1-45983-594-8
Vincent knows that his brain works differently from others. How can he be his best self? Stylized illustrations. Based on the author's own ADHD experience. (8-10)

**The Many Masks of Andy Zhou**
written and illustrated by Jack Cheng
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-525-55382-3
As he enters middle school, Andy faces a storm of challenges: bullying, best friend woes, and his Shanghainese grandparents moving into his room. Black-and-white spot art. (9-12)

**Salma Writes a Book (Salma series)**
by Danny Ramadan, illustrated by Anna Bron
(Annick Press, $19.99) 978-1-77321-802-1
Syrian American Salma, excited to be a big sister, writes her own guidebook for siblings. Her uncle’s visit with his husband challenges Salma’s perception of her mother as being the best big sister. Greyscale illustrations. (8-9)

**Saving Sunshine**
by Saadia Faruqi, illustrated by Shazleen Khan
Twins Zara and Zeeshan fight about everything. Maybe a vacation in only each other’s company—without their phones—can change that. Mixed-media illustrations. (9-12)

**The Stars**
written and illustrated by Jacques Goldstyn, translated from the French by Helen Mixter
(Aldana Libros/Greystone Kids/Greystone Books, $19.95) 978-1-77164-919-3
His Orthodox Jewish father disapproves of Yakov’s friendship with Muslim Aïcha and of their dream of becoming astronauts. Do they persist? Humorous cartoon-style graphics and text. (9-12)

**Talia’s Codebook for Mathletes**
written and illustrated by Marissa Moss
Facing discrimination as the lone girl on the Mathlete team prompts Talia to form a girls’ team to compete. Includes codes to crack. Ink, watercolor, and gouache illustrations. (9-11)

**We Still Belong**
by Christine Day
(Heartdrum/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-306456-0
Wesley’s plans for Indigenous Peoples’ Day go all wrong, until she finds herself surrounded by the love of her family and community at the intertribal powwow. (8-11)

**When Sea Becomes Sky**
by Gillian McDunn, illustrated by Yaoyao Ma Van As
(Bloomsbury Children’s Books/Bloomsbury, $16.99) 978-1-5476-1085-3
The enduring love of a sister for her brother shines through as they seek to solve the mystery of a statue found in an island marsh. Atmospheric black-and-white illustrations. Author’s note. (10-12)

**Where the Water Takes Us**
written and illustrated by Alan Barillaro
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2454-2
At a remote Canadian lake, Ava has a loving relationship with her grandparents and an interest in birds, but a difficult relationship with a new summer resident. Soft watercolor vignettes. (9-12)

**The Wild Journey of Juniper Berry**
by Chad Morris and Shelly Brown
(Shadow Mountain Publishing, $19.99) 978-1-63993-099-9
Juniper enjoys her family’s life in the woods. Then her brother requires hospitalization, and they have to venture into “society” and engage with running water and electricity, as well as with other people. (8-11)

**Wishing Season**
by Anica Mrose Rissi
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-325890-7
Grieving the death of her twin brother, 11-year-old Lily believes he reappears in a place special to them both. Loving and realistic portrayal of the healing process. (9-12)
Fantasy

**Adia Kelbara and the Circle of Shamans**
by Isi Hendrix
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-326633-9
Twelve-year-old orphan Adia seizes the opportunity to apprentice at the Academy of Shamans. Can she channel her powers to rid the emperor of a wicked demon? (9-12)

**The Book of Stolen Dreams (Stolen Dreams Adventures series)**
by David Farr, illustrated by Kristina Kister
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99)
978-1-6659-2257-9
After Rachel and Robert’s librarian father is arrested for stealing an ancient magical book, the tyrannical ruler of Krasnia sets his forces against the family. Whimsical spot art. (10-13)

**Elf Dog & Owl Head**
by M. T. Anderson, illustrated by Junyi Wu
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2281-4
During a global pandemic, a tween boy, quarantining with his family, meets a magical elf-hound and becomes friends with an owl-headed boy. Dramatic black-and-white illustrations. (9-11)

**Ellie Engle Saves Herself**
by Leah Johnson
(Disney•Hyperion/Buena Vista Books, $18.99)
978-1-368-08555-7
Ellie, a Black girl, is content to play the supporting role to her best friend, whom she has a secret crush on. Will waking up with a superpower make Ellie the hero of her own story? (10-12)

**The Enchanted Life of Valentina Mejía**
by Alexandra Alessandri
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-6659-1705-6
When Valentina and her younger brother enter a magical world with many creatures they recognize from Colombian folklore, they discover family secrets. (9-12)

**The Eyes & the Impossible**
by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Shawn Harris
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $19.99) 978-1-5247-6420-3
Johannes, a dog in an unnamed park, enlists the aid of other animals to set free his friends, three bison. Illustrations of Johannes within classic landscape paintings by various artists. (10-13)

**Gossamer Summer**
by H. M. Bouwman
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-6659-1253-2
Mourning the loss of her grandmother, Jojo stops telling a story about fairies. A summer adventure with her sisters and a new neighbor restores her trust in magic and provides comfort. (8-10)

**The Grace of Wild Things**
by Heather Fawcett
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-314262-6
A 12-year-old witch escapes an orphanage and pluckily apprentices herself to a cantankerous older witch who initially wants to have nothing to do with her. (9-11)

**Greenwild:**
**The World behind the Door**
by Pari Thomson, illustrated by Alan Baker, map by Elisa Paganelli
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $17.99)
978-0-374-39137-9
Daisy, 11, loves traveling the globe with her eco-journalist mother. When her mother disappears into an alternate universe, Daisy faces powerful enemies as she tries to find her. Engaging black-and-white illustrations. Map. (9-12)

**Hamra and the Jungle of Memories**
by Hanna Alkaf
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-320795-0
During the COVID pandemic, a Malaysian girl ill-advisedly wanders into a magic jungle. After inadvertently stealing from an enchanted tiger to help her sick grandmother, she must make amends. (9-12)

**The International House of Dereliction**
by Jacqueline Davies
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $18.99)
978-0-06-325807-5
Ten-year-old Alice and her father can fix anything, but can Alice solve the mysteries of the abandoned house next door? (10-12)
Mabuhay!
written and illustrated by Zachary Sterling
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-338-73864-3
JJ and Althea, Filipino American siblings, shunned at school, bond with family members and supernatural characters to save the world. Colorful action-packed panels. (9-12)

The One and Only Ruby (The One and Only series)
by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Patricia Castelao
Ruby, a young elephant, worries about growing up with her adopted herd at a wildlife sanctuary. Greyscale spot illustrations. Glossary. Author’s note. (8-11)

The Puppets of Spelhorst (Norendy Tales series)
by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Julie Morstad
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-53621-675-2
Five puppets—a girl, a boy, a king, a wolf, and an owl—live their dreams in a play within the story. Atmospheric pencil illustrations. (8-10)

Skyriders
by Polly Holyoke
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-46441-0
Thirteen-year-old junior courier Kie and her winged horse N’Rah reluctantly enter the fight to save the empire when the savage chimerae return to Prekalt. (9-12)

Squire & Knight
written and illustrated by Scott Chantler
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $22.99) 978-1-250-24933-3
A blowhard knight and a cursed town are rescued by an undervalued, brainy squire and a misunderstood dragon. Meticulously detailed three-tone drawings. (8-11)

The Witch of Woodland
by Laurel Snyder
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-283665-6
 Estranged from her best friend and preparing for her bat mitzvah, witch Zippy conjures an angel-like creature who helps to reconcile Zippy with her Jewish identity. (11-13)

Folklore and Fairy Tales

Eagle Drums
written and illustrated by Nasu’raq Rainey Hopson
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $18.99)
978-1-250-75065-5
A boy on a dangerous journey is kidnapped by eagles in this Iñupiaq origin story of the Messenger Feast. Detailed colored pencil drawings and elegant spot art. (9-12)

Ghost Book
written and illustrated by Remy Lai
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $22.99) 978-1-250-81041-0
July Chen, 12, meets a boy ghost whose fate may be linked to hers. They need to outrun a death god to find answers. Action-packed full-color illustrations. (9-12)

The Skull:
A Tyrolean Folktales
written and illustrated by Jon Klassen
(Candlewick Press, $19.99) 978-1-536-22336-1
Haunting winter scenes accompany this strange and spooky tale about a bold girl who befriends and protects an unusual character. Graphite and ink illustrations. (8-10)

The Very Unfortunate Wish of Melony Yoshimura
by Waka T. Brown, illustrated by Shoko Ishida
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $18.99)
978-0-06-323076-7
Melony wishes for freedom from her overprotective parents. A shape-shifting demon, posing as her best friend, sabatages all her relationships. Spot art. Based on a Japanese folk tale. (8-11)
Historical Fiction

Bea and the New Deal Horse
by L. M. Elliott
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-321900-7
In Depression-era Virginia, Bea and her sister are abandoned at a farm in danger of foreclosure. Her experience with and love of horses saves the farm. Sources. (9-12)

Farewell Cuba, Mi Isla
by Alexandra Diaz
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $17.99) 978-1-53449540-1
When Victoria and her family flee to Miami from Castro’s regime in 1960, she helps her cousin bring the rest of the family over. Glossary. Author’s note. (9-12)

Granny Came Here on the Empire Windrush
by Patrice Lawrence, illustrated by Camilla Sucre
(Nosy Crow, $17.99) 978-8-88777-033-8
Ava and her Trinidadian grandmother talk about inspirational women in Black history, and then Ava decides who to dress up as for a school project. Vibrant yellow-hued illustrations. Back matter. (9-12)

The Honey Jar:
An Armenian’s Escape to Freedom
by Joan Schoettler
(Milk + Cookies/Bushel & Peck Books, $16.99)
978-1-63819-154-4
During his family’s harrowing escape from Armenia in 1920, eight-year-old Bedros becomes responsible for his three sisters, but one of them gets lost. Do they ever reunite? Based on a true story. Free verse. Map. Author’s note. (8-11)

I Am Kavi
by Thushanthi Ponweera
(Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5365-8
Kavi, 10, a scholarship student in 1998 Sri Lanka, lies in order to be liked by the popular girls—until she is caught. Free verse. (9-12)

Parachute Kids
written and illustrated by Betty C. Tang
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-338-83269-3
In 1981, ten-year-old Feng-Li and her family travel from Taiwan to California for a dream vacation. Her happiness evaporates when her parents reveal their plans. Bold-colored graphic illustrations. (9-12)

Piece by Piece:
Ernestine’s Gift for President Roosevelt
by Lupe Ruiz-Flores, illustrated by Anna López Real
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $20.99) 978-1-7284-6043-7
During the Great Depression, a Mexican American girl gratefully creates a special gift for the president, using wood from government food boxes. Based on a true story. Realistic color illustrations. (8-9)

Sweetness All Around
by Suzanne Supplee
(Holiday House, $17.99) 978-0-8234-5369-6
Her parents’ divorce and financial difficulties force almost-11-year-old Josephine to move into a dingy trailer park with her mother. Can she find friends? Set in 1974. (11-13)

Holidays and Religion

Juniper’s Christmas
by Eoin Colfer, illustrated by Chaaya Prabhat
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $22.99)
978-1-250-32194-7
When her mother suddenly disappears just before Christmas, biracial Juniper, 11, seeks the help of a recluse, not realizing who he is. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

Humor

The Book That No One Wanted to Read
by Richard Ayoade, illustrated by Tor Freeman
(Walker Books/Candlewick, $17.99)
978-1-5362-2216-6
The Book explores why we read and what we read. Funny, philosophical, and adroitly illustrated with affectionately amusing line drawings. (9-12)

Leeva at Last
by Sara Pennypacker, illustrated by Matthew Cordell
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-311442-5
Leaving a mother who obsesses about fame and a father who hoards his fortune, Leeva begins her personal odyssey. Humorous spot illustrations. (9-11)
Magical Realism

_back to the bright before_
by katherin nolte, illustrated by jen bricking
(random house children's books/prh, $17.99)
978-0-593-56510-0

determined to rescue her family from financial ruin, perpetua, 11, seeks a precious coin in an abbey—with the aid of unusual characters. spot illustrations. (9-12)

storyteller
by brandon hobson
(scholastic press, $17.99) 978-1-338-79726-8
ziggy, a cherokee boy searching for his mom who disappeared many years ago, meets humans and animals whose stories help him with his anxiety. (10-12)

* the worlds we leave behind
by a. f. harrold, illustrated by levi pinfold
(bloomsbury children's books/bloomsbury, $17.99)
978-1-5476-1095-2
tender tommo and impulsive hex are best friends until an accident tears them apart. revenge, shame, longing, and loss are eloquently explored. black-and-white illustrations of magical elements. (9-12)

science fiction

_travis daventhorpe:_
for the win! (travis daventhorpe series)
written and illustrated by wes molebash
(first second/roaring brook press/holtzbrinck, $13.99) 978-1-250-80420-1
travis, an 11-year-old genius robotic engineer, is an outcast, until he discovers a multiverse. now its survival depends on him, a wizard, and his sentient robot. energetic cartoon illustrations. (8-11)

sports

_grip (marcus stroman series)_
by marcus stroman, with samantha thornhill
(aladdin/simon & schuster, $17.99) 978-1-6659-1614-1
a fictionalized account of the author as a talented hardworking young pitcher whose performance anxiety leads him to a mental health professional for help. (9-12)

off the bench (fred Bowen sports story series)
by fred Bowen
(peachtree publishing, $16.99) 978-1-68263-410-3
kris wants to be a starting player like his older brother, but his new coach makes him his team's “sixth man.” can he still feel important? (10-13)

poetry

_can we please give the police department to the grandmothers?_
by junauda petrus, illustrated by kristen uroda
(dutton children's books/penguin random house, $18.99) 978-0-593-46233-1
a free-verse poem, originally written after the 2014 death of michael brown, is paired with vibrant illustrations and presents a world where caring and emotional warmth can solve community problems. (9-12) mature content

_galápagos:_
_islands of change_
by leslie bulion, illustrated by becca stadtländer
(peachtree publishing, $18.99) 978-1-68263-496-7
crucial organisms in the galápagos ecosystems are highlighted in varied, lyrical verse, accompanied by colorful illustrations and scientific explanations. back matter includes glossary, map, poetry notes, and resources. (10-13)

_lila duray:_
a collection of delightfully delectable poems
by emily morrison, illustrated by aileen bennett
(susan schadt press, $24.95) 978-89-85071-35-1
poems on a wide variety of subjects familiar to preteens will delight them with humor and originality. whimsical illustrations. (8-11)

_my head has a bellyache and more nonsense for mischievous kids and immature grown-ups_
by chris harris, illustrated by andrea tsurumi
(little, brown/hachette, $19.99) 978-0-316-59259-8
inventive, humorous, and thoughtful poems in multiple forms are accompanied by cartoon-style illustrations. glossary of poetic terms. (9-12)
* The Red Ear Blows Its Nose: Poems for Children and Others
by Robert Schechter, illustrated by S. Federico
(Word Galaxy Press/Able Muse Press, $29.95) 978-1-77349-134-9
Ninety-nine poems brimming with humor and insight muse about nature, the solar system, body parts, and self. Masterly rhyme and meter. Black-and-white line drawings. (8-11)

* A Walk in the Woods
by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney and Brian Pinkney
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-4965-1
A map left by his late father leads a boy through the woods to a treasure trove that assuages his grief. Extraordinary watercolors of woods and wildlife. Free verse. (9-12)

Welcome to the Wonder House
by Rebecca Kai Dotlich and Georgia Heard, illustrated by Deborah Freedman
(Wordsong/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-0-358-46984-1
Twenty-nine poems, housed on dreamy muted-palette backgrounds and assigned to 12 rooms based on their musings, encourage curiosity and questions. (8-11)

* A Whale of a Time: A Funny Poem for Each Day of the Year
selected by Lou Peacock, illustrated by Matt Hunt
(Nosy Crow, $40.00) 979-8-88777-025-3
Whimsical, witty, often hilarious poems for each calendar day by poets, familiar and unfamiliar. Varied poetic forms. Comical illustrations of diverse children. Indexes. Bibliography. (8-11)

* What You Need to Be Warm
by Neil Gaiman, illustrated by 13 artists
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-335808-9
What are your memories of being warm? The UN Refugee Agency goodwill ambassador has woven the responses to his question into a free-verse poem. Illustrated by 13 notable artists. Back matter. (8-10)

INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

Anthologies and Collections

The Antiracist Kitchen: 21 Stories (and Recipes)
edited by Nadia L. Hohn, illustrated by Roza Nozari
(Orca Book Publishers, $29.95) 978-1-4598-3343-2
Twenty-one authors from different parts of North America share stories and recipes that celebrate their families’ lives and depict how they dealt with racism. Folk-art-style illustrations. (9-12)

Arts

Ancestry: The Mystery and Majesty of Ancient Cave Art
written and illustrated by Hannah Salyer
(HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-358-46984-1
Vivid images created with colored pencil, charcoal, and pigment illuminate the creative spark that has united humankind throughout the millennia. Back matter includes site map, glossary, and timeline. (8-11)

Beautiful Noise: The Music of John Cage
by Lisa Rogers, illustrated by Il Sung Na
Avant-garde composer/musician John Cage heard the ordinary noises of everyday life as music and composed pieces to help listeners hear what he heard. Jazzy colorful illustrations. (8-10)

Make Way: The Story of Robert McCloskey, Nancy Schôn, and Some Very Famous Ducklings
by Angela Burke Kunkel, illustrated by Claire Keane
(Random House Studio/PRH, $19.99) 978-0-593-37335-4
The ducks depicted in Make Way for Ducklings became beloved sculptures in Boston’s Public Garden through the collaboration of the author and a sculptress. Atmospheric digital illustrations. (8-11)
My Indigo World: A True Story of the Color Blue
written and illustrated by Rosa Chang
(minedition/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $17.99) 978-1-66265-065-9
A Korean girl in her new American home explains how to grow indigo seeds and how traditional indigo dyeing has connected communities. Exquisite detailed blue dye illustrations. Back matter. (8-10)

On the Tip of a Wave: How Ai Weiwei’s Art Is Changing the Tide
by Joanna Ho, illustrated by Cátia Chien
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, $18.99) 978-1-33871-594-1
Using Ai’s “Safe Passage” installation, consisting of thousands of refugees’ striking neon orange cast-off lifejackets, the author conveys Ai’s powerful humanitarian message of hope. Pencil and pastel illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

Hidden Hope: How a Toy and a Hero Saved Lives during the Holocaust
by Elisa Boxer, illustrated by Amy June Bates
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $19.99) 978-1-41975-000-7
During World War II, French teenager Jacqueline delivered false identification papers, concealed in a toy duck, to Jews in hiding. But was Jacqueline also hiding a dangerous secret? Atmospheric mixed-media illustrations. (8-11)

Holding Her Own: The Exceptional Life of Jackie Ormes
by Traci N. Todd, illustrated by Shannon Wright
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, $21.99) 978-1-33830-590-6
How did Ormes, a pioneering Black cartoonist, create her iconic comic strip characters? Stylish digital art incorporates comic-art techniques. Back matter. (8-11)

I’m Gonna Paint: Ralph Fasanella, Artist of the People
by Anne Broyles, illustrated by Victoria Tentler-Krylov
(Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5006-0
Discovering his talent for painting almost by accident, Fasanella left his labor union job to depict working class lives. Illustrations mimic his exuberant paintings and include reproductions of his art. Back matter. (8-11)

Just Jerry: How Drawing Shaped My Life
written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $17.99) 978-0-316-38385-1
A famous illustrator candidly remembers his passion for creating art, his unidentified dyslexia, and his youth in a Black neighborhood in 1940s and 1950s Philadelphia. Dynamic sketches. Epilogue, time line. (9-12)

Ketanji: Justice Jackson’s Journey to the U.S. Supreme Court
by Kekla Magoon, illustrated by Laura Freeman
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-329616-9
Strikingly realistic artwork accompanies the story of the Supreme Court justice whose brilliance and determination have helped her break barriers and serve as a remarkable role model. (8-10)
**Loud and Proud:**
*The Life of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm*
by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita
Expressive, realistic illustrations and text tell the inspiring story of a studious young girl who used her intelligence and strong voice to be a changemaker for women and people of color. (8-10)

**Love Is Loud:**
*How Diane Nash Led the Civil Rights Movement*
by Sandra Neil Wallace, illustrated by Bryan Collier
Refusing to go along to get along, Nash became a crucial leader of the 1960s nonviolent civil rights protests. Compelling watercolors and collages. Back matter. Time line. (8-11)

**Major Taylor:**
*World Cycling Champion*
by Charles R. Smith Jr., illustrated by Leo Espinosa
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-53621-498-7
Vibrant digital illustrations capture the struggles and triumphs of the man who, in 1899, became the first African American world champion in cycling. (8-11)

**Mexikid:**
*A Graphic Memoir*
written and illustrated by Pedro Martin
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $24.99)
978-0-593-46228-7
A coming-of-age graphic memoir that captures the humor and poignancy of sibling relations, cultural identity, family history, and an epic road trip. Vibrant panels. (9-12)

**Santiago Saw Things Differently:**
*Santiago Ramón y Cajal, Artist, Doctor, Father of Neuroscience*
by Christine Iverson, illustrated by Luciano Lozano
(mit Kids Press/Candlewick, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2453-5
As a child, Cajal loved art. As a doctor, his way of seeing led him to discoveries about brain cells. His drawings are incorporated into the sepia-tinged illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

**To Boldly Go:**
*How Nichelle Nichols and Star Trek Helped Advance Civil Rights*
by Angela Dalton, illustrated by Lauren Semmer
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-307321-0
Feeling underutilized as Lieutenant Uhura on Star Trek, Nichols was about to quit, until she had a transformative conversation with Martin Luther King Jr. Colorful digital illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

**Unstoppable:**
*How Bayard Rustin Organized the 1963 March on Washington*
by Michael G. Long, illustrated by Bea Jackson
(Little Bee Books, $18.99) 978-1-4998-1206-0
Despite the backlash Rustin faced for being gay, his dedication to nonviolence and tireless organizing skills were unwavering. Dynamic prose and full-color illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

**Ecology**

**Climate Warriors:**
*Fourteen Scientists and Fourteen Ways We Can Save Our Planet*
by Laura Gehl
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $33.32) 978-1-72846-040-6
Diverse experts—and concerned kids—engage in efforts to save the planet from the effects of global warming. Actions suggested. Diagrams and photographs. Back matter, glossary, sources. (10-13)

**The Forest in the Sea:**
*Seaweed Solutions to Planetary Problems (Books for a Better Earth series)*
by Anita Sanchez
(Holiday House, $22.99) 978-0-8234-5013-8
Underwater algae support marine ecosystems, mitigating climate change; are used as fertilizer and food; and have a role in creating bioplastics and medicine. Full-color photographs. Extensive back matter. (9-12)

**Glaciers Are Alive**
by Debbie S. Miller, illustrated by Jon Van Zyle
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-361-7
Realistic acrylic illustrations and simple text portray the many animals and plants that depend on glaciers, massive rivers of ice. Glossary. (8-9)
Restoring Prairie, Woods, and Pond:
How a Small Trail Can Make a Big Difference (Books
for a Better Earth series)
by Laurie Lawlor, photographed by Laurie Lawlor and
various other photographers
(Holiday House, $19.99) 978-0-8234-5165-4
An elementary school and the surrounding community
transform a parcel of land into a beloved resource and
nature trail. Color and black-and-white photographs.
Source notes and index. (10-13)

Saving the Night:
How Light Pollution Is Harming Life on Earth (Orca
Footprints series)
by Stephen Aitken
(Orca Book Publishers, $21.95) 978-1-45983-107-0
Why is darkness critical for plants, animals, and
humans? An introduction to the effects of light
pollution. Includes suggestions for practical ways to
protect the night sky. Photographs. (10-13)

Total Garbage:
A Messy Dive into Trash, Waste, and Our World
by Rebecca Donnelly, illustrated by John Hendrix
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $21.99) 978-1-250-76038-8
What is trash? Where does it come from? Where does
it go? And how can we be environmentally responsible?
Line drawings match the blue ink of the text, adding
humor and providing additional information. Time line,
index, and resources. (9-12)

Health

★ A Vaccine Is Like a Memory
by Rajani LaRocca, MD, illustrated by
Kathleen Marcotte
(Little Bee Books, $18.99) 978-1-4998-1326-5
A straightforward, accessible explanation of the globe-
spanning history and science behind lifesaving vaccines.
(8-11)

History

★ An American Story
by Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Dare Coulter
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-47312-5
A teacher explains how the effects of slavery connect
the past to the present. Free verse. Powerful mixed-
media illustrations. (8-11)
**Stars of the Night:**
The Courageous Children of the Czech Kindergarten
by Caren Stelson, illustrated by Selina Alko
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, $19.99) 978-1-5415-9868-3
A mysterious British humanitarian rescued 669 Jewish Czech children at the beginning of World War II. Expressive acrylic paint, colored pencil, and collage illustrations. Extensive back matter. (8-11)

**Sports**

**Contenders:**
Two Native Baseball Players, One World Series
by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Arigon Starr
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-40547-2
Although they were subjected to racism, two great Native baseball players faced each other in an exciting game in the 1911 World Series. Digital illustrations. (9-12)

**Game of Freedom:**
Mestre Bimba and the Art of Capoeira
written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $19.99) 978-1-4197-6458-5
Distinctive illustrations and comprehensive text highlight a legendary teacher of capoeira, a Brazilian mix of “music, fighting, theater, and dance,” now spread worldwide. Glossary, endnotes, photos. Also available in Spanish. (8-11)

**STEM** (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

**Before Colors:**
Where Pigments and Dyes Come From
by Annette Bay Pimentel, illustrated by Madison Safer
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $24.99) 978-1-4197-5706-8
A comprehensive account of the science and history of humankind’s quest to harness, control, and manufacture color, using plants, minerals, and chemistry. Watercolor, gouache, and colored pencil illustrations. Simple experiments. Extensive resources. (8-11)

**Fungi Grow**
by Maria Gianferrari, illustrated by Diana Sudyka
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-66590-365-3
Mushrooms grow everywhere on earth: some are edible, some medicinal, and some help trees and other plants thrive. Stunning detailed, colorful illustrations. (8-11)

**Genius Noses:**
A Curious Animal Compendium
by Lena Anlauf, illustrated by Vitali Konstantinov,
translated from the German by Marshall Yarbrough
(NorthSouth Books/NordSüd Verlag, $24.95) 978-0-7358-4535-0
Locating food and predators, producing mating calls, and regulating body temperature are among the functions of different animals’ noses. Detailed ink and colored pencil illustrations. Glossary, notes, index. (10-13)

**How to Spacewalk:**
Step-by-Step with Shuttle Astronauts
by Kathryn D. Sullivan and Michael J. Rosen,
illustrated by Michael J. Rosen, photographed by Kathryn D. Sullivan and various others
(mit Kids Press/Candlewick, $19.99) 978-1-5362-2621-8
Three-time space shuttle astronaut Kathryn Sullivan details the steps involved in preparing for and undertaking a spacewalk. Color illustrations and photographs, including some taken by Sullivan. (9-11)

**Making More:**
How Life Begins
written and illustrated by Katherine Roy
(Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, $24.95) 978-1-324-01584-0
Comprehensive accessible text aided by vibrant watercolor illustrations explains that in all species that reproduce by meiosis, new lives result from merging cells from two parents. (9-12)

**Oliver’s Great Big Universe**
written and illustrated by Jorge Cham
(Amulet Books/Abrams, $15.99) 978-1-41976-408-0
Eleven-year-old Oliver, an aspiring astrophysicist, explains everything he learns about the whole universe. He’s helped by inspiring scientist Dr. Howard. Greyscale cartoon-style illustrations. (9-12)
Polar:
Wildlife at the Ends of the Earth
by L. E. Carmichael, illustrated by Byron Eggenschwiler
(Kids Can Press, $18.99) 978-1-5253-0457-6
How do different animals survive at the poles under
some of the harshest conditions on Earth? Detailed,

Search for a Giant Squid:
Pick Your Path (Science Explorers series)
by Amy Seto Forrester, illustrated by Andy Chou Musser
(Chronicle Books, $14.99) 978-1-79721-393-4
An expedition into deep sea waters to research giant
squids in their habitat has various outcomes depending
on the reader’s choices. Colorful, detailed panels. (8-11)

A Stone Is a Story
by Leslie Barnard Booth, illustrated by Marc Martin
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster,
$18.99) 978-1-5344-9894-1
How is a stone formed and transformed over time?
Lyrically told and dramatically illustrated in a muted-
(8-10)

Your Brain Is Amazing:
How the Human Mind Works
by Esperanza Habinger, illustrated by Sole Sebastián,
translated from the Spanish by Lawrence Schimel
(Orca Book Publishers, $29.95) 978-1-45983-217-6
Humorous illustrations, clear text, and supportive
activities make this comprehensive exploration of the
body’s most complex organ accessible and engaging.
Back matter. (8-10)

World

Desert Queen
by Jyoti Rajan Gopal, illustrated by Svabhu Kohli
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $18.99)
978-1-64614-262-0
When he and his sisters were orphaned, a boy used
his dance talents to become a famous drag performer,
championing the folk traditions of Rajasthan. Lyrical
free verse text. Swirling mixed-media illustrations. Back
matter. (8-11)

How Does Chocolate Taste on Everest?:
Explore Earth’s Most Extreme Places through Sight,
Sound, Smell, Touch, and Taste
by Leisa Stewart-Sharpe, illustrated by Aaron Cushley
(Charlesbridge, $18.99) 978-1-62354-419-5
Bring your five senses to experience 12 amazing
locations. Geographical and historical information.
Enlivening illustrations. Glossary. (9-11)

My Incredible India
by Jasbinder Bilam, illustrated by Nina Chakrabarti
(Candlewick Press, $19.99) 978-1-5362-2501-3
Through a series of mementos she has collected, a
grandmother introduces her granddaughter to their
vast, diverse homeland. Mixed-media art reflects the
vibrant colors of India. Back matter, index. (8-11)

Yellow Butterfly:
A Story from Ukraine
written and illustrated by Oleksandr Shatokhin
(Red Comet Press, $21.99) 978-1-63655-064-0
Stark black-and-white illustrations yield to a hopeful
resolution in the form of the bright colors of the
Ukrainian flag for a girl experiencing the Russia-
Ukraine war. Wordless. (9-12)
FICTION

Adventure and Mystery

**Wrecker**
by Carl Hiaasen
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children’s Books/PRH $18.99) 978-0-593-37628-7
While fishing off Key West, biracial Valdez Jones VIII, 15, encounters a suspicious gang that coerces him into helping with their clandestine operation. A fast-paced thriller set during the COVID crisis. (11-14)

Anthologies and Collections

**Calling the Moon:**
16 Period Stories from BIPOC Authors
edited by Aída Salazar and Yamile Saied Méndez
(Candlewick Press, $22.99) 978-1-5362-1634-9
Celebratory or embarrassing, surprising or long-awaited—the range of emotions, the cultural connections, and self-knowledge that accompany the onset of menstruation are explored. (11-14)

**You Are Here:**
Connecting Flights
edited by Ellen Oh, illustrated by Marcos Chin
(Allida/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-323908-1
Twelve loosely linked narratives of Asian American teens, strangers to each other, unfold when all flights out of a Chicago airport are grounded during a thunderstorm. Black-and-white spot art. (12-15)

Coming of Age

**Akane-banashi (Akane-banashi series)**
When her father’s dreams of becoming a master rakugo storyteller are dashed, daughter Akane vows to take up the mantle and avenge his disgrace. Dramatic black-and-white artwork. Endnotes. (11-14)

**Barely Floating**
by Lilliam Rivera
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-593-32312-0
Fat, feisty, confident Latina Nat, 12, is determined to be a synchronized swimmer. But that means lying to her parents and neglecting her best friend. Can she succeed, and is it worth it? (11-13)

**The Beautiful Something Else**
by Ash Van Otterloo
(Scholastic Press, $17.99) 978-1-338-84322-4
When her mother is hospitalized after a serious breakdown, Sparrow, 12, must move in with relatives she doesn’t know and begin to understand and come to terms with her own nonbinary identity. (11-14)

**Cross My Heart and Never Lie**
written and illustrated by Nora Dánses, translated from the Norwegian by Matt Bagguley
(Hippo Park/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $24.99) 978-1-6626-4054-4
Seventh-grade friends Tuva, Linnéa, and Bao drift apart when Linnéa reveals that she has a boyfriend. Then Tuva discovers her own feelings for new student Mariam. Digital color art. (11-13)

**Half Moon Summer**
by Elaine Vickers, illustrated by Chloe Zola
(Peachtree Publishing, $17.99) 978-1-68263-539-1
A boring summer takes an interesting turn for Drew when he meets Mia. Drew’s father, dealing with failing health, encourages them to participate in a half marathon. Digital black-and-white spot illustrations. (12-15)

**Hands**
by Torrey Maldonado
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, $16.99) 978-0-593-32379-3
Trev, a Black tween, would do anything to protect his mom from his stepdad. He believes that learning to fight is his only option. Adults in his life disagree. (12-14)
The Museum of Lost and Found
by Leila Sales, illustrated by Jacqueline Li
(Amulet Books/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-41975-451-7
Sixth grader Vanessa discovers an abandoned museum, where she creates a private exhibit of objects connected to her no-longer-best friend Bailey, trying to understand what went wrong between them. Black-and-white illustrations. (11-13)

Rosewood:
A Midsummer Meet Cute
by Sayantani DasGupta
(Scholastic Press, $19.99) 978-1-338-79772-5
At a summer camp casting a multicultural TV adaptation of Jane Austen, two teenagers of Bengali and Bangladeshi Chinese Singaporean heritage fall in love. Many amusing misunderstandings. (13-15)

Tiger Daughter
by Rebecca Lim
(Delacorte Press(Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $17.99) 978-0-593-64897-1
Wen helps a fellow Chinese immigrant student in their Australian school. Both live in poverty, with troubled parents. Could a scholarship to a better school save one of them? (13-15) Mature content

What Happened to Rachel Riley?
by Claire Swinarski
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-321309-8
As a newcomer in eighth grade, Anna wonders why Rachel is shunned by classmates, and is determined to use a school project to investigate. Emails and texts reveal significant details. (11-14)

Contemporary Issues

Big Winner (Orca Currents series)
by Sylvia Taekema
(Orca Book Publishers, P $10.95) 978-1-4598-3406-4
When Digby, a mentally challenged teen, wins a million-dollar lottery, Skye, 14, steps up to protect him from those who would prey on him. (11-14)

Good Different
by Meg Eden Kuyatt
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-338-81610-5
While navigating middle school, Selah, 13, learns she is on the autism spectrum. Empathetic and hopeful free verse poems explore her journey of self-discovery. (11-14)

Mascot
by Charles Waters and Traci Sorell
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354-380-8
What if a middle school’s mascot is seen as racist, but not by everybody? Six eighth graders explore whether the mascot should stay or be changed. Free verse. (11-13)

No Place Like Home
by James Bird
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $17.99)
978-1-25087-762-8
Opin and his Ojibwe family live in their car, but his mother’s spirit and humor and a new dog teach him to love learning and life. (11-14)

The Probability of Everything
by Sarah Everett
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-325655-2
Believing that there are only four days until the end of the earth, Kemi, an 11-year-old Nigerian American, puts together a time capsule with objects from family members. In reality, it is a very different end she is mourning. (11-13)

Skating on Mars
by Caroline Huntoon
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $17.99)
978-1-2508-5187-1
Coming out as nonbinary, Veronica wants to be known as Mars. Though they are a talented figure skater, there doesn’t seem to be a competition they can enter. Family and friends offer help. (11-14)

Tethered to Other Stars
by Elisa Stone Leahy
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-325548-7
Wendy’s Salvadoran Guatemalan family seems safe from ICE, but when she uncovers papers secretly stored away, she becomes more active in the immigration issues facing her community. (11-14)

Wild Poppies
by Haya Saleh, translated from the Arabic by Marcia Lynx Qualey
(Em Querido Books/Levine Querido, $17.99)
978-1-64614-201-9
Two brothers with very different personalities face great hardships during the Syrian civil war. Omar, 15, often timid, must find his younger fearless brother, Sufyan, 12. (11-14)
Wings in the Wild
by Margarita Engle
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)
978-1-66592-636-2
Forced to flee Cuba because of her parents’ work as artists, Soleida escapes to Central America, meeting Dariel, a Cuban American musician. Together they fight to protect the rainforest. In verse. Also available in Spanish. (12-15)

Ecology

Global
by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin, illustrated by Giovanni Rigano, lettering by Chris Dickey
(Sourcebooks Young Readers/Sourcebooks, P $14.99)
978-1-7282-6219-2
Two children, one in the Arctic Circle, the other in the Bay of Bengal, fight for their lives amid environmental change. Rich, dynamic illustrations. End notes on global warming. (11-14)

Family/School/Community

All You Have to Do
by Autumn Allen
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, $19.99)
978-0-593-61904-9
Two young Black men, one at an elite prep school in 1995 and one at Columbia University in 1968, act to understand and define themselves. (13-15)

The Braid Girls
by Sherri Winston
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-46161-0
As summer day-camp counselors, three Black 12-year-old friends decide to earn money by offering complex hair-braiding after camp. Rivalry with another group challenges them. (11-13)

Eb & Flow
by Kelly J. Baptist
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-593-42913-6
In alternating voices, two Black seventh graders relate their experiences and feelings during their 10-day home suspensions following a school fight. Free verse. (11-13)

Farther Than the Moon
by Lindsay Lackey
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $17.99)
978-1-250-20520-9
Houston, 13, accepted into a junior astronaut program, has to leave behind his brother, Robbie, who has cerebral palsy. Overcome with guilt, Houston tries to find a way to give Robbie his own lunar experience. (13-15)

Finally Seen
by Kelly Yang
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99)
978-1-5344-8833-5
Left in Beijing five years ago, Lina rejoins her parents in California and discovers how precarious their lives are. What might be within her power to do? (11-13)

Fire, the Water, and Maudie McGinn
by Sally J. Pla
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-326879-1
Maudie’s mom and stepdad can’t accept her autistic coping mechanisms. She spends the summer with her dad, hoping for a permanent escape, but then there’s a wildfire. (11-14)

The Firefly Summer
by Morgan Matson, maps by Celia Krampien
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99)
978-1-5344-9335-3
An unexpected invitation for Ryanna to spend the summer in the Poconos with the maternal grandparents and cousins she has never met leads to uncovering a family mystery. Black-and-white spot art. Maps. (11-14)

Forget-Me-Not Blue
by Sharelle Byars Moranville
(Holiday House, $17.99) 978-0-8234-5359-7
A troubled, unstable mother who ends up in prison has made 10-year-old Sofie’s life a nightmare. In spite of support from her brother, a teacher, and friends, foster care looms. (11-13)

Indigo and Ida
by Heather Murphy Capps
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, $19.99) 978-1-7284-6768-9
Biracial eighth grader Indigo, inspired by Ida B. Wells, exposes discrimination in school, jeopardizing close friendships and disrupting her life. (11-14)
Winner of the 2024 Josette Frank Award

♂ The Labors of Hercules Beal
by Gary D. Schmidt
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-358-65963-1
A perceptive teacher helps a compassionate, orphaned seventh grader deal with grief by requiring him to relate Hercules’s 12 labors to events in his own life. Quirky, humorous voice. (11-14)

Lost in Taiwan
written and illustrated by Mark Crilley
(Little, Brown Ink/Little, Brown/Hachette, $24.99)
978-1-36804-088-4
Reluctantly visiting Taiwan, ill-tempered teen Paul goes on a quest to find a new video game, drops his phone in a puddle, and gets lost. Pencil and watercolor artwork. (12-15)

♂ No Matter the Distance
by Cindy Baldwin
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-300644-7
Penny, 11, who has cystic fibrosis, forms a deep bond with an ailing dolphin stranded in their creek. Can she help save it? Free verse. (11-13)

Not an Easy Win
by Chrystal D. Giles
(Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $17.99)
978-0-593-17521-7
Following another school fight, African American Lawrence, 12, is suspended, but finds refuge at the local recreation center where learning to play competitive chess gives him new hope. (11-13)

The Order of Things
by Kaija Langley
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-593-53090-0
When Zee, a very talented violinist, enters a new STEAM school, April, his best friend, is left alone in sixth grade. Too soon tragedy strikes. Free verse. (11-14)

A Pocketful of Stars
by Aisha Bushby
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, $19.99)
978-1-7284-5069-8
Thirteen-year-old Safiya doesn’t see eye-to-eye with her mother, but when her mom falls into a coma, Safiya tries to save her through taking action within dreams of her mother’s childhood in Kuwait. (11-13)

Ruptured
by Joanne Rossmassler Fritz
(Holiday House, $17.99) 978-0-8234-5233-0
Thirteen-year-old Claire struggles to cope when her family’s annual vacation in Maine is beset by marital problems and her mother’s sudden life-threatening illness. In verse. (11-13)

School Trip
written and illustrated by Jerry Craft
(Quill Tree Books and HarperAlley/HarperCollins, $24.99) 978-0-06-288554-8
Accepted to art high school, eighth grader Jordan can’t decide whether to go or to stay at the school he attends with his friends. A class trip to Europe helps him decide. Vibrant colorful panels. (11-14)

Simon Sort of Says
by Erin Bow
(Disney•Hyperion/Buena Vista Books, $16.99)
978-1-368-08285-3
Seventh grader Simon and his parents move to a remote Nebraska town to escape notoriety following a school shooting. Humor along with pathos and healing. (11-14)

Squished
by Megan Wagner Lloyd, illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter
(Graphix/Scholastic Press, $24.99) 978-1-338-56894-3
Korean American Avery, 11, loves her six siblings (most of the time) but dreams of having her own room. Colorful, animated panels. (11-13)

Two Tribes
by Emily Bowen Cohen, illustrated by Emily Bowen Cohen, colors by Lark Pien
(Heartdrum and HarperAlley/HarperCollins, $24.99) 978-0-06-298359-6
Mia, Jewish and Muscogee, doesn’t know much about her Native side. Using her bat mitzvah money, she secretly visits her dad to learn more about Native traditions. Mixed-media artwork. (11-14)
The Year My Life Went down the Toilet
by Jake Maia Arlow
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $17.99)
978-0-593-11296-0
Al(ison) Schneider, diagnosed with a bowel disease, worries about poop, accessible bathrooms, her mom, school, friends, and gender identity. Can The Bathroom Club help her set aside her discomfort and focus on others? (11-14)

Fantasy

Bea Wolf
by Zach Weinersmith, illustrated by Boulet
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $19.99) 978-1-250-77629-7
When kids hanging out in an elaborate treehouse are threatened with adulthood by neighbor Grindle, five-year-old Bea Wolf comes to the rescue. Black-and-white cartoon-style artwork. (12-15)

The Boy, the Cloud and the Very Tall Tale
by Heather Smith, illustrated by Alexandra Finkeldey
(Orca Book Publishers, $14.95) 978-1-4598-3603-7
Ewan’s mother died when he was seven; his father disappeared two years later. Now 11, the formerly timid boy determines to find his dad. Black-and-white illustrations. (11-13)

The Girl from Earth’s End
by Tara Dairman, illustrated by Chantal Horeis, map by Christine Engels
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2480-1
Henna leaves her dads and solitary home in the hope of finding a rare seed to make a miracle cure and save her family. Map. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (11-14)

Juniper Harvey and the Vanishing Kingdom
by Nina Varela
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-70678-0
When her family moves yet again, shy loner Juniper must try to adapt. An unexpected friendship with magical Princess Galatea and the discovery of amazing secret powers change Juniper’s life. (11-13)

Miles Morales Suspended (Spider-Man Graphic Novel series/Miles Morales series)
by Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Zeke Peña
A day of in-school suspension forces Miles to use his superpowers to battle a fellow student who is destroying books as a termite. Is Miles up to the challenge? Told in alternating prose and verse. Greyscale illustrations. (11-13)

Once upon a Time in the North (gift edition, His Dark Materials series)
by Philip Pullman, illustrated by Chris Wormell
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $25.99) 978-0-593-65219-0
A tightly plotted adventure featuring aeronaut Lee Scoresby on his first meeting with the armored bear Iorek Byrnison. Atmospheric full-color woodblock-print-style artwork. (11-14)

Something Close to Magic
by Emma Mills
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $19.99)
978-1-6659-2691-1
Aurelie, a humble baker’s apprentice, is recruited to use her Seeking skills to find Elias Allred. What will the consequences be if she succeeds? (13-15)

Unraveller
by Frances Hardinge
(Amulet Books/Abrams, $19.99) 978-1-4197-5931-4
“When consumed by hate, cursers can destroy another person’s life.” Only Kellen can unravel curses, but now he too is cursed. But who would have done that, and why? (12-15)

Folklore and Fairy Tales

Chinese Menu: The History, Myths, and Legends behind Your Favorite Foods
written and illustrated by Grace Lin
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $24.99) 978-0-316-48600-2
Discover the origin stories, myths, folk tales, and traditions behind some of the most popular dishes found on the menus of Chinese restaurants. Colorful mixed-media illustrations. (11-14)
Historical Fiction

**The Cricket War**
by Thọ Phùm and Sandra McTavish
(Kids Can Press, $19.99) 978-1-5253-0655-6

**The Davenports**
by Krystal Marquis
(Dial BYR/Penguin Random House, $19.99) 978-0-593-46333-8
Romantic intrigue is afoot among the teens of the wealthy Chicago Black community in 1910. Inspired by two 20th-century Black entrepreneurs. (13-15)

**Hoops**
written and illustrated by Matt Tavares
(Candlewick Press, $22.99) 978-1-5362-0136-9
In 1975, when her high school finally forms a women’s basketball team, player Judi Wilson quickly discovers the disparities between men’s and women’s sports. Inspired by a true story. Crisp, colorful digital art. Back matter. (12-15)

**Land of Broken Promises**
by Jane Kuo
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-311904-8
Anna (Ai Shi) and her immigrant Taiwanese family work hard to make ends meet in California. Then they discover that their visas have expired. Free verse. (12-14)

**The Lost Year**
by Katherine Marsh, illustrated by Maria Skliarova
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $17.99) 978-1-250-31360-7
Separated from his journalist father during COVID, Matthew, 13, discovers a deeply held family secret about his great-grandmother’s life in Ukraine during the 1930s Holodomor famine. Black-and-white spot illustrations. Back matter. (12-14)

**Nothing Else but Miracles**
by Kate Albus
(Margaret Ferguson Books/Holiday House, $17.99) 978-0-8234-5163-0
When Dory’s father joins the army, her older brother must care for the younger siblings in 1940s lower Manhattan. A lot goes wrong, but Dory never gives up. (11-13)

**The Plot to Kill a Queen**
by Deborah Hopkinson
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-338-66058-6
Aspiring playwright Emilia is assigned to verify whether a rumored plot to assassinate Queen Elizabeth I is linked to Mary Queen of Scots. A witty romp. Black-and-white archival images and spot art. Extensive back matter. (11-14)

**Remember Us**
by Jacqueline Woodson
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-399-54546-7
As mysterious fires destroy her Bushwick community, African American Sage, 12, shares her love of basketball with her friend, Freddy, while also grappling with her father’s death and her sexual identity. (12-15)

**The Secret Sisters**
by Avi
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-35-824808-8
In 1925 Ida leaves her Colorado farm to attend high school. Boarding in town, she discovers friendships, electricity, telephones, movies, and more. Glossary of flapper-era slang. Back matter. (11-14)

**Shira & Esther’s Double Dream Debut**
by Anna E. Jordan
(Chronicle Books, $17.99) 978-1-7972-1565-5
Shira dreams of performing onstage, while Esther dreams of studying Torah. It takes chutzpah for the 12-year-old look-alikes to switch places to pursue their dreams. Glossary. Author’s note. (11-14)

**A Sky Full of Song**
by Susan Lynn Meyer
(Union Square Kids, $16.99) 978-1-4549-4784-4
In 1905, fleeing antisemitic pogroms in Ukraine, 11-year-old Shoshana and her family homestead in North Dakota. She struggles to fit in and tries to hide her Jewish identity. Author’s note, bibliography. (11-14)

**The Umbrella House**
by Colleen Nelson, map by Peggy Collins
(Pajama Press, $18.95) 978-1-77278-279-0
Two creative and resourceful 12-year-olds work to prevent developers from destroying their East Village apartment building. Map. Black-and-white spot art. Archival photograph of the Umbrella House. Sources. (11-13)
Under the Java Moon
by Heather B. Moore, maps by Sheryl Dickert Smith
(Shadow Mountain Publishing, $26.99) 978-1-63993-153-8

Dear Mothman
by Robin Gow
(Amulet Books/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-6440-0
Devastated by the death of Lewis, the only other trans boy in his school, Noah begins writing a letter to Mothman as a way to connect to his friend who believed in the cryptid. In verse. (11-13)

Wild Bird
by Diane Zahler
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $18.99) 978-1-250-83340-2
Rescued by a ship’s crew after surviving a plague, Rype journeys across Europe, meeting troubadours, escaping violence, and, slowly, remembering her past. (12-15)

* World Made of Glass
by Ami Polonsky
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-46204-4
In 1987, seventh-grader Iris is broken-hearted after her father dies of AIDS. When she is confronted by intensifying homophobia, she becomes an activist. (12-14)

Every Day: The Graphic Novel
by David Levithan, illustrated by Dion MBD
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $27.99) 978-0-593-4298-6
A haunting, moody graphic adaptation of Levithan’s 2012 novel about A, who wakes up as a different person every day. Full-color cartoon-style panels. (13-15)

Science Fiction

* Alebrijes
by Donna Barba Higuera, illustrated by David Álvarez
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $18.99) 978-1-64614-263-7
Orphans Leandro and sister Gabi survive the harsh reality of post-apocalyptic California and are the catalysts for ultimately building a better society. Soft, finely detailed black-and-white illustrations. (11-14)

Catch Me If I Fall
by Barry Jonsberg
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $17.99) 978-1-77306-891-6
Twelve-year-old Australian twins experience life in a future time when climate change has ravaged their world. They are very close, until one changes after a serious accident. (11-13)

The Girl Who Fell to Earth
by Patricia Forde
(Little Island, $12.99) 978-1915071439
Fourteen-year-old Aria, from the planet Terros, is sent on a mission to destroy life on Earth, but discovers to her shock that she has human DNA. (11-13)

Where the Lockwood Grows
by Olivia A. Cole
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-44912-0
Twelve-year-old Erie is stuck in a town protected from wildfires by lockwood, an engineered plant that must be cut back every morning by children like her. (11-13)
SPORTS

*Duel*
by Jessixa Bagley, illustrated by Aaron Bagley
(Simon & Schuster BFYR & S, $24.99)
978-1-5344-9655-2
African American sisters Lucy and Gigi argue over everything. Their mother wants them to resolve their differences themselves. Will a public fencing competition help? Clear, colorful panels illuminate characters, subject matter, and plot. (11-14)

POETRY

*Nearer My Freedom: The Interesting Life of Olaudah Equiano by Himself*
by Monica Edinger and Lesley Younge
(Zest Books/Lerner, $38.65) 978-1-7284-5098-8
The 18th-century autobiography of an African from his capture and enslavement as a child to his liberation and life as a free man. In found verse. Archival images. Endnotes, primary sources, annotations. (12-15)

*Something Like Home*
by Andrea Beatriz Arango
(Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $17.99)
978-0-593-56618-3
When her parents are sent to rehab, Laura, 11, is sent to live with an aunt she doesn’t know and finds companionship with a stray dog. Free verse. (11-14)

*The Song of Us*
by Kate Fussner
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06--325694-1
Two seventh grade girls experience the angst of first love and their sexual awakening while dealing with peer pressure and difficult parental issues. (11-13)

INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

Biography and Memoir

*A First Time for Everything*
written and illustrated by Dan Santat
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $22.99)
978-1-62672-415-0
A school trip to Europe helps Dan, 13, come out of his shell and become more confident in himself and his art. Full-color artwork. Back matter. (12-15)

*The In-Between*
by Katie Van Heidrich
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)
978-1-6659-2012-4
In this free-verse memoir, Katie, a biracial teen, looks back on the time when her sister, brother, and divorced mother moved into an extended-stay motel room following their latest eviction. Family photos. (11-13)

*Muzoon: A Syrian Refugee Speaks Out*
by Muzoon Almellehan, with Wendy Pearlman
Fleeing from a Syrian village to Jordanian refugee camps and finally resettling in England, Muzoon becomes an internationally recognized advocate for educating refugee children, especially girls. (11-14)

*My Selma: True Stories of a Southern Childhood at the Height of the Civil Rights Movement*
by Willie Mae Brown
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-0-374-39023-5
An intimate look at growing up Black in Selma, Alabama, where Brown joined her mother at church to hear Martin Luther King Jr. speak. (12-15)

*This Boy: The Early Lives of John Lennon & Paul McCartney*
by Ilene Cooper
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $17.99)
978-0-451-47585-5
When Clouds Touch Us
by Thanhhà Lại
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-0630-4700-6
Twelve-year-old Vietnamese refugee Hà and her older brothers adapted to life in Alabama, but would she be able to navigate a new environment when her mother moved them to Texas? In verse. (11-13)

Work with What You Got
by Zion Clark and James S. Hirsch, photographed by Mada Abdelhamid/Real Deal
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2421-4
Born without legs to an incarcerated woman who surrendered him to the Ohio foster care system, Clark defied expectations and became an accomplished competitive athlete and motivational speaker. Black-and-white photographs. (12-15) Mature content

Ecology

Breaking the Mold: Changing the Face of Climate Science (Books for a Better Earth Series)
by Dana Alison Levy
(Holiday House, $22.99) 978-0-8234-4971-2
Sixteen inspiring profiles of environmental scientists from diverse backgrounds, and seven brief sketches of non-scientist environmental activists. Informational sidebars. Color photos and spot art. DIY projects. Back matter. (11-13)

Grizzly Bears: Guardians of the Wilderness (Orca Wild series)
by Frances Backhouse
(Orca Book Publishers, $24.95) 978-1-4598-2854-4
Learn how these giant bears, an important umbrella species, can peacefully coexist with people and how they are affected by the climate crisis. Color photographs. Glossary, sources, index. (11-13)

Health

Roads to Family: All the Ways We Come to Be
by Rachel HS Ginocchio, illustrated by Mel Latthitham
(Twenty-First Century Books, $37.32) 978-1-72842-454-5
Straightforward prose and interviews describe various ways of making a family. Clear, colorful diagrams. Glossary, source notes, index. (12-15)

Welcome to Consent: How to Say No, When to Say Yes, and How to Be the Boss of Your Body (Welcome to Your Body series)
by Yumi Stynes and Dr. Melissa Kang, illustrated by Jenny Latham
(Walker Books/Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-2617-1
Advice and tools for managing maturing bodies, minds, and emotions in a variety of situations. Includes a list of helpful organizations. Cheery, digital illustrations. (12-15) Mature content

History

Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in World War II
by Daniel James Brown
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-46566-0
Spotlight on three American boys who served with valor in the racially segregated, ultimately legendary, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, as their families faced stateside racist hysteria. Archival photos and maps. Index, sources. Young readers edition. (11-14)

Winner of the 2024 Flora Stieglitz Straus Award

Harboring Hope: The True Story of How Henny Sinding Helped Denmark’s Jews Escape the Nazis
by Susan Hood
(Harper/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-321448-4
During World War II, Sinding and other Danes risked their lives to smuggle Jews to safety in Sweden. Free verse, concrete poetry, cinquain, and more. Archival photos. Poetry notes, detailed sources. (11-14)

The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity
by Nicholas Day, illustrated by Brett Helquist
The Monkey Trial:
John Scopes and the Battle over Teaching Evolution
by Anita Sanchez
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-35-845769-5
After giving a biology lesson in Tennessee in 1925, Scopes was arrested and put on trial for the crime of teaching Darwin’s theory of evolution. Extensive back matter. (11-14)

More Than a Dream:
The Radical March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom
by Yohuru Williams and Michael G. Long
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $21.99)
978-0-374-39174-4
An account of the little-known work behind the historic civil rights march in 1963, including information about how women were ignored despite the contributions they made. Archival images and photographs. (12-15)

* Of All Tribes:
American Indians and Alcatraz
by Joseph Bruchac
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $19.99)
978-1-4197-5719-8
From 1969 to 1971, a group of Native American activists occupied the former Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. What led to this occupation? What is its legacy today? Archival images and photos. Extensive back matter. (12-15)

Race against Death:
The Greatest POW Rescue of World War II (True Stories in Focus series)
by Deborah Hopkinson
(Scholastic Focus/Scholastic, $19.99)
978-1-33874-616-7
Brief bios of brave Americans and Filipinos who suffered starvation, disease, and brutality defending the Philippines against the Japanese following the attack on Pearl Harbor. Black-and-white archival photographs. Back matter. (13-15)

Shipwrecked!:
Diving for Hidden Time Capsules on the Ocean Floor
by Martin W. Sandler
(Astra Young Readers/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $24.99)
978-1-66260-204-7
Some shipwrecks are discovered by accident. Finding others requires collaboration and patience, unraveling mysteries, and waiting for treacherous seas to calm. Sidebars. Archival images and photos. Diagrams and maps. Sources. (11-14)

We Are Your Children Too:
Black Students, White Supremacists, and the Battle for America’s Schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia
by P. O’Connell Pearson
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $17.99)
978-1-6659-0139-0
In 1951 African American students in a segregated school district went on strike to advocate for equal facilities. Years of legal battles resulted as the county refused to allow integration. Interview. Archival photos. Back matter. (11-14)

Law and Justice

How to Be a (Young) Antiracist
by Ibram X. Kendi and Nic Stone
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, $19.99)
978-0-593-46160-0
Through second-person narration, Stone, a young adult author, masterfully adapts and enlivens Kendi’s How to Be an Antiracist for middle and high school students. Excellent endnotes. (13-15)

Reference

What It’s Like to Be a Bird:
From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing—What Birds Are Doing, and Why
written and illustrated by David Allen Sibley
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $19.99)
978-0-593-43018-7
A renowned ornithologist shares his exquisite, detailed renderings of birds and encyclopedic knowledge of their unique characteristics and commonalities. Three hundred color illustrations. Tips on bird identification. Young readers edition. (12-15)

STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

* The Big Backyard:
The Solar System beyond Pluto
written and illustrated by Ron Miller
(Twenty-First Century Books/Lerner, $37.32)
978-1-72847-534-9
A clearly written and beautifully illustrated introduction to the solar system and what lies beyond it. Photorealistic black-and-white illustrations. NASA photos. Bibliography, glossary, index. (12-15)
Big Bangs and Black Holes:
A Graphic Novel Guide to the Universe
by Jérémie Francfort and Herji, with Michel Mayor,
illustrated by Herji
translated from the French by Jeffrey K. Butt
(Helvetiq, $24.99) 978-3-907293-75-1
A lively, humorous, accessible explanation of extremely complex ideas about the universe. Detailed drawings illustrate the phenomena. (11-14)

Exoplanets:
A Guide to the Worlds outside Our Solar System
by Wendy Bjazevich, illustrated by David Miles
(Bushel & Peck Books, $19.99) 978-1-63819-098-1
Swirling watercolors and geometric shapes provide a visual guidebook to the over 5,000 planets outside our solar system. Sources. (12-15)

Learning to Be Wild:
How Animals Achieve Peace, Create Beauty, and Raise Families
written and photographed by Carl Safina
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $19.99)
978-1-25083-825-4
FICTION

Adventure and Mystery

At the Speed of Lies
by Cindy L. Otis
(Scholastic Press, $19.99) 978-1-338-80676-2
High school junior Quinn has dreams of college and beyond. Can the new school club focused on missing children raise the profile of her Instagram account? (13-16)

The Lake House
by Sarah Beth Durst
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-321407-1
Sent to an island for summer camp, three teenage girls discover that they have been abandoned. Facing numerous dangers, they struggle to survive. (14-16) Mature content

Promise Boys
by Nick Brooks
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-86697-4
A preparatory school known for its strict discipline is rocked by the murder of its principal. Three students, all boys of color, are arrested, then join forces to prove their innocence. (14-17)

A Starlet’s Secret to a Sensational Afterlife
by Kendall Kulper
(Holiday House, $19.99) 978-0-8234-5361-0
Someone has been killing aspiring actresses like Henrietta, and she can speak to their ghosts. Can she and her frenemy Declan bring the killer to justice? (14-17)

We’ll Never Tell
by Wendy Heard
(Christy Ottaviano Books/Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-48233-2
Four classmates who sneak into buildings for their YouTube channel run into danger at a long-neglected house of dead movie stars. (15-17) Mature Content

Anthologies and Collections

The Collectors: Stories
edited by A. S. King
(Dutton Books/Penguin Random House, $19.99) 978-0-593-62028-1
Pilfered items from other people’s collections, empty pools for vertical skateboarding, and types of fire are among the very unusual collections explored in this anthology. (14-17)

edited by Karen Strong
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-52509-8
Eighteen coming-of-age stories about nerds of African descent who traverse the intersections of self and gender identity with the added trauma of discrimination. (15-17)

Transmogrify!:
14 Fantastical Tales of Trans Magic
edited by g. haron davis
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-321879-6
Stories about claiming trans and nonbinary identity include science fiction, horror, and fantasy. Characters discover the magic that lives within themselves and the power to move forward. (14-17) Mature content

Coming of Age

All That It Ever Meant: A Novel
by Blessing Musariri
(Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, $18.95) 978-1-324-03095-9
While grieving the death of her mother, 14-year-old Matiponesha shares her story with an invisible spirit guide as the family travels from England to Zimbabwe to mourn. (14-17)
Always the Almost
by Edward Underhill
(Wednesday Books/St. Martin's, $18.99)
978-1-250-83520-8
Miles, a 16-year-old trans boy, resolves to win the Tri-State Piano Competition and find love, but can he support his friends and find joy in being his true self? (15-18)

And Other Mistakes
by Erika Turner
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $19.99)
978-1-250-83484-3
With concurrent stresses of living in a violent home and having been outed at church, African American Aaliyah, 17, a cross-country phenom, needs to create a safety plan for herself. (16-18) Mature content

An Appetite for Miracles
by Laekan Zea Kemp
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-46173-3
Complexities of family life, cultural expectations, challenges of young love, and issues of social justice weave together in this story of two young Mexican American teenagers. In verse. (14-16)

★ At the End of the World
by Nadia Mikail
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $19.99)
978-1-250-86809-1
If the world were about to end, how and with whom would you spend your remaining days? A profound, universal exploration of grief and zest for life. Set in Malaysia. (13-16)

Be That Way
written and illustrated by Hope Larson
(Margaret Ferguson Books/Holiday House, $22.99)
978-0-8234-4761-9
Christine feels unseen next to her best friend Landry and resolves to chronicle her own path to becoming a person with “shine.” Frank and funny. Richly illustrated with intricate, varied artwork. (16-18) Mature content

The Boy You Always Wanted
by Michelle Quach
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-303842-4
When Chinese Vietnamese American Francine overhears her dying grandfather express despair over not having a male heir, she determines to find him an adoptive one. (14-17) Mature content

Chloe and the Kaishao Boys
by Mae Coyiuto
(G. P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-46163-1
Before Chloe leaves Manila for college in California, her father and aunts set her up on arranged dates to try to keep her closer to home. Tagalog glossary. (14-17)

Different for Boys
by Patrick Ness, illustrated by Tea Bendix
(Walker Books/Candlewick Press, $18.99)
978-1-5362-2889-2
High schooler Ant struggles to define and understand friendship, romance, and sexuality. Spare text, rough pencil sketches, and redacted phrases raise the emotional power of the story. (15-18) Mature content

Her Good Side
by Rebekah Weatherspoon
(Razorbill/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-593-46530-1
African American Bethany and Korean American Jacob agree to practice dating each other so they’ll be ready for the real thing when it comes. But what’s really real? Told in alternating voices. (14-17)

Hungry Ghost
written and illustrated by Victoria Ying, colors by Lynette Wong
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/ Holtzbrinck, $24.99) 978-1-250-76699-1
Valerie Chu internalizes her mother’s perfectionism and weight obsession. Val’s friends and crush are unaware of her bulimia until a crisis forces her to seek help. Graceful digital pastel panels. Resources. (14-17) Mature content

I Am Not Alone
by Francisco X. Stork
(Scholastic Press, $19.99) 978-1-338-73626-7
Alberto, an undocumented immigrant from Mexico, has a mental illness, which makes him a suspect in a killing. But he finds an immediate and powerful connection and mutual support with a teen from a vastly different world. (15-18)

Imogen, Obviously
by Becky Albertalli
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-304587-3
Straight ally Imogen can’t get her bearings when faced with best friend Gretchen’s expectations and strict rules about being in queer spaces. (16-18)
**An Impossible Thing to Say**
by Arya Shahi
Omid, a shy Iranian American, tries to find his place after 9/11. Will a school play and a family crisis force him to become his true self? (14-17)

**The Love Match**
by Priyanka Taslim
(Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster, $19.99) 978-1-66590110-9
Zahra's matchmaking Bengali mother courts a rich family with a handsome son, but neither Zahra nor Harun are interested in dating. A charming but poor, parentless boy triggers complications. (14-17)

**The Making of Yolanda la Bruja**
by Lorraine Avila
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $19.99) 978-1-64614-343-0
Bronx high school sophomore Yolanda, a social justice activist, is learning to listen to the ancient spirits who guide her. When a white student enrolls, she senses violence. (14-17)

**The Melancholy of Summer**
by Louisa Onomé
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-82356-4
Nigerian Canadian Summer is spiraling downward, abandoned by family and community. Can she break through her barriers and ask allies for help? (15-18)

**The Minus-One Club**
by Kekla Magoon
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-80620-8
Kermit has just lost his sister. He is invited to join a secret high school support group for the bereaved, but how are they dealing with their grief? (14-17)

**Monstrous:**
*A Transracial Adoption Story*
written and illustrated by Sarah Myer
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $25.99) 978-1-250-26879-2
Adopted from South Korea by white parents, Sarah is bullied and ridiculed at school. Unable to suppress her anger, she finds solace in art, anime, and manga. Bold, emotional artwork. (14-17)

**The Moonlit Vine**
by Elizabeth Santiago
(Tu Books/Lee & Low Books, $24.95) 978-1-64379-580-5
Taina (aka Ty), learns about her rich family history going back several centuries in Puerto Rico, which empowers her to lift up her current-day family and community. (13-16)

**Nigeria Jones**
by Ibi Zoboi
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-288884-6
As the daughter of a charismatic Black leader, 16-year-old Nigeria is expected to fill the role of her absent mother. Homeschooled, she searches for freedom at a private Quaker school. (14-17) Mature content

**Ode to My First Car**
by Robin Gow
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $20.99) 978-0-374-38843-0
Taking a job at a nursing home to pay for the damages to her car, Claire, bisexual, meets Lena, an 85-year-old lesbian, and sees connections in their lives. In verse. Black-and-white occasional illustrations. (14-16)

**Picture-Perfect Boyfriend**
by Becky Dean
(Delacorte Press/Random House, $12.99) 978-0-953-56991-7
Lying to her family about a fake boyfriend, Kenzie is surprised when “Jacob” turns up as the family arrives in Hawaii. Complications ensue. (14-17)

**Planning Perfect**
by Haley Neil
(Bloomsbury, $19.99) 978-1-5476-0749-5
Trying to make sense of her asexuality, Felicity attempts to find something to control: her mother’s wedding. Her plans are perfect—or are they? (13-15)

**Rana Joon and the One and Only Now**
by Shideh Etaat
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $19.99) 978-1-6659-1762-9
As she approaches high school graduation in 1996, Rana struggles with her sexuality, the expectations of her Iranian family, and her best friend’s death. (14-17) Mature content
**Ryan and Avery**
by David Levithan
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-399-55309-7
A gay boy and a transgender boy fall in love, contrary to mainstream expectations, while their parents choose very different paths to protect and support them. (14-17)

**This Time It’s Real**
by Ann Liang
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-338-82711-8
Writer Eliza and actor Caz—two talented seniors at an International School in Beijing—secretly share their gifts to boost college acceptance chances. Friendship, then unexpected romance, follow. (13-16)

**True True**
by Don P. Hooper
Attending a Manhattan private school, Brooklynite Gil is suspended on his first day because of a racist incident and must fight against all odds to thrive. (14-17)

**The Unstoppable Bridget Bloom**
by Allison L. Bitz
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-3256670-4
Enrolled in a boarding school’s prestigious music program, a brash, self-absorbed, musically talented teen learns there is more to music and life than center stage. (14-17)

**Warrior Girl Unearthed**
by Angelina Boulley
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-76658-8
Perry’s summer internship places her squarely in the midst of attempts to repatriate her ancestors’ remains from collectors and entangles her in the frightening disappearances of young, local Native women. (13-16) Mature content

**When a Brown Girl Flees**
by Aamna Qureshi
(Tu Books/Lee & Low Books, $23.95) 978-1-64379-505-8
Feeling suffocated by her mother, 18-year-old Pakistani American Zahra flees from her impending marriage in California. Through the local masjid, she finds a new community in Long Island. (14-17)

**When You Wish upon a Lantern**
by Gloria Chao
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-46435-9
Friendship between Liya and Kai in Chicago’s Chinatown frays when their fathers feud. Creating a lantern festival to honor Liya’s late grandmother helps them reunite. Mandarin glossary. (14-17)

**Where You See Yourself**
by Claire Forrest
(Scholastic Press, $19.99) 978-1-338-81383-8
Effie, a wheelchair user because of cerebral palsy, has always turned to her mother to help with disability-based issues. In senior year of high school, she begins to speak out for herself. (15-18)

**Contemporary Issues**

**Borderless**
by Jennifer De Leon
(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $19.99) 978-1-6659-0416-2
Sixteen-year-old Maya, a scholarship student at Salomé Fashion Institute in Guatemala City, ignored her mother’s warning about gang members invading their neighborhood. Now she must suffer the consequences of that decision. (15-18)

**Dear Medusa**
by Olivia A. Cole
(Labyrinth Road/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-48573-6
After being abused by a popular teacher, 16-year-old bisexual Alicia struggles with body image, promiscuity, and sexual identity, but eventually finds allies in unexpected places. Free verse. (15-18) Mature content

**An Echo in the City**
by K. X. Song
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-39682-0
As she protests against a proposed Chinese extradition bill in Hong Kong in 2019, Phoenix questions both her romance with Kai and her parents’ dream that she attend college in the United States. (14-17)
**Enter the Body**
by Joy McCullough
(Dutton Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-40675-5
In the trap room beneath the stage, three Shakespearean characters—Juliet, Ophelia, and Cordelia—recount their stories, revising them as they wish they’d been told. (14-17) Mature content

**Fire from the Sky**
by Moa Backe Åstot
translated from the Swedish by Eva Apelqvist
(Em Querido Books/Levine Querido, $19.99) 978-1-374-38888-1
Änte, a Sámi reindeer herder in Northern Sweden, finds it increasingly hard to fight his feelings for his friend Erik. Can he overcome cultural prejudice and find happiness? (15-17)

**Forever Is Now**
by Mariama J. Lockington
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-0-374-38888-1
Sadie, a Black teen struggling with anxiety, witnesses a violent false arrest. She spirals into agoraphobia, but an online community of activists helps her find her voice. Back matter. (14-17)

**I Kick and I Fly**
by Ruchira Gupta
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-338-82509-1
Heera, a South Asian Indian teenager, escapes being sold into the sex trade by learning kung fu to protect herself and others. Endnotes. (16-18) Mature content

**Plan A**
by Deb Caletti
(Labyrinth Road/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-593-48554-5
The Texas law prohibiting abortion after six weeks causes 16-year-old Ivy, pregnant after a nonconsensual encounter, to travel to Oregon with her boyfriend for a legal abortion. (15-18) Mature content

**Run for Your Life**
by Jane Mitchell
(Little Island Books, P $9.99) 978-1-912417-85-8
Azari and her mother have fled the brutality of their homeland. Landing in Ireland, they struggle to survive among other immigrants in a new society. (13-16)

**Your Plantation Prom Is Not Okay**
by Kelly McWilliams
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $19.99) 978-0-316-44993-9
In Louisiana, Harriet battles racism and her own rage monster when a white woman purchases the plantation next door and transforms it into a special events venue. Author’s note. (14-17)

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**Family/School/Community**

**All Alone with You**
by Amelia Diane Coombs
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $18.99) 978-1-5344-9357-5
High school senior Eloise reluctantly volunteers to help the elderly in order to beef up her college application and unexpectedly finds friendship—and possibly more—with fellow volunteer Austin and 73-year-old Marianne. (14-17)

**All That’s Left to Say**
by Emery Lord
(Bloomsbury, $19.99) 978-1-68119-941-2
Hannah transfers to private school in senior year, solely focused on finding the dealer who sold her beloved late cousin Fentanyl-laced drugs. Will she find the truth she needs? (15-18)

**Brighter Than the Sun**
by Daniel Aleman
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-70477-2
Sixteen-year-old Soledad, who has American citizenship, crosses the border into the U.S. weekly to work to help support her Tijuana family and to attend school. How to shoulder great burdens while carving out one’s identity? (14-16)

**Fake Dates and Mooncakes**
by Sher Lee
(Underlined/Penguin Random House, P $11.99) 978-0-593-56995-5
Grieving the loss of his mom, 17-year-old Dylan meets Theo, an upper-class first love, while trying to win the mooncake competition to save his aunt’s beleaguered Singaporean Chinese take-out restaurant. (16-18)
**Gather**
by Kenneth M. Cadow
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-3111-3
Tenth-grader Ian deals with his mother’s addiction while trying to fix up and hold on to his family’s dilapidated home and to keep the dog he’s not supposed to have. (14-17) Mature content

**Give Me a Sign**
by Anna Sortino
(G. P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-3379-6
Can a job at a summer camp for deaf and blind kids help Lilah, 17, fully accept her own severe deafness and find a place in the Deaf community? (13-16)

**Hopeless in Hope**
by Wanda John-Kehewin
(Highwater Press/Portage & Main Press, P $16.95) 978-1-774-92083-1
When her grandmother is hospitalized, 14-year-old Eva, a Cree girl from British Columbia, winds up in a group home, separated from her four-year-old brother, alcoholic mother, and beloved cat. (14-17)

**I’d Rather Burn Than Bloom**
by Shannon C. F. Rogers
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-8-4566-5
After the death of her mother, Filipina American Marisol spirals into grief and regret over their difficult relationship. Can a new friendship help Marisol process her loss? (15-18)

**Imposter Syndrome and Other Confessions of Alejandra Kim**
by Patricia Park
(Crown/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $19.99) 978-0-593-56337-3
After Papi’s death, senior Alejandra Kim doesn’t feel as if she belongs at her Manhattan prep school or her immigrant Queens neighborhood. Can she escape to her dream college? (13-16)

**Look on the Bright Side**
by Lily Williams and Karen Schneemann, illustrated by Lily Williams
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $22.99) 978-1-250-83410-2
As BFFs Christine, Brit, Abby, and Sasha begin their junior year in high school, they must deal with various challenges, such as grades, boyfriends, girlfriends, and sexuality. Clear, focused panels. (14-17)

**Only This Beautiful Moment**
by Abdi Nazemian
(Balzar + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-303937-7
When three generations of Jafarzadeh men are united in Tehran, their stories and secrets are revealed. Elegantly told in alternating narratives. (13-16) Mature content

**The Quiet and the Loud**
by Helena Fox
(Dial Books/Penguin Random House, $19.99) 978-0-593-35458-2
Georgia’s life is burdened with weighty responsibilities for family and friends. Can she finally express her own needs? (13-16)

**Saints of the Household**
by Ari Tison
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-0-374-38949-9
Brothers Max and Jay, of Costa Rican Bribri descent, each struggle to process the aftermath of violence in their small Minnesota town. Alternating perspectives told in prose and verse. (15-17)

**Seven Percent of Ro Devereux**
by Ellen O’Clover
(HarperTeen/Harper Collins, $18.99) 978-0-06-325503-6
A high school nerd invents an app that predicts details about a person’s life with 93% accuracy. It goes viral, affecting many lives, including hers and her ex-best friend’s. (15-17)

**Time Out**
by Sean Hayes and Todd Milliner, with Carolyn Greenwald
(Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-5344-9262-2
At a pep rally in a basketball-obsessed rural Georgia town, the high school team’s captain announces he is gay. Cheers turn to jeers. (13-16)

**Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass: The Graphic Novel**
based on the novel by Meg Medina, adapted and illustrated by Mel Valentine Vargas
(Candlewick Press, $19.99) 978-1-5362-2477-1
Piddy is having a difficult time adjusting to teenagerhood and a new high school. Bullying and violence from a girl gang threaten to derail her goals. Blue, grey, black, and white pastel panels. (14-17)
Fantasy

**The Buried and the Bound**
by Rochelle Hassan  
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $19.99)  
978-1-2508-2220-8  
Aziza, Leo, and Tristan confront their families’ secrets and betrayals to battle the black magic that violently erodes the boundaries of the human and fairy realms. (15-18)

**Champion of Fate (Heromaker series)**
by Kendare Blake  
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)  
978-0-06-297720-5  
Adopted by the Aristene, immortal female warriors with magical powers, Reed trains as a fighter, despite knowing her destiny lies in championing a hero who may die. (14-17)

**A Door in the Dark**
by Scott Reintgen  
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster, $19.99)  
978-1-6659-868-8  
Ren is a talented scholarship student at an exclusive wizarding school. A spell goes awry, trapping her and five others in unknown territory. Ren’s survival depends on trusting them. (14-17)

**Flowerheart**
by Catherine Bakewell, illustrated by Yejin Park  
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, $19.99)  
978-0-06-321459-0  
Clara must learn to control dangerous magic to save her father and, with her childhood friend, find an antidote to the potion afflicting their community. Graceful black-and-white spot art. (13-16)

**The Isles of the Gods**
by Amie Kaufman  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Roaring Brook Press/Children's Books/PRH, $19.99)  
978-0-593-47928-5  
When Selly’s ship is boarded by a prince on a secret diplomatic mission, events lead to danger, treachery, and romance. Can Selly learn to control her magic? (14-17)

**Nightbirds**
by Kate J. Armstrong, maps by Svera Dorosheva  
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, $19.99)  
978-0-593-46327-7  
In Simta, where magic is publicly forbidden but privately embraced, three girls with magical power learn they are not alone and can change their world. Detailed maps. (14-17)

**Once There Was**
by Kiyash Monsef  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S, $18.99)  
978-1-6659-2850-2  
Following the sudden death of her Iranian father, Marjan inherits his veterinary clinic, discovering his patients included mythical animals. She resolves to uncover the mystery surrounding his life. (13-16)

**Ravensong**
by Cayla Fay  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S, $19.99)  
978-1-6659-0529-9  
Demi-god Neve has spent lifetimes defending the mortal world against demons from hell. Then she meets Alexandria, a human, and falls in love. (13-16)

**Spice Road**
by Maiya Ibrahim  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $19.99)  
978-0-593-12696-7  
From the hidden desert city of Qalia, protected for a millennium by secret spice magic, Imani, an expert swordfighter, sets out to recover her brother from a distant outer world. Detailed map. (14-17)

**This Dark Descent**
by Kalyn Josephson, illustrated by Virginia Allyn  
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $20.99)  
978-0-250-81236-0  
Mikira bets everything to ride in a dangerous horse race, aided by a powerful but persecuted enchanter and a mysterious noble sponsor. Black-and-white spot art and map. (14-16)

**A Little Like Waking**
written and illustrated by Adam Rex  
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, $20.99)  
978-1-250-62191-7  
A near accident and a new boy in her picture-perfect life cause Zelda to believe that she is dreaming. What will happen to her dreamworld if she awakens? Full-page black-and-white illustrations. (13-15)
Folklore and Fairy Tales

D Magic Has No Borders
edited by Sona Charaipotra and Samira Ahmed
(Harper Teen/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-320826-1
Fourteen stories drawn from folklore and legends of South Asia are reimagined to create powerful female characters and critique imperialism. (13-16)

M Savage Her Reply
by Deirdre Sullivan, illustrated by Karen Vaughan
(Little Island, P $15.99) 978-1-912417-67-4
Forced to marry her sister’s widower, Aife takes vengeance on her blameless stepchildren. Challenging, emotionally raw retelling of a well-known Irish fairy tale. Spare, contemplative ink illustrations. (15-18) Mature content

D Spin
by Rebecca Caprara, illustrated by Deb JJ Lee
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $19.99)
978-1-6659-0619-7

D ★ We Are All So Good at Smiling
by Amber McBride
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $19.99)
978-1-250-78038-6
Whimsy, a Black teen, has been hospitalized again for severe clinical depression. When her friend Faerry becomes lost in the Forest, she must face the truth that has been buried all along. (15-18) Mature content

Historical Fiction

★ Artifice
by Sharon Cameron
(Scholastic Press, $19.99) 978-1-338-81395-1
Isa, desperate for money, decides to sell the Nazis a fake Rembrandt drawn by her father. Can his forgeries be put to other uses? Based on historical figures. (13-16)

D The Blackwoods
by Brandy Colbert
(Balzar + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-309159-7
When legendary actress Blossom Blackwood dies, family secrets emerge. An account of a Black Hollywood dynasty told from multiple generations’ points of view. (14-16)

The Edelweiss Pirates:
Teenage Rebels in Nazi Germany
by Dirk Reinhardt, introduction by Michael Rosen, translated from the German by Rachel Ward
(Pushkin Children’s Press, P $13.95) 978-1-78269-309-3
Unorganized groups of teenagers, mostly around Cologne, Germany, who refused to participate in the Hitler Youth, eventually become resistance fighters against the Nazi regime. Historical notes, glossary. (14-17)

D ★ For Lamb
by Lesa Cline-Ransome
(Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5015-2
Multiple narrators tell the heart-wrenching story of a Black family in 1930s Jackson, Mississippi, where an interracial friendship leads to tragic consequences. (14-17) Mature content

I’ll Tell You No Lies
by Amanda McCrina
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $18.99)
978-0-374-43909-0
When Shelby’s military intelligence officer father is assigned to interrogate a Soviet defector, she becomes entangled with the young pilot and must decide whom to trust. (14-17)

D An Improbable Season
by Rosalyn Eves
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $19.99)
978-0-374-39018-1
In Regency England, three young women with diverse intellectual and artistic interests descend on London for their debut balls. Nothing happens in the way they had hoped. (14-17)

D ★ In the Tunnel
by Julie Lee
(Holiday House, $18.99) 978-0-8234-5039-8
Stuck in a tunnel during the Korean War, book-loving 16-year-old Myung-gi looks back on his life with harrowing and touching ruminations on family, love, and death. (16-18)
Magda Standing
by Christine Fallert Kessides
(Bold Story Press, P $19.99) 978-1-954-805-385
Magda and her large loving German American family face the horrors of World War I and the Spanish flu epidemic. Yet she remains ready to love and learn. (14-17)

One Last Shot:
The Story of Wartime Photographer Gerda Taro
by Kip Wilson
(Versify/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-325168-7
A young Jewish German girl’s lifelong dream of becoming a photographer is realized when she travels to Spain to document the Spanish Civil War. Free verse. Back matter. (14-17)

Pedro & Daniel
by Federico Erebia, illustrated by Julie Kwon
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $19.99)
978-1-64614-304-7
Pedro and Daniel are Latinx brothers who depend on each other for survival. Set in Ohio from 1968 to 1993. Includes dichos (proverbs) in Spanish. Emotive black-and-white illustrations. (14-17)

The Prince and the Coyote
by David Bowles, illustrated by Amanda Mijangos
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $19.99)
978-1-64614-177-7

Stateless
by Elizabeth Wein
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $18.99) 978-0-316-9124-9
Stella, 17, is the only female pilot in a 1937 air race of European teens. When one of the pilots is killed in midair, could Stella be next? Bibliography, notes. (14-17)

Magical Realism

The Family Fortuna
by Lindsay Eagar
(Candlewick Press, $19.99) 978-0-7636-9235-3
A rollicking tale of a circus family, starring Avita, a girl with a beak, razor teeth, and feathers, whose act astounds her audience. But is a circus performer all she is? (15-18)

I Loved You in Another Life
by David Arnold
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $19.99)
978-0-593-52478-7
A mysterious singer draws lovers together throughout time, most recently aspiring actress Shosh, gutted by her sister’s death, and Evan, son of an absentee father. (14-17)

Throwback
by Maurene Goo
(Zando Young Readers/Zando, $19.99)
978-1-63893-020-4
After her grandmother’s sudden illness and an argument with her mother, Korean American Samantha is transported 30 years back in time. Can she repair her family’s relationships? (14-17)

Science Fiction

Gone Wolf
by Amber McBride
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $17.99)
978-1-250-85049-2
Imogen, a Black girl, lives in two worlds and two times—or does she? Solving the puzzle might help her heal. Does human freedom hang in the balance? (14-17)

The Infinity Particle
written and illustrated by Wendy Xu
(Quill Tree Books and HarperAlley/HarperCollins, $26.99) 978-0-06-295577-7
Aspiring scientist Clementine has just moved to Mars to work in an acclaimed AI lab. When she meets Kye, a robot, she senses an emotional connection which shouldn’t be there. Detailed pastel pink and blue panels. (13-16)

The Ruby Code
by Jessica Khoury
(Scholastic Press, $17.99) 978-1-338-85928-7
Ash retreats to VR to escape his unhappy home, but the reality in a fantasy game overlaps with real life, bringing profound complexities and dire possibilities. (13-16)

Star Splitter
by Matthew J. Kirby
(Dutton Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99)
978-0-7352-3166-5
Six years after her scientist parents left Earth in 2193, Jessica, 17, is transported 14 light years away to reunite with them. The plan goes horribly wrong. (14-17)
**Stars, Hide Your Fires**
by Jessica Mary Best
(Quirk Books, $18.99) 978-1-68369-351-2
Cass, earning a living as a pickpocket, travels across the galaxy to crash the Ascension Ball. After the emperor is murdered, she becomes a suspect and joins the Rebellion. (14-17)

**Under This Forgetful Sky**
by Lauren Yero
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $19.99) 978-1-6659-1379-9
Rumi lives a privileged life in Upper City. Crossing the border to find a cure for his father’s illness, he meets Paz, who has allied with the terrorists to betray him. (14-17) Mature content

**Sports**

**Rez Ball**
by Byron Graves
(Heartdrum/HarperCollins, $19.99) 978-0-06-316037-8
Can sophomore Tre lead his Minnesota reservation’s varsity basketball team to their first state victory, or will he be overwhelmed in his attempt to step into his late brother’s shoes? (14-17)

**POETRY**

**Winner of the 2024 Claudia Lewis Award**

**Kin: Rooted in Hope**
by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Jeffery Boston Weatherford
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99) 978-1-6659-1362-1
Through free verse, the author seeks and shares the story of her family tree, which has been shaped by enslavement and liberation. Expressive black-and-white scratchwork illustrations. (15-18)

**INFORMATIONAL BOOKS**

**Activities**

* Writing in Color:
  **Fourteen Writers on the Lessons We’ve Learned**
edited by Nafiza Azad and Melody Simpson
(Margaret K. McElroy Books/Simon & Schuster, $19.99) 978-1-6659-2564-8
A generous, practical, and inspirational guide for fledgling writers, particularly those from historically marginalized groups. Covers craft, publishing, pitfalls, perseverance, and being true to who you are. (14-17)

* You:
  **The Story**
by Ruta Sepetys
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $19.99) 978-0-593-52438-1
An acclaimed novelist interweaves practical, encouraging advice on the craft of writing with examples that use episodes from her own life story. Writing prompts. References. (14-17)

**Biography and Memoir**

**Disappearing Act:**
**A True Story**
by Giordan Castle
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $20.99) 978-0-374-38977-2
Giordan needs a safe space to be herself after her father’s incarceration, but her family’s drastic change and the hatred between her new boyfriend and her best friend leaves her reeling. In verse. (13-16)

**Family Style:**
**Memories of an American from Vietnam**
written and illustrated by Thien Pham
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $25.99) 978-1-2508-0971-1
A Vietnamese refugee recalls his family’s journey to the United States through the different foods they experienced along the way. Colorful, emotionally vivid artwork. (13-16)
From Here
by Luma Mufleh
The author traces her journey as a privileged child of a wealthy, prominent Jordanian family on her search for asylum in the United States due to her sexuality. (15-18)

A Mighty Long Way:
My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School
by Carlotta Walls LaNier, with Lisa Frazier Page
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $17.99) 978-0-593-48675-7
One of the original nine Black students to integrate an all-White school recalls her experience of having to fight hostile forces for an education. Archival photos. Source notes. Young readers edition. (13-16)

A Story I Am, Was, and Never Will Be:
A Speculative Memoir of Transracial Adoption
by Shannon Gibney
(Dutton Books/Penguin Random House, $18.99) 978-0-593-11199-4
In this blended autobiography/fantasy, Shannon, a teen transracial adoptee, finds her birth mother, but not her Black birth father, already deceased. Archival photographs and documents. Resource list. (15-18)

In Limbo
written and illustrated by Deb J J Lee
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $24.99) 978-1-250-25265-4
The author-illustrator recounts her struggles as a Korean American immigrant battling mental health issues and a demanding, rage-prone mother. Captivating digital graphic art. (14-17) Mature content

A Long Time Coming:
A Lyrical Biography of Race in America from Ona Judge to Barack Obama
by Ray Anthony Shepard, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $19.99) 978-1-6626-8066-3

This Indian Kid:
A Native American Memoir
by Eddie Chuculane, map by Jim McMahon
(Scholastic Focus/Scholastic, $19.99) 978-1-338-80208-5
A Muskogee Creek writer details his rich (in everything but money), peripatetic upbringing in rural Oklahoma in the 1970s. Map, family photographs. Author’s note. (13-16)

Those Who Saw the Sun:
African American Oral Histories from the Jim Crow South
by Jaha Nailah Avery
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Levine Querido, $19.99) 978-1-64614-244-6
Ten engaging interviews of African American elders describing their lives in the South during the Jim Crow era. Archival photographs. Appendix of people, places, events, and terms. (15-18)
D The Women Who Built Hollywood: 12 Trailblazers in front of and behind the Camera by Susan Goldman Rubin (Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-66268010-6 Quotes and archival photographs personalize the fascinating lives of 12 pioneering women of the early 20th century who were actresses, film editors, directors, stunt artists, and costumers—all activists against discrimination. Extensive back matter. (13-16)

Contemporary Issues

D M * Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed by Dashka Slater (Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $20.99) 978-0-3743-1434-7 A private Instagram account featuring racist memes of Black girls, whom the Korean American account owner considered to be his friends, rips apart a school and community in its aftermath. Mature content (14-17)

D Hidden Systems: Water, Electricity, the Internet, and the Secrets behind the Systems We Use Every Day written and illustrated by Dan Nott (RH Graphic/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $23.99) 978-0-593-12536-6 Graphic blueprint-style cartoon art frames the history, societal inequities, and planet-wide impact of human-made systems and encourages readers to work toward improving them. (14-17)

History

D Drawn to Change the World Graphic Novel Collection: 16 Youth Climate Activists, 16 Artists by Emma Reynolds, illustrated by various artists (HarperAlley/HarperCollins, $24.99) 978-0-06-308422-3 Meet Autumn Peltier, Tokata, and 14 other young activists dedicated to averting climate catastrophe, and be inspired and motivated to join their efforts. Full-color graphic art. (13-16)

D The Bodyguard Unit: Edith Garrud, Women’s Suffrage, and Jujitsu by Clément Xavier, foreword by Elsa Dorlin, illustrated by Lisa Lugrin, colors by Albertine Ralenti, translated from the French by Edward Gauvin (Graphic Universe/Lerner, $22.99) 978-1-7284-4565-6 A group of British suffragists used martial arts to defend themselves against police brutality during the fight for the vote before World War I. Bold, colorful panels and archival images and photographs. (14-17)

D Impossible Escape: A True Story of Survival and Heroism in Nazi Europe by Steve Sheinkin (Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-26572-2 Two Slovakian teens risked their lives: he, to escape the horrors in Nazi concentration camps and warn the world; she, to survive and aid the Resistance. Maps, extensive back matter. (14-17) Mature content

Ecology

D Climate Champions: 15 Women Fighting for Your Future (Women of Power series) by Rachel Sarah (Chicago Review Press, $16.99) 978-1-64160-700-1 These 15 female scientists, activists, journalists, and policymakers are working for intersectional systemic solutions to the climate crisis, which disproportionately affects women, people of color, and the poor. (14-17)
Law and Justice

**D M ** 21:
The True Story of the Youth Who Sued the U.S. Government Over Climate Change
by Elizabeth Rusch
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-322085-0
A gripping, detailed look at *Juliana v. United States*: a still-unsettled landmark lawsuit arguing that the government violated the plaintiffs’ rights by failing to provide safe living conditions for present and future generations. (13-16) Mature content

**Doomed:**
Sacco, Vanzetti, and the End of the American Dream
by John Florio and Ouisie Shapiro
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $20.99)
978-1-250-62193-1
In post-World War I Boston, amid anti-immigrant hostility and fears of communism, two Italian self-proclaimed anarchists were wrongfully convicted and executed for murder, raising protests throughout the world. Archival photos. (13-16)

**STEM** (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

**Discovering Life’s Story:**
Biology’s Beginnings
by Joy Hakim
(MiTeenPress/Candlewick, $22.99) 978-1-5362-2293-7
An engrossing, informative, well-researched history of the discoveries of our biological existence and their impact on human society. Fascinating archival source material. (14-17)
THE BEST CHILDREN’S
BOOKS OF THE YEAR
2024 EDITION / BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2023

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 650 children’s books they consider the best publications of the prior year, in this case 2023.

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