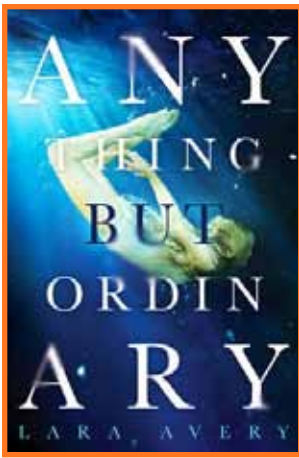


Fiction





Anything But Ordinary by Lara Avery 12+

Bryce remembers it like it was yesterday. The scent of chlorine. The blinding crack and flash of pain. Blood in the water.

When she wakes up in the hospital, all Bryce can think of is her disastrous Olympic diving trial. But everything is different now. Bryce still feels seventeen, so how can her little sister be seventeen, too? Life went on without her while Bryce lay in a coma for five years. Her best friend and boyfriend have just graduated from college. Her parents barely speak. And everything she once dreamed of doing -winning a gold medal, traveling the world, falling in love -seems beyond her reach.

Clearwater by Kim McCullough 12+

Claire Sullivan quickly settles in to her new home at Clearwater Lake in northern Manitoba, especially once she befriends Jeff Carson, a quiet mixed-race loner who lives with his parents in the other half of the Sullivans' duplex. Together, the teens roam the wild, isolated beauty of the nearby lakeshore and forest, forging a deep friendship based on loyalty and trust.



I Swear by Lane Davis 12+

After years of abuse from her classmates, and thinking she had no other options, Leslie took her own life. Now her abusers are dealing with the fallout. In the eyes of the accused girls, they are not to blame: Leslie chose to take her life. She chose to be the coward they always knew she was. As criminal proceedings examine the systematic cyber bullying and harassment that occurred, the girls vow to keep their stories straight and make Leslie seem weak. But as the events leading up to her death unfold, it becomes clear that although Leslie took her own life, her bullies took everything else. Told in alternating perspectives and through well-paced flashbacks, this timely novel is filled with "sharp dialogue, absorbing deposition scenes, blackmail, and complex characterizations" (Publishers Weekly) and sheds light on both the victims of bullying and the consequences bullies face.

The Opposite of Geek by Ria Voros 12+

Gretchen Meyers doesn't know exactly what went wrong, but life in the tenth grade is beginning to suck. As if having a semi-nudist, food-obsessed family wasn't awkward enough, she has lost her best friend to the fanatical school swim team, and her math grade is so close to negative digits that only emergency tutoring can save it. So far, so high school. Then James/Dean rolls into her life — also known as her zit-faced chemistry tutor James and his slightly less zit-faced cousin Dean. Kind-hearted rebels without a cause, they draw Gretchen out of classroom hell, and briefly the world seems full of possibility.





The Eye of Minds by James Dashner 12+

An all-new, edge-of-your seat adventure from James Dashner, the author of the New York Times bestselling Maze Runner series, *The Eye of Minds* is the first book in *The Mortality Doctrine*, a series set in a world of hyperadvanced technology, cyberterrorists, and gaming beyond your wildest dreams . . . and your worst nightmares.

Steelheart by Brandon Sanderson 14+

Steelheart puts a different spin on the superhero story. In this dystopian world the appearance of a new star called Calamity started the rise of Epics from the human population. But the Epics are not the good guys. As a child David sees his father injure Steelheart, the most powerful of the Epics. The story is from his perspective as an 18 year old, bent on revenge and hoping to hook up with the Reckoners, a band of humans who fight back. *Steelheart* does not hold back; it's an edge-of-your-seat read with an intensity that requires you to put the book down regularly just so you can take a breather!



Breathe by Sarah Crossan 12+

Sarah Crossan's latest novel, breathing freely and comfortably is easier said than done. Here, oxygen is hard to come by. Set in a futuristic and plant-deprived world, the characters in *Breathe* have no choice but to remain within the protection of the Pod, where the air is breathable and clean. Oxygen tanks can be purchased by the wealthiest of Pod citizens – typically those in Zone One – for venturing out into the wilderness on day trips and partaking in strenuous activities such as exercise. For the remaining population, for people like Bea, oxygen is too expensive for daily pleasures and breathing must be carefully controlled. When the opportunity arises for Bea to go camping outside with her best friend Quinn, she doesn't let it pass. What she wants is to spend some time alone with Quinn, hoping that he will finally notice her. What she gets is a run-in with a Resistance member and a sudden detour into the dangerous and unknown.

Fat Angie by e.e. Charlton-Trujillo

Realistic fiction - LGBTQI - Sister taken hostage in Afghanistan and MIA - some swearing, but not gratuitous, fits the characters and theme - lots going on but this author manages to pull the threads together in a compelling way.





Sylo by D.J. MacHale 12+

Does Tucker Pierce have what it takes to be a hero when the U.S. military quarantines his island? Fourteen-year-old Tucker Pierce prefers to fly under the radar. He's used to navigating around summer tourists in his hometown on idyllic Pemberwick Island, Maine. He's content to sit on the sidelines as a backup player on the high school football team. And though his best friend Quinn tells him to "go for it," he's too chicken to ask Tori Sleeper on a date. There's always tomorrow, he figures. Then Pemberwick Island is invaded by a mysterious branch of the U.S. military called SYLO. And sitting on the sidelines is no longer an option for Tucker, because tomorrow may never come.

Shift by Em Bailey 12+

A psychological thriller with a hint of the paranormal, Shift is perfect for fans of Mary E. Pearson and Lois Duncan.

The rumor mill is spinning when Miranda Vaile arrives at school along with whispers that she murdered her parents. But Olive Corbett wants nothing to do with the new girl. After "the incident," Olive's been the subject of too much gossip, and now she just wants to take her pills and stay under the radar.



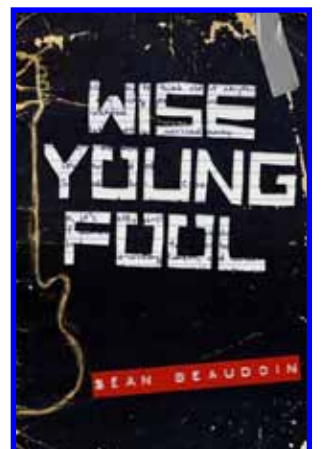
Aesop's Secret by Claudia White 10+

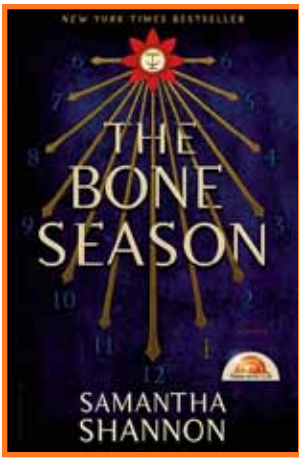
Melinda and Felix Hutton are just an ordinary pair of siblings, until their parents confess that they have all inherited the talent of metamorphosis, a revelation that begins to unravel the children's world. Ten-year-old Melinda embraces her Athenite heritage, but her efforts often end up leaving her freckled face attached to feathered body with a twitching rat's tail. Her older brother Felix doesn't greet this new reality as something to celebrate. Wishing he were normal, Felix resents becoming parts of the myths and fables he's read. But there's a threat rising just as the children are learning of their talents, and a powerful enemy will use every trick and tool he has to keep the family from letting slip the secret of their gifts. With only the help of Melinda's pet rabbit Aesop, who has begun acting awfully strange lately, Felix and Melinda determinedly fight back against the suffocating grasp of those who want to drive the Huttons and their kind back underground.

Wise Young Fool by Sean Beaudoin 14+

Teen rocker Ritchie Sudden is pretty sure his life has just jumped the shark. Except he hates being called a teen, his band doesn't play rock, and "jumping the shark" is yet another dumb cliché. Part of Ritchie wants to drop everything and walk away. Especially the part that's serving ninety days in a juvenile detention center. Telling the story of the year leading up to his arrest,

Ritchie grabs readers by the throat before (politely) inviting them along for the (max-speed) ride. A battle of the bands looms. Dad split about five minutes before Mom's girlfriend moved in. There's the matter of trying to score with the dangerously hot Ravenna Woods while avoiding the dangerously huge Spence Proffer--not to mention just trying to forget what his sister, Beth, said the week before she died. This latest offering from acclaimed author Sean Beaudoin is alternately raw, razor-sharp, and genuinely hilarious.



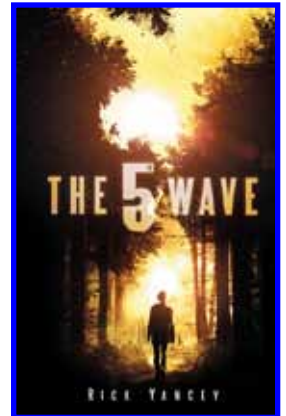


The Bone Season by Samantha Shannon 16+

It is the year 2059. Several major world cities are under the control of a security force called Scion. Paige Mahoney works in the criminal underworld of Scion London, part of a secret cell known as the Seven Seals. The work she does is unusual: scouting for information by breaking into others' minds. Paige is a dreamwalker, a rare kind of clairvoyant, and in this world, the voyants commit treason simply by breathing. But when Paige is captured and arrested, she encounters a power more sinister even than Scion. The voyant prison is a separate city—Oxford, erased from the map two centuries ago and now controlled by a powerful, otherworldly race. These creatures, the Rephaim, value the voyants highly—as soldiers in their army. Paige is assigned to a Rephaite keeper, Warden, who will be in charge of her care and training. He is her master. Her natural enemy. But if she wants to regain her freedom, Paige will have to learn something of his mind and his own mysterious motives.

The 5th Wave by Rick Yancey 12+

After the 1st wave, only darkness remains. After the 2nd, only the lucky escape. And after the 3rd, only the unlucky survive. After the 4th wave, only one rule applies: trust no one. Now, it's the dawn of the 5th wave, and on a lonely stretch of highway, Cassie runs from Them. The beings who only look human, who roam the countryside killing anyone they see. Who have scattered Earth's last survivors. To stay alone is to stay alive, Cassie believes, until she meets Evan Walker. Beguiling and mysterious, Evan Walker may be Cassie's only hope for rescuing her brother—or even saving herself. But Cassie must choose: between trust and despair, between defiance and surrender, between life and death. To give up or to get up.

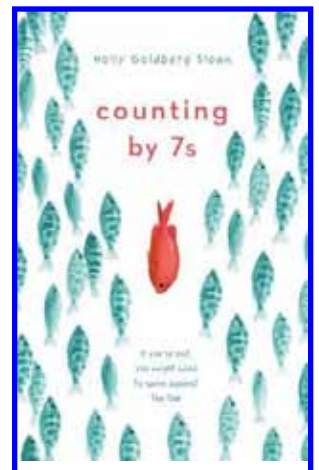


Three Times Lucky by Sheila Turnage 10+

Rising sixth grader Miss Moses LoBeau lives in the small town of Tupelo Landing, NC, where everyone's business is fair game and no secret is sacred. She washed ashore in a hurricane eleven years ago, and she's been making waves ever since. Although Mo hopes someday to find her "upstream mother," she's found a home with the Colonel--a café owner with a forgotten past of his own--and Miss Lana, the fabulous café hostess. She will protect those she loves with every bit of her strong will and tough attitude. So when a lawman comes to town asking about a murder, Mo and her best friend, Dale Earnhardt Johnson III, set out to uncover the truth in hopes of saving the only family Mo has ever known.

Counting by 7's by Holly Goldberg Sloan 10+

In the tradition of *Out of My Mind*, *Wonder*, and *Mockingbird*, this is an intensely moving middle grade novel about being an outsider, coping with loss, and discovering the true meaning of family. Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now. Suddenly Willow's world is tragically changed when her parents both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world. The triumph of this book is that it is not a tragedy. This extraordinarily odd, but extraordinarily endearing, girl manages to push through her grief. Her journey to find a fascinatingly diverse and fully believable surrogate family is a joy and a revelation to read.



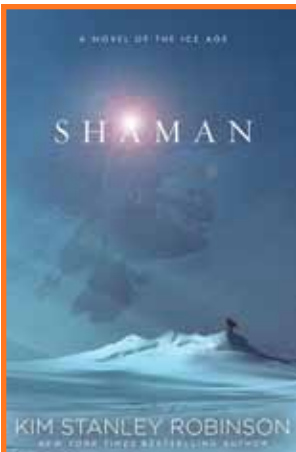


Dreaming Anastasia by Joy Preble 14+

What really happened to Anastasia Romanov? Anastasia Romanov thought she would never feel more alone than when the gunfire started and her family began to fall around her. Surely the bullets would come for her next. But they didn't. Instead, two gnarled old hands reached for her. When she wakes up she discovers that she is in the ancient hut of the witch Baba Yaga, and that some things are worse than being dead. In modern-day Chicago, Anne doesn't know much about Russian history. She is more concerned about getting into a good college--until the dreams start. She is somewhere else. She is someone else. And she is sharing a small room with a very old woman. The vivid dreams startle her, but not until a handsome stranger offers to explain them does she realize her life is going to change forever. She is the only one who can save Anastasia. But, Anastasia is having her own dreams...

10:00 pm Question by Kate De Goldi 12+

Twelve-year-old Frankie Parsons is a talented kid with a quirky family, a best friend named Gigs, and a voice of anxiety constantly nibbling in his head: Could that kidney-shaped spot on his chest be a galloping cancer? Are the smoke alarm batteries flat? Has his cat, The Fat Controller, given them all worms? Only Ma, who never leaves home, takes Frankie's worries seriously. But then, it is Ma who is the cause of the most troubling question of all, the one Frankie can never bring himself to ask. When a new girl arrives at school — a daring free spirit with unavoidable questions of her own — Frankie's carefully guarded world begins to unravel, leading him to a painful confrontation with the ultimate 10 p.m. question. Deftly told with humor, poignancy, and an endearing cast of characters, *The 10 P.M. Question* will touch everyone who has ever felt set apart.



Shaman by Kim Stanley Robinson 14+

A new epic set in the Paleolithic era from New York Times bestselling author Kim Stanley Robinson.

From the New York Times bestselling author of the Mars trilogy and 2312 comes a powerful, thrilling and heart-breaking story of one young man's journey into adulthood -- and an awe-inspiring vision of how we lived thirty thousand years ago.

Period 8 by Christ Crutcher 14+

Paul "the Bomb" Baum tells the truth. No matter what. It was something he learned at Sunday School. But telling the truth can cause problems, and not minor ones. And as Paulie discovers, finding the truth can be even more problematic. Period 8 is supposed to be that one period in high school where the truth can shine, a safe haven. Only what Paulie and Hannah (his ex-girlfriend, unfortunately) and his other classmates don't know is that the ultimate bully, the ultimate liar, is in their midst. Terrifying, thought-provoking, and original, this novel combines all the qualities of a great thriller with the controversy, ethics, and raw emotion of a classic Crutcher story.





The Throne by Beth Goobie 12+

Meredith is determined to make her mark as she starts Grade 10 - and claiming the "cool" seat in home room is her first step. But that decision brings her unwanted attention from the school's "kingpin of the underworld" and her new enemy is smart, determined and capable of holding a long-term grudge. Should she just back away? But how will she look at herself in the mirror if she does? With the help of her two best friends, Reb and Dean, she will have to find a way to stand up for herself and survive high school with her dignity intact.

William Shakespeare's Star Wars 14+

Inspired by one of the greatest creative minds in the English language-and William Shakespeare-here is an officially licensed retelling of George Lucas's epic Star Wars in the style of the immortal Bard of Avon. The saga of a wise (Jedi) knight and an evil (Sith) lord, of a beautiful princess held captive and a young hero coming of age, Star Wars abounds with all the valor and villainy of Shakespeare's greatest plays. 'Tis a tale told by fretful droids, full of faithful Wookiees and fearstome Stormtroopers, signifying...pretty much everything. Reimagined in glorious iambic pentameter—and complete with twenty gorgeous Elizabethan illustrations--William Shakespeare's Star Wars will astound and edify Rebels and Imperials alike.



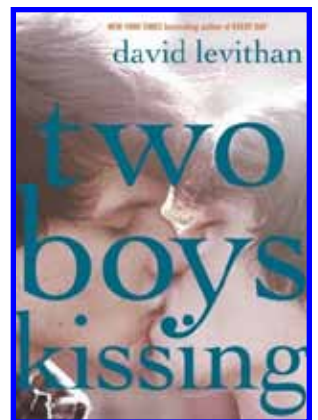
Dodger by Terry Pratchett 14+

A terrifically funny tale of dark deeds in Dickensian London, from master storyteller Terry Pratchett.

Dodger is a tosher -- a sewer scavenger living in the squalor of Dickensian London. Everyone who is nobody knows Dodger. Anyone who is anybody doesn't. But when he rescues a young girl from a beating, suddenly everybody wants to know him. And Dodger's tale of skulduggery, dark plans and even darker deeds begins.

Two Boys Kissing by David Levithan 14+

New York Times bestselling author David Levithan tells the based-on-true-events story of Harry and Craig, two 17-year-olds who are about to take part in a 32-hour marathon of kissing to set a new Guinness World Record—all of which is narrated by a Greek Chorus of the generation of gay men lost to AIDS. While the two increasingly dehydrated and sleep-deprived boys are locking lips, they become a focal point in the lives of other teen boys dealing with languishing long-term relationships, coming out, navigating gender identity, and falling deeper into the digital rabbit hole of gay hookup sites—all while the kissing former couple tries to figure out their own feelings for each other



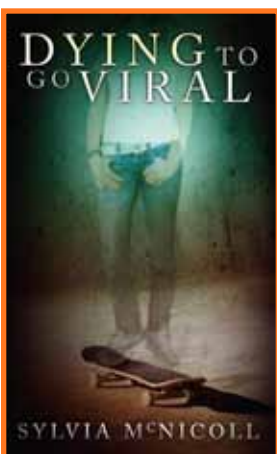


Baygirl by Heather Smith 12+

Growing up in a picturesque Newfoundland fishing village “should” be idyllic for sixteen-year-old Kit Ryan, but living with an alcoholic father makes Kit’s day-to-day life unpredictable and almost intolerable. When the 1992 cod moratorium forces her father out of a job, the tension between Kit and her father grows. Forced to leave their rural community, the family moves to the city, where they live with Uncle Iggy, a widower with problems of his own. Immediately pegged as a “baygirl,” Kit struggles to fit in, but longstanding trust issues threaten to hold her back when a boy named Elliot expresses an interest in her.

Bluefish by Pat Schmatz 12+

Travis is missing his old home in the country, and he’s missing his old hound, Rosco. Now there’s just the cramped place he shares with his alcoholic grandpa, a new school, and the dreaded routine of school. But that’s before Travis meets Mr. McQueen, who doesn’t take “pass” for an answer—a rare teacher whose savvy persistence has Travis slowly unlocking a book on the natural world. And it’s before Travis is noticed by Velveeta, a girl whose wry banter and colorful scarves belie some hard secrets of her own. With sympathy, humor, and disarming honesty, Pat Schmatz brings to life a cast of utterly believable characters—and captures the moments of trust and connection that make all the difference.



Dying To Go Viral by Sylvia McNicoll 12+

A terrifically funny tale of dark deeds in Dickensian London, from master storyteller Terry Pratchett.

What would you do if you only had one week to live? A skateboarding accident claims 14-year-old Jade’s life when she skitches (hitches herself to a car) in order to appear on youtube; she neglected to wear the helmet she promised her father she would always use. In a Japanese garden she meets her mother who died when Jade was eight. She begs for the chance to return to earth if only to improve relations between her brother and father and Mom negotiates a one week do-over for her. What can she achieve? A date for her father? A new job for her brother? Her first kiss? Jade can’t tell anyone what is going on, which is bad enough, but after discovering a love for life that she’s never known, will she be able to let go? Or will she try to cheat fate?

Reality Boy by A.S. King 14+

Gerald Faust knows exactly when he started feeling angry: the day his mother invited a reality television crew into his five-year-old life. Twelve years later, he’s still haunted by his rage-filled youth—which the entire world got to watch from every imaginable angle—and his anger issues have resulted in violent outbursts, zero friends, and clueless adults dumping him in the special education room at school. Nothing is ever going to change. No one cares that he’s tried to learn to control himself, and the girl he likes has no idea who he really is. Everyone’s just waiting for him to snap...and he’s starting to feel dangerously close to doing just that. In this fearless portrayal of a boy on the edge, highly acclaimed Printz Honor author A.S. King explores the desperate reality of a former child “star” who finally breaks free of his anger by creating possibilities he never knew he deserved.



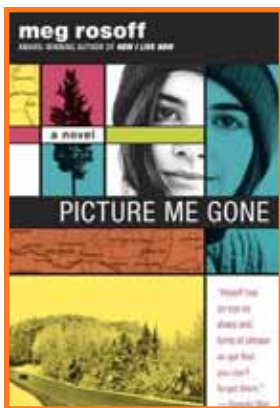


The Originals by Cat Patrick 12+

17-year-olds Lizzie, Ella, and Betsey Best grew up as identical triplets... until they discovered a shocking family secret. They're actually closer than sisters, they're clones. Hiding from a government agency that would expose them, the Best family appears to consist of a single mother with one daughter named Elizabeth. Lizzie, Ella, and Betsey take turns going to school, attending social engagements, and a group mindset has always been a de facto part of life... Then Lizzie meets Sean Kelly, a guy who seems to see into her very soul. As their relationship develops, Lizzie realizes that she's not a carbon copy of her sisters; she's an individual with unique dreams and desires, and digging deeper into her background, Lizzie begins to dismantle the delicate balance of an unusual family that only science could have created.

United States of Asgard Book 1: The Lost Sun by Tessa Gratton 12+

Fans of Neil Gaiman's *American Gods* and Holly Black's *The Curse Workers* will embrace this richly drawn, Norse-mythology-infused alternate world: the United States of Asgard. Seventeen-year-old Soren Bearskin is trying to escape the past. His father, a famed warrior, lost himself to the battle-frenzy and killed thirteen innocent people. Soren cannot deny that berserking is in his blood--the fevers, insomnia, and occasional feelings of uncontrollable rage haunt him. So he tries to remain calm and detached from everyone at Sanctus Sigurd's Academy. But that's hard to do when a popular, beautiful girl like Astrid Glyn tells Soren she dreams of him. That's not all Astrid dreams of--the daughter of a renowned prophetess, Astrid is coming into her own inherited abilities. When Baldur, son of Odin and one of the most popular gods in the country, goes missing, Astrid sees where he is and convinces Soren to join her on a road trip that will take them to find not only a lost god, but also who they are beyond the legacy of their parents and everything they've been told they have to be.

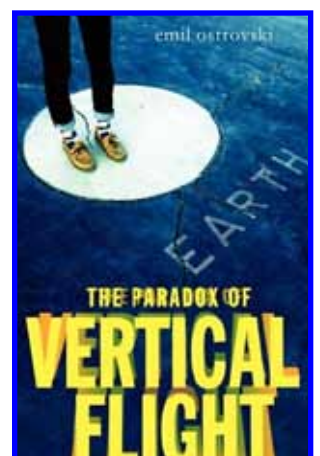


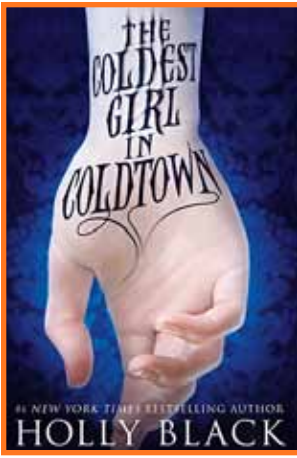
Picture Me Gone by Meg Rosoff 12+

So when her father's best friend, Matthew, goes missing from his upstate New York home, Mila and her beloved father travel from London to find him. She collects information about Matthew from his belongings, from his wife and baby, from the dog he left behind and from the ghosts of his past--slowly piecing together the story everyone else has missed. But just when she's closest to solving the mystery, a shocking betrayal calls into question her trust in the one person she thought she could read best.

The Paradox of Vertical Flight by Emil Ostrovski 14+

Good morning! Today is Jack's eighteenth birthday. Here's what's happened so far--He woke up from a dream about dissecting frogs and measuring the bubbles produced by llamas. He just missed a call from Bob, his grandmother. He's not sure she'll remember he exists--which makes him sad, because he really loves her. He's thought about jumping out of the window. Not because he wants to die, mind you, but some attention would be nice. He's had a nonsensical conversation with his roommate, who is still asleep. While in the dorm bathroom, he popped a zit and listened to some guy (who should not be singing) singing in the shower. Jack's cell phone rings a second time. He recognizes the number. Jess. He never thought he'd hear from her again. Guess what? Jack's day is about to get epic.



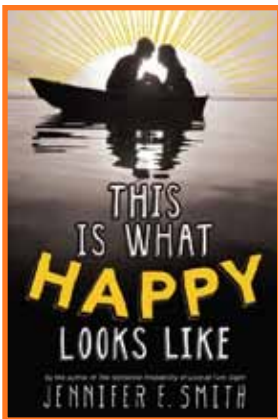


The Coldest Girl in Coldtown by Holly Black 15+

Tana lives in a world where walled cities called Coldtowns exist. In them, quarantined monsters and humans mingle in a decadently bloody mix of predator and prey. The only problem is, once you pass through Coldtown's gates, you can never leave. One morning, after a perfectly ordinary party, Tana wakes up surrounded by corpses. The only other survivors of this massacre are her exasperatingly endearing ex-boyfriend, infected and on the edge, and a mysterious boy burdened with a terrible secret. Shaken and determined, Tana enters a race against the clock to save the three of them the only way she knows how: by going straight to the wicked, opulent heart of Coldtown itself.

The Lucy Variations by Sara Zarr 12+

Lucy Beck-Moreau once had a promising future as a concert pianist. The right people knew her name, her performances were booked months in advance, and her future seemed certain. That was all before she turned fourteen. Now, at sixteen, it's over. A death, and a betrayal, led her to walk away. That leaves her talented ten-year-old brother, Gus, to shoulder the full weight of the Beck-Moreau family expectations. Then Gus gets a new piano teacher who is young, kind, and interested in helping Lucy rekindle her love of piano -- on her own terms. But when you're used to performing for sold-out audiences and world-famous critics, can you ever learn to play just for yourself?



This is What Happy Looks Like by Jennifer E. Smith 12+

If fate sent you an email, would you answer?

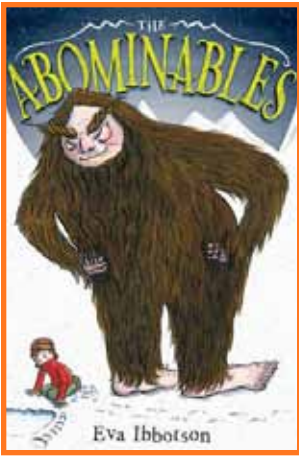
When teenage movie star Graham Larkin accidentally sends small town girl Ellie O'Neill an email about his pet pig, the two seventeen-year-olds strike up a witty and unforgettable correspondence, discussing everything under the sun, except for their names or backgrounds. Then Graham finds out that Ellie's Maine hometown is the perfect location for his latest film, and he decides to take their relationship from online to in-person. But can a star as famous as Graham really start a relationship with an ordinary girl like Ellie? And why does Ellie want to avoid the media's spotlight at all costs?

Me and Earl and the Dying Girl by Jesse Andrews 14+

Up until senior year, Greg has maintained total social invisibility. He only has one friend, Earl, and together they spend their time—when not playing video games and avoiding Earl's terrifying brothers—making movies, their own versions of Coppola and Herzog cult classics. Greg would be the first one to tell you his movies are f*@\$ing terrible, but he and Earl don't make them for other people. Until Rachel. Rachel has leukemia, and Greg's mom gets the genius idea that Greg should befriend her. Against his better judgment and despite his extreme awkwardness, he does. When Rachel decides to stop treatment, Greg and Earl must abandon invisibility and make a stand. It's a hilarious, outrageous, and truthful look at death and high school by a prodigiously talented debut

author





The Abominables by Eva Ibbotson 8+

Eva Ibbotson's last book. When a family of yetis, raised by an English girl, is nearly discovered by tourists in the Himalayas, they must move to safety all the way in England. But the journey through Europe isn't the only adventure in store for these yetis, who find that a hunting club is very interested in their arrival.

Three adjectives that describe this book: amusing, intriguing, whimsical

House of Secrets by Chris Columbus 8+

After an incident at work leaves their father jobless and the Walker family homeless, the discounted purchase of Kristoff House, the unusual but elegant creation of an eccentric novelist, is too good an opportunity to miss. While the monetary cost is nominal, it all too quickly becomes evident that someone intends for the family to pay a much higher price.



The Hidden Agenda of Sigrid Sugden by Jill Maclean 9+

The author of *The Nine Lives of Travis Keating* and *The Present Tense of Prinny Murphy* has done it again. Sigrid Sugden is a Shrike—a member of the toughest group of girls in school. They are experts at blackmail, extortion, and terrorizing their classmates. But one day, the Shrikes go too far and Sigrid makes a decision that will save one of their victims, but put her own status—and safety—in jeopardy.

Stitchhead by Guy Bass 9+

This was a fun book about Stitch Head, a long-forgotten creation of a mad scientist. Stitch Head stays around the castle to make sure his master's creations don't go wild in the nearby town and bring punishment down on his master. After years of working behind the scenes, Stitch Head is pushed into a situation where the "no visitors" rule is thrown to the wind. Stitch Head is a story that balances many different things masterfully. There are gruesome monsters, but they are not all that scary. There is some low level humor, but there is also a deeper story about friendship, trust, and looking beyond the surface to see the real person underneath the appearance.



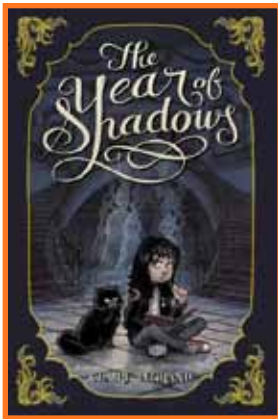


Great new series of books from Stone Arch. These are a step up from leveled readers and are a great transition to full chapter books.

These DC COMICS CHAPTER BOOKS feature the WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER HEROES: SUPERMAN, BATMAN, and WONDER WOMAN. These full color chapter books, with original art by DC illustrators will captivate young readers and give them glowing examples of bravery, loyalty, and true heroism.

Wild Rescue: Polar Meltdown by J. Burchett

Ben and Zoe, WILD's top operatives, are sent to investigate the death of a polar bear near an Alaskan village. The twins' mission takes an unexpected turn when they learn that the bear's orphaned cub is somewhere out in the frozen wilderness. Will Ben and Zoe be able to find the lost cub in time?



The Year of Shadows by Claire Legrand

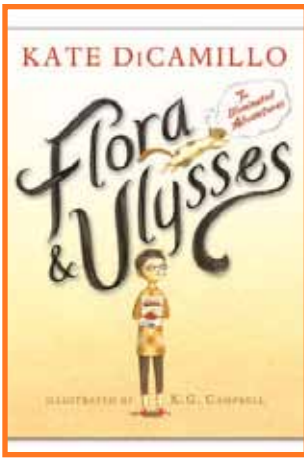
Olivia Stellatella is having a rough year. Her mother's left, her neglectful father—the maestro of a failing orchestra—has moved her and her grandmother into the city's dark, broken-down concert hall to save money, and her only friend is Igor, an ornery stray cat. Just when she thinks life couldn't get any weirder, she meets four ghosts who haunt the hall. They need Olivia's help—if the hall is torn down, they'll be stuck as ghosts forever, never able to move on.

The Mirror Chronicles: the Bell Between Worlds by Ian Johnstone 10+

A glorious epic fantasy in the grand tradition of CS Lewis and Philip Pullman, and a major publishing event, The Mirror Chronicles will take you into another world, and on the adventure of your lifetime...Half of your soul is missing. The lost part is in the mirror, and unless Sylas Tate can save you, you will never be whole again.

Sylas Tate leads a lonely existence since his mother died. But then the tolling of a giant bell draws him into another world known as the Other, where he discovers not only that he has an inborn talent for the nature-influenced magic of the Fourth Way, but also that his mother might just have come from this strange parallel place. Meanwhile, evil forces are stirring, and an astounding revelation awaits Sylas as to the true nature of the Other. As violence looms and the stakes get ever higher, Sylas must seek out a girl called Naeo who might just be the other half of his soul – otherwise the entire universe may fall...



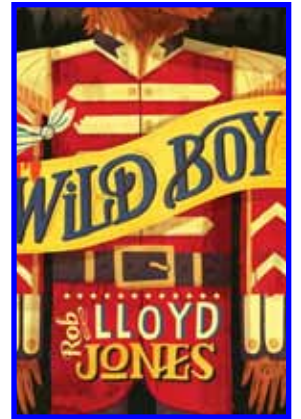


Flora & Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo 8+

Holy unanticipated occurrences! A cynic meets an unlikely superhero in a genre-breaking new novel by master storyteller Kate DiCamillo. It begins, as the best superhero stories do, with a tragic accident that has unexpected consequences. The squirrel never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman, who has read every issue of the comic book *Terrible Things Can Happen to You!*, is the just the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses (the squirrel) has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry—and that Flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise of a capacious heart.

Wild Rescue: Polar Meltdown by J. Burchett

In the seedy underworld of Victorian London, a boy is born and abandoned. Snatched up by an unscrupulous and abusive showman, Wild Boy, covered in hair from head to toe, becomes a sideshow freak. Isolated from other children and wickedly abused by the cruel master who bought him, Wild Boy becomes an avid observer, developing Sherlock Holmes–like deductive skills. Although he is tormented and insulted, kicked and spat at, his quick mind takes in everything he sees. When a murder occurs at the fair, Wild Boy is hastily accused. Can he use his powers of deduction to save himself? And will the talented and spunky young acrobat Clarissa be with him — or against him? Readers will be swept along by the cinematic pace, immersed in the vivid historical setting, and gripped by suspense as they wait to find out if a better fate could possibly await someone so very different.



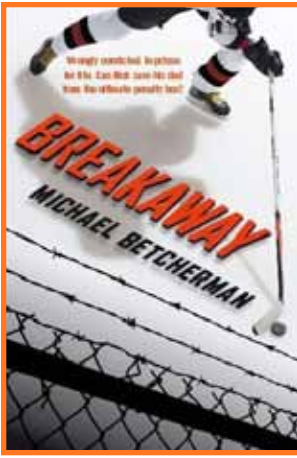
The True Blue Scouts of Sugar Man Swamp by Kathi Appelt 8+

Raccoon brothers Bingo and J'miah are the newest recruits of the Official Sugar Man Swamp Scouts. The opportunity to serve the Sugar Man—the massive creature who delights in delicious sugar cane and magnanimously rules over the swamp—is an honor, and also a big responsibility, since the rest of the swamp critters rely heavily on the intel of these hardworking Scouts. Twelve-year-old Chap Brayburn is not a member of any such organization. But he loves the swamp something fierce, and he'll do anything to help protect it. And help is surely needed, because world-class alligator wrestler Jaeger Stitch wants to turn Sugar Man swamp into an Alligator World Wrestling Arena and Theme Park, and the troubles don't end there. There is also a gang of wild feral hogs on the march, headed straight toward them all. The Scouts are ready. All they have to do is wake up the Sugar Man. Problem is, no one's been able to wake that fellow up in a decade or four...

Runt by Nora Raleigh Baskin 8+

Runt by Nora Raleigh Baskin will fit right into the growing middle school bully cannon. Told from many viewpoints we can understand how quickly bullying happens in our ever-critical culture. The person who bullies, the person who is bullied, and the bystanders all get a chance to share their sides. Just as in real life, their positions in the bully circle change. If given the opportunity for revenge, what's a kid to do?



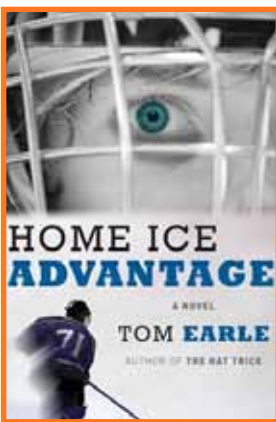


Breakaway by Michael Betcherman 12+

Sixteen-year-old Nick Macklin's life has been divided in two. Before and After. Before his father went to jail, and After. Before, he was a talented hockey player, an A student, in love with his girlfriend, Sherry, and had the greatest dad in the world, a man who not only was there for him after his mom died of cancer, but who was also a star player for the Vancouver Canucks. Then the bottom fell out. His father was convicted of murder and given a life sentence for a crime Nick is convinced he didn't commit. Now living with his dad's agent, the only thing that keeps Nick going is a burning desire to seek justice for his father. Who framed him? And why? Drifting away from everything and everyone who matters, Nick spends his days roaming the city, looking for the bald man with a limp who is the key to answering these questions: the man his father swears planted the evidence that led to his conviction. Finding him is like looking for a needle in a haystack - until Nick stumbles on a very real clue, an eye-opening revelation that just might save his father... and himself.

Hat Trick by Tom Earle 10+

Ricky Phillips is only a teen when he is selected to play for the Barrie Colts of the Ontario Hockey League. Everyone around him, including his coaches and his father, is going to make sure that he gets the ultimate prize: a chance to play in the National Hockey League. When he is selected to play for the San Jose Sharks, everyone is thrilled. But an on-ice fight turns deadly and has lasting repercussions; Ricky is forced to question everything he knows. How much is hockey worth to him? An inside look at life in professional hockey, this story of a young hockey star's career derailed by a misplaced punch is a compelling, ripped-from-the-headlines read



Home Ice Advantage by Tom Earle 10+

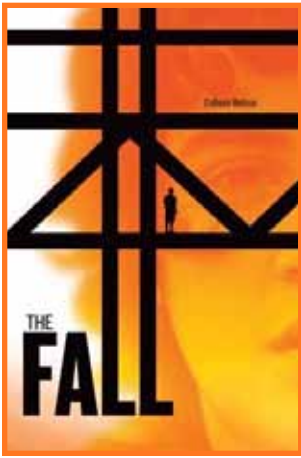
Jake's drive to become a hockey star is matched only by his father's obsessive determination to see his son succeed. No matter how hard Jake works, how many pucks he puts in the net, it's never enough for his dad. Battered, bruised and tired of being afraid, Jake leaves his quiet suburban home in the middle of the night and runs away to downtown Toronto, where he finds comfort and safety in the most unexpected of places—the company of a homeless man with a storied past living inside the shuttered Maple Leafs Gardens.

WARP: The Reluctant Assassin by Eoin Colfer 10+

Riley, a teen orphan boy living in Victorian London, has had the misfortune of being apprenticed to Albert Garrick, an illusionist who has fallen on difficult times and now uses his unique conjuring skills to gain access to victims' dwellings. On one such escapade, Garrick brings his reluctant apprentice along and urges him to commit his first killing. Riley is saved from having to commit the grisly act when the intended victim turns out to be a scientist from the future, part of the FBI's Witness Anonymous Relocation Program (WARP) Riley is unwittingly transported via wormhole to modern day London, followed closely by Garrick.

In modern London, Riley is helped by Chevron Savano, a seventeen-year-old FBI agent sent to London as punishment after a disastrous undercover, anti-terrorist operation in Los Angeles. Together Riley and Chevie must evade Garrick, who has been fundamentally altered by his trip through the wormhole. Garrick is now not only evil, but he also possesses all of the scientist's knowledge. He is determined to track Riley down and use the timekey in Chevie's possession to make his way back to Victorian London where he can literally change the world.



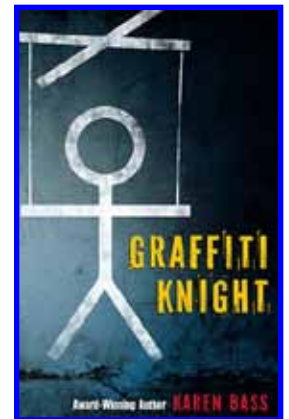


The Fall by Colleen Nelson 12+

Before Luke came into his life, all Ben cared about was skateboarding, and whether his father would ever remember that he was alive. Then there was Luke, and it felt like he was being carried along on some sort of wave. But then Luke died, and everyone at school thinks it's his fault. Maybe it is. *The Fall* charts the lives of three boys as they deal with the death of their friend and brother. One turns to alcohol to escape his guilt. Another looks to a gang to replace what he's lost. Ben needs to find a way to reconcile his role in Luke's death and prove that he was not to blame. He must also learn that the man he will become is his to define.

Graffiti Knight by Karen Bass 12+

After a childhood cut short by war and the harsh strictures of Nazi Germany, sixteen-year-old Wilm is finally tasting freedom. In spite of the scars World War II has left on his hometown, Leipzig, and in spite of the oppressive new Soviet regime, Wilm is finding his own voice. It's dangerous, of course, to be sneaking out at night to leave messages on police buildings. But it's exciting, too, and Wilm feels justified, considering his family's suffering. Until one mission goes too far, and Wilm finds he's endangered the very people he most wants to protect. Award-winning author Karen Bass brings readers a fast-paced story about a boy fighting for self-expression in an era of censorship and struggle.



The School for Good and Evil by Soman Chainani 10+

This year best friends Sophie and Agatha will discover what it is to be a student at the fabled School for Good and Evil, where ordinary boys and girls are trained to be fairy-tale heroes and villains. With her pink dresses, glass slippers, and devotion to good deeds, Sophie knows she'll earn top marks at the School for Good and graduate a storybook princess. Meanwhile, Agatha, with her shape-less black frocks, wicked pet cat, and dislike of nearly everyone, seems a natural fit for the School for Evil. But when the two girls are swept into the Endless Woods, they find their fortunes reversed—Sophie's dumped in the School for Evil to take Uglification, Death Curses, and Henchmen Training, while Agatha finds herself in the School for Good, among handsome princes and fair maidens in Princess Etiquette and Animal Communication. But what if the mistake is actually the first clue to discovering who Sophie and Agatha really are . . . ?

The Very Nearly Honorable League of Pirates by Caroline Carlson 8+

Hilary Westfield has always dreamed of being a pirate. She can tread water for thirty-seven minutes. She can tie a knot faster than a fleet of sailors. She particularly enjoys defying authority, and she already owns a rather pointy sword. There's only one problem: The Very Nearly Honourable League of Pirates refuses to let any girl join their ranks of scourges and scallywags. Girls belong at Miss Pimm's Finishing School for Delicate Ladies, learning to waltz, faint, and curtsy. But Hilary and her dearest friend, the gargoyle, have no use for such frivolous lessons - they are pirates! (Or Very Nearly.) The escape from a life of petticoats and politeness, Hilary answers a curious advertisement for a pirate crew and suddenly finds herself swept up in a seafaring adventure that may or may not involve a map without an X, a magical treasure that likely doesn't exist, a rogue governess who insists on property, a crew of misfit scallywags, and the most treacherous-and unexpected-villain on the High Seas. Will Hilary find the treasure in time? Will she become a true pirate after all? And what will become of the gargoyle?



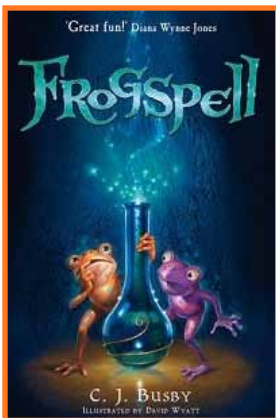


Galaxy Zack Series by Ray O'Ryan 7+

In *Journey to Juno*, Zack joins his school's Explorer's Club and visits Juno, a newly discovered planet of crystals. The group is split into pairs as they begin exploring, and Zack is less than thrilled when he is partnered with Seth Stevens, the Phase 2 bully! Seth is happy to let Zack do the work while he goofs off, so when Zack stumbles upon a really cool object, he hides it so he can show it to the Explorer's Club himself. But when the time comes for Zack to accept praise for his discovery, will he decide to share the credit? With easy-to-read language and illustrations on almost every page, the Galaxy Zack chapter books are perfect for beginning readers.

Doll Bones by Holly Black 10+

Zach, Poppy and Alice have been friends for ever. They love playing with their action figure toys, imagining a magical world of adventure and heroism. But disaster strikes when, without warning, Zach's father throws out all his toys, declaring he's too old for them. Zach is furious, confused and embarrassed, deciding that the only way to cope is to stop playing . . . and stop being friends with Poppy and Alice. But one night the girls pay Zach a visit, and tell him about a series of mysterious occurrences. Poppy swears that she is now being haunted by a china doll – who claims that it is made from the ground-up bones of a murdered girl. They must return the doll to where the girl lived, and bury it. Otherwise the three children will be cursed for eternity . . .

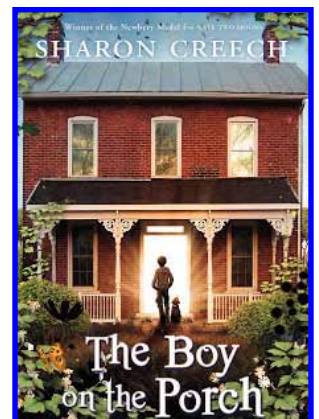


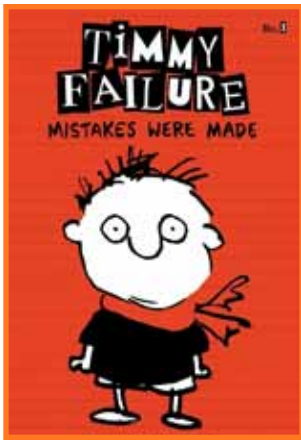
Frogspell by C.J. Busby, 8+

The first in a four-book series for younger readers set in the time of King Arthur. The adventures revisit Camelot, Merlin and Arthur but with a fresh touch, great characterisation and dialogue, and humour. The stories are well plotted, funny and perfectly pitched for the younger reader. Would-be wizard Max, his sister (who wants to be a knight), two humorous pet animal characters - Ferocious, a world-weary rat and Adolphus, an over-enthusiastic young dragon, encounter magic, double-dealing, Morgan le Fay's schemes to win the throne from Arthur, magical quests and more. Other titles coming in 2012: Cauldron Spells, Ice Spell and Sword Spell

The Boy on the Porch by Sharon Creech 8+

When John and Marta found the boy on the porch, they were curious, naturally, as to why he was there—and they hadn't expected him to stay, not at first, but he did stay, day after day, until it seemed as if he belonged, running and smiling and laughing his silent laugh, tapping and patting on every surface as he made his music, and painting—with water, with paint, with mud—those swirly swirls and swings and trees. One day a young couple wakes to find a boy asleep on their porch. Unable to speak, the boy cannot explain his history. What kind of people would leave their child with strangers? All John and Marta know is that they have been chosen to care for this boy. As their connection to him grows, they embrace his exuberant spirit and talents. The three of them blossom into an unlikely family, but how long can their happiness last?





Timmy failure: Mistakes Were Made by Stephan Pastis 8+

Take eleven-year-old Timmy Failure — the clueless, comically self-confident CEO of the best detective agency in town, perhaps even the nation. Add his impressively lazy business partner, a very large polar bear named Total. Throw in the Failuremobile — Timmy's mom's Segway — and what you have is Total Failure, Inc., a global enterprise destined to make Timmy so rich his mother won't have to stress out about the bills anymore. Of course, Timmy's plan does not include the four-foot-tall female whose name shall not be uttered. And it doesn't include Rollo Tookus, who is so obsessed with getting into "Stanford" that he can't carry out a no-brainer spy mission. poignant moment — making this a comics-inspired story (the first in a new series) that truly stands apart from the pack.

The Unwanteds: Island of Fire by Lisa McMann 8+

The fate of Artimé is at stake - and an unlikely alliance could redeem it - in book three in the New York Times bestselling Unwanteds series. The magical world of Artimé is gone. The Unwanteds have no food, no water, and no hope. And everyone is looking to Alex Stowe for answers. Overwhelmed and feeling totally helpless, Alex knows it's up to him to find a way to restore Artimé, rescue his captive friends, and free Megan from her voice-stealing necklace of thorns - three impossible tasks. But could help lie with the silent, orange-eyed newcomers? Meanwhile, Alex's twin brother Aaron continues to build his army in the stark land of Quill, preparing for the ultimate showdown with the Unwanteds. But a shocking twist reveals that Alex and Aaron share a common enemy more dangerous than either could have imagined...

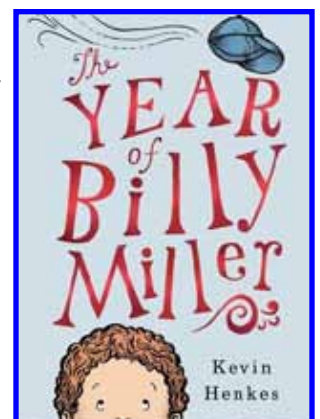


Little Red Lies by Julie Johnston 10+

The war is over, but for thirteen-year-old Rachel, the battle has just begun. Putting childhood behind her, she knows what she wants - to prove she has acting talent worthy of the school drama club, and what she doesn't want - to romantically fall for someone completely inappropriate. Worries about her veteran brother's failing health and repugnance at her mother's unexpected and unwanted pregnancy drive her to seek solace from a seemingly sympathetic, but self-serving teacher. The lies she tells herself hoping to reach solutions to the problems complicating her life merely function to make matters worse. Ultimately, she finds a way to come to terms with life as it reaches an end and life as it begins.

The Year of Billy Miller by Kevin Henkes 8+

When Billy Miller has a mishap at the statue of the Jolly Green Giant at the end of summer vacation, he ends up with a big lump on his head. What a way to start second grade, with a lump on your head! As the year goes by, though, Billy figures out how to navigate elementary school, how to appreciate (some of the time) his pesky (and hilarious) little sister, and how to be a more grown-up and responsible member of the family and a help to his busy working mom and stay-at-home dad. Award-winning author Kevin Henkes delivers a short, satisfying, laugh-out-loud funny school and family story complete with homework (diaramas!), school shows (original poetry performed at microphones!), canceled sleepovers, and epic sibling temper tantrums. Illustrated throughout with black-and-white art by the author, this is a perfect short chapter book for the early elementary grades that will appeal to readers of the Ramona books, Andrew Clements, and the Clementine series.





Valkyrie by Kate O'Hearn 9+

Freya is dreading the start of her fourteenth year. This marks the official end of her childhood and when she takes up the full duties of a Valkyrie - an angel of death and collector of souls from humanity's battlefields. But Freya is unlike any other Valkyrie. She doesn't want to follow in the footsteps of the legends before her. As she observes humanity from her horse home on Asgard, she tries to understand what it is to be human: to share in the simple pleasures of friendship with girls her own age and laugh with boys, without the fear of causing their death with one touch. Little does she know that her dreams will soon be realized: on her first battlefield mission, Freya reaps the soul of a soldier with unfinished business that will send her to the human world on a deadly quest. And there she must battle both ordinary and extraordinary enemies to create a new VALKYRIE legend.

Nakesake by Sue MacLeod 10+



It started with a history project. Mr. Gregor assigned a research paper on a figure from the Tudor era, and of course Jane Grey had to pick her namesake—Lady Jane Grey, the fifteen-year-old girl whose parents schemed to place her on the throne of England, then abandoned her to face the executioner. The project is engrossing from the start, but when Jane opens a mysterious prayer book and finds herself in the Tower of London in 1553, she ends up literally drawn into her namesake's story. Soon, Jane is slipping into the past whenever the present becomes too unbearable, avoiding her mother's demands, her best friend's fickleness, her crush's indifference.

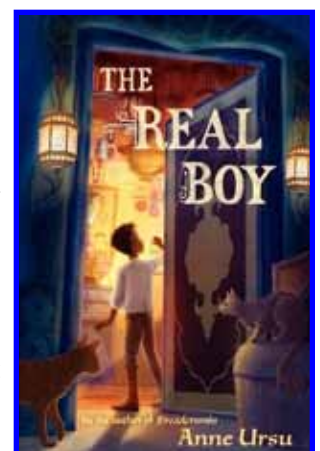
In the Tower she plays chess with the imprisoned Lady Jane, awed by her new friend's strength and courage. And it is in the Tower, keeping vigil as the day of the execution draws near, that Jane learns that she, too, must have the courage to fight for her own happiness.



Mister Max by Cynthia Voigt 8+

Max Starling's theatrical father likes to say that at twelve a boy is independent. He also likes to boast (about his acting skills, his wife's acting skills, a fortune only his family knows is metaphorical), but more than anything he likes to have adventures. Max Starling's equally theatrical mother is not a boaster but she enjoys a good adventure as much as her husband. When these two disappear, what can sort-of-theatrical Max and his not-at-all theatrical grandmother do? They have to wait to find out something, anything, and to worry, and, in Max's case, to figure out how to earn a living at the same time as he maintains his independence. This is the first of three books, all featuring the mysterious Mister Max.

The Real Boy by Anne Ursu 8+



On an island on the edge of an immense sea there is a city, a forest, and a boy. The city is called Asteri, a perfect city that was saved by the magic woven into its walls from a devastating plague that swept through the world over a hundred years before. The forest is called the Barrow, a vast wood of ancient trees that encircles the city and feeds the earth with magic. And the boy is called Oscar, a shop boy for the most powerful magician in the Barrow. Oscar spends his days in a small room in the dark cellar of his master's shop, grinding herbs and dreaming of the wizards who once lived on the island generations ago. Oscar's world is small, but he likes it that way. The real world is vast, strange, and unpredictable. And Oscar does not quite fit in it. But it's been a long time since anyone who could call himself a wizard walked the world, and now that world is changing. Children in the city are falling ill, and something sinister lurks in the forest. Oscar has long been content to stay in his small room in the cellar, comforted in the knowledge that the magic that flows from the trees will keep his island safe. Now, even magic may not be enough to save it

Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell and Enchantress Returns by Chris Colfer 8+

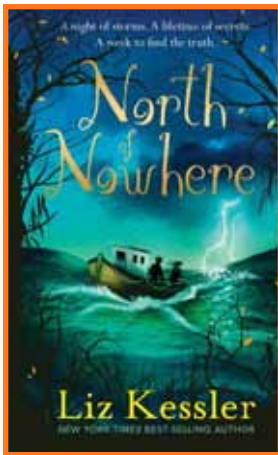


Growing up in a picturesque Newfoundland fishing village “should” be idyllic for sixteen-year-old Kit Ryan, but living with an alcoholic father makes Kit’s day-to-day life unpredictable and almost intolerable. When the 1992 cod moratorium forces her father out of a job, the tension between Kit and her father grows. Forced to leave their rural community, the family moves to the city, where they live with Uncle Iggy, a widower with problems of his own. Immediately pegged as a “baygirl,” Kit struggles to fit in, but longstanding trust issues threaten to hold her back when a boy named Elliot expresses an interest in her.

The Sky Jumpers by Peggy Eddleman 8+



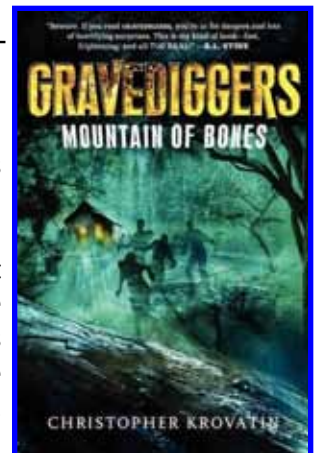
12-year-old Hope lives in White Rock, a town struggling to recover from the green bombs of World War III. The bombs destroyed almost everything that came before, so the skill that matters most in White Rock—sometimes it feels like the only thing that matters—is the ability to invent so that the world can regain some of what it’s lost. But Hope is terrible at inventing and would much rather sneak off to cliff dive into the Bomb’s Breath—the deadly band of air that covers the crater the town lives in—than fail at yet another invention. When bandits discover that White Rock has invented priceless antibiotics, they invade. The town must choose whether to hand over the medicine and die from disease in the coming months or to die fighting the bandits now. Hope and her friends, Aaren and Brock, might be the only ones who can escape through the Bomb’s Breath and make the dangerous trek over the snow-covered mountain to get help. For once, inventing isn’t the answer, but the daring and risk-taking that usually gets Hope into trouble might just save them all.



North of Nowhere by Liz Kessler 9+

The sleepy seaside village of Porthaven hides a mystery: Mia’s grandad has vanished, and nobody knows why. When Mia and her mom rush to Porthaven to help her grandmother, Mia imagines long dreary days with no one to talk to except for the old-time fisherman at her grandparents’ pub. But that’s before Mia finds a diary on an empty, docked fishing boat and starts exchanging notes with a local girl named Dee, a girl who seems much like her. Mia is excited about having a new friend, but why do their plans to meet each other never materialize? And why does Dee claim to be stuck at home due to violent storms when Mia sees only sunny skies? Will Mia be able to solve the mystery of where — and when — her grandfather and friend might be before time and tide forever wash away their futures?

Gravediggers: Mountain of Bones by Christopher Krovatin 10+



Ian was the One who chased the majestic buck into the forest. (His motto: Act first, think later.) Kendra didn’t want to become separated from the other sixth graders, but she followed Ian anyway, despite what her analytical mind told her. PJ followed him too. Even though he was scared, he figured he might catch some amazing footage with his video camera. They all hoped to return to the hiking trail before anyone noticed they were gone. However, the mountain had other plans for them: dark, sinister plans that only nightmares are made of. Now they don’t know where they are. They don’t know how to get home. They don’t know what gruesome creatures lurk in the shadows—but when they find out these grisly ghouls are actually ravenous zombies, will they be able to escape the mountain with their lives? This first book in the Gravediggers series is a scary, mysterious, wild ride that will thrill readers to the very last page.

Non-Fiction



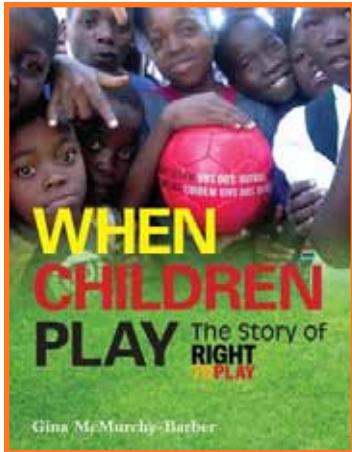
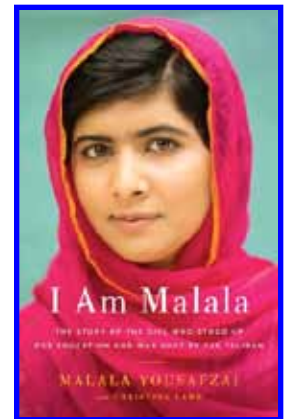


Legends, Icons & Rebels: Music that Changed the World by Robbie Robertson

Music industry veterans Robbie Robertson, Jim Guerinot, Jared Levine, and Sebastian Robertson invite young readers to share with them in celebrating twenty-seven musical legends. Short profiles chronicle personal stories and achievements of extraordinarily talented artists whose innovations changed the landscape of music for generations to come. Carefully compiled like any great playlist, the line-up features originators, rebels, and risk-takers across diverse genres. From Ray Charles to Johnny Cash, Chuck Berry to Bob Dylan, Robertson shares anecdotes about these artists and the influence they had on his own musical journey. Always respectful of their reader, the writers never shy away from speaking about the difficult challenges these recording artists faced and the very human foibles that sometimes led to their tragic end.

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday October 9, 2012, she almost paid the ultimate price. When she was shot in the head at point blank range while riding the bus home from school, few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in Northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest ever nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize.

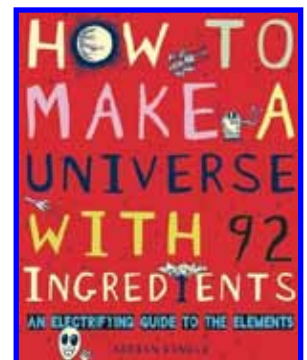


When children Play : the Story of Right To Play by Gina McMurchy-Barber

An orphaned girl in a Ugandan refugee camp. A former child soldier in the Sudan. When survival is the priority, something as simple and normal as play seems to be a luxury that these children can do without. But Right to Play is changing that perception. Founding in 2000 by Norwegian Olympic medalist Johann Olav Koss, Right to Play begins at the grassroots community level, using sports and games to teach at-risk and underprivileged children around the world important values like self-esteem, empathy, and peace. Award winning author Gina McMurchy-Barber presents the history of this organization as well as the people who are involved in it – from the children, to their community leaders, to the celebrity athlete ambassadors who support them. Samples of games included.

How To Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients by Adrian Dingle

What do cars, stars, skyscrapers, and ice cream all have in common? They're all made from the same 92 ingredients...and so are we. And so is everything in the entire universe! How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients presents a unique and imaginative way for young readers to connect chemistry and science with their daily lives. By using dozens of familiar objects (trees, cell phones, the Sun), author Adrian Dingle has built a platform from which to teach kids the unfamiliar — that trees, cell phones, and the Sun are all made of a handful of chemical elements found on the periodic table. Full of easy experiments and "Did You Know?" information that's perfect for sharing with friends, How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients takes on the impossible and triumphs — it makes chemistry FUN!



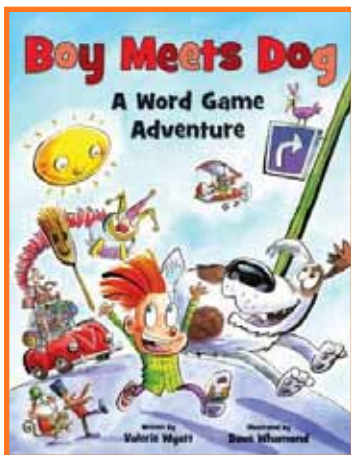


It Can't Be True! The Book of Incredible Visual Comparisons

The moon is the same size as Australia. A blue whale's heart is as large as a car. It sounds weird, but it's true! It Can't Be True! wows the reader with impressive facts about the world that are all difficult to believe, but true. From animals and the human body to buildings and outer space, this quirky book combines the latest CGI and photographic imagery with impossible-to-believe, accurate facts about just about everything. Children will enjoy these fun facts and impressive figures, and incredulous adults will be flabbergasted by these crazy factoids. It Can't Be True! will engage any reader with its head-scratching, amazing facts

A History of Just About Everything by Elizabeth MacLeod and Frieda Wishinsky

From Buddha and Muhammad to King and Mandela, from the discovery of fire to the invention of the World Wide Web, and from Romeo and Juliet to Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, this is a thorough and thoroughly entertaining compendium of important people and events.



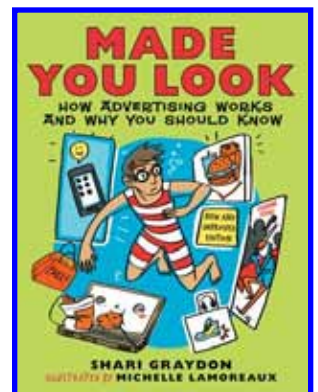
Boy Meets Dog: A Word Game Adventure by Valerie Wyatt

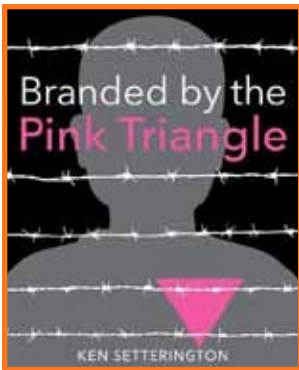
Strange things happen when you change one word into another, one letter at a time. A toy becomes a boy, a cat becomes a dog, and together they discover a funny, mixed-up world! Explore language and spelling on this wacky word game adventure.

Made You Look: How Advertising Works by Shari Graydon

K Ads are everywhere: they try to be your friend on social media, pop up in the background of your videogame, and even message your phone when you walk by a store. Increasingly kids are the prime target of these marketing messages. But they also have more power than ever to fight back.

For ten years, Made You Look has been an essential self-defense guide for youth trying to make sense of the complex world of advertising. Now fully revised and with a fresh new look, the book has been updated to reflect the modern ad landscape, from digital tracking and browser cookies to social media, viral videos, and reality television.





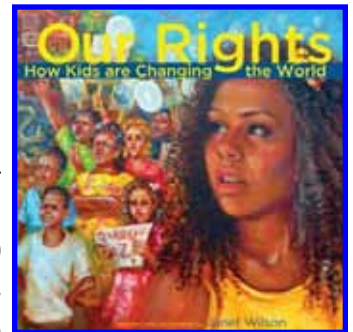
Branded by the Pink Triangle by Ken Setterington 12+

Before the rise of the Nazi party, Germany, especially Berlin, was one of the most tolerant places for homosexuals in the world. Activists such as Thomas Mann and Albert Einstein campaigned openly for the rights of gay men and women and tried to repeal the law against homosexuality. But that all changed when the Nazis came to power; existence for gay people became fear-filled. Raids, arrests, prison sentences and expulsions became the daily reality. When the concentration camps were built, homosexuals were imprisoned along with Jews and any other groups the Nazis wanted to suppress.

The pink triangle sewn onto prison uniforms became the symbol of the persecution of homosexuals, a persecution that would continue for many years after the war. A mix of historical research, first-person accounts and individual stories brings this time to life for young readers. Stories of bravery in the face of inhuman cruelty, friendship found in the depths of despair in the camps and the perseverance of the human spirit will educate and inspire

Our Rights: How Kids are Changing the World by Janet Wilson

This around-the-world tour introduces readers to children who have taken on the role of social activist, fighting for human rights and social justice in countries as diverse as Yemen and Congo, Canada and the United States. Ten children receive main profiles, and over a dozen others are featured in smaller sidebars. Anita Khushwaha fought against gender and class bias in her community in India. Emman Bagual founded Mind Your Rights to fight child labor in the Philippines. Zach Bonner walked 1,000 miles to raise awareness about homeless children in the United States. A diverse range of other issues is covered, including aboriginal rights, human trafficking and child soldiers, and the full United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child can be found alongside tips for how kids everywhere can make a difference.

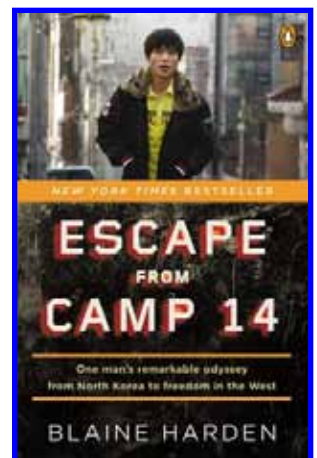


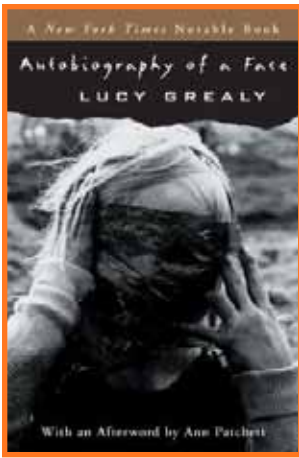
Before the World Was Ready by Claire Eamer

"Eight fascinating tales of scientists and inventors ahead of their time." Earth revolves around the sun. Washing hands helps stop the spread of disease. Poisons in the environment affect the entire ecosystem. Today these ideas are common knowledge, but at one time they were all rejected. In this thought-provoking book, find out what happened when people weren't ready to listen to innovators who came up with revolutionary ideas. Enlivened by colorful and witty illustrations, these compelling stories of great minds -- and often eccentric personalities -- are sure to draw in young readers. Look around: can you spot the next world-shaking idea?

Escape from Camp 14 by Blaine Harden 14+

North Korea's political prison camps have existed twice as long as Stalin's Soviet gulags and twelve times as long as the Nazi concentration camps. No one born and raised in these camps is known to have escaped. No one, that is, except Shin Dong-hyuk. In *Escape From Camp 14*, Blaine Harden unlocks the secrets of the world's most repressive totalitarian state through the story of Shin's shocking imprisonment and his astounding getaway. Shin knew nothing of civilized existence—he saw his mother as a competitor for food, guards raised him to be a snitch, and he witnessed the execution of his mother and brother. Harden's harrowing narrative exposes this hidden dystopia, focusing on an extraordinary young man who came of age inside the highest security prison in the highest security state. *Escape from Camp 14* offers an unequalled inside account of one of the world's darkest nations. It is a tale of endurance and courage, survival and hope.



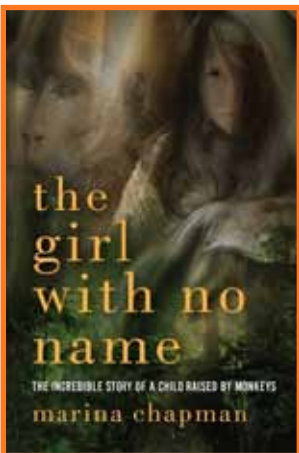
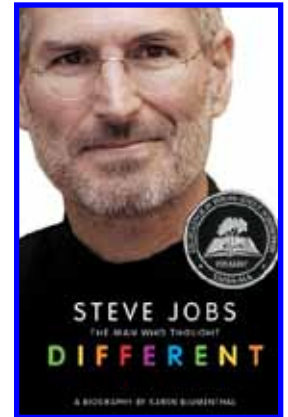


Autobiography of a Face by Lucy Grealy 14+

At age nine, Lucy Grealy was diagnosed with a potentially terminal cancer. When she returned to school with a third of her jaw removed, she faced the cruel taunts of classmates. In this strikingly candid memoir, Grealy tells her story of great suffering and remarkable strength without sentimentality and with considerable wit. Vividly portraying the pain of peer rejection and the guilty pleasures of wanting to be special, Grealy captures with unique insight what it is like as a child and young adult to be torn between two warring impulses: to feel that more than anything else we want to be loved for who we are, while wishing desperately and secretly to be perfect.

Steve Jobs: the Man Who Thought Different by Karen Blumenthal 14+

From the start, his path was never predictable. Steve Jobs was given up for adoption at birth, dropped out of college after one semester, and at the age of twenty, created Apple in his parents' garage with his friend Steve Wozniack. Then came the core and hallmark of his genius--his exacting moderation for perfection, his counterculture life approach, and his level of taste and style that pushed all boundaries. A devoted husband, father, and Buddhist, he battled cancer for over a decade, became the ultimate CEO, and made the world want every product he touched.



The Girl With No Name: The Incredible True Story of a Child Raised by Monkeys by Marina Chapman 14+

In 1954, in a remote mountain village in South America, a little girl was abducted. She was four years old. Marina Chapman was stolen from her housing estate and then abandoned deep in the Colombian jungle. That she survived is a miracle. Two days later, half-drugged, terrified, and starving, she came upon a troop of capuchin monkeys. Acting entirely on instinct, she tried to do what they did: she ate what they ate and copied their actions, and little by little, learned to fend for herself. So begins the story of her five years among the monkeys, during which time she gradually became feral; she lost the ability to speak, lost all inhibition, lost any real sense of being human, replacing the structure of human society with the social mores of her new simian family. But society was eventually to reclaim her. At age ten she was discovered by a pair of hunters who took her to the lawless Colombian city of Cucuta where, in exchange for a parrot, they sold her to a brothel. When she learned that she was to be groomed for prostitution, she made her plans to escape. But her adventure wasn't over yet...

On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein by Jennifer Berne

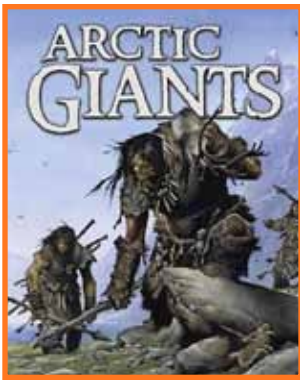
A boy rides a bicycle down a dusty road. But in his mind, he envisions himself traveling at a speed beyond imagining, on a beam of light. This brilliant mind will one day offer up some of the most revolutionary ideas ever conceived. From a boy endlessly fascinated by the wonders around him, Albert Einstein ultimately grows into a man of genius recognized the world over for profoundly illuminating our understanding of the universe. Jennifer Berne and Vladimir Radunsky invite the reader to travel along with Einstein on a journey full of curiosity, laughter, and scientific discovery. Parents and children alike will appreciate this moving story of the powerful difference imagination can make in any life.



FNMI

First Nations
Metis
Inuit





Arctic Giants by Neil Christopher

In arctic times, giants ruled the Arctic. For hundreds of years, Inuit stories of these creatures have been carried down from generation to generation, whispered in the night.

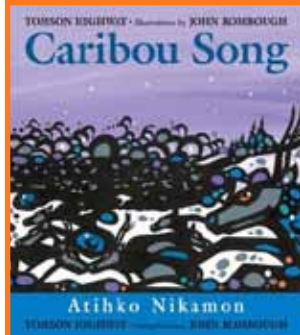
Arctic Giants is the only full-length volume to chronicle the legends of these giants of the North. Based on Inuit oral tradition and extensive, meticulous research, Arctic Giants unsparingly tells each horrifying legend. Written in the vein of the Brothers Grimm and illustrated in an evocative, gothic style, this book is bound to become part of Canada's fairy tale canon.

Under the Ice by Rachel Qitsualik

Winter can be cruel in the Arctic, and food quickly grows scarce for those who cannot hunt. In these difficult times, the grandmother of an orphaned boy wishes aloud for the qallupaluit - strange, monstrous creatures that live under the sea ice - to take her grandson away forever.



The old woman soon regrets her hasty words when the little boy is snatched and carried away to the creatures' underwater lair. After enlisting the help of her fellow villagers, the old woman learns that her grandson may be happier with the qallupaluit than he ever was with her. Written for contemporary audiences by acclaimed Inuit author Rachel A Qitsualik and illustrated in a quick comic book style, this tale is sure to thrill middle grade readers.



Caribou Song by Tomson Highway

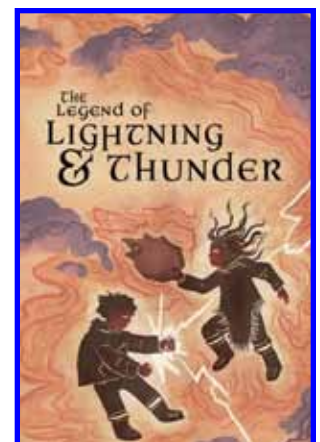
Joe and Cody are young Cree brothers who follow the caribou all year long, tucked into their dog sled with Mama and Papa. To entice the wandering caribou, Joe plays his accordion and Cody dances. They are so involved with their dancing and music that they don't hear the roaring of the approaching herd of caribou. Bursting upon the boys, ten thousand animals fill the meadow. Joe is surrounded and can barely see Cody a short distance away. And neither of the boys can see their parents.

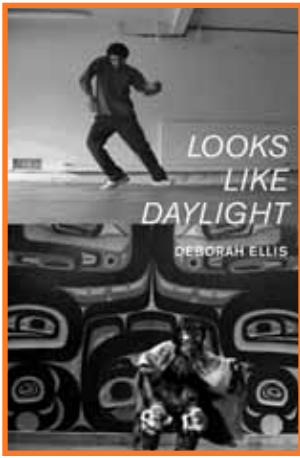
And yet what should be a moment of terror turns into something mystical and magical, as the boys open their arms and their hearts to embrace the caribou spirit.

The Legend of Lightning and Thunder by Paula Ikuutaq Rumbolt

In The Legend of Thunder and Lightning, a traditional legend that has been told in the Kivalliq region of Nunavut for centuries, two siblings resort to stealing from their fellow villagers.

In this tale of guilt and consequence, the actions of the two children lead them to flee punishment by escaping to the sky as thunder and lightning. This beautifully illustrated traditional legend weaves together elements of an origin story and a traditional cautionary tale, giving young readers an accessible window into centuries-old Inuit mythology that is specific to the Kivalliq region of Nunavut.

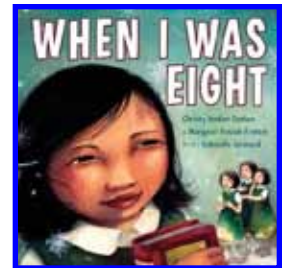




Looks Like Daylight: Voices of Native American and Aboriginal Young People by Deborah Ellis

After her critically acclaimed books of interviews with Afghan, Iraqi, Israeli and Palestinian children, Deborah Ellis turns her attention closer to home. For two years she traveled across the United States and Canada interviewing Native children. The result is a compelling collection of interviews with children aged nine to eighteen. They come from all over the continent, from Iqaluit to Texas, Haida Gwaii to North Carolina, and their stories run the gamut — some heartbreaking; many others full of pride and hope. Many of these children are living with the legacy of the residential schools; many have lived through the cycle of foster care. Many others have found something in their roots that sustains them, have found their place in the arts, the sciences, athletics. Like all kids, they want to find something that engages them; something they love. Deborah briefly introduces each child and then steps back, letting the kids speak directly to the reader, talking about their daily lives, about the things that interest them, and about how being Native has affected who they are and how they see the world.

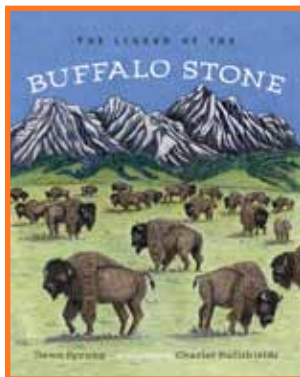
When I Was Eight by Christy Jordan-Fenton



“Nothing will stop a strong-minded young Inuit girl from learning how to read.”

Olemaun is eight and knows a lot of things. But she does not know how to read. She must travel to the outsiders’ school to learn, ignoring her father’s warning of what will happen there. This is an early elementary version of Fatty Legs.

Beautifully written, beautiful illustrations.

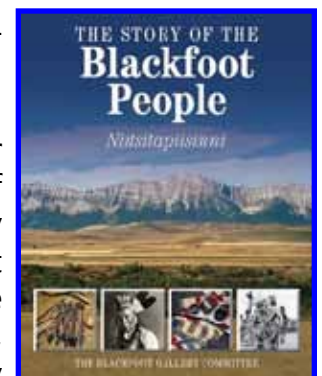


The Legend of the Buffalo Stone by Dawn Sprung

The Legend of the Buffalo Stone is based on the history of the Blackfoot people—specifically their dependence on the buffalo and how they hunted the great animals on foot before horses were brought to North America—and is retold with the permission and under the advisement of a First Nations scholar and member of the Blackfoot nation. The story centres on Hanata, a young Blackfoot girl who understands the importance of the buffalo for her peoples’ survival. She not only helps to hunt the great animals, but also prepares the meat and skins and makes toys for the younger children using bison bones. She knows that without the buffalo, her people would lose their main source of food and shelter.

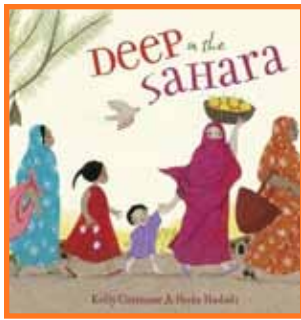
The Story of the Blackfoot People: Nitsitapiisinni 10+

A team of elders and spiritual leaders from the Blackfoot community agreed to share their history, traditions and artifacts in an effort to document their lives. “The Story of the Blackfoot People: Nitsitapiisinni” is the first piece of permanent documentation written by the leaders of the Blackfoot community about their lives both past and present. This book chronicles all the important aspects of Blackfoot life and history. The book begins by exploring the fundamental belief systems of the Blackfoot including their traditional stories, sacred places, dances and ceremonies. Strong relationships are recognized by the Blackfoot as one of the most important keys to survival and the roles of men, women, children and elders, and their sacred connection to nature and their environment, are examined in detail. Revealing the enduring strength and fortitude of spirit of the Blackfoot people, this book will have meaning for both native and non-native readers alike



Picture Books





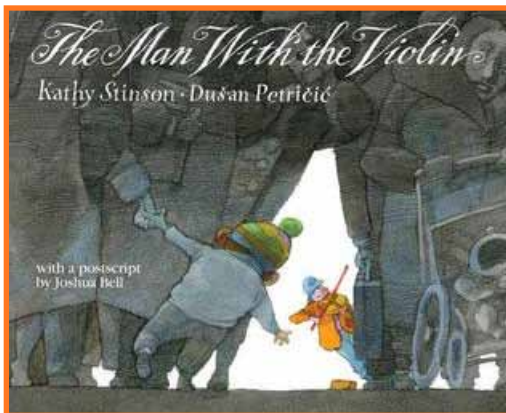
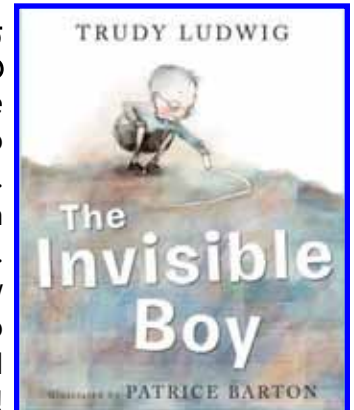
Deep in the Sahara by Kelly Cunnane

Lalla lives in the Muslim country of Mauritania, and more than anything, she wants to wear a malafa, the colorful cloth Mauritanian women, like her mama and big sister, wear to cover their heads and clothes in public. But it is not until Lalla realizes that a malafa is not just worn to show a woman's beauty and mystery or to honor tradition—a malafa for faith—that Lalla's mother agrees to slip a long cloth as blue as the ink in the Koran over Lalla's head, under her arm, and round and round her body. Then together, they pray. An author's note and glossary are included in the back of the book.

The Invisible Boy by Trudy Ludwig

Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party . . . until, that is, a new kid comes to class. When Justin, the new boy, arrives, Brian is the first to make him feel welcome. And when Brian and Justin team up to work on a class project together, Brian finds a way to shine.

It is a wonderful reminder for students about how it feels to be left out and how they can include others. It is also a great reminder for teachers to pay attention to ALL children. The pictures are very well done. I like how Brian is drawn in black and white at first, and becomes more colourful throughout the book. A terrific story!

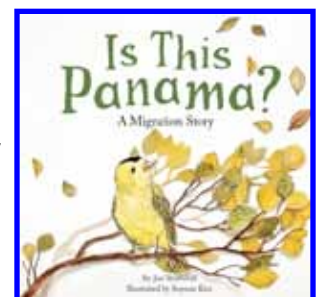


Before the World Was Ready by Claire Eamer

This gorgeous picture book is based on the true story of Joshua Bell, the renowned American violinist who famously took his instrument down into the Washington D.C. subway for a free concert. More than a thousand commuters rushed by him, but only seven stopped to listen for more than a minute. In "The Man With the Violin," bestselling author Kathy Stinson has woven a heart-warming story that reminds us all to stop and appreciate the beauty that surrounds us.

Is This Panama? A Migration Story by Jan Thornhill

When Sammy, a young Wilson's warbler, wakes up one frosty August morning near the Arctic Circle, he instinctively knows that it's time to make his first migratory journey south to Panama. But there's one problem — where's Panama? All the other warblers having left without him, Sammy sets off on his journey by himself, stopping to ask the same question of each of the different animals that he meets along the way: "Is this Panama?" From the caribou heading to his winter forest to the monarch butterflies flitting to Mexico, every animal has a different destination and different advice for Sammy on how to find his way. Finally, a flock of his warbler cousins shows Sammy that finding Panama is as easy as following the stars. Animal migration patterns and seasonal changes are on display throughout this fascinating story, complemented by intricate paper collage, watercolor, and pen-and-ink illustrations.





The road to Afghanistan by Linda Grandfield

In moving words, a soldier home from a tour of duty in Afghanistan recalls its scenery and its people; the challenges faces and the successes achieved; the sense of duty and commitment... and the cost of that commitment. Coupled with striking and evocative images of Afghanistan and other lands where Canadian soldiers have served through the years, this story honours those who have put their own lives on the line in a country far from home.

Black and Bittern Was Night by Robert Heidbreder

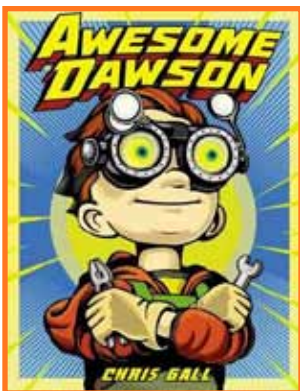
Halloween has arrived, but so have spooky skul-a-mug-mugs who frighten the grown-ups into calling off trick-or-treating. It's up to the kids to take back the night! Told in nonsense verse, this scare-fest will have you yak-yawling with fun!



The Day My Mom Came to Kindergarten by Maureen Fergus
A kindergartener invites her mom to class and discovers there are some things kids are better at than parents. This book makes a perfect gift for readers who are about to start or have recently started school.

The First Drawing by Mordicai Gerstein

Imagine you were born before the invention of drawing, more than thirty thousand years ago. You would live with your whole family in a cave and see woolly mammoths walk by! You might even see images of animals hidden in the shapes of clouds and rocks. You would want to share these pictures with your family, but wouldn't know how. Who would have made the world's first drawing? Would it have been you?



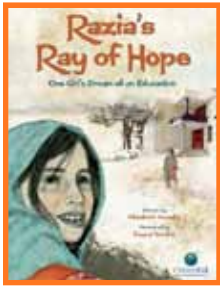
Awesome Dawson by Chris Gall

EVERYTHING CAN BE USED AGAIN! That's Dawson's motto. He collects junk that people throw away and turns it into something STUPENDOUS. But when Dawson uses his skills to create a machine to do his chores for him, he discovers he might have invented something a little too... AWESOME. Can he stop the rampaging robot before it destroys the entire town? Chris Gall inspires kids to reuse, repurpose, and recycle in this inventive adventure about a boy superhero who turns trash into treasures--and saves the world while he's at it!

Spaghetti is NOT a Finger Food by Jodi Carmichael

Deliciously entertaining and humorous read as we see the world through Connor's eyes. We follow a delightfully quirky day in the life of Connor, a brilliant student with an equally high talent for second-guessing the rules. As both entertainment and as an accessible educational tool to help teach students about Asperger's Syndrome, the book s a welcome addition to schools and libraries fostering diverse ways of thinking.



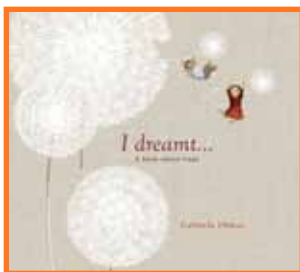
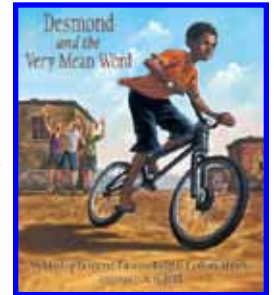


Razia's Ray of Hope by Elizabeth Suneby

Razia dreams of getting an education, but in her small village in Afghanistan, girls haven't been allowed to attend school for many years. When a new girls' school opens in the village, a determined Razia must convince her father and oldest brother that educating her would be best for her, their family and their community. Razia's Ray of Hope is the latest inspiring story from the CitizenKid collection. It is based on the true stories of the students of the Zabuli Education Center for Girls just outside of Kabul, founded by a generous and resourceful woman named Razia Jan, who also appears in the story.

Desmond and the Very Mean Word by Archbishop Desmond Tutu

When Desmond takes his new bicycle out for a ride through his neighborhood, his pride and joy turn to hurt and anger when a group of boys shout a very mean word at him. He first responds by shouting an insult, but soon discovers that fighting back with mean words doesn't make him feel any better. With the help of kindly Father Trevor, Desmond comes to understand his conflicted feelings and see that all people deserve compassion, whether or not they say they are sorry. Brought to vivid life in A. G. Ford's energetic illustrations, this heartfelt, relatable story conveys timeless wisdom about how to handle bullying and angry feelings, while seeing the good in everyone.



I Dreamt...A Book About Hope by Gabriela Olmos

In many parts of the world, children live with violence. Wars, gangs, guns, crime, bullying, harassment, and fear keep kids from living the full, free lives every child should enjoy. This book was created in Mexico, where for the past six years a vicious war has brought fear and insecurity to many children's lives. Their dreams have become nightmares. Some of Mexico's best illustrators have donated their art to create a book that gives children a way to talk about their fears, a reason to hope, and the inspiration to resist falling into grief. This would be a great book for Remembrance Day.

The Bramble by Lee Nordling

This mostly wordless story about a boy who discovers a passage into a world of monsters, and unlike *Where the Wild Things Go*, he befriends these monsters instead. The boy helps them with a serious problem and in the process, he learns something about himself. When he returns to his world, he uses it to good effect.



The Stamp Collector by Jennifer Lanthier

As a quiet reflection on the freedom of speech and government censorship, this is an achingly beautiful picture book with a rich lyrical voice. A poor city boy finds a single stamp and it opens up a world he had never before contemplated. A dreamy country boy loses himself in books and words, his imagination soaring far beyond the confines of his existence. Their paths intersect when reality sets in. And, here is where Lanthier truly shines. In a few phrases, she makes a connection between the two, now men, that is cautious, heartfelt and believable. The gentle push toward friendship, unhampered by the forced silence between them and the fear they both hold inside, only encourages the sense of foreboding. Despite the inevitability of the ending, the words, the story, will always live on.



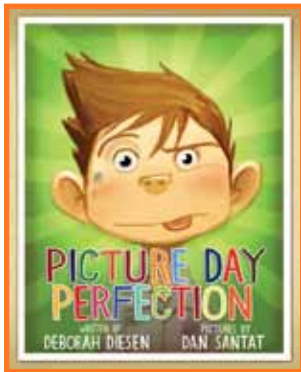
What If Your Best Friend Were Blue? By Vera Kochan

What if your best friend were blue? What if your doctor were yellow? Would it change things? A child imagines what the world would be like if people in his community each had a different skin color. Child-friendly acrylic illustrations and a strong read-aloud text gently teach colors while showing that it's what's on the inside that counts.

Whimsy's Heavy Things by Julie Kraulis

Whimsy's heavy things are weighing her down. She tries to sweep them under the rug, but she trips over them.

She tries to put them in a tree, but they fall on her. She even tries to sail them out to sea, but they always come back. Eventually Whimsy decides to deal with the heavy things one at a time... and a surprising thing happens. With exquisite illustrations and delightfully simple text, Whimsy's Heavy Things is a sweet story about changing the things that weigh us down into the things that lift us up.



Picture Day Perfection by Deborah Diesen

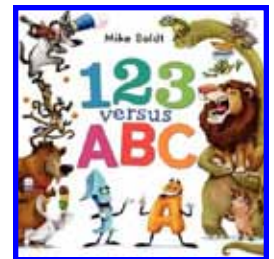
It's picture day, and the boy at the center of this charming picture book wants to make sure his picture is perfect. It seems as though everything's going wrong for him—he has bedhead, a stained shirt, and a big scowl on his face. But when he goes up for his picture, he thinks about his terrible appearance, and he smiles—because he secretly wants his picture to be the worst ever taken! But just as he smiles, the photo is snapped and his plan is ruined—the photo looks great.

Perfectly paired with the larger-than-life silliness of Dan Santat's illustrations, this is sure to be a schoolroom favorite. It will come bound with a picture frame in the back so readers can add their own class photos to the book.

123 Versus ABC by Mike Boldt

Mike Boldt's bright and playful picture book asks a big question: Which is more important, numbers or letters? Numbers and letters, the colorful characters in this story, compete to be the stars of this book.

Their debate escalates when funny animals and props arrive—starting with 1 alligator, 2 bears, and 3 cars. Who is this book really about? In the end, the answer is clear. This fresh and funny picture book plays with both numbers and letters in the most imaginative way.



The Magnificent Tree by Nick Bland

'What we need is a tree!' said Bonny. 'I completely agree,' said Pop. Bonny and Pop are bursting with ideas. Pop's ideas are big and brave and Bonny's ideas are simple and clever. When they decide to make something that will attract the birds, they come up with ideas for a tree. A brave tree, a clever tree - a magnificent tree.



The Smallest Gift of Christmas by Peter Reynolds

Roland can't wait for Christmas Day, and when the morning finally arrives he races downstairs to see what is waiting for him. What he sees stops him in his tracks. Could that tiny present really be what he had waited all year for? It has to be the smallest gift he had ever seen! So Roland wishes for something bigger . . . and bigger . . . and bigger. But he's still convinced there must be a bigger gift somewhere in the universe. Will he know it when he sees it? Peter H. Reynolds's spare, free-spirited illustrations and heartwarming text make this be-careful-what-you-wish-for story the perfect holiday gift.

Giant Dance Party by Betsy Bird

Giants can't dance! Can they? When Lexy takes on the task of teaching a gaggle of giants to dance, well, you can expect one giant dance party. Of course it doesn't start out that way. But as Lexy and her giants prove . . . where there is a will, there is a way. Where there is imagination, there is a way.

Where there is perseverance, there is a way. Where there is friendship, there is a way! Absolutely anyone can dance. And everyone in this book does!

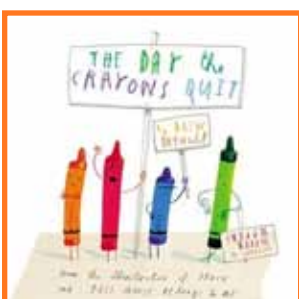


Crankenstein by Samantha Berger

He may look like any ordinary boy, but when faced with a rainy day, a melting popsicle, or an early bedtime, one little boy transforms into a mumbling, grumbling Crankenstein! When Crankenstein meets his match in a fellow Crankenstein, the results could be catastrophic-or they could be just what he needs to brighten his day!

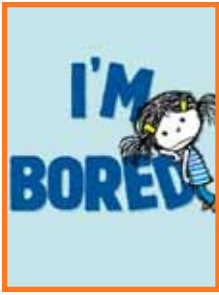
Eric...The Hero! By Chris Wormell

Eric is a little boy who sometimes gets things wrong. But Eric learns that while you can't be good at everything, sometimes it takes a little time to find out what you are good at. And when a huge monster stomps down the mountain to Eric's village, Eric just might have his chance to shine...



The Day The Crayons Quit by Oliver Jeffers

Poor Duncan just wants to color. But when he opens his box of crayons, he finds only letters, all saying the same thing: We quit! Beige is tired of playing second fiddle to Brown. Blue needs a break from coloring all that water, while Pink just wants to be used. Green has no complaints, but Orange and Yellow are no longer speaking to each other. What is Duncan to do? Debut author Drew Daywalt and New York Times bestseller Oliver Jeffers create a colorful solution in this playful, imaginative story that will have children laughing and playing with their crayons in a whole new way.



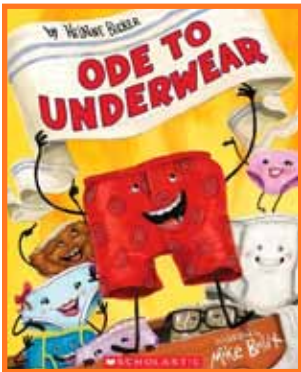
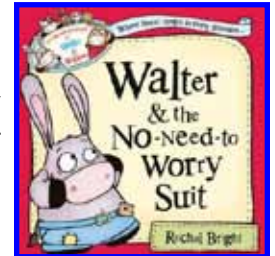
I'm Bored by Michael Ian Black

Just when a little girl thinks she couldn't possibly be more bored, she stumbles upon a potato who turns the tables on her by declaring that children are boring. But this girl isn't going to let a vegetable tell her what's what, so she sets out to show the unimpressed potato all the amazing things kids can do. Too bad the potato is anything but interested....

This tongue-in-cheek twist on a familiar topic is sure to entertain anyone who's ever been bored—or had to hear about someone else being bored.

Walter & the No-Need-To-Worry Suit by Rachel Bright

We all worry. But nobody worries quite like Walter. As the Seriously Competitive Sports and Funday approaches, Walter's worries start to roll out of control. What will his best friend Winnie and the other Woollybottomers do to help? A heart-warming, laugh-out-loud adventure revealing that whatever happens, as long as you have your friends around you, there's no need to worry!

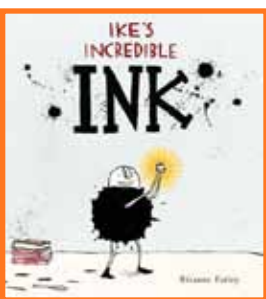


Ode to Underwear by Helaine Becker

Let's hear it for our underwear! From boxers to bloomers and briefs to bikinis, whether they're frilly, silly, or saggy — we all have our favourite pair, so give three cheers for underwear! The uproarious team behind Little Jack Horner, Live From the Corner brings us another silly storytime treat, this time celebrating an underappreciated piece of our wardrobe: underpants! With Helaine Becker's boisterous rhyming text and Mike Boldt's buoyant illustrations, Ode to Underwear is a perfect read-aloud for anyone who loves to laugh!

The Blessing Cup by Patricia Polacco

A single china cup from a tea set left behind when Jews were forced to leave Russia helps hold a family together through generations of living in America, reminding them of the most important things in life.



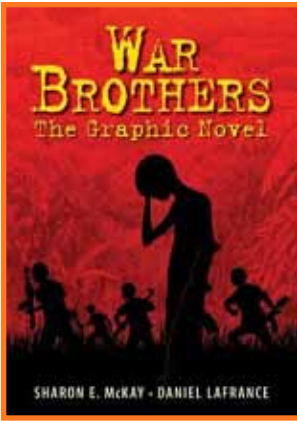
Ike's Incredible Ink by Brianne Farley

Ike wants to write a story. An incredible story. But he's not sure what to write about. Maybe he should clean his room first. Or find his favorite pen. And, oh! He'll need the right ink!

Ike's journey to find the perfect ink becomes his very own unique story to tell. Ike's Incredible Ink is the perfect book for anyone, child or adult, who is contemplating a creative journey of his or her own--and who may be doing a little procrastinating along the way.

Graphic Novels





War Brothers: the Graphic Novel by Sharon McKay

"The life of a child soldier is full of unthinkable violence ... But the human capacity to connect with others and for survival is remarkable."

Jacob is a 14-year-old Ugandan who is sent away to a boys' school. Once there, he assures his friend Tony that they need not be afraid -- they will be safe. But not long after, in the shadow of the night, the boys are abducted. Marched into the jungle, they are brought to an encampment of the feared rebel soldiers. They are told they must kill or be killed, and their world turns into a terrifying struggle to endure and survive. Intense. Brutal. Moving.

Night Wanderer: A Graphic Novel by Drew Hayden Taylor 12+



"A mesmerizing blend of vampire thriller and coming-of-age story -- now available as a graphic novel." Newcomers to the Otter Lake native reserve don't go unnoticed for long. So it's no surprise that 16-year-old Tiffany's curiosity is piqued when her father rents out her room to a complete stranger. But little do Tiffany, her father, or even her insightful Granny Ruth suspect the truth about their guest. The mysterious Pierre L'Errant has a dreadful secret. After centuries roaming Europe as a brooding vampire, he has returned home to reclaim his Native roots before facing the rising sun and certain death. Meanwhile, Tiffany is deeply troubled -- she doubts her boyfriend is being faithful, has escalating disputes with her father, and her estranged mother is starting a new life with somebody else. Fed up and heartsick, Tiffany threatens drastic measures and flees into the bush. There, in the midnight woods, a chilling encounter with L'Errant changes everything as Pierre introduces Tiffany to her proud Native heritage. For Pierre, though, destiny is fixed at sunrise.



Bag of Marbles by Joseph Joffo 10+

In 1941 in occupied Paris, brothers Maurice and Joseph play a last game of marbles before running home to their father's barbershop. This is the day that will change their lives forever. With the German occupation threatening their family's safety, the boys' parents decide Maurice and Joseph must disguise themselves and flee to their older brothers in the free zone. Surviving the long journey will take every scrap of ingenuity and courage they can muster. If they hope to elude the Nazis, they must never, under any circumstances, admit to being Jewish. The boys travel by train, ferry, and on foot, facing threats from strangers and receiving help from unexpected quarters. Along the way they must adapt to the unfamiliar world beyond their city and find a way to be true to themselves even as they conceal their identities.

Smash: Trial by Fire by Chris Bolton 9+

Ka-boom! Clobbered by fallout from a blast that kills the local superhero, Defender, Andrew Ryan suddenly has super strength and speed! And he can fly! Now it's up to him to protect citizens from thieves, thugs, and fearsome villains. He dons a homemade costume to hide his true identity, and Smash is born! But fighting crime isn't easy, especially when you're in fifth grade.





Jane, The Fox & Me by Fanny Britt 10+

Hélène has been inexplicably ostracized by the girls who were once her friends. Her school life is full of whispers and lies - Hélène weighs 216; she smells like BO. Her loving mother is too tired to be any help. Fortunately, Hélène has one consolation, Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre. Hélène identifies strongly with Jane's tribulations, and when she is lost in the pages of this wonderful book, she is able to ignore her tormentors. But when Hélène is humiliated on a class trip in front of her entire grade, she needs more than a fictional character to see herself as a person deserving of laughter and friendship.

The Lost Boy by Greg Ruth

Nate's not happy about his family moving to a new house in a new town. After all, nobody asked him if he wanted to move in the first place. But when he discovers a tape recorder and note addressed to him under the floorboards of his bedroom, he's thrust into a dark mystery about a boy who went missing many, many years ago. Now, as strange happenings and weird creatures begin to track Nate, he must partner with Tabitha, a local girl, to find out what they want with him. But time is running out, for a powerful force is gathering strength in the woods at the edge of town, and before long Nate and Tabitha will be forced to confront a terrifying foe and uncover the truth about the Lost Boy.



Calamity Jack by Shannon Hale 12+

Jack likes to think of himself as a criminal mastermind...with an unfortunate amount of bad luck. A schemer, plotter, planner, trickster, swindler...maybe even thief? One fine day Jack picks a target a little more giant than the usual, and one little bean turns into a great big building-destroying beanstalk. With help from Rapunzel (and her trusty braids), a pixie from Jack's past, and a man with inventions from the future, they just might out-swindle the evil giants and put his beloved city back in the hands of good peoplewhile catapulting themselves and readers into another fantastical adventure.

Astronaut Academy by Dave Roman 8+

Hakata Soy's past life as the leader of a futuristic super team won't stay in the past! The former space hero is doing his best to keep his head down at Astronaut Academy. Things aren't going so great, though. The most popular girl in school has it in for him. His best friend won't return his calls. And his new roommate is a complete jock who only cares about Fireball. Hakata just wants to make a fresh start. But how will he find time to study Anti-Gravity Gymnastics and Tactical Randomness when he's got a robot doppelganger on its way to kill him?



Nothing Could Possibly Go Wrong by Prudence Shen 10+

You wouldn't expect Nate and Charlie to be friends. Charlie's the laid-back captain of the basketball team, and Nate is the neurotic, scheming president of the robotics club. But they are friends, however unlikely—until Nate declares war on the cheerleaders. At stake is funding that will either cover a robotics competition or new cheerleading uniforms—but not both. It's only going to get worse: after both parties are stripped of their funding on grounds of abominable misbehavior, Nate enrolls the club's robot in a battlebot competition in a desperate bid for prize money. Bad sportsmanship? Sure. Chainsaws? Why not. Running away from home on Thanksgiving to illicitly enter a televised robot death match? Of course!



Ender's Game: Ultimate Collection Graphic Novel by Orson Scott Card 12+
Andrew "Ender" Wiggin is only 6 years old. His peers bully him, his parents are aloof, and his older brother is violently resentful of him. He might also be humanity's only hope. Ender is recruited to join the International Fleet's legion of child warriors in training, to report for duty in defense of the planet. Leaving behind the only person who ever understood him--his kind-hearted sister Valentine--he takes on the challenge of becoming a commander in Earth's defenses. His promise is high, and his teachers are sure he will rise to the test--that is, if Battle School doesn't kill him first. Ender struggles to find a place within his soul for tranquility, humanity and a connection with something greater than the brutal mechanics of war and strategy. But when he is thrust into Command School at a vastly accelerated pace, will he crack up on the road to becoming the hero that the human race so desperately needs?

Flight of Angels: Graphic Novel 14+



The diverse mythology of angels is explored in this lushly painted graphic novel from high-profile fantasy authors including Holly Black (The Spiderwick Chronicles) and Bill Willingham (FABLES). Deep in the woods outside of a magical kingdom, a strange group of faeries and forest creatures discover a nearly dead angel, bleeding and unconscious with a sword by his side. They call a tribunal to decide his fate, each telling stories that delve into different interpretations of these winged, celestial beings: tales of dangerous angels, all-powerful angels, guardian angels and death angels, that range from the mystical to the mysterious to the macabre.



How to Fake a Moon Landing: Exposing the Myths of Science Denial by Darryl Cunningham 12+

Is hydro-fracking safe? Is climate change real? Did the moon landing actually happen? How about evolution: fact or fiction? Author-illustrator Darryl Cunningham looks at these and other hot-button science topics and presents a fact-based, visual assessment of current thinking and research on eight different issues everybody's arguing about. His lively storytelling approach incorporates comics, photographs, and diagrams to create substantive but easily accessible reportage. Cunningham's distinctive illustrative style shows how information is manipulated by all sides; his easy-to-follow narratives allow readers to draw their own fact-based conclusions. A graphic milestone of investigative journalism!

A + E 4ever by Ilike Merry 14+



Asher Machnik is a teenage boy cursed with a beautiful androgynous face. Guys punch him, girls slag him and by high school he's developed an intense fear of being touched. Art remains his only escape from an otherwise emotionally empty life. Eulalie Mason is the lonely, tough-talking dyke from school who befriends Ash. The only one to see and accept all of his sides as a loner, a fellow artist and a best friend, she's starting to wonder if ash is ever going to see all of her... a + e 4EVER is a graphic novel set in that ambiguous crossroads where love and friendship, boy and girl, straight and gay meet. It goes where few books have ventured, into genderqueer life, where affections aren't black and white.

Poetry



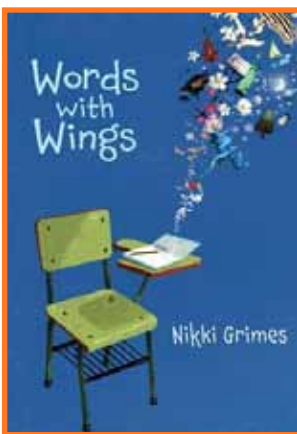


Rosa Rose by Robert Priest

From Terry Fox to Ghandi, Rosa Parks to Elijah Harper, Robert Priest has collected some of his most inspiring poems together in this book for young people. Priest, an award-winning poet and musician, has written these thought-provoking poems to introduce children to men and women across the planet that have changed the world. Illustrated with bold line drawings by Joan Krygsman, Rosa Rose is a captivating book sure to delight all readers

All The World's a Stage by Lee Bennett Hopkins

This beautiful anthology is a must-have for anyone's poetry collection, children's or otherwise. Moving and brilliantly curated Seven Stages of Man. A perfect example of the artistry of a thoughtfully crafted anthology, combining timeless and timely poems and poets to powerful effect. Bravo! Great for high grades as well.

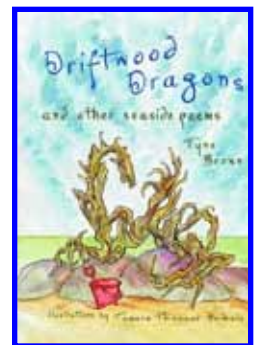


Words with Wings by Nikki Grimes

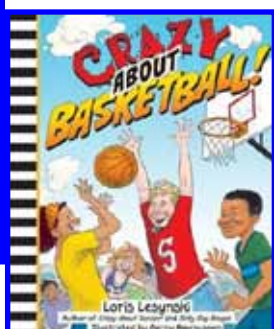
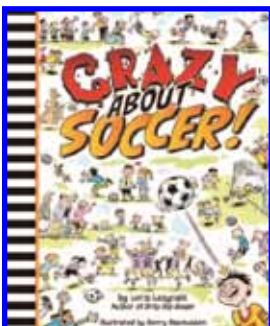
Gabriela is still dealing with the divorce of her parents and having to start a new school and make new friends. Her mother worries that her daydreaming and failing to pay attention in class will result in missed work and poor grades. Her dreamy behavior often leads to teasing from her classmates. Certain words send her off on flights of fancy that distract her from her tasks but result in imaginative, expressive writing. As her teacher, Mr. Spicer, modeled after the real, live Ed Spicer, and her mother press her to focus, she briefly leaves those daydreams behind until she finds a way to save those daydreams for a later time. She also finds a new friend who uses art as his own creative outlet. The book is filled with incredible phrases and poetry as Gabby searches for ways to go about "bringing daydreams in/ for a landing"

Driftwood Dragons and Other Seaside Poems by Tyne Brown

Driftwood Dragons is a collection of thirty-four lyrical seaside poems for children. Inspired by the coastline and accompanied by whimsical illustrations, these poems are celebrations of the coastal environment. From an ode to a beach flea to a short conversation with a snail, Driftwood Dragons perfectly captures the beauty, diversity and joy to be found at East Coast beaches.



Crazy About Soccer! And Crazy About Basketball by Loris Lesynski



These collections of poems by Loris Lesynski captures the joys, thrills, and challenges of one of the most popular sports in the schoolyard today. Rhythmic, funny verses reflect the game's energy while offering sound suggestions for proper play.