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Center for Children's Literature

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4-2022

## **The Best Children's Books of the Year [2022 edition]**

Bank Street College of Education. Children's Book Committee

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# The Best Children's Books of the Year

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2022 Edition  
Books Published in 2021



<https://www.bankstreet.edu/cbc>

BANK STREET COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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THE BEST  
CHILDREN'S  
BOOKS  
OF THE YEAR

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2022 EDITION  
BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2021

SELECTED BY THE  
CHILDREN'S BOOK COMMITTEE

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It is with a combination of pride, profound respect, and deep affection that we dedicate the 2022 edition of *The Best Children's Books of the Year* to Muriel Mandell, CBC member since 1984, who celebrated her centenary this past summer. Her experience as a journalist, as an author of children's books, including many on STEM topics, and as a software instructor make her an invaluable mentor and colleague. It is, however, her sense of humor, collegiality, and warmth that make her well-loved. This one's for you, Muriel.

The publication of the 2022 edition of *The Best Children's Books of the Year* was made possible with the assistance of the many publishers who helped the Children's Book Committee receive books in non-traditional ways throughout the pandemic.

Finally, a special thank you to the members of the Bank Street Children's Book Committee, whose technological skills continued to grow exponentially as we continued the work of reading, sharing, and reviewing via Zoom.

## THE CHILDREN'S BOOK COMMITTEE

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## MEMBERS EMERITI

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Margaret Cooper	Lisa Von Drasek
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## MEMBERS ON LEAVE OR AT LARGE

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Alice Belgray

## TIPS FOR PARENTS

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- Share your enjoyment of books with your child.
- Talk over your reading.
- Continue to read aloud to your child even after they read independently.
- Encourage your child to choose a book to read aloud to someone else.
- Broaden your child's horizons by helping them to select books from a wide range of subjects.
- Encourage your child to read whatever they enjoy, even if it appears to be too easy or too hard.
- Let your child see your enjoyment of your own reading.
- Find time for your child to visit and browse in libraries and bookstores.

## 2022 AWARDS

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### **The Josette Frank Award**

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

*(for younger readers)*

#### ***Milo Imagines the World***

by Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson  
(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Random House)

*(for older readers)*

#### ***Firekeeper's Daughter***

by Angeline Boulley  
(Henry Holt Books for Young Readers/Macmillan Children's Publishing Group)

### **The Claudia Lewis Award**

for the best poetry book of the year for young readers

#### ***You Don't Have to Be Everything: Poems for Girls Becoming Themselves***

edited by Diana Whitney, illustrated by Cristina González,  
Kate Mockford, and Stephanie Singleton  
(Workman Publishing Company)

### **The Flora Stieglitz Straus Award**

for a distinguished work of nonfiction that serves as an inspiration to young readers

***Hear My Voice:***

***The Testimonies of Children Detained  
at the Southern Border of the United States/***

***Escucha mi voz:***

***Los testimonios de los jóvenes detenidos  
en la frontera sureña de los Estados Unidos***

Compiled by Warren Binford, illustrated by 17 Latinx artists  
(Workman Publishing Company)

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

In evaluating books for their literary merit, the Bank Street Children's Book Committee (CBC) recognizes the importance of diversity in children's literature and acknowledges and celebrates the voices and cultures of all of our readers. Diversity encompasses the varied and unique identities, experiences, perspectives, and cultural communities of a book's main and supporting characters, whose attributes include (but are not limited to) race, ethnicity, gender, abilities, sexuality, class, religion, and family structure. All children benefit from seeing themselves reflected in what they read, and from seeing characters with different identities, depicted accurately and without stereotypes in texts and/or illustrations. The CBC values representations of characters who are change agents and advocates for social justice, inclusivity, and equity.

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In accordance with the Committee's goal of modeling proper sourcing of nonfiction writing, all listed informational books for children nine and older must contain supporting references including, at a minimum, sources, quote attributions, and photo credits. Book annotations may also include the term "back matter" to indicate that there is additional reference material provided.

## KEY

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Board Book     |  Outstanding Merit |
|  Diversity      |  Read Aloud        |
|  Graphic Format |  Age Range         |
|  Mature         |   |



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# UNDER FIVE

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## **D** 100 Things I Know How to Do

written and illustrated by Amy Schwartz  
(Abrams Appleseed/Abrams, \$16.99)

978-1-4197-4326-9

Familiar activities of young children are accompanied by bouncing couplets. Clear, vibrant gouache illustrations. (2-5)

## **B** All Dressed Up

by Andrea Zimmerman, illustrated by David Clemesha  
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$8.99) 978-1-5344-3870-5

Chef? Diver? Cowgirl? Whatever the profession and activity, each has its own attire. Bright, engaging illustrations on double-page spreads. (2-3)

## **All of the Factors of Why I Love Tractors**

by Davina Bell, illustrated by Jenny Løvlie  
(Greenwillow/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-301918-8

In rhyming dialog, a young boy gives his protesting mother a detailed defense of his library selection, another book about his beloved tractors. Colorful digital illustrations. (4-6)

## **D** All of Us

by Kathryn Erskine, illustrated by Alexandra Boiger  
(Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99)

978-0-593-20469-6

Children the world over engage in activities that exhibit love and friendship. Rhymed text and subtly colored, soft digital illustrations. (3-6)

## **Atticus Caticus**

by Sarah Maizes, illustrated by Kara Kramer  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-0840-5

A day in the life of a boy and his irrepressible cat, told in rhythmic verse. Humorous digital illustrations. (4-5)

## **\* Australian Baby Animals**

written and illustrated by Frané Lessac  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1527-4

Joeys, hatchlings, chicks, fry, puggles, pups, and platypups all live as babies under the care of various parents and siblings. Simple presentation and colorful illustrations. (2-5)

## **The Barking Ballad:**

### **A Bark-Along Meow-Along Book**

written and illustrated by Julie Paschkis  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-9260-8

Children join in with barks and meows in this rhyming tale of a stray cat who heals an injured dog. Folk-art style illustrations. (3-6)

## **D** **B** Baseball Baby (Sports Baby Book series)

by Diane Adams, illustrated by Charlene Chua  
(Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers  
Group/PRH, \$7.99) 978-0-593-20243-2

A toddler enjoys a baseball game with his family and, in rhyme, explains the basics. Bold illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (1-3)

## **Bear Can't Wait**

by Karma Wilson, illustrated by Jane Chapman  
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster  
Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)

978-1-4814-5975-4

As Bear and his friends get ready to throw a surprise party, he almost ruins everything when he gets too excited. Vibrant acrylic illustrations. (3-5)

## **Bear Wants to Sing**

by Cary Fagan, illustrated by Dena Seiferling  
(Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada Young  
Readers/PRH Canada, \$17.99) 978-0-7352-6803-6

Subtle graphite illustrations capture Bear's frustration and dejection as his song gets interrupted, and his ultimate joy when a friend stands by his side. (4-6)

## **The Best Place in the World**

written and illustrated by Petr Horáček  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1285-3

Is Hare's meadow the best, most beautiful place? Hare explores and discovers what makes it special. Splashy, brilliant colors in full-page spreads. (4-6)

## **The Big House and the Little House**

by Yoshi Ueno, illustrated by Emiko Fujishima  
(Levine Querido, \$17.99) 978-1-64614-049-7

When a storm threatens Mouse's little house, his newly found friend and neighbor, Bear, comes to the rescue. Detailed illustrations in a gentle pastel palette. (4-6)

### **Blue Floats Away**

by Travis Jonker, illustrated by Grant Snider (Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$17.99) 978-1-4197-4423-5  
An iceberg floats away from his parents, experiences the ocean, and undergoes a sequence of physical changes before returning home. Mixed-media collage illustrations. (3-6)

### **Brave As a Mouse**

written and illustrated by Nicolò Carozzi (Random House Studio/Penguin Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-18183-6  
Animated life-like muted pastel illustrations and minimal text show the dramatic moments when mice ingeniously protect their goldfish friend from looming disaster. (3-6)

### **ⓓ \* Bright Brown Baby: A Treasury**

by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Brian Pinkney (Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99) 978-0-545-87229-4  
A collection of stories uplift Black and Brown babies and encourage love, affirmation, and understanding of child development through family interactions. Gouache and acrylic illustrations. (0-1)

### **\* Bubbles ... Up!**

by Jacqueline Davies, illustrated by Sonia Sánchez (Katherine Tegen /HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-283661-8  
As a mother and younger sibling look on, an exuberant child frolics in a neighborhood pool. A celebration of swimming and splashing. Imaginative wordplay, effervescent digital art. (3-6)

### **ⓓ Carpenter's Helper**

by Sybil Rosen, illustrated by Camille Garoche (Schwartz & Wade/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-12320-1  
Renata loves helping Papi build their new bathroom, but the project is interrupted when a wren comes to nest above the bathtub. Rich language and detailed illustrations. (4-6)

### **ⓓ Chaiwala!**

by Priti Birla Maheshwari, illustrated by Ashley Barron (Owlkids Books, \$17.95) 978-1-77417-368-2  
Richly hued collages and simple text describe a train stop in Jaipur where an Indian mother and daughter have just enough time for a delicious drink of chai. (4-6)

### **Chez Bob**

written and illustrated by Bob Shea (Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$17.99) 978-0-316-48311-7  
Birdseed featured on the menu of a restaurant attracts birds for the alligator owner to devour. But will making new friends prove even more delicious? Zany illustrations. (4-6)

### **ⓓ The Circles All around Us**

by Brad Montague, illustrated by Brad Montague and Kristi Montague (Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-32318-2  
A child draws larger and larger circles to widen their world, enhancing it. Simple effective analog and digital illustrations. (3-6)

### **ⓓ ⓑ City Baby**

by Laurie Elmquist, illustrated by Ashley Barron (Orca Book Publishers, \$10.95) 978-1-4598-2592-5  
An Asian mom and baby walk through their diverse North American city, visiting the park, a café, and a festival. Bold collage and digital illustrations. (1-3)

### **ⓑ \* Daddy**

written and illustrated by Leslie Patricelli (Candlewick Press, \$7.99) 978-1-5362-0382-0  
Daddy can do everything (according to a diapered narrator)! Bright, acrylic illustrations accompany simple rhyming text. (0-3)

### **The Day the Rain Moved In**

written and illustrated by Éléonore Douspis, translated from the French by Shelley Tanaka (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$16.95) 978-1-77306-481-9  
A family's persistent source of distress and sadness is ameliorated by looking at things through the wondering eyes of others. Digital art in a subdued palette. (5-6)

### **ⓓ Don't Hug Doug (He Doesn't Like It)**

by Carrie Finison, illustrated by Daniel Wiseman (G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$16.99) 978-1-984813-02-2  
Need a clear, polite way for children to assert their right to be hugged or not? Constructive alternative greetings offered. Vibrant digital illustrations. (4-5)

**D \* Everybody in the Red Brick Building**

by Anne Wynter, illustrated by Oge Mora  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-286576-2  
Colorful collage art aptly depicts the sounds that wake apartment dwellers from their sleep. Word repetition makes this urban bedtime story a great read aloud. (3-5)

**D B Families Can**

by Dan Saks, illustrated by Brooke Smart  
(Rise X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House,  
\$7.99) 978-0-593-22365-9  
A celebration of the American family in its many permutations. Warm illustrations portray diverse households. (0-3)

**D Family Reunion**

by Chad Richardson and Dad Richardson,  
illustrated by Ashleigh Corrin  
(Barefoot Books, \$16.99) 978-1-64686-218-4  
A young boy reluctantly attends the reunion of his extended African American family and finds he really enjoys getting to know everybody. Vibrant illustrations. (4-6)



**Fish and Sun (I Can Read! Comics series)**

written and illustrated by Sergio Ruzzier  
(HarperAlley/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-307664-8  
Fish finds a new friend, Sun, who makes the world warm and exciting. Very simple graphic novel format with beautifully painted watercolor panels. (4-6)

**Free**

written and illustrated by Sam Usher  
(Templar/Candlewick Press, \$16.99)  
978-1-5362-1704-9  
A lost bird becomes friends with a young boy and his granddad. In helping the bird find its home, they enter a magical world. Detailed ink and watercolor illustrations. (3-6)

**The Froggies Do NOT Want to Sleep**

written and illustrated by Adam Gustavson  
(Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-58089-524-8  
Colorful images of leggy amphibians catapult across double-page spreads. The frogs ride unicycles, fly spaceships, and train beasts in their bedtime-resistant romp. (4-6)

**D Go Be Wonderful!**

by Donna Gephart, illustrated by Francesca Chessa  
(Holiday House, \$17.99) 978-0-8234-4511-0  
Encouraged by her biracial family from birth, Daisy passes each childhood milestone with confidence and success. Will that continue when she starts school? Whimsical mixed-media illustrations. (3-5)

**Hardly Haunted**

written and illustrated by Jessie Sima  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-4170-5  
A creaky haunted house longs for someone to make it a haunted home, but who will be brave enough? Spooky sounds abound; atmospheric digital art. (4-6)

**Hello, Moon**

written and illustrated by Julie Downing  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4701-5  
Follow animals from dusk to dawn in this gentle tale told in quatrains. Saturated watercolor artwork. (3-6)

**D B Hello Preschool!**

written and illustrated by Priscilla Burris  
(Penguin Random House, \$7.99) 978-0-593-32410-3  
Vibrant animated double-page spreads show a diverse class of enthusiastic children experiencing routines and activities on their very first day of school. (3-6)

**Home Is ...**

by Hannah Barnaby, illustrated by  
Frann Preston-Gannon  
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)  
978-1-5344-2176-9  
Simple rhymed text celebrates homes for people and animals in mountains, seas, small towns, and big cities all over the world. Jewel-toned illustrations. (2-5)

**Honey for You, Honey for Me:  
A First Book of Nursery Rhymes**

edited by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Chris Riddell  
(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-1-5362-1273-0  
Captivating watercolor illustrations accompany this diverse collection of nursery rhymes sourced from historical anthologies. Each one tickles the tongue. (3-6)

**ⓓ Hugo**

by Atinuke, illustrated by Birgitta Sif  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1275-4  
Through the seasons, park warden Hugo the pigeon helps his neighbors. Eventually, he coaxes a mysterious Somebody out to play. Soft digitally colored illustrations. (3-6)

**I Am a Bird**

by Hope Lim, illustrated by Hyewon Yum  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-0891-7  
A young child is initially frightened by a cross-looking woman. Then the girl learns that they both love to sing to birds. Sunny, soft, textured art. (3-6)

**I Can Make a Train Noise**

written and illustrated by Michael Emberley and Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4496-0  
A little girl and her family enter a café. With a short declaration, she transforms it into a moving train. Detailed mixed-media illustrations (4-6)

**I Like Trains**

written and illustrated by Daisy Hirst  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-1-5362-1276-1  
A young puppy really likes trains—to play with, to drive, to read books about, and to take to visit his grandma. Simple screenprinted illustrations. (3-6)

**If I Were a Dog**

written and illustrated by Joanna Cotler  
(Philomel/Penguin Random House, \$17.99)  
978-0-593-11610-4  
This simple story shows the joys of being human and of being a dog, and the similarities between the two. Expressive watercolor illustrations. (3-6)

**ⓓ I'll Build You a Bookcase/Te haré tu propio librero**

by Jean Ciborowski Fahey, illustrated by Simone Shin, Spanish translation by Yanitzia Canetti  
(Lee & Low Books, \$14.95) 978-1-64379-454-9  
Children and adults of many races and cultures share the gift of reading with others. Acrylic and digital illustrations. Bilingual in Spanish and English. Also available in Arabic-, Mandarin-, and Vietnamese-English editions. (3-6)

**\* Inside Cat**

written and illustrated by Brendan Wenzel  
(Chronicle, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-7319-1  
Inside Cat thinks it has seen it all through the windows, but then the front door is opened. Lyrical rhyming text. Stylized mixed-media illustrations. (3-6)

**Interrupting Chicken:  
Cookies for Breakfast**

written and illustrated by David Ezra Stein  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0778-1  
The little red chicken returns in this third adventure, hungry for cookies and hilariously shattering nursery rhymes to persuade his father to give him those treats. Bright mixed-media art. (4-6)

**Itty-Bitty Kitty-Corn**

by Shannon Hale, illustrated by LeUyen Pham  
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-5091-5  
Kitty wants to be a unicorn, but her friends poke fun at her games. Bright candy-colored illustrations add humor to this story of friendship and self-acceptance. (3-6)

**ⓓ Jenny Mei Is Sad**

written and illustrated by Tracy Subisak  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$17.99)  
978-0-316-53771-1  
Recognizing Asian American Jenny's sadness, her Black friend tries to help by listening carefully. Appealing India ink, watercolor, pastel, and colored pencil illustrations. (4-6)

**Lala's Words:**

**A Story of Planting Kindness**

written and illustrated by Gracey Zhang  
(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-338-64823-2  
Every day, rambunctious Lala rushes out to water city plants and whisper loving words to them. They listen! Endearing hand-drawn illustrations. (3-5)

**ⓓ Leo and the Octopus**

by Isabelle Marinov, illustrated by Chris Nixon  
(Kane Miller/EDC Publishing, \$19.99)  
978-1-68464-277-9  
Prone to sensory overload, Leo struggles to make sense of the world, until he bonds with an octopus in the local aquarium. Acrylic and ink illustrations include details of octopus behaviors. (4-6)



**ⓓ Like a Dandelion**

written and illustrated by Huy Voun Lee  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-299373-1

As an Asian child and her mother journey from a refugee camp to America, their resiliency is likened to the small but strong dandelion. Poetic text; graceful digital art. (4-6)

**ⓓ Listen**

by Gabi Snyder, illustrated by Stephanie Graegin  
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6189-5  
Children are called to listen, moving beyond the noises around them to the sounds of words, of feelings, and of nature. Gentle pencil, watercolor, and Adobe Fresco and Photoshop illustrations (4-6)

**ⓓ The Little Blue Bridge**

by Brenda Maier, illustrated by Sonia Sánchez  
(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-338-53801-4  
This reimagining of the Billy Goats Gruff features a young Latina whose ingenuity surprises both a bully and her own big brothers. Joyful illustrations and a STEM component. (4-6)

**ⓓ The Little One**

written and illustrated by Kiyoko Tanaka, translated from the Japanese by David Boyd  
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$16.95) 978-1-59270-358-6  
A young Japanese girl spends an afternoon playing with a mysterious magical creature before she meets with her father. Delicate black-and-white copperplate etchings. (4-6)

**ⓓ Looking for a Jumbie**

by Tracey Baptiste, illustrated by Amber Ren  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-297081-7  
Frightening Caribbean folklore characters are found to be kind companions in this tale of a young girl's brave exploration. Lively repetitive text; colorful digital art. (4-6)

**ⓓ The Lost Package**

by Richard Ho, illustrated by Jessica Lanan  
(Roaring Brook Press, \$18.99) 978-1-250-23135-2  
When a dark-skinned boy finds a box that has fallen out of a USPS truck, he decides to deliver the package himself. Masterful watercolor illustrations. (4-6)

**Maybe ...**

written and illustrated by Chris Haughton  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-2024-7  
Animated wide-eyed monkeys displayed on vivid red backgrounds are warned by their mother to stay away from the mango grove for fear of tigers. Do they listen? Expressive illustrations. (3-5)

**ⓓ The Me I Choose to Be**

by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley, illustrated by Regis Bethencourt and Kahran Bethencourt  
(Little, Brown BFYR, Hachette Book Group, \$17.99)  
978-0-316-46154-2  
Creative Photoshopped images show Black children exploring their boundless potential. (4-6)

**Mel Fell**

written and illustrated by Corey R. Tabor  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-287801-4  
A brave fledgling kingfisher leaves her nest to fly for the first time. Innovative vertical format. Engaging pastel illustrations. Author's note. (3-6)



**Mole in a Black & White Hole**

written and illustrated by Tereza Sediva  
(Thames & Hudson, \$16.95) 978-0-500-65205-3  
Mole prefers to stay in his underground home, but what happens when he ventures beyond his comfort zone? Horizontal, linocut prints depict Mole's journey from a stark black-and-white world to one of vibrant colors. (4-6)

**ⓓ \* Mommy**

written and illustrated by Leslie Patricelli  
(Candlewick Press, \$7.99) 978-1-5362-0381-3  
Mommy can do everything! Bright, acrylic illustrations accompany rhyming text. (0-3)

**ⓓ Monster Clothes**

written and illustrated by Daisy Hirst  
(Candlewick Press, \$7.99) 978-1-5362-1528-1  
Everybody—including a behemoth—needs to find something to wear in the morning. Humorous screenprinted illustrations. (0-3)

**Moose, Goose, and Mouse**

by Mordicai Gerstein, illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein and Jeff Mack  
(Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4760-2  
A rollicking adventure on a runaway caboose leads three animal friends to the new home that fulfills each of their wishes. Bright and playful computer-generated collage illustrations. (4-6)

### **More Than Fluff**

written and illustrated by Madeline Valentine (Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-17905-5  
Her friends can't resist touching cute, fluffy Daisy the chick, but she needs some personal space! Her mother helps her hatch a plan. Cheerful digital graphite and watercolor illustrations. (4-6)

### **D My Time series**

- **It's Big Brother Time!** (978-0-06-288437-4)
- **It's Big Sister Time!** (978-0-06-288438-1)

by Nandini Ahuja, illustrated by Catalina Echeverri (HarperFestival/HarperCollins, \$7.99)  
Somebody has to teach baby the house and family rules! Told from the point of view of the older sibling. Humorous, expressive mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

### **Never, Not Ever!**

written and illustrated by Beatrice Alemagna, translated from the French by Jill Davis (HarperCollins Children's Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-307649-5  
A young bat uses her extraordinary secret powers to overcome her first-day-of-school jitters. Collage and crayon art. (4-6)

### **B New House**

written and illustrated by Dave Wheeler (Rise X/Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$9.99) 978-0-593-22492-2  
A toddler explores his fascinating but unfamiliar new home and is assured of familial love. Humorous mixed-media illustrations. (1-3)

### **The Nice Dream Truck**

by Beth Ferry, illustrated by Brigitte Barrager (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-290783-7  
With clever rhymes and energetic illustrations, this lyrical bedtime story depicts children's dreams. (3-5)

### **D Noah's Seal**

written and illustrated by Layn Marlow (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1851-0  
While waiting for Nana to fix their sailboat, Noah shapes a sand seal. A storm washes it out to sea, but then ... Textured watercolor and collage illustrations. (3-6)

### **D Nosotros Means Us:**

#### **Un cuento bilingüe/A Bilingual Story**

written and illustrated by Paloma Valdivia (Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH \$17.99) 978-0-593-30514-0  
A mother holds her child on her lap and expresses her enduring love. Soothing mixed-media illustrations. (3-5)

### **D Off to See the Sea**

by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon (Sourcebooks Jabberwocky/Sourcebooks Kids, \$17.99) 978-1-4926-3829-2  
A Black mother turns bath time into a magical adventure. Told in free verse. Playful, brightly colored mixed-media illustrations. (2-5)

### **Oh Look, a Cake!**

written and illustrated by J. C. McKee (Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-358-38030-6  
Sloth and Lemur invent absurd reasons for not sharing the large, tempting cake they have found, but their greed has consequences. Humorous illustrations. (4-6)

### **One Day**

by Lee Juck, illustrated by Kim Seung-youn, translated from the Korean by Asuka Minamoto, Lee Juck, and Dianne Chung (Enchanted Lion Books, \$16.95) 978-1-59270-313-5  
Grandpa is gone. His grandson contemplates the belongings left behind and imagines where his grandfather might be; perhaps among the stars? Gentle illustrations in a subdued palette capture the child's loss. (5-6)

### **D Oscar's Tower of Flowers**

written and illustrated by Lauren Tobia (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1777-3  
Colorful illustrations, including some full-page spreads, present touching, wordless scenes of a boy missing his special someone. A planting project shared with diverse neighbors turns sadness to joy. (4-6)

### **Our Shed:**

#### **A Father-Daughter Building Story**

by Robert Broder, illustrated by Carrie O'Neill (Little Bigfoot/Sasquatch Books, \$17.99) 978-1-63217-264-8  
A daughter learns carpentry skills alongside her father and enjoys the work breaks they take together during the project. Colorful, playfully detailed illustrations. (5-6)

### **Out of Nowhere**

written and illustrated by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros (Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8100-8  
When its caterpillar friend disappears, a beetle's search for her ends in an amazing discovery. Stark black-and-white illustrations punctuated with red reveal the caterpillar's whereabouts. (4-6)

### **The Pocket Chaotic**

by Ziggy Hanaor, illustrated by Daniel Gray-Barbett (Cicada Books, \$16.95) 978-1-908714-80-0  
Alexander finds life in his kangaroo mother's pouch crowded and jumbled. He tries to organize things, but is it perhaps time to move out? Simple humorous illustrations. (3-6)

### **ⓓ The Rice in the Pot Goes Round and Round**

by Wendy Wan-Long Shang, illustrated by Lorian Tu (Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99) 978-1-338-62119-8  
A multigenerational family shares their traditional Chinese foods and love. Told in refrains based on an American folk song. Joyful animated color illustrations. Detailed glossary with Chinese characters. (3-6)

### **ⓓ Run, Little Chaski!: An Inka Trail Adventure**

by Mariana Llanos, illustrated by Mariana Ruiz Johnson (Barefoot Books, \$16.99) 978-1-64686-164-4  
Little Chaski runs into trouble on his first mission, to carry a message to the Inka king. Colorful stylized illustrations. Glossary, map, and information about the Inka. Also available in Spanish. (4-6)

### **ⓓ A Small Kindness**

by Stacy McAnulty, illustrated by Wendy Leach (Running Press Kids/Hachette Book Group, \$17.99) 978-0-7624-9522-1  
On the first day of school, kind acts spread through a diverse class like a game of tag, bringing smiles to everyone. Spots of bright color in mainly sepia illustrations show the path of the kindness. (4-6)

### **Spin a Scarf of Sunshine**

by Dawn Casey, illustrated by Stila Lim (Floris Books, \$17.95) 978-178250-658-4  
Nari's sheep's fleece is sheared, washed, brushed, spun, dyed, knit, worn, and composted in this story of sustainability. Watercolor and color pencil illustrations. (3-6)

### **ⓓ The Star Festival**

by Moni Ritchie Hadley, illustrated by Mizuho Fujisawa (Albert Whitman & Company, \$16.99) 978-0-8075-7595-6  
Amid the vibrantly illustrated backdrop of a traditional summertime Japanese folklore festival, a young girl seeks her grandmother in the crowd of celebrants. Back matter. (4-6)

### **Terrific!**

written and illustrated by Sophie Gilmore (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-302518-9  
Five animal friends would like to find a wonderful activity they can all do together. Then snake arrives with a different plan. Watercolor and ink illustrations in a subdued palette. (4-6)

### **The Thingy-Jig**

by Kathleen Doherty, illustrated by Kristyna Litten (Peachtree, \$17.99) 978-1-56145-959-9  
Bear wants to share his wonderful find with his friends. He needs their help to move it, but they just want to sleep. What to do? Colorful pencil and ink illustrations, digitally rendered. (4-6)

### **ⓓ A Thousand White Butterflies**

by Jessica Betancourt-Perez and Karen Lynn Williams, illustrated by Gina Maldonado (Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-577-4  
Snow and a new friend lift the sadness of a Colombian child who has recently settled in the United States. Bright, textured illustrations. Spanish vocabulary throughout. (4-6)



### **Thunder and Cluck:**

#### **Friends DO NOT Eat Friends (Thunder and Cluck series)**

by Jill Esbaum, illustrated by Miles Thompson (Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8652-2  
One large and one small dinosaur parry, ultimately becoming fast friends in this vibrantly illustrated easy-to-read story. (3-6)

### **ⓓ Time for Bed, Old House**

by Janet Costa Bates, illustrated by A. G. Ford (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-0998-3  
A young Black child finds his first overnight at Grandpop's exciting but scary. Can Grandpop find a way to make it a fun experience? Watercolor illustrations. (3-5)



### **Tiny Kitty, Big City**

written and illustrated by Tim Miller  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-241442-7

A kitten adventures alone in the city. When it begins to snow, where will the kitty go? Detailed acrylic gouache illustrations invite discussion. (3-6)

### **D The Tree in Me**

written and illustrated by Corinna Luyken  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-0-593-11259-5

The beauty of the natural world enters a child of color through the bite of an apple. Glowing gouache artwork pulls the reader in. (4-6)

### **Trouble**

written and illustrated by Katherine Battersby  
(Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers  
Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-11404-9  
A mouse fears the worst when a bear becomes her neighbor. Sparse text and humorous cartoon-like illustrations combine cleverly in this story about misconceptions. (4-6)

### **Way Past Jealous (Great Big Feelings series)**

by Hallee Adelman, illustrated by Karen Wall  
(Albert Whitman & Co., \$16.99) 978-0-8075-8678-5  
Yaz's jealousy prompts her to act out against her best friend. Can she heal herself and the friendship? Awareness and discussion is encouraged. Expressive colorful illustrations. (3-6)

### **D We All Play: Kimêtawânaw**

written and illustrated by Julie Flett  
(Greystone Kids/Greystone, \$17.95)  
978-1-77164-607-9  
Soft and spare illustrations and alliterative sounds depict animals and children at play in parallel ways. Back matter includes Cree translations. (3-5)

### **We Became Jaguars**

by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Woodrow White  
(Chronicle, \$18.99) 978-1-4521-8393-0  
A young boy and his grandmother role-play at being jaguars, exploring the woods until it is time for the boy to go to school. Mesmerizing richly colored illustrations. (4-6)

### **We Love Fishing**

by Ariel Bernstein, illustrated by Marc Rosenthal  
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-3864-4  
Squirrel is not as enamored of the fishing trip as his buddies are, but despite his attitude and actions, their friendship endures. Humorous colorful pencil and digital illustrations. (4-6)

### **Welcome Flower Child: The Magic of Your Birth Flower**

written and illustrated by Brigette Barrager  
(Random House/Penguin Random House, \$17.99)  
978-1-984830-39-5  
Lyrical, rhyming poetry combines with sumptuous full-color illustrations to introduce young readers to 12 species of flowers that celebrate birthday months. (4-6)

### **D What If Wilhelmina:**

**A Story of Imagination Run Wild**  
written and illustrated by Joseph Belisle  
(Blair, \$17.95) 978-1-949467-41-3  
When her cat is missing, a Black child anxiously fantasizes about her beloved pet's possible fates. Sporadic text and cartoonish humorous illustrations capture family involvement. (4-6)

### **D When We Say Black Lives Matter**

written and illustrated by Maxine Beneba Clarke  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-2238-8  
Warmth, strength, and hope stand side by side with anger as Black parents help their young child understand the significance of the Black Lives Matter movement. Pastels evoke stained glass. (3-5)

### **D The Whole Hole Story**

by Vivian McInerney, illustrated by Ken Lamug  
(Versify/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-358-12881-6  
An adventurous Black girl goes around the world and back again when she falls through a hole in her pocket. Colorful, humorous illustrations. (4-6)

### **D Wonder Walkers**

written and illustrated by Micha Archer  
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/  
PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-10964-9  
Exquisite, evocative textured and patterned paper collages capture two children of color imaginatively pondering the structure and function of the natural world they encounter. (3-6)

**ⓑ \* Woodland Dance!**

written and illustrated by Sandra Boynton  
(Workman Publishing, \$7.95) 978-1-5235-1468-7  
On special nights of the year, forest creatures meet  
for an important soiree. Rhyming text and earth-toned  
illustrations. (0-3)

**The Worm Family Has Its Picture Taken**

by Jennifer Frank, illustrated by David Ezra Stein  
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's  
Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-12478-9  
The oldest daughter wants the family portrait to be  
perfect, but will dressing up to hide their worminess do  
the trick? Amusing mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

**\* yes & no**

written and illustrated by Elisha Cooper  
(Roaring Brook/Holtzbrinck Publishing, \$18.99)  
978-1-250-25733-8  
A day in the life of two very different companions: an  
exuberant puppy and a cool cat. Spare text; expressive  
ink and watercolor illustrations. (3-6)

## Concept Books

**ⓑ 1 2 3 Cats:**

**A Cat Counting Book**

by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Isabella Kung  
(Candlewick Press, \$7.99) 978-1-5362-0995-2  
In rhyming text, counting from 1 to 12, felines  
participate in fun, kitty-centric activities. Sumi ink on  
watercolor paper. (2-3)

**ⓑ ABC Cats:**

**An Alpha-Cat Book**

by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Isabella Kung  
(Candlewick Press, \$7.99) 978-1-5362-0994-5  
Twenty-six felines interact in different ways with  
colorful oversize alphabet letters. (2-5)

**ⓓ All We Need**

by Kathy Wolff, illustrated by Margaux Meganck  
(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$17.99)  
978-1-61963-874-7  
Rhyming text with warm illustrations of diverse  
children and adults in varied settings show that  
everyone needs air, water, education, a home, food,  
family, friends, and sharing. (4-6)

**Black and White**

by Debora Vogrig, illustrated by Pia Valentinis  
(Eerdmans BFYR/Wm. B. Eerdmans, \$17.99)  
978-0-8028-5575-6  
Black invites White to join forces. Galloping zebras,  
a chess set, and a piano keyboard are some of the  
bold images these opposites create. Spare, elegant  
illustrations. (4-6)

**ⓓ Bodies Are Cool**

written and illustrated by Tyler Feder  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-0-593-11262-5  
A rhythmic, rhyming tribute to every individual  
and every type of physical characteristic. Detailed  
illustrations in vibrant colors help bring home the  
cheerful message of inclusivity and acceptance. (4-6)

**Ducks on the Road:**

**A Counting Adventure**

written and illustrated by Anita Lobel  
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6592-3  
On a walk behind mama and papa, 10 baby ducks  
are distracted by new friends. Invites participation.  
Cheerful gouache and colored pencil art. (2-5)

**A House**

written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes  
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99)  
978-0-06-309260-0  
In this read-and-response book, readers are invited  
to consider what a house is and what makes it a home.  
Simple, soft watercolor illustrations. (3-5)

**Orange Is an Apricot, Green Is a Tree Frog:  
Explore the Natural World through Color**

written and illustrated by Pascale Estellon  
(Princeton Architectural Press, \$18.95)  
978-1-64896-014-7  
The colors of various animals and plants are illustrated  
in a series of vivid gouache paintings. (2-5)

**Red**

written and illustrated by Laura Vaccaro Seeger  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4712-1  
Simple verse tells a story of a young fox who loses its  
family; an unusual poetic look at many shades of red.  
Intense, painterly acrylics. (4-6)

**(B) Red House, Brown Mouse**

by Jane Godwin, illustrated by Blanca Gómez  
(Dial BFYR/ Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,  
\$7.99) 978-0-593-11219-9

Rhyming text accompanies a little mouse's journey  
through a colorful city. Bold illustrations. (1-3)

**Ten Animals in Antarctica:**

**A Counting Book**

written and illustrated by Moira Court  
(Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-62354-232-0  
In this informative counting book, collage illustrations  
and short sentences that are wonderful to read aloud  
explore an array of Antarctic animals. Back matter. (4-6)

**(D) (B) Thank You, Farm**

by editors of Storey Publishing, illustrated by  
Jade Orlando  
(Storey Publishing, \$6.95) 978-1-63586-394-9  
Children thank animals, plants, and the soil for all of the  
bounty they produce. Colorful, detailed illustrations.  
(1-3)

**(D) There Is a Rainbow**

by Theresa Trinder, illustrated by Grant Snider  
(Chronicle Books, \$15.99) 978-1-79721-166-4  
Vivid colored pencil drawings depict scenes of  
families enjoying one another in varied environments.  
Repeating text assures readers that even crises like  
pandemics will pass. (4-6)

**Time Is a Flower**

written and illustrated by Julie Morstad  
Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada Young  
Readers/PRH Canada, \$18.99) 978-0-7352-6754-1  
A playful and thoughtful way to think about the passage  
of time. Artwork made with pencil, markers, and  
pastels, assembled digitally. (4-6)

**(D) We Are All under One Wide Sky**

by Deborah Wiles, illustrated by Andrea Stegmaier  
(Sounds True, \$17.99) 978-1-68364-633-4  
Counting up to 10 and then back down again, rhyming  
text accompanies detailed illustrations of children from  
many different countries, shown in their environments  
and in group scenes. (4-6)

## Holidays and Religion

**(B) Boo! Baa, La La La!**

written and illustrated by Sandra Boynton  
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/  
S & S, \$5.99) 978-1-5344-5283-1

A cow sends forth a Halloween greeting and is met by  
a chorus of animals returning the spooky salutation.  
Humorous, mixed-media illustrations. (0-3)

**The Little Owl & the Big Tree:**

**A Christmas Story**

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Jeanette Winter  
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-66590-213-7  
In this true story, an owl is discovered in the tree  
chosen for the Rockefeller Center Christmas display.  
How will the little owl react to the urban environment?  
Evocative, colorful, stylized illustrations. (4-6)

**(D) (B) Shabbat Shalom!**

by Douglas Florian, illustrated by Hannah Tolson  
(Candlewick Press, \$7.99) 978-1-5362-0449-0  
Simple rhyming text and cheerful, colorful mixed-media  
illustrations describe an Orthodox Jewish family's  
Sabbath evening celebration. (2-4)

**(D) (B) We Go to Shul**

by Douglas Florian, illustrated by Hannah Tolson  
(Candlewick Press, \$7.99) 978-1-5362-0450-6  
A young family celebrates Shabbat, the weekly  
Jewish day of rest and prayer. Detailed mixed-media  
illustrations. (2-4)

## Poetry

**(D) Beautiful Day!: Petite Poems for All Seasons**

by Rodoula Pappa, illustrated by Seng Soun Ratanavanh  
(Cameron Kids/ Cameron/Abrams, \$16.95)  
978-1-951836-14-6

A boy experiences the seasons through haiku-inspired  
poems. Stylized, delicate, colorful illustrations include  
images of origami, carp kites, and other Japanese  
objects. (4-6)

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

### **Chase the Moon, Tiny Turtle:**

#### **A Hatchling's Daring Race to the Sea**

by Kelly Jordan, illustrated by Sally Walker  
(Page Street Kids, \$18.99) 978-1-64567-152-7  
Simple rhythmic text and vivid print and digital illustrations depict a turtle hatchling's journey across the dangerous sand to the sea. (4-6)

### **ⓓ I Love Insects (I Like to Read series)**

written and illustrated by Lizzy Rockwell  
(Holiday House, \$15.99) 978-0-8234-4759-6  
A Black girl and an Asian boy explore the ways in which insects can be beautiful, scary, surprising, and helpful too! Colorful gouache and watercolor illustrations. (3-6)

### **In the Desert**

by Michaela Weglinski  
(National Geographic, \$14.90) 978-1-4263-3835-9  
This introduction to life in deserts has outstanding photos from many locations. Water and temperature issues are featured. (3-5)

### **Little Loon Finds His Voice**

by Yvonne Pearson, illustrated by Regina Shklovsky  
(Collective Book Studio, \$17.95) 978-1-951412-33-3  
Baby loon cannot make the unique sounds his father makes, but when a threat appears, he finally finds his voice. Finely detailed illustrations. Links provided for sound files. (4-6)

### **Night Becomes Day: Changes in Nature**

by Cynthia Argentine  
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$29.32) 978-1-5415-8124-1  
Nature is constantly changing and evolving. Simple clear text and extraordinary contrasting photos provide examples of these transformations. (3-6)

### **Night Creatures:**

#### **Animals that Swoop, Crawl, and Creep While You Sleep**

by Rebecca E. Hirsch, illustrated by Sonia Possentini  
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-5415-8129-6  
A mother and child camp out in the backyard as the world of nocturnal animals reveals itself from dusk to dawn. Lush, detailed illustrations. Lyrical text. End notes. (4-6)

### **Odd Bods:**

#### **The World's Unusual Animals**

by Julie Murphy  
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$27.99) 978-1-5415-8502-7  
Large clear text and magnified, boldly colored photographs introduce various species whose unique physical features help them adapt to their environment. Extensive back matter. (4-6)

### **Show Us Where You Live, Humpback**

by Beryl Young, illustrated by Sakika Kikuchi  
(Greystone Kids/Greystone, \$17.95)  
978-1-77164-573-7

Lyrical text with dreamy watercolor ocean images shows how humpback whales rear their calves with tender love. Narrated by a young boy who mirrors the calf. (3-5)

### **Zee Grows a Tree**

by Elizabeth Rusch, illustrated by Will Hillenbrand  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-9754-9  
Zee nurtures and grows with a tree that was planted on the day she was born. Information about trees weaves through the story. Mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (5-6)

# FIVE TO NINE

## FICTION

### Adventure and Mystery

#### **Faraway Things**

by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Kelly Murphy  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$18.99)  
978-0-316-49219-5

Young Lucian's discovery of a cutlass washed up on the seashore heralds a mysterious encounter and a moment of personal growth. Soft, mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

#### **Follow That Frog!**

by Philip C. Stead, illustrated by Matthew Cordell  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4426-7

While recalling her many worldwide adventures, Aunt J urges young Sadie to ignore whoever is at the door. A fast-paced romp with punchy language and comical illustrations. (5-7)

#### **Hope at Sea:**

##### **An Adventure Story**

written and illustrated by Daniel Miyares  
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984892-83-6  
Love shines through when Hope stows away to join her sailor father. Detailed pen and ink art takes readers out to sea. (6-8)

## Animals

#### **The Capybaras**

written and illustrated by Alfredo Soderguit,  
translated from the Spanish by Elisa Amado  
(Adana Libros Books/Greystone Kids/Greystone, \$18.95)  
978-1-77164-782-3

When hens declare strict rules separating a group of unfamiliar arrivals, a chick and a young capybara forge a forbidden friendship. Artwork employing a limited palette. (5-8)

## Arts

#### **A Midsummer Night's Dream**

by William Shakespeare, retold by Georghia Ellinas,  
illustrated by Jane Ray  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1773-5  
Shakespeare's classic comedy of love, mistaken identity, and enchantment is retold in picture book format. Vibrant watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

## Beginning Readers



#### **Baloney and Friends:**

##### **Going Up! (Baloney and Friends series)**

written and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$12.99)  
978-0-7595-5480-1

Baloney, Bizz, Krabbit, and Peanut go on a camping trip, write their theme song, and more. Tips on drawing expressive cartoons. (5-7)

#### **Battle of the Blanket Forts (Fort Builders Inc. series)**

by Dee Romito, illustrated by Marta Kissi  
(Aladdin Quix/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-5244-2  
Things take on a competitive bent when Kiara's and Caleb's cabins both aim to win the CREATE award at summer camp. Will their friendship survive? Black-and-white illustrations. (5-8)



#### **Geraldine Pu and Her Lunch Box, Too! (Ready-to-Read Graphics series)**

written and illustrated by Maggie P. Chang  
(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8469-6  
Comic-style illustrations exalt the power of friendship as Taiwanese American Geraldine and Jamaican American newcomer Deven overcome ostracism because of their ethnic lunches. (6-8)

#### **Ivy Lost and Found (Book Buddies series)**

by Cynthia Lord, illustrated by Stephanie Graegin  
(Candlewick Press, \$12.99) 978-1-5362-1354-6  
Librarian Anne's childhood doll Ivy had been long forgotten, but she becomes one of the library's Book Buddies and embarks on an adventure with a new girl. Black-and-white retro illustrations. (7-9)



**D Pablo's Pet (Dive into Reading! series)**

by Sheri Tan, illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez (Lee & Low Books, \$15.95) 978-1-6437-9206-4  
Pablo's diverse group of friends comfort him after his pet fish dies by reminding him of the good times he had with it. Watercolor, gouache, and pencil illustrations. Activity page. (5-7)

**D The Protest (Dive into Reading! series)**

by Samantha Thornhill, illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez (Lee & Low Books, \$15.95) 978-1-64379-208-8  
Lily and her friends from diverse backgrounds work to save a community garden. Bright, mixed-media illustrations. Activity page. (5-7)

**See the Dog:**

**Three Stories about a Cat**

by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka (Candlewick Press, \$8.99) 978-1-5362-1629-5  
This laugh-out-loud beginning reader depicts a cat subbing in for a dog. Gouache illustrations. (4-7)

**Sydney & Taylor Explore the Whole Wide World (Sydney & Taylor series)**

by Jacqueline Davies, illustrated by Deborah Hocking (Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$14.99) 978-0-358-10631-9  
Two friends, a hedgehog and a skunk, leave their "perfectly perfect" burrow for a grand adventure. Colorful gouache and pencil illustrations. (5-8)

**D  Tag Team (El Toro & Friends series)**

written and illustrated by Raúl the Third, colors by Elaine Bay (Versify/HarperCollins, \$9.99) 978-0-358-38039-9  
Quirky characters and dynamic comic-style illustrations evoke the world of lucha libre wrestling, while subtly promoting self-confidence and teamwork. Embedded Spanish phrases. (4-7)

**D Ty's Travels:**

**Beach Day! (My First I Can Read! series)**

by Kelly Starling Lyons, illustrated by Nina Mata (Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-295113-7  
Using their imaginations, two children of color turn an ordinary morning in the sandbox into a beach day. Colorful art with imaginary scenes in childlike crayon. (4-7)

## Concept Books

**How Beautiful**

by Antonella Capetti, illustrated by Melissa Castrillón, translated from the Italian by Lisa Topi (Greystone Kids/Greystone, \$17.95) 978-1-77164-853-0  
A caterpillar, puzzled at being called beautiful, sets out to discover what that means. Finely detailed pencil and digital illustrations. (5-8)

**D \* I Is for Immigrants**

written and illustrated by Selina Alko (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, \$18.99) 978-1-250-23786-6  
From ambition and African dance to zest and ziti, the myriad contributions and cultures of immigrants to the United States are celebrated. Colorful, richly detailed illustrations. (5-8)

**D Jacob's School Play: Starring He, She, and They**

by Ian Hoffman and Sarah Hoffman, illustrated by Chris Case (Magination Press/American Psychological Association, \$16.99) 978-1-4338-3677-0  
In an early grade classroom, the students learn a new identity pronoun as they put on a show. Colorful illustrations. (6-8)

**D  \* Someone Builds the Dream**

by Lisa Wheeler, illustrated by Loren Long (Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$19.99) 978-1-984814-33-3  
Detailed, realistic acrylic illustrations and rhyming text show the crucial role skilled workers play in executing the ideas of scientists, engineers, authors, illustrators, and other initial creators. (5-8)

**Uma Wimple Charts Her House**

by Reif Larsen, illustrated by Ben Gibson (Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-18118-8  
A young girl loves to make charts, but she worries when she gets a school assignment to chart her own home. Mixed-media and digital illustrations. (6-8)

**D \* What I Am**

written and illustrated by Divya Srinivasan (Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-20401-6  
Surrounded by a loving Indian American family, a young girl describes the complex, sometimes conflicting qualities that make her unique. Mixed-media illustrations. (4-7)

**What If, Pig?**

written and illustrated by Linzie Hunter (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-298609-2  
When Pig shares his worries about the success of his upcoming party, he encounters unexpected responses from the invitees. Colorful digital illustrations. (5-8)

## Contemporary Issues

**Alien Nation**

written and illustrated by Sandro Bassi (Levine Querido, \$18.99) 978-1-64614-038-1  
Can anything disturb humans with oversized headgear, deeply absorbed on their mobile phones? A wordless allegory. Dramatically detailed black-and-white crosshatched illustrations. (6-9)

**D B  \* Being You:**

**A First Conversation about Gender (First Conversations series)**  
by Megan Madison and Jessica Ralli, illustrated by Anne/Andy Passchier (Rise X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$8.99) 978-0-593-38264-6  
Simple and engaging text encourages children to learn that being yourself is beautiful. Colorful digital artwork. (4-7)

**D  \* Eyes That Kiss in the Corners**

by Joanna Ho, illustrated by Dung Ho (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-291562-7  
An Asian American girl celebrates the shape of her eyes that connect her to her family, her heritage, and her culture. Boldly colored Asian-themed digital illustrations. (5-8)

**D Facing Fear:  
An Immigration Story**

by Karen Lynn Williams, illustrated by Sara Palacios (Eerdmans BFYR/Wm. B. Eerdmans, \$18.99) 978-0-8028-5490-2  
Because it poses dangers to his undocumented family, Enrique struggles with his desire to play in his soccer tournament. Colorful, bright illustrations convey a range of emotions. (7-10)

**D \* From the Tops of the Trees**

by Kao Kalia Yang, illustrated by Rachel Wada (Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-1-5415-8130-2  
The father of a Hmong child climbs a tall tree to show her how big the world really is beyond the gates of the refugee camp. Gentle illustrations in a natural color palette. (6-9)

**D Jayden's Impossible Garden**

by Mélina Mangal, illustrated by Ken Daley (Free Spirit, \$16.99) 978-1-63198-590-4  
When some people in Jayden's African-American neighborhood doubt that nature exists in the city, he and his older friend, a wheelchair user, prove otherwise. Bright illustrations. Back matter includes activities. (5-8)

**D B  \* Our Skin:**

**A First Conversation about Race (First Conversations series)**  
by Megan Madison and Jessica Ralli, illustrated by Isabel Roxas (Rise X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$8.99) 978-0-593-38263-9  
A child-friendly guide about how skin color plays an important role in who we are. Watercolor and graphite digital artwork. (4-7)

**D \* Outside, Inside**

written and illustrated by LeUyen Pham (Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$18.99) 978-1-250-79835-0  
Poignant digital illustrations and soothing rhythmic language reflect on acts of humanity during pandemic times. (4-7)

**D \* Something Good**

by Marcy Campbell, illustrated by Corinna Luyken  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$18.99)  
978-0-7595-5742-0

Students heal from a hate incident through art and poetry, experiencing the power of good and of love. Based on actual events. Gentle gouache and pencil artwork. (6-8)

**D \* The Sour Cherry Tree**

by Naseem Hrab, illustrated by Nahid Kazemi  
(Owlkids Books, \$18.95) 978-1-77147-414-6

A young girl wanders through her grandfather's house after his death, thinking about all the things that made their relationship special to her. Soft pastel illustrations. (5-8)

**D Watch Me:**

**A Story of Immigration and Inspiration**

by Doyin Richards, illustrated by Joe Cepeda  
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99)  
978-1-250-82023-5

A boy from Sierra Leone, determined to come to the United States to have a better life, becomes a doctor. Richly colored illustrations using oils over acrylic. (5-8)

**What the Kite Saw**

by Anne Laurel Carter, illustrated by Akin Duzakin  
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$18.95)  
978-1-77306-243-3

In a town occupied by soldiers and under curfew, flying kites with his friends helps a boy cope when his father and brother are taken away. Evocative somber illustrations. (6-9)

**D \* Wishes**

by Mượn Thị Văn, illustrated by Victo Ngai  
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99)  
978-1-338-30589-0

During the night, a Vietnamese family flees their home, beginning a terrifying and perilous journey toward a new life across the sea. Emotive illustrations. Author's note. (5-7)

## Ecology

**D  \* The First Blade of Sweetgrass: A Native American Story**

by Suzanne Greenlaw and Gabriel Fry, illustrated by Nancy Baker  
(Tilbury House, \$18.95) 978-0-88448-760-9  
A grandmother and her grandchild harvest sweetgrass for basket making, honoring Native American traditional practices. Soft oils and pastels. (5-8)

**D  The Fox and the Forest Fire**

written and illustrated by Danny Popovici  
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-79720-282-2  
Gouache, watercolor, and pencil illustrations evocatively chronicle a young boy's growing appreciation of the forest and even the rebirthing after a wildfire. Helpful back matter. (4-7)

**D If I Were a Tree**

by Andrea Zimmerman, illustrated by Jing Jing Tsong  
(Lee & Low Books, \$19.95) 978-1-62014-801-3  
A multiracial family sets out on a camping trip to explore a forest, and the children imagine what a tree feels, tastes, smells, hears, and sees. Printmaking and digital collage art. Back matter. (4-7)

**D The Wall and the Wild**

by Christina Dendy, illustrated by Katie Rewse  
(Lantana, \$17.99) 978-1-913747-43-5  
Ana, a dark-skinned girl, wants to create a neat and orderly garden, but nature doesn't cooperate. Colorful illustrations against a dark background. (4-7)

**Wild Is the Wind**

written and illustrated by Grahame Baker-Smith  
(Templar Books/Candlewick Press, \$18.99)  
978-1-5362-1792-6  
A swift, in its global migration, bears witness to the extraordinary power of the wind, from carved desert landscape to swirling waves. Lyrical text paired with radiant dramatic illustrations. (6-8)

**D Zonia's Rain Forest**

written and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0845-0  
An Asháninka girl in the Peruvian Amazon is called to action when her beloved jungle comes under attack by developers. Illustrations on bark paper with delicate details. Back matter. (5-7)



## Family/School/Community

### **D** **All Eyes on Ozzy!**

written and illustrated by K-Fai Steele  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-274858-4

An attention-grabbing girl learns musical chaos results unless everyone plays as a team. Dense comical watercolor artwork elevates this important message. (5-7)

### **D** **Amira's Picture Day**

by Reem Faruqi, illustrated by Fahmida Azim  
(Holiday House, \$17.99) 978-0-8234-4019-1  
Amira loves celebrating Eid at the end of Ramadan; but it's also picture day at school, and she longs to be there too. Lively, digital illustrations of diverse worshippers at her mosque. Back matter. (5-7)

### **D** **Beautifully Me**

by Nabela Noor, illustrated by Nabi H. Ali  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8587-7  
A Bangladeshi American girl's confusion about body image is sensitively handled, with a joyous conclusion. Cultural elements are seamlessly integrated. Digital art. (4-7)

### **The Big Bad Wolf in My House**

by Valérie Fontaine illustrated by Nathalie Dion,  
translated from the French by Shelley Tanaka  
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$18.95)  
978-1-77306-501-4  
This intense tragic tale of domestic abuse ends on a note of hope. Gouache and digital art. (4-7)

### **D** **The Big Bath House**

by Kyo Maclear, illustrated by Gracey Zhang  
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-18195-9  
A girl visits her grandmother in Japan, where women of various ages and body types joyfully gather at a communal bath. Cheery mixed-media illustrations. Japanese glossary. (4-7)

### **D** \* **Bird Boy**

by Matthew Burgess, illustrated by Shahrzad Maydani  
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984893-77-2  
Nico, a young African American boy, is the new kid at school. His classmates come to appreciate his imagination, kindness, and love of nature. Mixed-media color illustrations gently blend reality and fantasy. (5-7)

### **D** **Birds on Wishbone Street**

written and illustrated by Suzanne Del Rizzo  
(Pajama Press, \$18.95) 978-1-77278-219-6  
When Maureen welcomes a Syrian refugee boy to her diverse community, their friendship blossoms as they discover their mutual love of birds. Mixed-media illustrations create a three-dimensional effect. Back matter. (5-8)

### **D** \* **Bright Star**

written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4328-4  
A doe teaches her fawn about the wonders and dangers of the world, all the while reminding her that she is loved. Mixed-media illustrations including artisanal work. Also available in Spanish. (4-7)

### **D** **Calvin**

by JR Ford and Vanessa Ford, illustrated by Kayla Harren  
(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-10867-3  
Despite his initial apprehension, a Black transgender boy reintroduces himself with his new name to his supportive family, grandparents, and school community. Warm, evocative illustrations. (4-7)

### **D** \* **Change Sings: A Children's Anthem**

by Amanda Gorman, illustrated by Loren Long  
(Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-20322-4  
Lyrical language and detailed, colorful illustrations of diverse children encourage young readers to embrace change in themselves and their community. (5-8)

### **Coffee, Rabbit, Snowdrop, Lost**

by Betina Birkjær, illustrated by Anna Margrethe Kjærgaard, translated from the Danish by Sinéad Quirke Køngerskov  
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$17.95) 978-1-59270-373-9  
First to notice his beloved grandfather's dementia, Stump attempts to maintain their connection. After a crisis, he and his grandmother become loving caretakers. Gentle illustrations in a varying palette. Afterword. (5-8)

**D Coquí in the City**

written and illustrated by Nomar Perez  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-0-593-10903-8

A boy moves with his family from Puerto Rico to the mainland United States, and although it is at first difficult, he finds many similarities to home. Exuberant, detailed illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (5-7)

**D The Cot in the Living Room**

by Hilda Eunice Burgos, illustrated by  
Gaby D'Alessandro  
(Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99)  
978-0-593-11047-8

Initially jealous of the children her parents babysit for overnight in their apartment in Washington Heights, New York City, a Dominican American girl develops empathy for them. Colorful, digital illustrations. (4-7)

**D Dancing with Daddy**

by Anitra Rowe Schulte, illustrated by Ziyue Chen  
(Two Lions, \$17.99) 978-1-5420-0719-1

A father and his daughter, a wheelchair user, joyfully enjoy a school dance. Digital artwork realistically portrays a loving family meeting challenges. (5-7)

**D Dreams for a Daughter**

by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by  
Brian Pinkney  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)  
978-1-5344-5198-8

A Black mother voices her love, hopes, and dreams for her daughter. Watercolor, gouache, and India ink illustrations with a great sense of movement and color. (7-10)

**D \* The Electric Slide and Kai**

by Kelly J. Baptist, illustrated by Darnell Johnson  
(Lee & Low Books, \$19.95) 978-1-64379-052-7  
Multigenerational African American families, including supportive male role models, experience joy and dance moves together. Lively digital illustrations. (5-8)

**D Fatima's Great Outdoors**

by Ambreen Tariq, illustrated by Stevie Lewis  
(Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99)  
978-1-984816-95-5  
After emigrating from India, Fatima has a hard time at school but learns more about herself when she goes on her first family camping trip. Amusing illustrations. (6-8)

**D Goodnight Ganesha**

by Nadia Salomon, illustrated by Poonam Mistry  
(Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99)  
978-0-593-20361-3

Two young South Asian children say goodnight to all the objects in their grandparents' house. Sumptuous ink and digital stylized illustrations. (5-7)

**The Goody**

written and illustrated by Lauren Child  
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$17.99)  
978-1-338-78954-6

A complex problem—the peril of parental expectations becoming self-fulfilling prophecies—is presented in a truthful, humorous, and relatable way. Expressive collage art. Great discussion prompts. (6-8)

**D Hair Twins**

by Raakhee Mirchandani, illustrated by Holly Hatam  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$17.99)  
978-0-316-49530-1

A young Sikh girl and her father bond over their long dark hair during morning routines. Vibrant digitally collaged illustrations. (5-7)

**D  Harry versus the First 100 Days of School**

by Emily Jenkins, illustrated by Pete Oswald  
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's  
Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-64471-2  
Harry is anxious about starting first grade. Will teachers yell? Will learning to read be hard? Colorful illustrations accompany this warm, humorous story. Chapter book. (6-7)

**D  I Can Help**

by Reem Faruqi, illustrated by Mikela Prevost  
(Eerdmans BFYR/Wm. B. Eerdmans, \$17.99)  
978-0-8028-5504-6  
Zahra always volunteers to help Kyle whenever asked. Yet when classmates make fun of her for doing that, she retreats. Mixed-media illustrations. (4-7)

**D  I Dream of Popo**

by Livia Blackburne, illustrated by Julia Kuo  
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$18.99)  
978-1-250-24931-9  
After a girl and her parents move from Taiwan to San Diego, her visits to her beloved grandmother are limited, but their bond is unbreakable. Bold illustrations. Notes, glossary. (5-8)

**D I Want to Ride the Tap Tap**

by Danielle Joseph, illustrated by Olivier Ganthier (Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-0-374-31214-5  
Claude longs to ride the tap tap bus, but he can't during the week; on Sunday his parents surprise him with a special treat. Luminous, lively art. Haitian Creole glossary. (4-7)

**D  Josie Dances**

by Denise Lajimodiere, illustrated by Angela Erdrich (Minnesota Historical Society Press, \$17.95) 978-1-68134-207-8  
To dance in the next powwow, Josie asks the women in her Ojibwe family—her mom, her aunty, and Grandma Greatwalker—to help create her regalia. Colorful watercolor illustrations. Glossary, map. (6-9)

**\* Keeping the City Going**

written and illustrated by Brian Floca (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-9377-3  
A tribute to the essential workers—from health care providers to first responders—on whom everyone depended during the COVID pandemic. Exquisitely rendered watercolor art. (5-8)

**D Kiyoshi's Walk**

by Mark Karlins, illustrated by Nicole Wong (Lee & Low Books, \$18.95) 978-1-62014-958-4  
Kiyoshi asks his poet grandfather where poetry comes from. Grandfather demonstrates by spontaneously writing haiku about things they see, hear, and imagine. Painterly digital illustrations. Afterword. (7-9)

**D Let Me Fix You a Plate:**

**A Tale of Two Kitchens**  
written and illustrated by Elizabeth Lilly (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4325-3  
A family visits loving grandparents Mamaw and Papaw in West Virginia and Abuela and Abuelo in Florida, enjoying the different cultures of the two households. Warm, colorful art. (4-7)

**The Little Library (Mr. Tiffin's Classroom series)**

by Margaret McNamara, illustrated by G. Brian Karas (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-57833-8  
Jake, a reluctant reader, gets hooked on a book about woodworking selected with his librarian and uses it to create a special project. Animated mixed-media illustrations. (6-8)

**The Longest Storm**

written and illustrated by Dan Yaccarino (Maria Russo Books/mineditionUS/Astra Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-5047-5  
A megastorm forces a single-parent family into an extended lockdown, fraying nerves and testing everyone's ability to restore family harmony. Bold, dynamic illustrations. (5-7)

**D \* Maybe Maybe Marisol Rainey (Maybe Marisol series)**

written and illustrated by Erin Entrada Kelly (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-297042-8  
A girl with an irresistible personality and a huge imagination spends one hot Louisiana summer playing with her best friend and tackling her anxieties. Expressive line drawings. (7-9)

**D \* Milo Imagines the World**

by Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson (G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-399-54908-3  
While riding the subway to visit his incarcerated mother, Milo observes other passengers and speculates about their lives. Colorful collages and Milo's own crayoned art. (6-9)

**D My First Day**

written and illustrated by Phùng Nguyễn Quang and Huỳnh Kim Liên (Make Me a World/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-30626-0  
A Vietnamese boy sets forth in a small wooden boat through the Mekong Delta on his way to school. Lush digital art. Map and author's note. (5-8)

**D My Two Border Towns**

by David Bowles, illustrated by Erika Meza (Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$23.99) 978-0-593-11104-8  
Rhyming couplets and striking painterly illustrations tell a tale of family love, loss, and continuity. (5-8)

### **On the Other Side of the Forest**

by Nadine Robert, illustrated by Gérard DuBois,  
translated from the French by Paula Ayer  
(Greystone Kids/Greystone, \$24.95)  
978-1-77164-796-0

What happens when the stone tower built laboriously  
by a rabbit and his son to see the world beyond is  
destroyed? Finely inked and colored art. (4-7)

### **On the Trapline**

by David A. Robertson, illustrated by Julie Flett  
(Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada Young  
Readers/PRH Canada, \$18.99) 978-0-7352-6668-1  
A Cree man takes his grandson to visit his childhood  
home, showing him how the community once lived  
on the land together. Spare language and simple  
illustrations in a muted palette. Glossary. (6-9)

### **Our Table**

written and illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds  
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$17.99)  
978-1-338-57232-2  
Violet's family is just too busy for meals together at the  
table. When it shrinks, then actually disappears, she  
knows what she must do. Monochrome and full-color  
illustrations. (5-8)

### **Over the Shop**

by JonArno Lawson, illustrated by Qin Leng  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-0147-5  
A grandparent and granddaughter finally find tenants  
for the shabby apartment above their store, gaining  
neighbors who brighten their lives. Wordless. Gentle  
ink and watercolor illustrations. (6-8)

### **\* Paletero Man**

by Lucky Diaz, illustrated by Micah Player  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-301444-2  
A boy's search through his community to find the  
beloved ice pop man yields some surprises and a lot of  
kindness. Vibrant digital illustrations. (4-7)

### **Ride the Wind**

by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Salvatore Rubbino  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1284-6  
After losing his mother, Javier hides an albatross  
injured by his father's boat, hoping to nurse the bird  
back to health. Mixed-media illustrations. (6-8)

### **Skywatcher**

written and illustrated by Jamie Hogan  
(Tilbury House, \$18.95) 978-0-88448-897-2  
A city-dwelling boy really wants to see the stars he  
reads about in comic books. On a camping trip with his  
mother, he does! Descriptive pastel illustrations. Back  
matter. (5-8)

### **Sona Sharma: Very Best Big Sister?**

by Chitra Soundar, illustrated by Jen Khatun  
(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-1-5362-1482-6  
Sona's not sure that she can be a good big sister, but her  
extended family in Chennai, India, helps her. Humorous  
black-and-white mixed-media illustrations. Glossary.  
(5-8)

### **A Song of Frutas**

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Sara Palacios  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-4489-8  
A Cuban American girl helps her grandfather sell  
fruit in the streets of Havana and wishes that travel  
restrictions between countries will end. Culturally  
authentic illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (5-7)

### **\* Soul Food Sunday**

by Winsome Bingham, illustrated by  
Charles G. Esperanza  
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$17.99) 978-1-4197-4771-7  
A large Black family gathers for an abundance of  
mouthwatering traditional dishes. With Granny's warm  
approval, her youngest grandson helps prepare them.  
Rhythmic repetitive text. Bold color illustrations. (4-7)

### **Stacey's Extraordinary Words**

by Stacey Abrams, illustrated by Kitt Thomas  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$19.99)  
978-0-06-320947-3  
A leading Black voting rights activist tells the story  
of how learning new words became her power. Bold,  
vibrant digital illustrations. (6-8)

### **Sunrise Summer**

by Matthew Swanson, illustrated by Robbi Behr  
(Imprint/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-250-08058-5  
A young girl travels 4,000 miles to Alaska with her  
family to spend the summer crewing on a fishing boat.  
Vibrant, detailed, mixed-media illustrations. Back  
matter. (6-9)



### **Sweet Pea Summer**

written and illustrated by Hazel Mitchell  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1034-7  
Staying with her grandparents for the summer while her mother is hospitalized, a young girl plants sweet peas in the garden with hope and caring. Warm, graphite illustrations. (5-7)

### **D THAO**

written and illustrated by Thao Lam  
(Owlkids Books, \$17.95) 978-1-77147-432-0  
Arriving in Canada from Vietnam as a young child, Thao must start school with a simple name that no one can pronounce. Collage illustrations. (5-8)

### **D \* Too Small Tola**

by Atinuke, illustrated by Onyinye Iwu  
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-1-5362-1127-6  
Endearing Tola helps her family, copes with bullies, and supports a neighbor. Black-and-white spot art captures the vibrant and diverse city of Lagos, Nigeria. (7-9)

### **D Wanda**

by Sihle Nontshokweni and Mathabo Tlali,  
illustrated by Chantelle Thorne and Burgen Thorne  
(Crocodile Books/Interlink, \$17.95)  
978-1-62371-864-0  
Buoyed by her mother's affirmations, grandmother's stories, and photos of prominent Black women's hair styles, South African Wanda comes to appreciate her Afro hair. Emotive colorful illustrations. (5-8)

### **D The Water Lady:**

#### **How Darlene Arviso Helps a Thirsty Navajo Nation**

by Alice B. McGinty, illustrated by Shonto Begay  
(Schwartz & Wade/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-64500-9  
A Navajo woman travels throughout her New Mexico reservation delivering water to community members. Cody, a young boy, waits eagerly for her. Watercolor illustrations. Author's note. (6-8)

### **D Watercress**

by Andrea Wang, illustrated by Jason Chin  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4624-7  
A Chinese American girl, angry and embarrassed when her immigrant parents gather watercress from a roadside ditch, learns why it is important to them. Rich watercolor-washed illustrations. (5-8)

### **D \* The Welcome Chair**

by Rosemary Wells, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney  
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-2977-2  
A chair is handed down through many generations, but always welcomes immigrants. Based on family memories, colored by the author's imagination. Evocative, realistic watercolors. (7-10)

### **D What Will You Be?**

by Yamile Saied Méndez, illustrated by Kate Alizadeh  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-283995-4  
Asked what she wants to be when she grows up, a young girl imagines different possibilities with her abuela's help. Colorful digital illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (5-8)

### **When Grandfather Flew**

by Patricia MacLachlan, illustrated by Chris Sheban  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4489-2  
Impressionistic watercolor and pastel illustrations capture the legacy of a grandfather's shared love of birdwatching, inspiring a grieving youngest child to envision an avian afterlife. (6-9)

### **D When Langston Dances**

by Kaija Langley, illustrated by Keith Mallett  
(Deane Millner Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8519-8  
Inspired by an Alvin Ailey dance performance, Langston, a young Black boy supported by a loving mother, enrolls in a ballet class. Realistic digital illustrations. (5-8)

### **D When Lola Visits**

by Michelle Sterling, illustrated by Aaron Asis  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-297285-9  
The delicious smells of summer are used to describe the varied delights of an extended visit from Lola (Filipino for grandma). Carefree gouache and digital illustrations. (5-7)

### **D \* When My Cousins Come to Town**

by Angela Shanté, illustrated by Keisha Morris  
(West Margin Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5132-6722-7  
Collage-style art shows the strong connections in a Black extended family. A celebration of family bonds and the fun of earning a nickname. (5-8)

**D \* Your Mama**

by NoNieqa Ramos, illustrated by Jacqueline Alcántara (Versify/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-1-328-63188-6  
A loving daughter parades lively banners proclaiming the strength and beauty of her Latina mom. Rhythmic text and exuberant mixed-media illustrations. (4-7)

## Fantasy

**\* It Fell from the Sky**

written and illustrated by Terry Fan and Eric Fan (Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-5762-1  
A colorful wonder falls from the sky into a garden. A greedy spider takes the opportunity to charge a fee to see it. Delicate, dreamlike illustrations. (5-8)

**Little Witch Hazel:  
A Year in the Forest**

written and illustrated by Phoebe Wahl (Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada Young Readers, \$19.99) 978-0-7352-6489-2  
A tiny witch learns life's lessons, involving adventure, friendship, nature, and community, in each of the four seasons. Colorful vintage-style woodland imagery. (4-7)

**Sato the Rabbit**

written and illustrated by Yuki Ainoya, translated from the Japanese by Michael Blaskowsky (Enchanted Lion Books, \$17.95) 978-1-59270-318-0  
From floating on the sea in a watermelon to collecting stars during a meteor shower, Sato has many fabulous adventures. Colorful, luminous illustrations. (5-7)


 **Teaflet and Roog Make a Mess**

by Jeanne Birdsall, illustrated by Jane Dyer (Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-17911-6  
Siblings prepare for a party, but their house must be inspected for cleanliness, and it's full of animals! Charming constructed scenes using figures made of wool and wire. (5-8)

 **There's a Ghost in this House**

written and illustrated by Oliver Jeffers (Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$27.99) 978-0-5934-6618-6  
An unnamed little girl invites readers to join a comedic hide-and-seek search for ghosts in a supposedly haunted house. Loose line drawings and black-and-white photographs interspersed with translucent pages. (5-8)

## Folklore and Fairy Tales

**D  Kuan Yin:  
The Princess Who Became the Goddess of  
Compassion**

by Maya van der Meer, illustrated by Wen Hsu (Bala Kids/Shambhala, \$17.95) 978-1-61180-799-8  
A modern retelling of the story of the enlightened Buddhist who is said to exemplify compassion and love. Elaborate illustrations evoke the Tang Dynasty. Author's note. (6-8)

**The Little Wooden Robot and the Log Princess**

written and illustrated by Tom Gauld (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4698-8  
After an accident separates them, devoted siblings overcome challenges to find each other. This original traditional-style folktale includes a helpful goblin and a witch. Digital art. (5-7)

**D  Moon Pops**

written and illustrated by Heena Baek, translated from the Korean by Jiuen Kiaer (Owlkids Books, \$18.95) 978-1-77147-429-0  
In this Korean fairy tale, Granny shares the drops of the moon with neighbors and helps homeless bunnies in the sweltering heat. Dark illustrations infused with light. (5-7)

## Historical Fiction

 \* **A Boy Named Isamu:  
A Story of Isamu Noguchi**

written and illustrated by James Yang  
Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers  
Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-20344-6  
A quiet, artistic boy explores the materials in his  
Japanese environment—wood, paper lanterns, leaves,  
grass, and rocks—and his creative thoughts percolate.  
Evocative digital illustrations. Author's note. (6-8)

 \* **A Day for Rememberin':  
Inspired by the True Events of the First Memorial Day**

by Leah Henderson, illustrated by Floyd Cooper  
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-3630-8  
A young boy describes the Decoration Day tribute paid  
to fallen Union soldiers by his community of formerly  
enslaved people in Charleston, South Carolina.  
Poignant painterly illustrations. (7-10)

 **Red and Green and Blue and White**

by Lee Wind, illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky  
(Levine Querido, \$17.99) 978-1-64614-087-9  
A fictionalized account of a town bonding together  
to stop bigotry, told with stunningly simple language.  
Colorful layered images created with brushwork on a  
Wacom tablet. (6-8)

## Holidays and Religion

 **The Passover Guest**

by Susan Kusel, illustrated by Sean Rubin  
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)  
978-0-8234-4562-2  
During the Depression, a poor Jewish girl meets a  
magician who advises her to run home for a seder she's  
convinced her family is too poor to have. Chagall-  
inspired illustrations. (5-8)

 **Santa in the City**

by Tiffany D. Jackson, illustrated by Reggie Brown  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-0-593-11025-6  
Just before Christmas, African American Deja begins  
worrying about how Santa can deliver presents to kids  
living in apartments without chimneys. Luckily, her  
mom has some answers. Vibrant digital illustrations.  
(5-8)

 **Seven Special Somethings:**

**A Nowruz Story**

by Adib Khorram, illustrated by Zainab Faidhi  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-0-593-10826-0  
When Kian and his cat upset the Persian New Year  
haft-sin table with its seven items, Kian has to find  
substitutions for them. Brightly colored cartoon-like  
illustrations. Author's note. (5-8)

## Humor

 **Dumplings for Lili**

written and illustrated by Melissa Iwai  
(Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$17.95)  
978-1-324-00342-7  
When all the grandmothers in Lili's building run out of  
a different ingredient while making dumplings, Lili runs  
around borrowing and delivering the one each needs.  
Colorful, detailed illustrations. (5-8)

 **Gladys the Magic Chicken**

by Adam Rubin, illustrated by Adam Rex  
(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers  
Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-32560-5  
In ancient times, Gladys, a lucky and maybe magical  
chicken, meets many comic characters in a series of  
Disneyesque misadventures. Animated full-color  
digitally painted illustrations. (5-7)

**The Incredible Painting of Felix Clousseau**

written and illustrated by Jon Agee  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-0-5931-1265-6  
Can a French artist reclaim his reputation after his  
unusual paintings, causing chaos and destruction, are  
confiscated and land him in jail? Bold somber colors  
underscore the humor. Reprint. (4-7)

 **The King's Golden Beard**

written and illustrated by Klaas Verplancke  
(Maria Russo Books/mineditionUS/Astra Publishing,  
\$18.99) 978-1-6626-5039-0  
A self-centered king is outwitted by his own laws  
and ignorance. Colorful, humorous, cartoon-like  
illustrations. (6-9)



### **The Ramble Shamble Children**

by Christina Soontornvat, illustrated by Lauren Castillo (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-399-17632-6

Five diverse siblings living in a shabby house decide to fix it up, only to discover that a proper house isn't what works for them. Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

### **The Rock from the Sky**

written and illustrated by Jon Klassen (Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-1562-5

Five connected stories about a turtle, an armadillo, and a snake form a meditation on companionship, stubbornness, and intuition. Deadpan humor abounds. Muted mixed-media illustrations. (5-7)

### **D \* Room for Everyone**

by Naaz Khan, illustrated by Mercè López (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-3139-3

As a daladala travels to the beach in Zanzibar, the driver encourages an alarmingly growing crowd of people to climb aboard. Irrepressible verse. Dynamic mixed-media art. (5-8)

## Magical Realism



### **Bear Island**

written and illustrated by Matthew Cordell (Feiwei & Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-250-31716-2

After her dog dies, grieving Louise meets a sad bear. They help each other heal, but is the bear real? Ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

### **The Midnight Fair**

by Gideon Sterer, illustrated by Mariachiara Di Giorgio (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1115-3

After seeing people enjoying a fair, a group of forest animals break in at night to have their own fun. Soft watercolor, gouache, and color pencil illustrations. (5-8)

### **When We Fly**

written and illustrated by Jess McGeachin (Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-20358-3

Lucy is determined to help a bird with a broken wing, but can everything be fixed? Subtle clues in the sun-drenched illustrations deepen themes of loss and healing. (6-9)

## POETRY

### **The Barn**

by Leah H. Rogers, illustrated by Barry Root (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0906-8

Free verse poems describe a barn and the creatures living inside and around it. Inventive imagery. Luscious watercolor and gouache art. (4-7)



### **The Book of Not Entirely Useful Advice**

by A. F. Harrold, illustrated by Mini Grey (Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$19.99) 978-1-5476-0677-1

Imaginative mixed-media collages and cartoons illustrate quirky observations and warnings about everyday life, written largely in free verse. Witty and thought-provoking. (7-10)

### **D \* Dear Treefrog**

by Joyce Sidman, illustrated by Diana Sudyka (Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-358-06476-3

A treefrog grows throughout the changing seasons while a lonely girl addresses it, her kindred spirit, in lyrical, metaphorical free verse. Lush, verdant illustrations. (6-9)

### **D \* I Sang You Down from the Stars**

by Tasha Spillett Sumner, illustrated by Michaela Goade (Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$18.99) 978-0-316-49316-1

A mother welcomes her baby to the world with a bundle of sacred gifts, following Native American cultural traditions. Watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)



### **\* I'll Meet You in Your Dreams**

by Jessica Young, illustrated by Rafael López (Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$17.99) 978-0-316-45328-8

In rhyming couplets, parents assure a child that their love for him will transcend time, space, and even consciousness. Rich mixed-media depictions of fantastic scenes. (5-8)

### **D Peace**

by Baptiste Paul and Miranda Paul, illustrated by Estelí Meza (NorthSouth Books, \$18.95) 978-0-7358-4449-0

Lyrical rhyming text introduces the concept of peace. Folk art-style illustrations in warm hues. Also available in Spanish (4-7)





### **What the Road Said**

by Cleo Wade, illustrated by Lucie de Moyencourt (Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-250-2649-2

A road is a supportive and wise guide, answering a child's many questions and concerns about life. Free verse. Ink and digitally colored illustrations. (6-9)

## INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

### Arts

#### **How to Make a Book (About My Dog)**

by Chris Barton, illustrated by Sarah Horne (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-5415-8129-9  
An author details the creation of a nonfiction picture book, from initial idea to manuscript to finished product. His dog makes humorous appearances. Cartoon illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

#### **\* Opposites Abstract**

written and illustrated by Mo Willems (Hyperion Books for Children, \$14.99) 978-1-368-07097-3  
Pairs of abstract colored ink and acrylic paintings require viewers to think about concepts such as light and dark, intentional and accidental, and inclusion and exclusion. (7-10)

### Biography and Memoir



#### **\* Areli Is a Dreamer: A True Story**

by Areli Morales, illustrated by Luisa Uribe (Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984893-99-4  
A DACA recipient recounts her story of coming to New York City from a small Mexican town. Gentle digital illustrations in a subdued palette. Glossary, author's note. Also available in Spanish. (6-9)

#### **Bartali's Bicycle:**

#### **The True Story of Gino Bartali, Italy's Secret Hero**

by Megan Hoyt, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno (Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-290811-7  
A renowned cyclist used his skills and fame to rescue hundreds of Jews during World War II. Bold, poster-like mixed-media color illustrations evoke the historical period. Time line, author's note, sources. (6-9)

#### **\* The Boy Whose Head Was Filled with Stars: A Story about Edwin Hubble**

by Isabelle Marinov, illustrated by Deborah Marcero (Enchanted Lion Books, \$17.95) 978-1-59270-317-3  
Despite his father's disapproval, Hubble became an astronomer seeking to understand the universe and discovered that the Andromeda nebula was a galaxy. Limited color palette with spots of light. Extensive back matter. (6-9)

#### **ⓓ Classified:**

#### **The Secret Career of MARY GOLDA ROSS, Cherokee Aerospace Engineer**

by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Natasha Donovan (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-5415-7914-9  
Drawing on her traditional values throughout her life, a Cherokee girl who loved numbers created a trail-blazing career. Mixed-media illustrations. (7-10)

#### **A Dinosaur Named Ruth:**

#### **How Ruth Mason Discovered Fossils in Her Own Backyard**

by Julia Lyon, illustrated by Alexandra Bye (Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-7464-2  
Colorful digital illustrations capture a young girl's determination to establish that bones found on her family farm were a link to the creatures that once roamed there. (6-7)

#### **Dr. Fauci:**

#### **How a Boy from Brooklyn Became America's Doctor**

by Kate Messner, illustrated by Alexandra Bye (Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-66590-243-4  
Always following his father's advice, Fauci carefully worked out how to achieve his research goals, including how to make sick people better. Colorful digital illustrations. (6-9)



#### **\* Fearless World Traveler:**

#### **Adventures of Marianne North, Botanical Artist**

by Laurie Lawlor, illustrated by Becca Stadtlander (Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-3959-1  
North's 19th-century English family tried to keep her from studying art, but she developed into a wonderful botanical painter. Lush illustrations resemble the artist's paintings. Excellent back matter. (7-10)

**D** **The Highest Tribute:**

**Thurgood Marshall's Life, Leadership, and Legacy**

by Kekla Magoon, illustrated by Laura Freeman  
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-291251-0

Creating change was a mission for an African American boy who broke barriers and advanced racial justice. Realistic artwork accompanies a triumphant story. Time line and information about milestone court cases. (6-9)

**D** **I Am an American:**

**The Wong Kim Ark Story**

by Martha Brockenbrough, with Grace Lin, illustrated by Julia Kuo  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$18.99)  
978-0-316-42692-3

Born in California to Chinese parents in 1873, Wong Kim Ark brought his case before the Supreme Court to be recognized as an American citizen. Back matter. Simple digital illustrations. (6-9)

**D** **Jump at the Sun:**

**The True Life Tale of Unstoppable Storycatcher Zora Neale Hurston**

by Alicia D. Williams, illustrated by Jacqueline Alcántara  
(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)  
978-1-5344-1913-1

An irrepressible spirit, fascination with stories, and her mother's encouragement led to African American Neal Hurston's remarkable achievements as a writer, folklorist, and anthropologist. Joyful mixed-media illustrations. (7-10)

**D**  **\* King of Ragtime:**

**The Story of Scott Joplin**

written and illustrated by Stephen Costanza  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-1036-7  
The life and musical development of the talented son of formerly enslaved parents is told in rich, lyrical language enhanced by colorful mixed-media folk art-style illustrations. (6-9)

**A Life Electric:**

**The Story of Nikola Tesla**

by Azadeh Westergaard, illustrated by Júlia Sardà  
(Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-11460-5  
A creative boy, fascinated with electricity, grew up to invent the groundbreaking alternating current (AC) motor, but his prominence was short lived. Illustrations evoke late-1800s Europe and America. (7-10)

**Madam Speaker:**

**Nancy Pelosi Calls the House to Order**

by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Chris Hsu  
(Little Bee Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4998-1189-6  
Digital illustrations accompany this account of Nancy Pelosi's life and career. Time line and bibliography. (7-8)



**\* Make Meatballs Sing:**

**The Life and Art of Corita Kent**

by Matthew Burgess, illustrated by Kara Kramer  
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$18.95) 978-1-59270-316-6  
Starting as Sister Mary Corita and then leaving her order, the artist used her talents as a silk screen creator to speak out for social causes. Brightly colored naïve-style illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

**Mornings with Monet**

by Barb Rosenstock, illustrated by Mary GrandPré  
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-70817-9  
Painterly illustrations and engaging text reveal the famous artist's strict adherence to methodical daily practice that resulted in his magical work. Author's note. (6-9)

**D** **Niki Nakayama:**

**A Chef's Tale in 13 Bites**

by Jamie Michalak and Debbi Michiko Florence,  
illustrated by Yuko Jones  
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99)  
978-0-374-31387-6

Despite unrelenting gender-based discrimination in a male-dominated profession, Japanese American food-lover Nakayama became a world-renowned master chef. Appetizing illustrations add important details. Time line, recipe, notes. (5-8)

**D** **\* Nina:**

**A Story of Nina Simone**

by Traci N. Todd, illustrated by Christian Robinson  
(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-1-5247-3728-3  
A gifted, classically trained musician used her experiences and extraordinary voice to formidably interpret the Black struggle in America. Vibrant acrylic paint and collage illustrations. (6-9)

**D** **\* Pura's Cuentos:**

**How Pura Belpré Reshaped Libraries with Her Stories**

by Annette Bay Pimentel, illustrated by Magaly Morales  
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-4941-4  
Enchanting tales from Belpré's native Puerto Rico captivated her audiences and drew children to her Harlem branch library. Lively, joyful illustrations. (5-8)

**ⓓ A Queen to the Rescue:**

**The Story of Henrietta Szold, Founder of Hadassah**

by Nancy Churnin, illustrated by Yevgenia Nayberg (Creston Books, \$18.99) 978-1-939547-95-8  
Inspired by the heroine of the Purim story, an American Jewish woman led humanitarian causes, risking her own life for those in peril and survivors of war and persecution. Stylized cubistic artwork. Comprehensive back matter. (7-10)

**ⓓ Rock by Rock:**

**The Fantastical Garden of Nek Chand**

by Jennifer Bradbury, illustrated by Sam Boughton (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-8182-3  
Chand, a self-taught artist, created a sculpture garden in the jungle to remind himself of the childhood home he had to leave following the partition of India. Vibrant digital illustrations. Time line, afterword. (7-9)

**ⓓ  Saving American Beach:**

**The Biography of African American Environmentalist MaVynee Betsch**

by Heidi Tyline King, illustrated by Ekuu Holmes (G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-101-99629-4  
Betsch used her body as a canvas to protest the tearing down of a Florida beach that her great-grandfather purchased during the Jim Crow era. Vibrant acrylic and collage illustrations. (6-8)

**\* A Seat at the Table:**

**The Nancy Pelosi Story**

by Elisa Boxer, illustrated by Laura Freeman (Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-37251-7  
Pelosi's career, values, and contributions to the United States are highlighted in this thoroughly sourced, digitally illustrated book. (7-9)

**Secrets of the Sea:**

**The Story of Jeanne Power, Revolutionary Marine Scientist**

by Evan Griffith, illustrated by Joanie Stone (Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$17.99) 987-0-358-24432-5  
A 19th-century woman achieved recognition for studying sea animals in her home-built aquarium and fish cages, laying the foundation for future research. Animated illustrations. Extensive references. (6-9)

**ⓓ \* Sharice's Big Voice:**

**A Native Kid Becomes a Congresswoman**

by Sharice Davids, with Nancy K. Mays, illustrated by Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-297966-7  
A young member of the Ho-Chunk Nation grew up to become a lawyer and, eventually, the first openly LGBTQIA+ congresswoman from Kansas. Stylized digital illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

**She Caught the Light:**

**Williamina Stevens Fleming: Astronomer**

by Kathryn Lasky, illustrated by Julianna Swaney (Harper/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-284930-4  
Despite a host of obstacles, Stevens Fleming persisted in her study of stars, becoming the first woman to work at the Harvard College Observatory. Whimsical cartoon-like illustrations. (7-9)

**ⓓ \* Shirley Chisholm Dared:**

**The Story of the First Black Woman in Congress**

by Alicia D. Williams, illustrated by April Harrison (Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-12368-3  
The Brooklyn-born daughter of Barbadian parents grew up to be a political trailblazer. Acrylic and mixed-media collage illustrations. (5-8)

**ⓓ Sing with Me:**

**The Story of Selena Quintanilla**

by Diane López, illustrated by Teresa Martinez (Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-11095-9  
Overcoming racial and gender discrimination and a genre divide, a Mexican American singer learned Spanish to connect with her people, achieving stardom in the Tejano music world. Illustrations augment biographical details. (6-8)

**ⓓ The Singer and the Scientist**

by Lisa Rose, illustrated by Isabel Muñoz (Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, P \$7.99) 978-1-5415-7609-4  
In 1937 legendary contralto Marian Anderson was denied lodging at a Whites-only hotel. Albert Einstein offered her shelter, thus beginning a long friendship. Vibrant, stylized illustrations. Author's note. (5-8)



**D \* Sprouting Wings:**

**The True Story of James Herman Banning, the First African American Pilot to Fly across the United States**

by Louisa Jagger and Shari Becker, illustrated by Floyd Cooper

(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984847-62-1

A Black boy in Oklahoma proved that barriers needn't stop dreams. His persistence and ingenuity resulted in a flight from California to New York in 1932. Warm, authentic illustrations. (7-10)

**D \* Stitch by Stitch:**

**Elizabeth Hobbs Keckly Sews Her Way to Freedom**

by Connie Schofield-Morrison, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon

(Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-3963-8

An enslaved woman who was also a gifted needleworker purchased her freedom and ultimately became Mary Todd Lincoln's dressmaker. Mixed-media illustrations including oil paint, fabric, embroidery, and appliqué. (6-9)

**D \* The Story of Bodri**

by Hédi Fried, illustrated by Stina Wirsén, translated from the Swedish by Linda Schenck

(Eerdmans BFYR/ Wm. B. Eerdmans, \$17.99) 978-0-8028-5565-7

Evocative watercolors heighten the poignancy of this memoir of a Hungarian Jewish girl who, along with her little sister, survived Nazi death camps to find that their dog had waited for them. (7-10)

**D Two at the Top:**

**A Shared Dream of Everest**

by Uma Krishnaswami, illustrated by Christopher Corr (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.99) 978-1-77306-266-2

An ethnic Sherpa and a White New Zealander joined forces in 1953, becoming the first climbers to reach the highest peak in the Himalayas. Told in alternating voices. Brilliantly colored naïve-style illustrations. Extensive back matter. (4-7)



**\* A Walk in the Words**

written and illustrated by Hudson Talbott

(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-399-54871-0

A young boy, labeled a "slow reader," chronicles the challenges he faced learning to read and his escape into art when feeling overwhelmed. Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

**D We Wait for the Sun**

by Dovey Johnson Roundtree and Katie McCabe, illustrated by Raissa Figueroa

(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$18.99) 978-1-250-22902-1

Digital illustrations capture the love between Black army veteran, lawyer, and activist Dovey Johnson Roundtree and her grandmother. Informative back matter extends the story. (6-9)

**What Isabella Wanted:**

**Isabella Stewart Gardner Builds a Museum**

by Candace Fleming, illustrated by Matthew Cordell (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)

978-0-8234-4263-8

A lyrical, well-sourced account of an unconventional woman and the creation of her controversial, eclectic collection. Watercolor art. (6-9)

**D What's in Your Pocket?:**

**Collecting Nature's Treasures**

by Heather L. Montgomery, illustrated by Maribel Lechuga

(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-122-4

Biographical sketches of nine diverse scientists and how they got their start. Colorful digital illustrations depict them as children and adults. Well-researched back matter and notes from illustrator and author. (6-9)

## Ecology

**Anteaters, Bats & Boas:**

**The Amazon Rainforest from the Forest Floor to the Treetops**

written and illustrated by Roxie Munro (Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4656-8

Basic facts about 30 animals from ants to primates drawn true to size, illustrated with lush acrylic paintings. Detailed back matter contains a conservation plea. (6-9)

**Be a Tree!**

by Maria Gianferrari, illustrated by Felicita Sala (Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$19.99) 978-1-4197-4422-8

A playful, poetic text links the characteristics that trees and humans share. Lush mixed-media art. Back matter. (6-9)



**\* Cougar Crossing:**

**How Hollywood's Celebrity Cougar Helped Build a Bridge for City Wildlife**

by Meeg Pincus, illustrated by Alexander Vidal (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6185-7  
A cougar, driven from his territory, ends up in a park in LA and inspires his human neighbors to help wildlife endangered by urban expansion. Bold, atmospheric illustrations. (6-8)

**I Am Smoke**

by Henry Herz, illustrated by Mercè López (Tilbury House, \$18.95) 978-0-88448-788-3  
Explore the various ways that smoke has always impacted nature and the lives of humans, both positively and negatively. Swirling, smoky illustrations. (5-8)

**\* The Last Straw:**

**Kids vs. Plastics**

by Susan Hood, illustrated by Christiane Engel (Harper/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-298139-4  
How do scientists and young people work to reduce the harmful effects of plastics on our planet? Colorful, detailed illustrations. Extensive back matter. (6-9)

## History

 **Dear Mr. Dickens**

by Nancy Churnin, illustrated by Bethany Stancliffe (Albert Whitman and Company, \$16.99) 978-0-8075-1530-3  
A Victorian Englishwoman asked the famous author to confront his anti-Semitism, and her persistence convinced him to change his attitudes and writing. Painterly illustrations. Sources, author's notes. (7-10)

 **\* Grace Banker and Her Hello Girls Answer the Call:**

**The Heroic Story of WWI Telephone Operators**  
by Claudia Friddell, illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley (Calkins Creek/Boyd's Mills & Kane, \$18.99) 978-1-68-437-350-5  
Beautiful, historically accurate illustrations combine with engaging language to tell an uplifting wartime story. Meticulously researched with time line, photos, and supplementary facts. (7-10)

**Let Liberty Rise!:**

**How America's Schoolchildren Helped Save the Statue of Liberty**

by Chana Stiefel, illustrated by Chuck Groenink (Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-338-22588-4  
An iconic symbol of freedom might never have been erected without the donations of the nation's children. Lively illustrations and inspiring text. Time line, photos, and additional information. (6-9)

 **\* Mambo Mucho Mambo!:**  
**The Dance That Crossed Color Lines**

by Dean Robbins, illustrated by Eric Velasquez (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0608-1  
When Latin jazz came to New York's Palladium Ballroom in the 1940s, dancers started partnering with people of different races, ethnicities, and religions. Realistic artwork. Notes. (6-9)

 **\* Opening the Road:**

**Victor Hugo Green and His Green Book**

by Keila V. Dawson, illustrated by Alleanna Harris (Beaming Books, \$19.99) 978-1-5064-6791-7  
In 1936 a determined, enterprising African American postal worker created an ingenious resource to guide and protect Black travelers. Poignant realistic illustrations. Author's note provides context for today. (7-10)

 **The Rabbi and the Reverend:**  
**Joachim Prinz, Martin Luther King Jr., and Their Fight against Silence**

by Audrey Ades, illustrated by Chiara Fedele (Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-1-54158-976-6  
A rabbi who fled Nazi Germany represented the Jewish community as an activist and organizer of the 1963 March on Washington. Brightly colored illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

 **Runaway:**  
**The Daring Escape of Ona Judge**

by Ray Anthony Shepard, illustrated by Keith Mallett (Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-0-374-30704-2  
A seemingly dignified life in George Washington's household distinguished Ona Judge from other enslaved people, but the only dignity that mattered to her was becoming free. Lyrical writing. Painterly illustrations. (6-9)



### \* **Survivor Tree**

by Marcie Colleen, illustrated by Aaron Becker  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$18.99)  
978-0-316-48767-2

Gentle language and delicate watercolor illustrations memorialize the 9/11 tragedy while telling the story of the Callery pear tree that has come to symbolize hope and resilience. (7-10)

### ⓓ **Tad Lincoln's Restless Wriggle: Pandemonium and Patience in the President's House**

by Beth Anderson, illustrated by S. D. Schindler  
(Calkins Creek/Boyd's Mills & Kane, \$18.99)  
978-1-63592-315-5

A rambunctious son with speech and learning challenges never failed to engage and delight his father, the United States president. A well-documented, heartwarming story. Expressive artwork. (5-8)

### ⓓ \* **This Very Tree: A Story of 9/11, Resilience, and Regrowth**

written and illustrated by Sean Rubin  
(Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan Children's Publishing  
Group, \$18.99) 978-1-250-78850-4

The emotional intensity of the World Trade Center tragedy is sensitively brought to readers through the voice of the Survivor Tree. Immersive digital artwork. (6-9)

### ⓓ **Two Grooms on a Cake:**

#### **The Story of America's First Gay Wedding**

by Rob Sanders, illustrated by Robbie Cathro  
(Little Bee Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4998-0956-5

The making of a cake and the development of a same-sex friendship into love and marriage are parallel stories in this account of a historical milestone. Bright illustrations. Comprehensive back matter. (7-10)

### ⓓ **We Are a Garden:**

#### **A Story of How Diversity Took Root in America**

by Lisa Westberg Peters, illustrated by  
Victoria Tentler-Krylov  
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House Children's  
Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-12313-3

Wind is used as a metaphor in depicting migration to the United States, starting with humans crossing the land bridge from Asia. Dramatic watercolor and digital illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

### ⓓ \* **We Are Still Here!:**

#### **Native American Truths Everyone Should Know**

by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Frané Lessac  
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-192-7

Celebrating Indigenous People's Day at school, 12 Native American children present the ongoing political and social history of their people in the United States. Extensively researched folk art-style illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

### ⓓ \* **We Shall Overcome**

written and illustrated by Bryan Collier  
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99)  
978-1-338-54037-6

Black-and-white illustrations of the past combine with vibrant contemporary scenes to show the poignant, enduring power of the Civil Rights-era anthem. Comprehensive back matter. (5-8)

### ⓓ **Without Separation: Prejudice, Segregation, and the Case of Roberto Alvarez**

by Larry Dane Brimner, illustrated by Maya Gonzalez  
(Calkins Creek/Boyd's Mills & Kane, \$18.99)  
978-1-68437-195-2

In 1931 a Mexican American student sparked his immigrant community to use the courts for the first time to successfully fight school segregation. Colorful mural-like acrylic illustrations. (7-10)

## Sports

### ⓓ **The Floating Field: How a Group of Thai Boys Built Their Own Soccer Field**

by Scott Riley, illustrated by Nguyen Quang and Kim Lien  
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-5415-7915-6  
Prasit and his friends find an alternative to the sandbar where they occasionally enjoy their favorite sport. Evocative illustrations. Supplementary information. Maps, photos, and evocative illustrations. Supplementary information. (6-9)

### **There Goes Patti McGee!: The Story of the First Women's National Skateboard Champion**

by Tootie Nienow, illustrated by Erika Medina  
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99)  
978-0-374-31399-9

Entranced when she sees a skateboarder, Patti builds a skateboard and practices until she wins competitions. Energetic illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

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

### **13 Ways to Eat a Fly**

by Sue Heavenrich, illustrated by David Clark (Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-890-4  
A range of predators devour insect prey, using their unique methods and anatomy. Bold humorous illustrations. Told in a rhyming countdown. Well referenced. (5-8)

### **D All Kinds of Animal Families**

written and illustrated by Sophy Henn (Kane Miller/EDC Publishing, \$15.99) 978-1-68464-191-8  
A celebration of the diversity of animal families provides simple information about each creature. Bold, colorful illustrations. (4-7)

### **Begin with a Bee**

by Liza Ketchum, Jacqueline Briggs Martin, and Phyllis Root, illustrated by Claudia McGehee (University of Minnesota Press, \$17.95) 978-1-5179-0804-1  
The life cycle of the rusty-patched bumble bee is described with wonder and lyrical language, enhanced by vibrant scratchboard artwork and abundant supplemental information. (7-10)

### **Butterflies Are Pretty Gross!**

by Rosemary Mosco, illustrated by Jacob Souva (Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada Young Readers \$18.99) 978-0-7352-6592-9  
Butterflies are beautiful, but that's not the only reason to take a close look at them. Humorous digital illustrations. (6-8)

### **The Cicadas Are Coming!:**

#### **Invasion of the Periodical Cicadas**

written and photographed by Doug Wechsler (Wild Critter Press, P \$12.99) 978-1-7370217-0-4  
Spectacular photographs accompany fascinating information about the insects who emerge from the ground every 17 years. Back matter includes additional facts, resources, and a map. (8-10)

### **Fourteen Monkeys:**

#### **A Rain Forest Rhyme**

by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Steve Jenkins (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6039-3  
Discover how 14 different monkey species coexist in Peru's Manú National Park. Naturalistic cut-and-torn-paper collage illustrations. Detailed profiles of each species. (5-7)

### **The Gravity Tree:**

#### **The True Story of a Tree That Inspired the World**

by Anna Crowley Redding, illustrated by Yas Imamura (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-296736-7  
The source of Isaac Newton's brilliant discovery also inspired Albert Einstein, Stephen Hawking, and many others who have honored the legendary apple tree. Lively text, engaging illustrations, and supplementary information. (7-9)

### **Hear the Wind Blow**

by Doe Boyle, illustrated by Emily Paik (Albert Whitman and Company, \$16.99) 978-0-8075-4561-4  
With mounting intensity, each poetic stanza evokes shifts in weather and matches a category on the Beaufort Windforce Scale. Engaging illustrations. Glossary and supplementary resources. (7-10)

### **How to Build an Insect**

by Roberta Gibson, illustrated by Anne Lambelet (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-5415-7811-1  
The body parts of an insect are assembled to create a model. The function of each is explained and compared to an anatomical feature of humans. Exquisitely detailed illustrations. (5-8)

### **I Am Elephant**

by J. Patrick Lewis, illustrated by Miriam Nerlove (Creative Editions/The Creative Company, \$17.99) 978-1-56846-378-0  
Mellifluous words spoken in the first person provide a wealth of information about elephants. Watercolor and pencil art illustrations. Endnote. (5-7)

### **I Am the Shark**

by Joan Holub, illustrated by Laurie Keller (Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-64528-3  
A great white shark competes with other sharks in this humorous and fact-filled picture book. Bright collage illustrations. (5-8)

### **If You Were an Elephant**

by Leslie Staub, illustrated by Richard Jones (G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$16.99) 978-1-5247-4134-1  
Accessible text and collage-like painted illustrations depict the family life, survival tools, and tight-knit communities of these intelligent giants. FAQs. (5-8)

**Just You and Me:****Remarkable Relationships in the Wild**

by Jennifer Ward, illustrated by Alexander Vidal (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6098-0  
Poetic text and attractive stylized illustrations demonstrate the symbiotic relationships of many wild creatures. (5-8)

**Monarch Butterflies:****Explore the Life Journey of One of the Winged Wonders of the World**

by Ann Hobbie, illustrated by Olga Baumert (Storey Publishing, \$16.95) 978-1-63586-289-8  
Follow the life cycle and migration of the monarchs, and learn ways to help preserve them. Scientific illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

**The Mysterious Sea Bunny**

written and illustrated by Peter Raymundo (Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-32514-8  
A slyly funny book compares the features of a sea slug to those of a soft white bunny, which it uncannily resembles. Painterly, cartoon-like illustrations. (5-7)

**A Peek at Beaks:****Tools Birds Use**

by Sara Levine, illustrated by Kate Slater (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-5415-8734-2  
Bird silhouettes and a beak-focused question create a playful guessing game that provides much information about the design of beaks. Colorful mixed-media collages. (6-9)

**Sea Lions in the Parking Lot:****Animals on the Move in a Time of Pandemic**

by Lenora Todaro, illustrated by Annika Siems (Maria Russo Books/mineditionUS/Astra Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-5049-9  
Animals were on the move during the COVID pandemic, often into people's spaces. Realistic, amusing illustrations. Back matter about habitats and ecosystems. (6-9)

**The Shark Book**

by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page, illustrated by Steve Jenkins (Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-1-328-56949-3  
Introduces 42 sharks, offering fascinating tidbits as well as basic information. Eye-catching, precise, torn-paper collage art. Extensive table of shark facts. Index. (7-10)

**So You Want to Be an Owl**

by Jane Porter, illustrated by Maddie Frost (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1521-2  
In 10 lessons with humorous illustrations, Professor Olaf provides instruction on how to hoot, hunt, and see in the dark. Back matter. (5-7)

**Star of the Party:****The Solar System Celebrates!**

by Jan Carr, illustrated by Juana Medina (Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH \$20.99) 978-1-5247-7312-0  
The planets' witty banter as they plan for Sun's 2.6 billionth birthday while orbiting in party attire is studded with stellar and planetary facts. Bold colorful illustrations (6-8)

**Summertime Sleepers:****Animals that Estivate**

by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Sarah S. Brannen (Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-158089-716-7  
Realistic watercolors on double-page spreads with informational inserts introduce animals who slumber through hot dry weather. Additional information. Notes, sources. (6-9)

**When Cloud Became a Cloud**

written and illustrated by Rob Hodgson (Rise X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-593-22491-5  
A lighthearted account of the water cycle from lake to sky and from drizzle to snow to thunderstorm. Humorous drawn and Photoshopped illustrations. (6-8)

**World Record Animals**

by Oldřich Růžička, illustrated by Tomáš Pernický (Albatros Media, \$14.95) 978-80-00-05931-0  
Which creatures are the fastest runners, the most dangerous, the longest lived? Engaging format and colorful illustrations. (5-8)

## World

**ⓓ Light for All**

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Raúl Colón (Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-5727-0  
Simple poetic text illustrates the experiences of immigrants, without shying away from America's complicated history. Textured illustrations with saturated hues illuminate diversity. (5-8)



# NINE TO TWELVE

## FICTION

### Adventure and Mystery

#### \* **Across the Desert**

by Dusti Bowling  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$16.99)  
978-0-316-49474-8

Jolene is the only person who knows that a 12-year-old pilot has crashed in the desert. With a mother struggling with opioid addiction, Jolene tackles this life-or-death situation alone. (10-12)

#### **Ophie's Ghosts**

by Justina Ireland  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-291589-4

In 1922, after her father is lynched in Georgia, 12-year-old Ophie and her mother move to Pittsburgh, where ghosts reveal deaths rooted in racism—and opportunities for justice. (10-13)

#### **Shirley and Jamila's Big Fall (Shirley and Jamila series)**

written and illustrated by Gillian Goerz  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, P \$12.99) 978-0-525-55288-8  
Two friends confront a school blackmailer and changes in their friendship. Warm humor. Bright, lively graphics. (10-12)

### Anthologies and Collections

#### **Black Boy Joy: 17 Stories Celebrating Black Boyhood**

edited by Kwame Mbalia  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-37993-6

Short pieces by acclaimed contemporary Black male and nonbinary authors center on Black boys and their power and interests, from skateboarding to saving the universe. (9-12)

### Contemporary Issues

#### **Borders**

by Thomas King, illustrated by Natasha Donovan  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$24.99)  
978-0-316-59306-9

On the way to Salt Lake City, a 13-year-old and his mother are caught between the US and Canadian border when they claim Blackfoot citizenship. Vibrant graphic illustrations. (9-12)

#### **Born behind Bars**

by Padma Venkatraman  
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-11247-2  
Kabir, 9, has always lived in a prison with his mother in India. Suddenly released, he must learn to make his way alone in an unfamiliar world. (9-12)

#### **Healer of the Water Monster**

by Brian Young  
(Heartdrum/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-299040-2

Debut Native author Brian Young weaves Navajo customs, magic, and language into an action-packed adventure of a young boy's struggle to help end a drought. Glossary. Author's note. (9-11)

#### **Linked**

by Gordon Korman  
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-1-338-62911-8  
When swastikas start appearing around the school, a community of middle schoolers enter a journey of self-discovery and understanding, and form stronger bonds. (9-12)

### Ecology

#### **Saving Sorya: Chang and the Sun Bear**

by Trang Nguyen, illustrated by Jeet Zdung, translated from the Vietnamese by Trang Nguyen  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$23.99) 978-0-593-35363-9  
A young conservationist returns a Vietnamese sun bear to the wild. Based on the author's life. Handsomely detailed graphic format. (9-12)

## Family/School/Community

### **Allergic**

by Megan Wagner Lloyd, illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter  
(Graphix/Scholastic, \$24.99) 978-1-338-56891-2  
Longing for a dog but thwarted by allergies, 10-year-old Maggie searches for a suitable pet with the help of her new friend. Warm, clear art. (8-11)

### **Amina's Song**

by Hena Kham  
(Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 9780105344-5988-5  
A visit to Lahore is transformative for Pakistani American Amina, but her friends back home don't seem interested. How can she share her love for Pakistan? (9-12)

### **\* Annie Lumsden, the Girl from the Sea**

by David Almond, illustrated by Beatrice Alemagna  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1674-5  
A mother's love and imaginative storytelling embolden a girl with disabilities to embrace her uniqueness. Muted watercolor illustrations. (9-12)

### **Ben Yokoyama and the Cookie of Doom (Cookie Chronicles series)**

by Matthew Swanson, illustrated by Robbi Behr  
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$12.99) 978-0-593-30275-0  
Ben's fortune cookie advises him to live each day as if it were his last. What can he cram in? Digital and hand-painted illustrations convey the ensuing manic hilarity. (8-11)

### **Better with Butter**

by Victoria Piontek  
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-1-338-66219-1  
Marvel, 12, paralyzed by anxiety disorder, finds herself defending a goat, who faints when startled, against bullies. Their growing bond changes them both. (9-12)

### **Bounce Back**

written and illustrated by Misako Rocks!  
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$21.99) 978-1-250-76845-2  
In NYC, Japanese Lilico faces bullying, but with the help of a talking cat, she finds friends and basketball again. Manga art in soft colors. Back matter includes lessons on drawing manga. (9-11)

### **\* Bump**

by Matt Wallace  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-300798-7  
A bullying classmate causes MJ, 12, to abandon gymnastics. Then watching professional wrestling leads her to a wrestling club. But will her mother support her joining it? (9-12)

### **Carry Me Home**

by Janet Fox  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8508-2  
When Lulu's father disappears from the RV park where her family has been living since their mother's death, she vows to take care of herself and her younger sister. (9-12)

### **The Chance to Fly**

by Ali Stroker and Stacy Davidowitz  
(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$16.99) 978-1-4197-4393-1  
After her family's recent move, wheelchair racer Nat Beacon, 13, pursues her love of musical theater by joining a community youth production of *Wicked*. (10-13)

### **Finding Junie Kim**

by Ellen Oh  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-298798-3  
After interviewing her grandparents about the Korean War, Junie considers speaking up against a racist act at school. (9-12)

### **Hope Springs**

by Jaime Berry  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$16.99) 978-0-316-54057-5  
Eleven-year-old crafter Jubilee discovers the true meaning of community, friendship, and family when she and her paternal grandmother move to the home of her TV idol. (10-13)

### **The Last Super Chef**

by Chris Negron  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-294313-2  
Fifth grader Curtis Pith enters a televised cooking challenge to win the cash prize so he can help out his struggling mother and sister. (9-12)

**D Living with Viola**

written and illustrated by Rosena Fung  
(Annick Press, \$22.95) 978-1-77321-548-8  
A Chinese Canadian girl, struggling to simultaneously honor her immigrant parents and survive middle school, finds her anxiety spiraling. With adult support, she learns management strategies. Bold illustrations. Resources. (9-12)

**\* The Lost Language**

by Claudia Mills  
(Margaret Ferguson Books/Holiday House, \$16.99)  
978-0-8234-5038-1  
Reviving an endangered language helps a sixth-grade girl recognize her own powerful voice and some truths about friends and family. Tender-hearted verse. (10-12)

**D The Many Meanings of Meilan**

by Andrea Wang  
(Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99)  
978-0-593-11128-4  
A family feud forces Meilan's parents to move from Boston to Ohio, where her name is changed to Melanie, and she fights to get her identity back. (9-12)

**D Maya and the Robot**

by Eve L. Ewing, illustrated by Christine Almeda  
(Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$16.99)  
978-1-984814-63-0  
Black fifth grader Maya, feeling lonely without her best friends, finds a robot and uses her scientific skills to make it work. A whole new world opens for her. Greyscale illustrations. (9-12)

**D \* Merci Suárez Can't Dance (Merci Suárez series)**

by Meg Medina  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-9050-2  
The travails of a Cuban American seventh grader continue as she negotiates school, friendship, and family. A sequel to 2019 Newbery winner *Merci Suárez Changes Gears*. (9-12)

**D Miosotis Flores Never Forgets**

by Hilda Eunice Burgos  
(Tu Books/Lee & Low, \$18.95) 978-1-64379-065-7  
A Dominican American girl growing up in Philadelphia learns how to help herself and those she loves. (9-12)

**D Not All Heroes**

by Josephine Cameron  
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99)  
978-0-374-31443-9  
Zinnia's family relocates following her brother's death. Friendship with neighbors assisting others helps her heal. Back matter. (9-12)

**D \* The One Thing You'd Save**

by Linda Sue Park, illustrated by Robert Sae-Heng  
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-1-328-51513-1  
Challenged to select the one thing they'd rescue if their home were burning, students learn a lot about themselves and their classmates. Verse inspired by Korean sijo poetry. Full-page black-and-white illustrations. (10-12)

**D Playing the Cards You're Dealt**

by Varian Johnson  
(Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-1-338-34853-8  
A young Black boy dreams of measuring up to his father's expectations at the card table, but fate has other plans. (9-12)

**D Rez Dogs**

by Joseph Bruchac  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-32621-3  
During the COVID-19 pandemic, Malian is quarantined on the reservation with her grandparents, who tell her stories about their family's and people's history and traditional Penacook tales. (9-11)

**D \* Room to Dream (Front Desk series)**

by Kelly Yang  
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-1-338-62112-9  
When the Tangs vacation in China five years after emigrating to California, a much-changed extended family and country create big changes in Mia's life. (8-11)

**D Simon B. Rhymin'**

by Dwayne Reed, illustrated by Robert Paul Jr.  
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$16.99)  
978-0-316-53897-8  
Aspiring rapper Simon enters fifth grade struggling with self-confidence, until a school project allows him to use his talents. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-11)

## Starfish

by Lisa Fipps

(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984814-50-0

Body shamed her whole life, Ellie, 11 and overweight, seeks help from a therapist to stand up to her bullies—and to her mother. Free verse. (10-13)

### **D** **Stuntboy, in the Meantime**

by Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Raúl the Third (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$13.99)

978-1-534-41816-5

Ten-year-old Portico loves living in Skylight Gardens and keeping everybody safe with his super-stunts. Word play and vibrant comic book-style art. (8-11)

### **D** **A Tale as Tall as Jacob: Misadventures with My Brother**

written and illustrated by Samantha Edwards (Andrews McMeel Publishing, P \$11.99)

978-1-5248-6504-7

A realistic and often funny look at living and loving a brother with ADHD. Colorful, animated graphic drawings. Based on the author's childhood. (8-11)

### **D** \* **Ten Thousand Tries**

by Amy Makechnie

(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8229-6

As Golden struggles with his father deteriorating from ALS, his friend moving, and achieving his own goals as a soccer player, he accepts that he can't control everything. (10-13)

### **D** **Unsettled**

by Reem Faruqi, illustrated by Soumbal Qureshi (Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-304470-8  
Nurah, 13 and Muslim, struggles to define her identity after moving from Pakistan to America. Free verse. Mehndi-like illustrations. (9-12)

### **Violet and the Pie of Life**

by Debra Green

(Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4755-8

Violet's dad has moved out, her mom won't stop nagging, and her BFF is mad at her. Can math and the school play help her solve these problems? (9-12)

## Fantasy

### **The Accidental Apprentice (Wilderlore series)**

by Amanda Foody

(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)

978-1-5344-7756-8

Dullshire is the only home Barclay has ever known. Having accidentally used magic in the woods, will he be driven away and sent into the wilderness? (9-12)

### **D** **The Adventure Is Now**

by Jess Redman

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99)

978-0-374-31471-2

Shipped to remote Lone Island to spend the summer with his uncle, Milton P. Greene needs to find fanciful flora and fauna to save it. (9-12)

### **D** **Amira and Hamza: The War to Save the Worlds**

by Samira Ahmed, illustrated by Kim Ekdahl, map by Kathleen Jennings

(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$16.99)

978-0-316-54046-9

Siblings Amira, 12, and Hamza, 10, accidentally enter a parallel world, filled with characters from Islamic folklore, where they have been chosen to prevent evil forces from taking over Earth. Map, glossary. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (9-12)

### \* **Egg Marks the Spot (Skunk and Badger series)**

by Amy Timberlake, illustrated by Jon Klassen

(Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin Books/Workman Publishing, \$18.95) 978-1-64375-006-4

During a rock-collecting expedition, odd-couple housemates Skunk and Badger have surprising adventures involving a gigantic dinosaur egg and a treasure-hunting cousin. Expressive black-and-white and color illustrations. (9-11)

### \* **Einstein:**

#### **The Fantastic Journey of a Mouse through Space and Time (Mouse Adventures series)**

written and illustrated by Torben Kuhlmann, translated from the German by David Henry Wilson

(NorthSouth Books, \$22.00) 978-0-7358-4444-5

After traveling through time, a mouse inadvertently lands in Switzerland in 1905, where he gets Einstein's unwitting help to return to the present. Detailed watercolor illustrations. (9-12)



### **The Gilded Girl (Gilded Magic series)**

by Alyssa Colman  
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99)  
978-0-374-31393-7

As servants, two girls in a re-imagined New York City in 1906 struggle to wield magic reserved only for the wealthy. (9-12)

### **Luna Howls at the Moon**

by Kristin O'Donnell Tubb  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-301862-4

Can Luna, a dog being trained to understand and help humans with their emotions, keep her group of disturbed children safe? (9-12)



### **The Magical Reality of Nadia (The Magical Reality of Nadia series)**

by Bassem Youssef and Catherine R. Daly, illustrated by Douglas Holgate  
(Scholastic, \$14.99) 978-1-33857-228-5

Nerdy Egyptian American Nadia and her friends enthusiastically enter a museum exhibit-designing contest but are distracted by a new antagonist and potentially supernatural phenomena. Humorous black-and-white illustrations; partially graphic format. (10-13)

### **My Ex-Imaginary Friend**

by Jimmy Matejek-Morris  
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-1-5415-9699-3  
Deserted by his parents, 10-year-old Jack decides he needs his ex-best friend George, half-walrus, half-human, to help him put his family back together. (10-13)

### **D Nightingale**

by Deva Fagan  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6578-7  
An orphan turned thief to survive, Lark accidentally steals a magic sword from young Prince Jasper. Is she the "Nightingale" who must thwart an ancient evil? (9-11)

### **The School between Winter and Fairyland**

by Heather Fawcett  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-304331-2  
After her twin brother goes missing, Autumn enlists Cai, the kingdom's heir, to help find him, in exchange for joining forces against Cai's enemy. (9-12)

### **D \* Sisters of the Neversea**

by Cynthia Leitich Smith  
(Heartdrum/HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-286997-5

Two stepsisters, one Muscogee Creek and one White, try to rescue themselves, the Lost Boys, and all those trapped in Neverland. A reimagining of the Peter Pan tale. (8-11)

### **The Stolen Prince of Cloudburst**

by Jaclyn Moriarty  
(Levine Querido, \$17.99) 978-1-64614-076-3  
Twelve-year-old Esther, ignored by her mother, is determined to keep her school safe from dangerous Shadow Mages, despite having no magical powers of her own. (10-13)

### **D The Thief of Worlds**

by Bruce Coville  
(Random House Children's Books/Penguin Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-385-39251-8  
Four characters from different spheres, needing wind, fire, earth, and water, travel together to save their worlds from environmental disaster. (9-12)

### **Willodeen**


by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Charles Santoso  
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$16.99)  
978-1-250-14740-0  
When a village eradicates the unlovable screechers, its beloved hummingbears also disappear. Magic with an environmental plea. Gentle, detailed black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

## **Folklore and Fairy Tales**

### **\* The Beatryce Prophecy**

by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Sophie Blackall  
(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-1-5362-1361-4  
Assisted by a goat, a boy, and a monk, a girl who is hunted fights evil forces to find her rightful place as royalty in this fairy tale/medieval epic. Stylized illustrations. (8-11)



**D**  \* **Blancaflor, the Hero with Secret Powers: A Folktale from Latin America**  
by Nadja Spiegelman, illustrated by Sergio García Sánchez, colors by Lola Moral  
(TOON Books, \$16.95) 978-1-943145-55-3  
A young ogre with powerful magical skills must outwit her father and save a hapless prince. Stunning, energetic humorous illustrations convey suspense. Informative back matter. Also available in Spanish. (8-11)

**D** **The Three Princes of Serendip: New Tellings of Old Tales for Everyone**  
by Rodaan Al Galidi, illustrated by Geertje Aalders, translated from the Dutch by Laura Watkinson  
(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-1-5362-1450-5  
Twenty Middle Eastern fables and folktales are paired with vibrant cut-paper art. (8-11)

**D** **We Belong**  
by Cookie Hiponia Everman, illustrated by Abigail Dela Cruz  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-11220-5  
At bedtime, a Filipino mother weaves together her immigration story and Tagalog mythology for her two daughters. Free verse. Blue, black, and white spot art. Glossary, songs, and afterword. (9-11)

## Historical Fiction

**37 Days at Sea aboard the M.S. St. Louis, 1939**  
by Barbara Krasner  
(Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, \$17.99)  
978-1-54157-912-5  
Ruthie, 12, recounts how she, her family, and 937 other Jews bound for Cuba to escape the Nazis were denied admittance. Emotive blank verse, Note, time line, bibliography. (9-12)

**D** **Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna**  
by Alda P. Dobbs  
(Sourcebooks Young Readers/Sourcebooks Kids, \$17.99) 978-1-72823-465-6  
In 1913 Petra and her family flee their Mexican village to escape military forces, and then travel across the desert to the United States. Author's note and time line. (9-12)

**D** \* **Being Clem (Finding Langston trilogy)**  
by Lesa Cline-Ransome  
(Holiday House, \$17.99) 978-0-8234-4604-9  
After his father dies in an infamous disaster during World War II, African American Clem, a brilliant student, grapples with his own fears until he meets Langston, who helps him regain his balance. (9-12)

**D** **Cuba in My Pocket**  
by Adrianna Cuevas  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-374-31467-5  
Sent to the United States to escape Castro's Cuba in 1961, homesick Cumba, 12, must adapt to his new home, school, and language. Author's note. Glossary. (9-12)

**D** **Equal (Bakers Mountain Stories series)**  
by Joyce Moyer Hostetter  
(Calkins Creek/Boyd's Mills & Kane, \$17.99)  
978-1-68437-813-5  
In North Carolina in 1959, Jackie, 13 and White, meets Thomas, 13 and Black. Can the two boys overcome society's prejudices and become friends? Back matter and archival photographs. (9-12)

**How War Changed Rondo**  
written and illustrated by Romana Romanyshyn and Andriy Lesiv, translated from the Ukrainian by Oksana Lushchevska  
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$17.95) 978-1-59270-367-8  
War nearly destroys a happy, vibrant village. But residents, injured but unbowed, turn back the aggressors and start to reclaim their hometown. Vivid collage and mixed-media illustrations. (9-12)

**Long Road to the Circus**  
by Betsy Bird, illustrated by David Small  
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-30393-1  
In 1920, Suzy, 12, longs to escape from the farm. Will learning to ride her neighbor's ostrich help make her dreams come true? Expressive black-and-white illustrations. Archival photos. Back matter. (10-13)

**A Place to Hang the Moon**  
by Kate Albus  
(Margaret Ferguson Books/Holiday House, \$17.99)  
978-0-8234-4705-3  
When their grandmother dies, three orphaned children are evacuated to the countryside from London during the Blitz, hoping to find a new, welcoming family. (9-12)



### \* **The Swallows' Flight**

by Hilary McKay

(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)

978-1-66590-091-1

Challenges and circumstances faced at the dawn of World War II bring two girls in England and two boys in Germany together. (9-12)

### \* **Voyage of the Sparrowhawk**

by Natasha Farrant, map by David Dean

(Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$17.95)

978-1-324-01972-5

After World War I, friends Ben and Lotti cross the English Channel to find missing relatives. (9-12)

### \* **War and Millie McGonigle**

by Karen Cushman

(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-1-9848-5010-2

In 1941 Millie is hard-pressed to find laughter in her life after Gram dies, but her imagination and humor can't be suppressed. (9-12)

## Humor



### \* **Otto:**

#### **A Palindrama**

written and illustrated by Jon Agee

(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-4162-1

Otto searches for his dog, Pip. All words—even words on drawings—are palindromes, reading the same backwards and forwards. Delightful graphics. (8-11)



### \* **When Pigs Fly (Batpig series)**

written and illustrated by Rob Harrell

(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$14.99) 978-0-5933-5415-5

When an average pig develops superpowers, his indiscreet friend experiments and accidentally creates a supervillain. Humorous, dynamic illustrations. (8-11)

## Magical Realism

### ⓓ \* **Lotería**

by Karla Arenas Valenti, illustrated by Dana Sanmar (Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PHR, \$16.99) 978-0-593-17696-2

As she tries to rescue her cousin from dangerous Las Pozas, Clara, 11, becomes an unwitting participant in Life and Death's game of Lotería. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)



### \* **The Monsters of Rookhaven**

by Pádraig Kenny, illustrated by Edward Bettison (Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, \$16.99) 978-1-250-62394-2

Two orphans find a magical house inhabited by an unusual family feared by local townspeople. The humans and supernatural beings learn new lessons of cooperation. Enchanting black-and-white illustrations. (10-13)

### **Pax, Journey Home**

by Sara Pennypacker, illustrated by Jon Klassen (Balzer + Bray /HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-293034-7

Though it's been a year since Peter and Pax have seen each other, when Pax's kit becomes ill, he brings her to Peter to heal. Evocative black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

### ⓓ **The Year I Flew Away**

by Marie Arnold

(Versify/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-358-27275-5

Gabrielle is sent from Haiti to Brooklyn to live with relatives, learn English, and attend public school. A witch seems to help, but then . . . (9-12)

## Science Fiction

### **Atlantis:**

#### **The Accidental Invasion**

by Gregory Mone

(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$17.99) 978-1-4197-3853-1

Twelve-year-old Lewis, his eccentric scientist father, and his father's genius assistant collide deep underwater with 14-year-old Kaya, an inhabitant of the secret world of Atlantis. (9-12)

**D \* The Last Cuentista**

by Donna Barba Higuera  
(Levine Querido, \$17.99) 978-1-64614-089-3  
After boarding a spaceship with other families of scientists, Petra wakes in the future to find that she is the only person left wishing to remember Earth's stories. (11-13)

**The Lion of Mars**

by Jennifer L. Holm  
(Random House BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-593-12181-8  
Eleven-year-old Bell, four teenagers, six adults, and a cat live on Mars in an American settlement. Life is good—until all the adults get sick. (9-12)

## POETRY

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**D  \* The 1619 Project: Born on the Water**

by Nikole Hannah-Jones and Renée Watson,  
illustrated by Nikkolos Smith  
(Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99)  
978-0-593-30735-9  
When a young Black girl comes home upset over a school assignment, her grandmother teaches her 400 years of her history, beginning in 1619. Free verse. Expressive illustrations. (9-12)

**D \* Aquí era el paraíso:  
Selección de poemas de Humberto Ak'abal/  
Here Was Paradise:  
Selected Poems of Humberto Ak'abal**

edited by Patricia Aldana, illustrated by Amelia Lau Carling, translated from the Spanish by Hugh Hazelton  
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.99)  
978-1-77306-495-6  
Ak'abal's poetry, originally written in K'iche' and translated into Spanish by the Mayan poet, is illustrated with vibrant mixed-media images. Bilingual in Spanish and English. (9-12)

** Hard-Boiled Bugs for Breakfast:  
And Other Tasty Poems**

by Jack Prelutsky, illustrated by Ruth Chan  
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99)  
978-0-06-301913-3  
A collection of funny verses in varied forms, from haiku to concrete poems. Perfect for reading aloud. Cartoon-like illustrations in black, grey, and white. (8-10)

**\* The Hill We Climb:  
An Inaugural Poem for the Country**

by Amanda Gorman  
(Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$15.99) 978-0-593-46527-1  
A young poet hopes to inspire people to take action and help the United States reconcile with its past and present for the sake of its future. (10-13)

**Spi-ku:**

**A Clutter of Short Verse on Eight Legs**

by Leslie Bulion, illustrated by Robert Meganck  
(Peachtree, \$16.99) 978-1-68263-192-8  
Short poems with detailed digital illustrations and descriptive passages introduce spiders' hunting, mating, and offspring-rearing behaviors. (9-12)

** \* Unspeakable:**

**The Tulsa Race Massacre**

by Carol Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Floyd Cooper  
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99)  
978-1-5415-8120-3  
In 1921, Greenwood, an African American community in Oklahoma, was attacked and set ablaze by a White mob. Free verse. Sepia-toned paintings. (9-12)

** The World below the Brine**

by Walt Whitman, illustrated by James Christopher Carroll  
(Creative Editions/The Creative Company, \$18.99)  
978-1-56846-361-2  
Lush, immersive illustrations accompany Whitman's poem that marvels at the vast, deep, and mysterious world beyond our shores. (9-12)

## INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

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### Activities

**My Thoughts Are Clouds:  
Poems for Mindfulness**

by Georgia Heard, illustrated by Isabel Roxas  
(Roaring Book Press/Holtzbrinck, \$19.99)  
978-1-250-24468-0  
Poems about comprehensive mindfulness techniques from around the world include descriptions of such key practices as "deep breathing," "being present," and practicing "loving-kindness" to achieve inner peace. Whimsical illustrations. (8-11)

## Arts

### **D We Can: Portraits of Power**

written and illustrated by Tyler Gordon  
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99)  
978-0-374-38966-6

Boldly painted portraits and biographical sketches of famous people, drawn and written by a partially deaf African American teenager. (9-12)

## Biography and Memoir

### **D Child of the Flower-Song People: Luz Jiménez, Daughter of the Nahua**

by Gloria Amescua, illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh  
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-4020-6  
When her indigenous culture is threatened, one young woman holds fast to her traditions and language, becoming an iconic model and teacher. Distinctive Mixtec-inspired art. Authoritative back matter. (9-12)

### **D Chunky**

written and illustrated by Yehudi Mercado  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$21.99)  
978-0-06-297279-8

Hudi, Mexican American and Jewish, laughs his way through his struggles with sports and his health issues, with the help of an imaginary mascot. Bold, dynamic artwork. (10-13)

### **D The Elephant Doctor of India**

by Janie Chodosh  
(Chicago Review Press, \$19.99) 978-1-64160-307-2  
An entertaining, informative account of veterinarian Kushal Konwar Sarma's lifelong love of Asian elephants and his career treating and saving them. Photos. Glossary. (10-12)

### **D Escape: One Day We Had to Run**

by Ming Chen and Wah Chen, illustrated by Carmen Vela  
(Lantana, \$17.99) 978-1-911373-81-0  
Twelve accounts of people forced to leave their homes highlight their courage in overcoming incredible hardships. Colorful digital illustrations. (8-10)

### **D The Genius under the Table: Growing Up behind the Iron Curtain**

written and illustrated by Eugene Yelchin  
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1552-6  
A boy desperate to define his place within his eccentric family grows up in the former Soviet Union. Black-and-white illustrations. (10-12)

### **D \* Hear My Voice: The Testimonies of Children Detained at the Southern Border of the United States/ Escucha mi voz:**

**Los testimonios de los jóvenes detenidos en la frontera sureña de los Estados Unidos**  
Compiled by Warren Binford for Project Amplify/  
Recopilado por Warren Binford para la campaña  
Project Amplify, illustrated by 17 Latinx artists  
(Workman Publishing, \$19.95) 978-1-5235-1348-2  
Sixty-one children, 5-17, from five countries, testify on their experiences in detention facilities at the US southern border. Heart-wrenching artwork. Bilingual in Spanish and English. (8-10)

### **Joe Biden: Our 46th President**

by Beatrice Gormley  
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S,  
\$17.99) 978-1-53447-932-6  
A thorough portrait of the current US president, from early childhood to his role as commander-in-chief. Bibliography, source notes. (8-11)

### **D Latinitas: Celebrating 40 Big Dreamers**

written and illustrated by Juliet Menéndez  
(Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan Children's Publishing  
Group, \$18.99) 978-1-250-23462-9  
Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, NASA engineer Evelyn Miralles, and singer Selena Quintanilla are among the notable Latina women presented. Beautiful earth-toned folk art-style illustrations. Sources. Back matter. (9-12)

**D Mahalia Jackson:  
Freedom's Voice (Very Important People series)**  
by Denise Lewis Patrick, illustrated by Jennifer Bricking  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$15.99) 978-0-06-297809-7  
The awe-inspiring life of the queen of gospel music included forming a friendship with Martin Luther King Jr. and performing at the March on Washington. Two-color illustrations. Time line. (8-11)



**D Maryam's Magic:**

**The Story of Mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani**

by Megan Reid, illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$18.99)  
978-0-06-291596-2

The first (and only) woman to be awarded the Fields Medal, mathematics' highest honor, Iranian-born Mirzakhani had a unique way of solving complex geometry problems. Detailed digital illustrations help explain her methods. (8-10)

**D  Other Boys**

written and illustrated by Damian Alexander  
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck,  
\$21.99) 978-1-250-22282-4

A therapist helps seventh grader Damien, who's bullied as different, to handle his grief after his mother's death and to accept his homosexuality. Bold, colorful artwork. (10-12)

**The People's Painter:**

**How Ben Shahn Fought for Justice with Art**

by Cynthia Levinson, illustrated by Evan Turk  
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-4130-2  
Refusing to paint gentle, bucolic scenes, a bold artist cried out for social justice by creating starkly realistic stories on canvas. Vivid illustrations convey Shahn's style. (8-11)

**D A Plan for the People:**

**Nelson Mandela's Hope for His Nation**

by Lindsey McDivitt, illustrated by Charly Palmer  
(Eerdmans BFYR/Wm. B. Eerdmans, \$18.99)  
978-0-8028-5502-2

After 27 years in prison for fighting to dismantle apartheid in South Africa, Mandela continued in the struggle and became his country's president. Lush, vibrant illustrations. Extensive back matter. (9-12)

**D RBG's Brave and Brilliant Women:**

**33 Jewish Women to Inspire Everyone**

by Nadine Epstein, introduction and selections by Ruth Bader Ginsburg, illustrated by Bee Johnson  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-37718-5

The first Jewish woman to serve on the Supreme Court introduces short biographies of other trailblazing Jewish women, from biblical figures to congresswomen. Historical background. Full-color portraits. (10-13)

**D Stitch by Stitch:**

**Cleve Jones and the AIDS Memorial Quilt**

by Rob Sanders, illustrated by Jamey Christoph  
(Magination Press/American Psychological Association,  
\$17.99) 978-1-4338-3739-5

A tribute to the man who envisioned a fabric masterpiece. Evocative artwork. Discussion guide, time line, and supplementary biographical information. (10-13)

**The Stuff between the Stars:**

**How Vera Rubin Discovered Most of the Universe**

by Sandra Nickel, illustrated by Aimée Sicuro  
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-3626-1  
When astronomy was an all-male field, a girl fascinated by the night sky grew up to make remarkable discoveries. Mixed-media illustrations. (8-10)

**D Unbound:**

**The Life + Art of Judith Scott**

by Joyce Scott, with Brie Spangler, illustrated by Melissa Sweet

(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-64811-6

After 35 years in an institution, a woman with Down syndrome was rescued by her twin sister and became a renowned fiber artist. Mixed-media artwork. (9-12)

**Unforgotten:**

**The Wild Life of Dian Fossey and Her Relentless Quest to Save Mountain Gorillas**

by Anita Silvey

(National Geographic Kids/National Geographic,  
\$18.99) 978-1-4263-7185-1

Fossey's research on gorillas and dedication to them included a controversial relationship with poachers. Full-color photographs. Exemplary documentation, detailed maps. (9-12)

## Ecology

**\* Butterfly for a King:**

**Saving Hawai'i's Kamehameha Butterflies**

by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore, illustrated by Susan L. Roth

(Lee & Low Books, \$20.95) 978-1-62014-971-3  
Realistic collages adorn this account of the Kamehameha butterfly, efforts to restore its declining population, and the history of its native habitat. Informative photographs. Back matter. (8-10)



**The Elephants Come Home:  
A True Story of Seven Elephants, Two People, and  
One Extraordinary Friendship**

by Kim Tomsic, illustrated by Hadley Hooper  
(Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-4521-2783-5  
When a herd of bullied, hunted, angry elephants is  
offered a home in an African sanctuary, they develop  
an unusual friendship with the owners. Sepia-toned  
illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

**The Wisdom of Trees:  
How Trees Work Together to Form a Natural  
Kingdom**

written and illustrated by Lita Judge  
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$19.99)  
978-1-250-23707-1  
Trees communicate and cooperate via complex  
underground networks that deforestation is disrupting.  
Soft watercolors and short poems. Resources. (9-11)

## Health



**Fred & Marjorie:**

**A Doctor, a Dog, and the Discovery of Insulin**  
by Deborah Kerbel, illustrated by Angela Poon  
(Owlkids Books, \$18.95) 978-1-77147-411-5  
In the 1920s, a young surgeon thought of a way to  
potentially save children suffering from a deadly  
disease. Delicate artwork in a subdued palette. Includes  
discussion of ethical considerations for using animals in  
scientific research. (10-12)

**\* It's Perfectly Normal:  
Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, Gender, and  
Sexual Health**

by Robie H. Harris, illustrated by Michael Emberley  
(Candlewick Press, \$24.99) 978-1-5362-0720-0  
An updated edition of a comprehensive discussion  
of the social perspectives and scientific information  
regarding human maturation and reproductive health.  
Engaging cartoons. (10-13)

## History

**\* The Curse of the Mummy:  
Uncovering Tutankhamun's Tomb**

by Candace Fleming  
(Scholastic Focus/Scholastic, \$18.99)  
978-1-338-59661-8  
The search for ancient Egyptian burial sites by British  
explorers led to an important archaeological discovery,  
but misfortune came to many in contact with it.  
Archival photos. Bibliography, source notes. (8-11)

**ⓓ If You Lived during the Plimoth Thanksgiving (If  
You Lived series)**

by Chris Newell, illustrated by Winona Nelson  
(Scholastic Press, \$22.99) 978-1-338-72637-4  
Misrepresentations surrounding the lives of the  
Plimoth pilgrims and the Wampanoag people are  
peeled away to reveal inaccuracies and misconceptions.  
Engaging line and color illustrations. Back matter. (9-12)

**Nicky & Vera:**

**A Quiet Hero of the Holocaust and the  
Children He Rescued**

written and illustrated by Peter Sís  
(Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$19.95)  
978-1-324-01574-1  
In Prague in 1939, Nicholas Winton quietly arranged  
transport and refuge for 669 Jewish children fleeing  
Nazi persecution. Detailed illustrations in varied  
palettes. (8-10)

**ⓓ \* The People Remember**

by Ibi Zoboi, illustrated by Loveis Wise  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$19.99)  
978-0-06-291564-1  
Powerful free verse sensitively tells the histories of  
people of African ancestry in America. Sumptuous full-  
bleed digital art. Robust back matter. (8-11)

**Rescuing Titanic:**

**A True Story of Quiet Bravery in the North Atlantic  
(Hidden Histories series)**

written and illustrated by Flora Delargy  
(Wide Eyed Editions/Quarto Group, \$19.99)  
978-0-7112-6278-2  
In April 1912 the *Carpathia* raced to rescue survivors of  
the *Titanic*. Vivid illustrations highlight the heroic crew  
and passengers. Glossary, resources. (9-12)

## ④ **Stamped (For Kids):**

### **Racism, Antiracism, and You**

by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi, adapted by Sonja Cherry-Paul, illustrated by Rachelle Baker (Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette Book Group, \$15.99) 978-0-316-16758-1

An examination of the origin of racist ideas and their impact in America. Adapted from *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*. Black-and-white spot illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

## ④ **Together We March:**

### **25 Protest Movements That Marched into History**

by Leah Henderson, illustrated by Tyler Feder (Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-4270-2  
From the mill children who walked with Mother Jones in 1907 to the activists in today's Black Lives Matter protests, people demonstrate the power of fighting together for social justice. Bright cartoon-like illustrations. Time line and bibliography. (10-13)

## **Twenty-One Steps:**

### **Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**

by Jeff Gottesfeld, illustrated by Matt Tavares (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0148-2  
An account of how the United States came to honor its soldiers who died nameless in the line of duty. Evocative pencil and digitally painted illustrations. (8-10)

## Holidays and Religion

### **Across the Rainbow Bridge:**

#### **Stories of Norse Gods and Humans**

by Kevin Crossley-Holland, illustrated by Jeffrey Alan Love (Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-1771-1

Fallible, capricious, and enigmatic, the gods of the Scandinavian peoples sometimes interacted with humans on a whim, with unpredictable results. Haunting limited-palette illustrations. (9-12)

## Language

### \* **Dreyer's English:**

#### **Good Advice for Good Writing**

by Benjamin Dreyer (Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-17680-1

A longtime copywriter's entertaining and informative guide to rules and current practices. Includes an amusing, helpful chapter on "trimmables"—redundancies such as "blend together," "closed fist," and "fall down." Young readers edition of *Dreyer's English: An Utterly Correct Guide to Clarity and Style*. (10-13)

### **They're So Flamboyant**

by Michael Genhart, illustrated by Tony Neal (Magination Press/American Psychological Association, \$14.99) 978-1-4338-3278-9

A series of collective nouns is presented through the story of a family of flamingos who move into the neighborhood, upsetting the other birds. Clever word play. Colorful, stylized illustrations. Glossary, back matter. (8-10)

## Reference

### \* **Amazing Treasures:**

#### **100+ Objects and Places That Will Boggle Your Mind**

by David Long, illustrated by Studio MUTI (What on Earth Books, \$24.00) 978-1-912920-50-1  
A rich compendium of architectural and natural wonders, precious artworks, and more. Colorful illustrations. Glossary. Sources. (8-11)

## Sports

### **It's Outta Here!:**

#### **The Might and Majesty of the Home Run**

by Matt Doeden (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$34.65) 978-1-72841-716-5  
For baseball fans, there's nothing more exciting than a home run. A fascinating history of the long ball with stories, photographs, statistics, and explanations of the physics involved. Glossary, sources, index, and further reading. (10-13)

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

### **Animals to the Rescue!:**

#### **Amazing True Stories from around the World (Sandra Markle's Science Discoveries series)**

by Sandra Markle

(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$31.99) 978-1-5415-8122-7

Photographs and descriptive anecdotes tell the stories of how various animals, including dogs, whales, elephants, and pouched rats, rescued people and other creatures in distress. (8-11)

### **Big Brain Book:**

#### **How It Works and All Its Quirks**

by Leanne Boucher Gill, illustrated by Magination Press (Magination Press/American Psychological Association, \$24.99) 978-1-4338-3045-7

"What is the brain made of?" and "Why can't we tickle ourselves?" are among the questions answered in an accessible, engaging format. Colorful illustrations. (9-12)

### **The Book of Amazing Trees**

by Nathalie Tordjman, illustrated by Julien Norwood and Isabelle Simler, translated from the French by Yolanda Stern Broad

(Princeton Architectural Press, \$19.95)

978-1-61689-971-4

Extensive information about tree species, growth, reproduction, and adaptation, organized in an interesting, accessible format. Detailed illustrations. Quizzes. (9-12)

### **The Deadliest Diseases Then and Now (The Deadliest series)**

by Deborah Hopkinson

(Scholastic Focus/Scholastic, \$25.99)

978-1-338-36022-6

A meticulously researched and resourced study focuses on the enormous strides made in science and medicine in treating illnesses, from the Black Plague to COVID-19. Glossary, bibliography, source notes. (10-13)



### **The Frog Mother (Mothers of Xsan series)**

by Hetxw'ms Gyetxw (Brett D. Huson), illustrated by Natasha Donovan

(HighWater Press/Portage & Main Press, \$23.00)

978-1-55379-901-6

A member of the Gitxsan clan describes the life cycle of the Columbia spotted frog of Northwestern Canada. Bright illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

### **From Here to There:**

#### **Inventions That Changed the Way the World Moves**

by Vivian Kirkfield, illustrated by Gilbert Ford

(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-1-328-56091-9

Vision and persistence led to mobility-related inventions like the bicycle, steam engine, and industrial robot. Watercolor illustrations finished digitally. Time line, source notes, and bibliography. (9-12)

### **\* The Great Stink:**

#### **How Joseph Bazalgette Solved London's Poop Pollution Problem**

by Colleen Paeff, illustrated by Nancy Carpenter

(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)

978-1-5344-4929-9

A lively account of how an engineer created London's sewer system in the 19th century. Humorous watercolor and ink illustrations. Discussion of contemporary solutions for waste pollution. Back matter. (8-11)

### **\* Guitars (Made by Hand series)**

by Patricia Lakin

(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-4835-2

Follow the history of guitars, then go behind the scenes to see how acoustic and electric guitars are crafted by luthier Meredith Coloma. Colorful photographs and clear diagrams. (8-11)

### **\* The How and Wow of the Human Body:**

#### **From Your Tongue to Your Toes and All the Guts in Between (Wow in the World series)**

by Mindy Thomas and Guy Raz, illustrated by

Jack Teagle

(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)

978-0-358-30663-4

Digital cartoon layout and illustrations enhance this humorous and nonjudgmental explanation of human bodily functions, including breathing, barfing, and pooping. Extensive back matter. (8-11)

### **Invented by Animals:**

#### **Meet the Creatures Who Inspired Our Everyday Technology**

by Christiane Dorion, illustrated by Gosia Herba

(Wide Eyed Editions, \$22.99) 978-0-7112-6067-2

Thirty-two animals share their unique characteristics that have inspired human inventions, including robots, surgical needles, and weatherproofing. Engaging format and colorful digital illustrations. (8-10)

**It Takes Guts:**

**How Your Body Turns Food into Fuel (and Poop)**

by Jennifer Gardy, illustrated by Belle Wuthrich  
(Greystone Kids/Greystone Books, \$19.95)  
978-1-77164-501-0

Bright, colorful illustrations accompany this humorous presentation of everything you wanted to know about how the human body processes food. Glossary. (9-12)

**\* The Message:**

**The Extraordinary Journey of an Ordinary Text Message**

written and illustrated by Michael Emberley  
(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)  
978-1-53445-290-9

Lush illustrations help demystify the intricate dance of human neural networks, electrical networks, and fiber optics that enables us to speedily send our thoughts to others. Sources. (8-11)

**\* Nano:**

**The Spectacular Science of the Very (Very) Small**

by Jess Wade, illustrated by Melissa Castrillón  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1766-7

An award-winning physicist explains atoms, elements, and nanos, the tiny building blocks used to create many new inventions. Helpful colorful illustrations. Back matter. (8-10)

**ⓓ \* Planet Ocean:**

**Why We All Need a Healthy Ocean**

by Patricia Newman, photographed by Annie Crawley  
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$34.65) 978-1-5415-8121-0

Divers who explore the Arctic, the Coral Triangle in Southeast Asia, and the Salish Sea in western North America discuss local issues that affect us all. Colorful photographs. Sources include video links. (10-13)

# TWELVE TO FOURTEEN

## FICTION

### Adventure and Mystery

#### \* **Amber and Clay**

by Laura Amy Schlitz  
(Candlewick Press, \$22.99) 978-1-5362-0122-2  
Brought together by the gods of ancient Greece in the time of Socrates, an artistically inclined enslaved boy and an aristocratic girl with an untamed spirit fulfill each other's destinies. Meticulously researched. Endnotes, bibliography. (12-15)

#### **Crossing the Stream**

by Elizabeth-Irene Baitie  
(Accord/Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$17.95) 978-1-324-01709-7  
Twelve-year-old Ghanaian Ato and his friends create an organic garden to win entry to a bird sanctuary as they battle an unscrupulous religious leader who opposes their community. (11-13)

#### **Frankie & Bug**

by Gayle Forman  
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-8253-1  
In 1987 Venice, California, biracial Bug's brother has no time for her. But with new trans friend Frankie, she solves a mystery and deals with issues of identity. (11-14)

#### **Jukebox**

written and illustrated by Nidhi Chanani  
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$21.99) 978-1-250-15636-5  
Twelve-year-old Bangladeshi American Shaheen's music-obsessed dad is missing. Using a magical jukebox, Shaheen and her cousin time-travel to legendary concerts to find him. Vibrant digital art. (11-13)

#### **The Leak:**

#### **For the Love of Truth**

by Kate Reed Petty, illustrated by Andrea Bell  
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$14.99) 978-1-250-21795-0  
When 12-year-old Ruth discovers a toxic substance in her neighborhood lake, she uses her investigative journalist skills to uncover the source. Bright graphic illustrations. (11-14)

#### **The Losers at the Center of the Galaxy**

by Mary Winn Heider  
(Little, Brown/Hachette Book Group, \$16.99) 978-0-7595-5542-6  
Middle school siblings find separate paths to wholeness following the disappearance of their father, an ex-football player with CTE. Poignant, yet sometimes laugh-out-loud funny. (11-13)

#### \* **Pony**

by R. J. Palacio  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-553-50811-6  
In 1860s Ohio, a 12-year-old sets out to rescue his father from a counterfeiting gang—with the help of a ghost and an Arabian horse. (11-14)

#### **The Secret Life of Kitty Granger**

by G. D. Falksen  
(Carolrhoda Lab/Lerner, \$18.99) 978-1-5415-9796-9  
An autistic teen with uncanny observational and puzzle-solving skills is recruited by a spy organization to help foil a fascist coup in 1960s London. (12-15)

#### **The Secret Starling**

by Judith Eagle, illustrated by Jo Rioux  
(Walker Books/Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1365-2  
An abandoned ballet slipper found in Braithwaite Manor leads Clara and her new friend Peter to revelations about her family's sinister secrets. Black-and-white full-page illustrations. (11-14)

## Anthologies and Collections

#### \* **Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids**

edited by Cynthia Leitich Smith  
(Heartdrum/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-286994-4  
Stories at a powwow in a high school gym in Michigan bring together families from different tribal nations to celebrate their ancestors and their heritage. (11-14)



**D** **Every Body Shines:  
Sixteen Stories about Living Fabulously Fat**

edited by Cassandra Newbould  
(Bloomsbury YA/Bloomsbury, \$18.99)  
978-1-5476-0607-8

A math genius in space, a star hockey player, a fireman, a mermaid, and more are among those coping with attitudes about body size. (12-15)

**D** **Pity Party**

by Kathleen Lane  
(Little, Brown/Hachette Book Group, \$16.99)  
978-0-316-41736-5

An eclectic selection of short stories reveal the teeming inner thoughts of a relatable cast of characters as they face impending adulthood. (11-14)

**D** **\* Recognize!:**

**An Anthology Honoring and Amplifying Black Life**

edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson,  
illustrated by various artists  
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH,  
\$16.99) 978-0-593-38159-5

Poems, stories, essays, graphic format pieces, and full-color artwork celebrating Black life, produced from 2020 to 2021 by 30 authors, poets, and artists. Back matter includes biographies of contributors. (11-13)

**D** **\* This Is Our Rainbow:**

**16 Stories of Her, Him, Them, and Us**

edited by Katherine Locke and Nicole Melleby  
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH,  
\$16.99) 978-0-593-30394-8

A unique collection of stories, including a few in graphic format, with diverse characters—most at the beginning of adolescence—exploring their gender and sexual identity. (11-14)

## Coming of Age

**D** **Across the Pond**

by Joy McCullough  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-7121-4

After Callie moves to an inherited castle in Scotland, she overcomes her unhappy American middle school experience, makes friends, and develops an interest in bird-watching. (12-14)

**\* Alone**

by Megan E. Freeman  
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S,  
\$17.99) 978-1-5344-6756-9

Maddie wakes from a canceled sleepover to find her Colorado town has been evacuated. Shuttling between the homes of her divorced parents, she struggles to survive. Free verse. (12-15)

**D** **Barakah Beats**

by Maleeha Siddiqui  
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-1-338-70206-4

Attending public school for the first time, Nimra joins a band despite her worry that it violates her Muslim faith. (11-14)

**D** **Both Can Be True**

written and illustrated by Jules Machias  
(Quill Tree Books, HarperCollins, \$16.99)  
978-0-06-305389-2

Daniel and Ash initially bond over rescuing a dog; attractions form, but what will happen when Daniel discovers Ash is nonbinary? Alternate voices. Occasional black-and-white illustrations. (12-15)

**D**  **Boys Run the Riot (Boys Run the Riot series)**

written and illustrated by Keito Gaku, translated from the Japanese by Leo McDonagh

(Kodansha Comics, P \$12.99) 978-1-64651-248-5

Ryo, nonbinary and transgender, doesn't want to stand out at school, until a new friend helps him turn his fashion tastes into a business. Sharp greyscale illustrations. (12-15)

**D** **Ciel in All Directions (Ciel series)**

by Sophie Labelle, translated from the Canadian French by Andrea Zanin

(Second Story Press, P \$11.95) 978-177260-203-6

Nonbinary transgender Ciel campaigns to become a class officer while completing a science project, managing a YouTube channel, and figuring out if a crush is reciprocal. Can they do it all? (12-15)

**D** **Clues to the Universe**

by Christina Li  
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-300888-5

Two seventh grade students—Benji, a talented artist, and biracial Chinese American Ro, a gifted lover of science and invention—face social exclusion but dazzle everyone with an amazing science fair entry. (11-13)

**\* The Deepest Breath**

by Meg Grehan

(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99)

978-0-358-35475-8

Stevie, 11, has a crush on her classmate, Chloe, and doesn't know how to handle her feelings. A supportive librarian helps her. In verse. (11-14)

**ⓓ The Elephant in the Room**

by Holly Goldberg Sloan

(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH,

\$17.99) 978-0-7352-2994-5

Following her mother's forced return to Turkey, Sila becomes withdrawn, until an eccentric widower befriends her and her father, and they rescue a retired circus elephant. (11-14)

**\* Jude Banks, Superhero**

by Ann Hood

(Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$16.99)

978-0-593-09407-5

When his beloved sister, Katie, dies, 12-year-old Jude and his parents are submerged in grief. Jude also struggles with a terrible secret: he believes he killed Katie. (12-15)

**ⓓ \* Middletown**

by Sarah Moon

(Levine Querido, \$18.99) 978-1-64614-042-8

Thirteen-year-old Eli and her older sister, Anna, lean on each other to feign a life of normalcy when their single mother gets sent to rehab. (12-15)

**ⓓ Neverforgotten**

by Alejandra Algorta, illustrated by Iván Rickenmann, translated from the Spanish by Aida Salazar

(Em Querido/Levine Querido, \$17.99)

978-1-64614-094-7

Ten-year-old Fabio flies through the streets of Bogotá on his bike, until one day he forgets how. An allegory about loss, truth, and friendship. Detailed charcoal illustrations. Bilingual in Spanish and English. (11-14)

**ⓓ  Summer of Brave**

by Amy Noelle Parks

(Albert Whitman and Company, \$16.99)

978-0-8075-7660-1

Compliant Lilla has always done what her competitive, bickering, divorced parents wanted, but they have conflicting visions for her future. How can she forge a path for herself? (11-14)

**ⓓ Thanks a Lot, Universe**

by Chad Lucas

(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$16.99), 978-1-4197-5102-8

Brian's family's breakup does nothing to help his social anxiety. Queer, biracial Ezra, a fellow basketball team member, reaches out a hand in friendship—or maybe more. (11-14)

**ⓓ \* Treasure of the World**

by Tara Sullivan

(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers

Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-51696-5

Ana, 12, yearns to leave the Bolivian silver mine where her family works. A mining accident forces her to confront her fears and make dangerous choices. (11-14)

## Contemporary Issues

**ⓓ Boy, Everywhere**

by A. M. Dassu

(Tu Books/Lee & Low, \$19.95) 978-1-64379-196-8

After a privileged life in Damascus, Syria, Sami's mother and sister suffer psychologically from a bomb attack, and his family become asylum-seekers in England. (12-14)

**Everywhere Blue**

by Joanne Rossmassler Fritz

(Holiday House, \$17.99) 978-0-8234-4862-3

When Maddie's older brother runs away from college, she tries to solve the mystery of where he went. Her only clue—his concern about climate change. Free verse. (11-13)

**ⓓ  The Golden Hour**

written and illustrated by Niki Smith

(Little, Brown/Hachette Book Group, P \$12.99)

978-0-316-54033-9

In a farming community, steadfast friends and a creative outlet—photography—help Manuel process trauma after he witnesses a school shooting. Vivid illustrations and archival photographs. PTSD resources. (11-14)

**ⓓ  Himawari House**

written and illustrated by Harmony Becker

(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck,

\$24.99) 978-1-250-23556-5

A multinational group of roommates attending a Japanese language institute explore friendship, romance, and cultural identity. Multilingual text throughout. Illustrations mix realistic and manga conventions. (13-15)

**ⓓ \* How Do You Live?**

by Genzaburō Yoshino, translated from the Japanese by Bruno Navasky (Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin Books/Workman Publishing, \$17.95) 978-1-61620-977-3

A fatherless 15-year-old Japanese boy experiences friendship, betrayal, self-discovery, and reflection while discussing values, ethics, Copernicus, Newton, Napoleon, and Buddha with his uncle. (11-14)

**ⓓ The Renegade Reporters**

by Elissa Brent Weissman (Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-32303-8

Three middle-school journalists discover that the company providing the school district's media software is secretly collecting students' personal data to sell to advertisers. (11-14)

**ⓓ \* Samira Surfs**

by Rukhsanna Guidroz, illustrated by Fahmida Azim (Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-9848-1619-1

Forced to flee Myanmar, a Rohingya family rebuilds their lives as refugees in Bangladesh. Surfing provides friends and empowerment. Free verse. Stark black-and-white illustrations. Back matter. (11-14)

**ⓓ The Samosa Rebellion**

by Shanthi Sekaran, illustrated by Shehzil Malik (Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-305153-9

In Mariposa, where Whites refer to themselves as "Butterflies" and to people of color as "Moths," Latinx and Asian residents join a besieged Indian family as they struggle to maintain their lives in the community. Black-and-white spot art. (12-14)

**ⓓ Sunny Days Inside:  
And Other Stories**

by Caroline Adderson (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$16.99) 978-1-77306-572-4

Children develop unexpected friendships as they deal with the frustrations and challenges of being cooped up in their apartments during the COVID-19 pandemic. (11-13)

## Ecology

**One Small Hop**

by Madelyn Rosenberg (Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-1-338-56561-4

Global warming has created numerous shortages and destroyed much of the animal population. When young friends discover a single living male bullfrog, they try to sneak it into Canada where a female bullfrog awaits. (11-13)

## Family/School/Community

**ⓓ Ahmed Aziz's Epic Year**

by Nina Hamza (Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-302489-2

Moving from Hawaii to Minnesota would be challenging for Ahmed even if his dad wasn't critically ill. The bullying neighbor assigned to his group project adds to his tension. (11-14)

**ⓓ Bea Is for Blended**

by Lindsey Stoddard (Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-287816-8

Challenges await Bea and her mother when they join a new stepfamily in Vermont. (11-13)

**Breathing Underwater**

by Sarah Allen (Farrar Straus and Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-374-31325-8

On a road trip from Knoxville to their former home in San Diego, 13-year-old photographer Olivia follows a secret plan to help Ruth, her depressed 16-year-old sister. (12-14)

**ⓓ Flight of the Puffin**

by Ann Braden (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984816-06-1

Seventh grader Libby creates inspiring postcards that reach three middle schoolers across the country. Whether it's about bullying, homelessness, or grief, the connection helps each feel supported. Told in four voices. (11-13)

### \* **How to Become a Planet**

by Nicole Melleby

(Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin Books/Workman Publishing, \$16.95) 978-1-64375-036-1

Fighting her diagnosis of depression and anxiety, Pluto rejects the help of most people as she tries to find some acceptance within herself. (11-14)

### **It All Begins with Jelly Beans**

by Nova Weetman, illustrated by Federica Frenna

(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99) 978-5344-9431-2

Riley, a type 1 diabetic adjusting to a new school, and Meg, dealing with her widowed mother's deep depression, meet in the school nurse's office. Can they forge a friendship? Black-and-white spot art. (11-14)

### ⓓ **A Kind of Spark**

by Elle McNicoll

Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-37425-2

Eleven-year-old Addie fights to get her Scottish village board to memorialize local women who, centuries before, had been persecuted as witches. Could they have been autistic like her? (11-13)

### **The Mysterious Disappearance of Aidan S. (as told to his brother)**

by David Levithan

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-1-9848-4859-8

Twelve-year-old Aidan vanishes. When he returns, he doesn't think anyone will accept the truth about where he's been—with good reason. Who would believe that another world exists? (11-13)

### **An Occasionally Happy Family**

by Cliff Burke

(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-358-32567-3

After an exhausting camping vacation ends in an unwelcome surprise, teenage Theo, his sister Laura, and their father finally contend with their grief at the loss of the children's mother. (11-14)

### ⓓ **Polo Cowboy**

by G. Neri, illustrated by Jesse Joshua Watson

(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0711-8

When Cole, 14, remains in Philadelphia with his father and the Black cowboys, he also becomes a stable hand for an elite polo team. Can he navigate the two worlds? Striking black-and-white illustrations. (13-15)

### ⓓ \* **The Shape of Thunder**

by Jasmine Warga

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-295667-5

Before Cora's sister was killed by Quinn's brother in a school shooting, Cora and Quinn were best friends. Can they time-travel to prevent the tragedy? (12-14)

### ⓓ **A Soft Place to Land**

by Janae Marks

(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-287587-7

Financial problems force African American Joy, 12, and her family to move from a much-loved home into a small apartment in a new area. Starting a dog-walking business with a friend helps, until one dog runs away. (11-13)

### **What about Will**

by Ellen Hopkins

(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-10864-2

Trace struggles to decide how best to help his beloved older brother, who has become addicted to pain medications. Free verse. (11-14)

### ⓓ **Worst-Case Collin**

by Rebecca Caprara

(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-145-3

After his mother dies in an automobile accident, 12-year-old Collin deals with his father's increasingly serious mental illness and his own trauma and grief. Free verse. (11-13)

## Fantasy

### **The Broken Raven (Shadow Skye Trilogy)**

by Joseph Elliott

(Walker Books/Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0748-4

Three unusual teens, Agatha, Jaime, and Sigrid, exhibit extraordinary bravery and ingenuity as they enable their clans to survive destructive wars waged by brutal rulers. (11-14)

### ⓓ **Fire with Fire**

by Destiny Soria

(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-358-32973-2

Two Mexican American sisters are on opposite sides of a war between humans and dragons—until a more dangerous enemy presents itself. (12-15)



## **The Legend of Hobart**

by Heather Mullaly

(Favored Oak Press, \$16.99) 978-1-73-647737-3

Bullied, beleaguered Hobart needs to perform heroic deeds to be eligible to be nominated to knight's school. He hurriedly sets out to prove himself worthy. But what is heroism? (11-14)

## **D \* My Contrary Mary (The Lady Janies series)**

by Cynthia Hand, Brodi Ashton, and Jodi Meadows

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$18.99)

978-0-06-293004-0

A clever, humorous account of the intrigues and treacheries threatening the 16th-century Scottish queen, betrothed to Francis, heir to the French throne. This queen is sometimes a mouse! (12-15)

## **D Once upon a Camel**

by Kathi Appelt, illustrated by Eric Rohmann

(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon &

Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$17.99)

978-1-5344-0643-8

In Texas in 1910, Zada, an elderly camel named for Scheherazade, protects two young kestrels by calming them with stories. Realistic greyscale oil paintings. (11-14)

## **D Pahua and the Soul Stealer**

by Lori M. Lee

(Rich Riordan Presents/Disney Hyperion, \$16.99)

978-1-368-06824-6

Take a deep dive into Hmong culture, folklore, and cosmology along with Pahua, who has only three days to rescue her brother's soul from the spirit world. (11-13)

## **The Republic of Birds**

by Jessica Miller

(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$17.99) 978-1-4197-3675-9

When 12-year-old Olga's family is exiled from the capital of Tsaretsvo, she is happy to escape the city—until her sister is kidnapped. (11-13)

## **D The Wild Huntsboys**

by Martin Stewart

( Viking Children's Books, \$17.99) 978-0-593-11613-5

In a war-torn city, Luka bonds with brainy Hazel and muscular Max to combat offended faeries threatening their lives and the life of Luka's young sister. (11-13)

# Folklore and Fairy Tales

## **D The Legend of Auntie Po**

written and illustrated by Shing Yin Khor

(Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$22.99)

978-0-525-55488-2

Mei, 13, narrates life in an 1885 logging camp, using Paul Bunyan stories with Chinese matriarch Auntie Po as protagonist. Bold digital pencil and watercolor art. (11-14)

## **D Living Ghosts & Mischievous Monsters: Chilling American Indian Stories**

by Dan Sasuweh Jones, illustrated by Weshoyot Alvitre

(Scholastic Press, \$26.99) 978-1-338-68162-8

Thirty-two shivery tales, both contemporary and traditional, reflecting the diversity of Native American folklore. Pen and ink artwork. Detailed background and sources. (11-14)

## **D \* The Sea-Ringed World: Sacred Stories of the Americas**

by María García Esperón, illustrated by

Amanda Mijangos, translated from the Spanish by David Bowles

(Em Querido/Levine Querido, \$21.99)

978-1-64614-015-2

Creation stories, cautionary tales, and more from the many Indigenous peoples who lived in the Americas thousands of years before Europeans arrived. Striking digital black, white, and blue illustrations. Excellent back matter. (11-14)

# Historical Fiction

## **Between Shades of Gray: The Graphic Novel**

by Ruta Sepetys, adapted by Andrew Donkin,

illustrated by Dave Kopka, color by Brann Livesay

(Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99)

978-0-593-20416-0

In 1941 Lina, 15, and her family are arrested by the Soviet secret police and sent to Siberia. Their crime: they are Lithuanian. Detailed full-color artwork. (12-15)



**D Dawn Raid**

by Pauline Vaeluaga Smith, illustrated by Mat Hunkin (Levine Querido, \$17.99) 978-1-64614-041-1  
Biracial Sofia's diary entries and pencil sketches chronicle her struggles at school and her growing awareness of the unjust treatment of Pacific Islanders in 1976 New Zealand. Black-and-white illustrations. (11-14)

**D Freedom Swimmer**

by Wai Chim  
(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-338-65613-8  
After famine kills his parents during the harsh reign of Chairman Mao, Ming, surviving as a field worker, bonds with Li, a city boy brought to Ming's village to be "re-educated." (13-15)

**D \* How to Find What You're Not Looking For**

by Veena Hiranandani  
(Kokila/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-55503-2  
In 1967 when Ariel Goldberg's Jewish parents oppose her big sister Leah's plan to marry a man from India, the older girl disappears. (11-13)

**D Red, White, and Whole**

by Rajani LaRocca  
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-304742-6  
Reha, 13, feels torn between two worlds: American at school and Indian at home. Then her mother is diagnosed with leukemia and everything changes. Free verse. (11-14)

**D Soul Lanterns**

by Shaw Kuzki, translated from the Japanese by Emily Balistrieri  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-593-17434-0  
In Hiroshima every August 6th, people float paper lanterns down the river, each one commemorating someone they've lost. Nozomi's mother always leaves one lantern unnamed. Whose could it be? (11-13)

**D Strong as Fire, Fierce as Flame**

by Supriya Kelkar  
(Tu Books/Lee & Low, \$21.95) 978-1-64379-040-4  
In 1857 colonial India, child-bride Meera flees her home to escape a cruel custom. Then, as a servant to a British official, she realizes she has traded one form of subservience for another and fights back. Historical notes, time line, glossary. (12-14)

**D View from Pagoda Hill**

by Michaela MacColl  
(Calkins Creek/Boyd's Mills & Kane, \$17.99) 978-1-62979-782-3  
In 1878 a Chinese American girl struggles when she is forced to leave Shanghai to go live with her American father's parents, who she barely knows. (11-14)

**M When the World Was Ours**

by Liz Kessler  
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-9965-2  
On the verge of World War II, three nine-year-old German friends—two Jewish and one a future Nazi—find their lives torn apart. (11-14) Mature content

**D  World in Between:**

**Based on a True Refugee Story**  
by Kenan Trebinčević and Susan Shapiro  
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-358-43987-5  
During the 1992 Serbian invasion of Bosnia and the ensuing massacre of Muslims, Kenan, 11, and his family flee. A moving and hopeful look at the vicissitudes of building a new life in the United States. (11-14)

## Magical Realism

**D Amari and the Night Brothers (Supernatural Investigations series)**

by B. B. Alston, illustrated by Godwin Akpan  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-297516-4  
Brave and resourceful Amari, bullied for being Black and determined to find her long-missing brother, receives an invitation in his handwriting to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs. Black-and-white illustrations. (11-14)

**\* Hollow Chest**

by Brita Sandstrom, illustrated by Dadu Shin  
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-287074-2  
In 1945, when Charlie's brother comes home to London from the war, he is not the same. Charlie embarks on a quest to find his brother's heart, eaten by mysterious wolves. Delicate full-page black-and-white illustrations. (11-14)

## Leonard (My Life as a Cat)

by Carlie Sorosiak

(Walker Books/Candlewick Press, \$17.99)

978-1-5362-0770-5

Leonard, an alien, is sent to earth for a sabbatical, but in a mix-up, he arrives as a cat in need of rescue. Eleven-year-old Olive finds him. (11-13)



### Second Sleep

by Diane Stanley

(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-265803-6

At their grandmother's cabin by the lake, Max and Rosie start to have identical dreams that contain clues to their mother's past and disappearance. (11-14)

### D Temple Alley Summer

by Sachiko Kashiwaba, illustrated by Miho Satake, translated from the Japanese by Avery Fischer Udagawa (Restless Books, \$18.00) 978-1-63206-303-8

Fifth grader Kazu realizes the new girl in his class is a spirit, whose existence is threatened by local elders. What should he do? Evocative spot illustrations. (11-14)

## Science Fiction

### D Daughter of the Deep

by Rick Riordan, illustrated by Lavanya Naidu

(Disney Hyperion/Buena Vista, \$19.99)

978-1-368-07792-7

In this homage to *20,000 Leagues under the Sea*, Ana leads a diverse team of fellow teen scientists and warriors on a mission to prevent powerful technologies from becoming tools of destruction. Black-and-white spot art. (12-15)

## Sports

### D \* Fast Pitch

by Nic Stone, illustrated by Noa Denmon

(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-9848-9301-7

Twelve-year-old Shenice, captain of a pioneering all-Black softball team, is determined to clear her great-grandfather's name and restore him to his rightful place in baseball history. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (11-13)

## POETRY

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### D Burying the Moon

by Andrée Poulin, illustrated by Sonali Zohra, translated from the French by Andrée Poulin

(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.99)

978-1-77306-604-2

The women of a rural Indian village use a distant field at night for sanitation, until Latika speaks up. Rich, violet-hued illustrations. (11-14)

### D \* Legacy:

#### Women Poets of the Harlem Renaissance

by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by 19 female Black artists (Bloomsbury, \$18.99) 978-1-6811-9944-3

Utilizing the golden shovel poetic form, Grimes creates contemporary poetry using lines borrowed from poetry written by women during the Harlem Renaissance. Bold stylized illustrations. (12-13)

### \* The Seventh Raven

by David Elliott, illustrated by Rovina Cai

(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-358-25211-3

When his daughter is born dying, a father curses his seven sons, who turn into ravens. Haunting black-and-white illustrations. Back matter on the varied poetic forms used. (12-15)

## INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

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## Biography and Memoir

### D Accused:

#### My Story of Injustice (I, Witness series)

by Adama Bah

(Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$16.95)

978-1-324-01663-2

Bah, who was born in Guinea and grew up in New York City, didn't know she was not American until 9/11. Then suddenly she was falsely accused of being a suicide bomber. (13-15)

**D Defiant:**

**Growing Up in the Jim Crow South**

by Wade Hudson

Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-12635-6

A warm detailed look about how family and teachers shaped Hudson's journey from curious and rambunctious child to civil rights activist. Back matter includes historical notes. (11-14)

**D Living the Confidence Code**

by Katty Kay, Claire Shipman, and Jillellyn Riley, illustrated by Nan Lawson, Catherine Lee, Julie Lerche, and Jessica Nordskog

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$14.99) 978-06-295411-4

Short bios focus on interviews with capable girls the world over who are making a difference. Graphic format art, spot illustrations, and photos. Back matter. (11-14)

**D One Life**

by Megan Rapinoe, with Emma Brockes, adapted by Sarah Surand

(Razorbill/Penguin Young Readers Group, PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-20341-5

Rapinoe's honesty shines through in this sports memoir that shows how her family and experiences as a gay person shaped her career and activism. Archival and family photos. Young readers edition. (13-15)

**D \* The Other Talk:**

**Reckoning with Our White Privilege**

by Brendan Kiely, introduction by Jason Reynolds (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$18.99)

978-1-5344-9404-6

Through relatable personal anecdotes, statistics, and history, the author explores White privilege and what White people can do to combat racism. Author's note, endnotes, bibliography. (12-15)

**D  Robert Smalls (Tales of the Talented Tenth series)**

written and illustrated by Joel Christian Gill (Chicago Review Press, P \$23.95) 978-1-68275-066-7

In 1862 an enslaved African American man who was an experienced sailor and expert navigator smuggled 13 compatriots to freedom by commandeering a Confederate supply ship. Evocative artwork. (11-14)

**D Rolling Warrior:**

**The Incredible, Sometimes Awkward, True Story of a Rebel Girl on Wheels Who Helped Spark a Revolution**

by Judith Heumann, with Kristen Joiner

(Beacon Press, P \$14.95) 978-0-8070-0359-6

Heumann, paralyzed at 18 months after falling ill with polio, has engaged in an inspiring lifelong fight for people with disabilities to be treated as equal citizens. (12-15)



**Sylvie**

written and illustrated by Sylvie Kantorovitz (Walker Books/Candlewick Press, \$24.99)

978-1-5362-0762-0

Sylvie's joyful childhood in the French school where her father was principal gave her the tools to pursue art and carve her own life path. Cartoon-like art. (11-14)

**D While I Was Away**

by Waka T. Brown

(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99)

978-0-06-301711-5

Waka, 12, details her difficult school experiences and life with her standoffish grandmother during an extended stay in Japan in 1984. (12-15)

**\* The Woman All Spies Fear:**

**Code Breaker Elizebeth Smith Friedman and Her Hidden Life**

by Amy Butler Greenfield

(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-12719-3

A pioneer in the field of cryptography, Friedman developed code-breaking techniques along with her husband, saving thousands of lives from World War I to the 1960s. Photographs. Extensive back matter. (13-15)

**D \* Wonder Women of Science:**

**Twelve Geniuses Who Are Currently Rocking Science, Technology, and the World**

by Tiera Fletcher and Ginger Rue, illustrated by Sally Wern Comport, diagrams by Rita Csizmadia

(Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-1-5362-0734-7

Engaging portrayals of twelve extraordinary women and their accomplishments in engineering, computer game development, climate science, and more. Colorful full-page portraits, photographs, and diagrams. Back matter. (13-15)

## Ecology

### **Hothouse Earth: The Climate Crisis and the Importance of Carbon Neutrality**

by Stephanie Sammartino McPherson  
(Twenty-First Century Books/Lerner, \$37.32)  
978-1-5415-7917-0

An account of the work of scientists and environmental activists worldwide that advances our understanding of the causes and consequences of climate change. Source notes, photos, charts, maps. (12-15)

## Health

### **Welcome to Your Period! (Welcome to Your Body series)**

by Yumi Stynes and Melissa Kang, illustrated by Jenny Latham  
(Walker Books/Candlewick Press, \$17.99)  
978-1-5362-1476-5

A health writer and a doctor provide practical advice and scientific information about menstruation. Colorful, informative illustrations. Glossary. (11-14)

## History

### **Ensnared in the Wolf's Lair: Inside the 1944 Plot to Kill Hitler and the Ghost Children of His Revenge**

by Ann Bausum  
(National Geographic Kids/National Geographic, \$19.99) 978-1-4263-3854-0

The Valkyrie plot to assassinate Hitler and the retribution suffered by the children of the perpetrators are grippingly recounted. Meticulously researched. Complete source notes. (12-13)

### **ⓓ Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians but Were Afraid to Ask**

by Anton Treuer  
(Levine Querido, \$18.99) 978-1-64614-045-9  
An Ojibwe scholar debunks stereotypes of Native peoples of the current-day United States and Canada. FAQ format. Archival photographs. Back matter. Young readers edition. (13-15)



### **In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers: The Seconds, Minutes, Hours, Days, Weeks, Months, and Years after the 9/11 Attacks**

written and illustrated by Don Brown  
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)  
978-0-358-22357-3

Moving stories from 9/11 survivors engender an understanding of this tragedy as more than just a date in history. Pen and ink illustrations with digital paint. Extensive back matter. (12-15)

### **ⓓ \* Picturing a Nation: The Great Depression's Finest Photographers Introduce America to Itself**

by Martin W. Sandler  
(Candlewick Press, \$24.99) 978-1-5362-1525-0  
Renowned photographers, including Gordon Parks, Dorothea Lange, and Walker Evans, documented everyday life during the 1930s Great Depression. Black-and-white and color photos. Photographer profiles. Source notes. (12-15)

### **Race to the Bottom of the Earth: Surviving Antarctica**

by Rebecca E. F. Barone  
(Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, \$19.99) 978-1-250-25780-2  
Accounts of the races between Scott and Amundsen in 1911 and Rudd and O'Brady in 2018 to reach the South Pole. Archival photographs. Sourced quotes, maps, and social media posts. (12-15)

### **ⓓ We Must Not Forget: Holocaust Stories of Survival and Resistance**

by Deborah Hopkinson  
(Scholastic Focus/Scholastic, \$18.99)  
978-1-3382-5577-5  
Profiles of 12 Jewish children and teens from countries occupied by the Nazis in World War II, and the different ways they were able to survive. Archival photographs. Back matter. (11-14)

## Language

### **D** You Can't Say That!:

#### **Writers for Young People Talk about Censorship, Free Expression, and the Stories They Have to Tell**

compiled and edited by Leonard Marcus  
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-0-7636-9036-6  
*Heather Has Two Mommies, Captain Underpants, and The Hate U Give* are among the books that have been challenged or banned. Find out why. Source notes, selected reading. (12-15)

## Law and Justice

### **D** Separate No More:

#### **The Long Road to Brown v. Board of Education**

by Lawrence Goldstone  
(Scholastic Focus/Scholastic, \$18.99)  
978-1-338-59283-2  
A meticulous, step-by-step account of the incremental progress in the fight against racial segregation in the United States. Archival photographs. (12-15)

### **D** Threads of Peace:

#### **How Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. Changed the World**

by Uma Krishnaswami  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-4814-1678-8  
The comparison of the lives and approaches of these champions of nonviolent struggle illuminates the influences they had on their countries and the world. Photographs. Glossary, sources. (12-15)

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



### **Beneath the Waves:**

#### **Celebrating the Ocean through Pictures, Poems, and Stories**

by Stephanie Warren Drimmer  
(National Geographic Kids/National Geographic, \$24.99) 978-1-4263-3916-5  
Explore the ocean, the waters that cover more than 70% of Earth's surface and are home to 99% of the inhabitable space on the planet. Outstanding photos. (11-14)

### \* **Do Animals Fall in Love?**

by Katharina von der Gathen, illustrated by Anke Kuhl, translated from the German by Shelley Tanaka  
(Gecko Press, \$18.99) 978-1-776572-91-5  
An illuminating and frank compendium of all the weird and wonderful ways the animal kingdom courts and reproduces, and then cares for their offspring. Detailed, labeled, and often witty illustrations. (11-14)

### \* **Fungarium**

by David L. Hawksworth, Laura M. Suz, Pepijn W. Kooij, Kare Liimatainen, Tom Prescott, Lee Davies, and Ester Gaya, illustrated by Katie Scott  
(Big Picture Press, \$35.00) 978-1-5362-1709-4  
An explanation of how life on Earth depends on fungi, organisms more closely related to animals than to plants. Lush botanical illustrations. Index, resources. (13-15)

## World



### **D** Finding Refuge:

#### **Real-Life Immigration Stories from Young People**

written and edited by Victorya Rouse  
(Zest Books/Lerner, \$35.82) 978-1-5415-8156-2  
Rouse's ESL students wrote these affecting stories of difficult situations around the world and their families' decisions to come to the United States. Includes country facts and histories. Black-and-white photos. Back matter. (12-15)



# FOURTEEN AND OLDER

## FICTION

### Adventure and Mystery

#### **Lucy Clark Will Not Apologize**

by Margo Rabb

(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-232240-1

Lucy's suspension from boarding school results in her being assigned to care for a wealthy woman with dementia—who thinks, possibly correctly, that she's the target of a murder plot. (14-16)

#### **\* The Summer of Lost Letters**

by Hannah Reynolds

(Razorbill/Penguin Young Readers Group, PRH, \$18.99)

978-0-593-34972-4

Abby Schoenberg, 17, spends the summer on Nantucket trying to solve the mystery of her family's past after receiving a box of love letters written to her grandmother. (14-17)

#### **Unearthed: A Jessica Cruz Story**

by Lilliam Rivera, illustrated by Steph C., lettered by Gabriela Downie

(DC Comics, P \$16.99) 978-1-77950-051-9

In this contemporary Green Lantern comic, ancestral Aztec gods call Jessica Cruz to action after ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) arrests her father. Vibrant, tonal artwork. (13-16)

#### **(D) When You Look Like Us**

by Pamela N. Harris

(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-294589-1

When Jayson's sister goes missing, he assumes her drug-dealer boyfriend is responsible. Has Jayson's judgment been affected by stereotypes that others apply to his Black community? (14-17)

## Anthologies and Collections

#### **(D) Battle of the Bands**

edited by Lauren Gibaldi and Eric Smith

(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-1433-8

Sixteen high school bands compete in a once-a-year performance to win a recording contract. Their interrelated stories of music, love, and identity take place during one night. (14-17)

#### **(D) (M) Blackout**

by Dhonielle Clayton, Tiffany D. Jackson, Nic Stone,

Angie Thomas, Ashley Woodfolk, and Nicola Yoon

(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)

978-0-06-308809-2

A blackout in sweltering NYC occasions changing relationships for six Black teens navigating in the darkness: love found, confessed, renewed, reexamined, or altered. (14-17) Mature content

#### **(D) (M) Everyone Dies Famous in a Small Town**

by Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock

(Wendy Lamb Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984892-59-1

A wildfire and a missing girl provide the backdrop for this captivating collection: nine exquisitely written stories of the struggles and triumphs of small-town teens. (13-16) Mature content

#### **(D) \* Living beyond Borders: Growing Up Mexican in America**

edited by Margarita Longoria

(Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99)

978-0-593-20497-9

A varied selection of stories, poems, graphic format pieces, and personal essays about life as a Mexican American. Many take place in the Rio Grande Valley. (14-17)

#### **(D) (M) That Way Madness Lies: Fifteen of Shakespeare's Most Notable Works Reimagined**

edited by Dahlia Adler

(Flatiron Books/Macmillan, \$18.99)

978-1-250-75386-1

Tragedies and comedies are transformed by young adult authors into contemporary stories with a variety of diverse characters and settings. Back matter. (15-18) Mature content

## Coming of Age

### **D M Act Cool**

by Tobly McSmith  
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99)  
978-0-06-303856-1

Transgender teen August flees his strictly religious parents to avoid conversion therapy. Will acceptance at a prestigious performing arts school lead to the life he wants? (14-17) Mature content

### **D Chlorine Sky**

by Mahogany L. Browne  
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-0-593-17639-9

A self-effacing African American girl who shines on the basketball court comes to find her voice and embrace her strength. Free verse. (14-17)

### **Destination Anywhere**

by Sara Barnard, illustrated by Christiane Fürtges  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-5344-8390-3

Peyton is 17 years old and has never had a real friend. She leaves England in a plane bound for Vancouver, Canada, hoping to change her life story. Black-and-white spot art. (14-17)

### **D \* The Great Godden**

by Meg Rosoff  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1585-4

In elegant prose, an unnamed and gender-unrevealed narrator chronicles an English summer romance and the upheaval produced by a visit from two American siblings. (14-17)

### **D Hani and Ishu's Guide to Fake Dating**

by Adiba Jaigirdar  
(Page Street Kids/Page Street Publishing, \$17.99)  
978-1-64567-257-9

Two Bengali girls in Ireland, one Muslim, one Hindu, couldn't have more different personalities. They pretend to date others but fall for one another. (13-16)

### **\* In the Wild Light**

by Jeff Zentner  
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH,  
\$17.99) 978-1-5247-2024-7

Delaney and Cash, best friends since losing parents to addiction, win full scholarships to a prep school far from their rural Tennessee home. As their worlds expand, could they lose each other? (13-16)

### **D M The Life I'm In**

by Sharon Flake  
(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-338-57317-6  
Char struggles to take care of an abandoned child and falls prey to a sex-trafficking ring. Does she have the strength and perseverance to survive and break free? (15-18) Mature content

### **D Love Is a Revolution**

by Renée Watson  
(Bloomsbury, \$18.99) 978-1-5476-0060-1  
When 17-year-old Black teen Nala tells too many lies to impress a boy she likes, she learns an important lesson about loving herself first. (15-17)

### **D Love Is for Losers**

by Wibke Brueggemann  
(Farrar Straus and Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99)  
978-0-374-31397-5

Londoner Phoebe is determined to avoid falling in love. In her diary, she explores her friendships, reacts to events in her life, and eventually, discovers her own sexuality. (14-17)

### **D Maybe We're Electric**

by Val Emmich  
(Poppy/Little, Brown/Hachette Book Group, \$17.99)  
978-0-316-53570-0

Hiding in a museum during a snowstorm after being confronted with a truth she can't face, Tegan, who has symbrachydactyly, is suddenly joined by popular classmate Mac. An intense bond forms, but will Tegan's secret destroy everything? (15-17)

### **D Metal Fish, Falling Snow**

by Cath Moore  
(Text Publishing Co., P \$12.95) 978-1-9223-3007-9  
Biracial Dylan, grieving her mother's sudden death, drives across Australia with her mother's devastated boyfriend to a painful but ultimately healing destination. (14-17)

### **D Misfit in Love**

by S. K. Ali  
(Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-5344-4257-7  
While helping to plan her brother's traditional Muslim wedding, teeming with guests and relatives, Janna hopes to confess her feelings to her longtime crush. (13-16)

**(D) (M) \* Muted**

by Tami Charles  
(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-338-67352-4  
The Angelic Voices, three girls of color, long for their R & B songs to change their lives. Powerful words propel the action as one, 17-year-old Denver, risks everything for fame. (15-18) Mature content

**(D) A Phở Love Story**

by Loan Le  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-5344-4193-4  
Two Vietnamese American high school seniors from rival family restaurant businesses find romance blossoming along with their gifts for writing and art. (14-16)

**(D) She Drives Me Crazy**

by Kelly Quindlen  
(Roaring Book Press, \$17.99), 978-1-250-20915-3  
Scottie suffers an embarrassing basketball loss to her ex-girlfriend's team. Her plans for revenge might require help from her nemesis, Irene. (14-17)

**Things That Grow**

by Meredith Goldstein  
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-1-328-77010-3  
High school senior Lori's grandmother (and de facto parent) dies, stipulating that her ashes be scattered where things grow, which gives Lori the road trip of a lifetime. (13-16)

**(M) We Run the Tides**

by Vendela Vida  
(Ecco/HarperCollins, \$26.99) 978-0-06-293623-3  
In 1980s San Francisco, Eulabee and Maria's friendship ruptures when they disagree on whether they witnessed an indecent act. Then Maria goes missing. Was she kidnapped? (14-17) Mature content

**(D) When We Were Infinite**

by Kelly Loy Gilbert  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-5344-6821-4  
Beth fervently wants her friend group to stay intact through college, but fractures appear after she and Brandon see Jason's dad hit him. Asian American cultural values explored. (14-17)

**(D) (M) Your Corner Dark**

by Desmond Hall  
(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99)  
978-1-5344-6071-3  
Frankie longs to leave Jamaica and take advantage of his US college scholarship, but then becomes enmeshed in family criminal and political activities in order to save his father, who has been shot. (14-17) Mature content

**(D) Zoe Rosenthal Is Not Lawful Good**

by Nancy Werlin  
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1473-4  
Zoe, 17, trades in her perfectly staid boyfriend and their planned future together for a sci-fi TV series—and creative friends she bonds with at secret fan cons. (13-16)

## Contemporary Issues

**(D) Aristotle and Dante Dive into the Waters of the World**

by Benjamin Alire Sáenz  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-5344-9619-4  
Having loving, supportive families helps Mexican American Ari and Dante navigate the challenges of being gay and in love in a homophobic world. Richly told lyrical sequel to *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*. (14-17)

**(D) Between Perfect and Real**

by Ray Stoeve  
(Amulet Books/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-4601-7  
Dean chafes at being identified as a lesbian. Cast as Romeo in the school play, he wants everyone to see him for the boy he knows himself to be. (14-17)

**(D)  Cheer Up!: Love and Pompoms**

by Crystal Frasier, illustrated by Val Wise, lettered by Oscar O. Jupiter  
(Oni Press, P \$14.99) 978-1-62010-955-7  
Annie joins the cheerleading squad, rekindling her friendship with Bebe, a transgender girl who is navigating her path in family and school relationships. Bright, colorful artwork. (13-16)

**(D) (M) \* Concrete Rose**

by Angie Thomas  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$19.99)  
978-0-06-284671-6

Maverick, 17, accepts the responsibilities that come with fatherhood while struggling with loyalty to the gang that protected him after his father's imprisonment. Strong language. (14-17) Mature content

**(D) (M) The Cost of Knowing**

by Brittney Morris  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-4545-1  
African American brothers Alex and Isaiah are cursed with supernatural abilities that have arisen out of generational traumas; now they need each other to break the cycle. (14-17) Mature content

**(M) \* Girl on the Line**

by Faith Gardner  
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-302230-0

Following a suicide attempt, Journey reassesses, advocates for herself, and rebuilds family and social relationships. Back matter with mental health resources. (15-18) Mature content

**Hello (From Here)**

by Chandler Baker and Wesley King  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-32612-1  
Maxine and Jonah meet just as the pandemic lockdown begins. Can their relationship overcome quarantine, having to communicate remotely, family problems, and grief? (14-17)

**(D) (M) Kneel**

by Candace Buford  
(Inkyard Press, \$18.99) 978-1-335-40251-6  
After a police shooting, Russell, co-captain of his football team, takes a knee during the national anthem. The ensuing protests tear his Louisiana town apart. (14-17) Mature content

**(D) \* Love in English**

by Maria E. Andreu  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$18.99)  
978-0-06-299651-0  
Ana moves from Argentina to New Jersey and struggles to learn English to understand what is happening around her, and more importantly, to fit in. (13-16)

**(D) Not Here to Be Liked**

by Michelle Quach  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99)  
978-0-06-303836-3

Chinese American Eliza finds herself at the center of a schoolwide controversy over gender equality when her private outrage at being passed over for editor-in-chief of the *Bugle* becomes public. (14-17)

**\* One Great Lie**

by Deb Caletti  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-5344-6317-2  
Researching an ancestral poetess for a summer writing program in Venice with her favorite author, Charlotte learns how powerful men historically abused and silenced women, then experiences it herself. (15-18)

**(D) The Passing Playbook**

by Isaac Fitzsimons  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984815-40-8  
Unaware that Spencer's trans, a soccer coach recruits him. Difficulties arise when Spencer's birth certificate is needed in order for him to join the team. (13-16)

**\* Prepped**

by Bethany Mangle  
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$18.99)  
978-1-5344-7750-6  
Becca's family lives in a doomsday community. An arranged marriage looms after high school graduation, but Becca is planning a different life. (14-17)

**(D) (M) \* Rosie Loves Jack**

by Mel Darbon  
(Peachtree Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-68263-289-5  
Rosie has Down syndrome, but she is determined to reach her boyfriend, Jack. A snowstorm shuts down the trains, leaving her alone and lost in London. (13-15) Mature content

**Rules for Being a Girl**

by Candace Bushnell and Katie Cotugno  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$19.99)  
978-0-06-280337-5  
High school senior Marin, star student and coeditor of the school newspaper, is headed for the Ivy League, until a disturbing event torpedoed her plans. (15-18)

**(D) The Sky Blues**

by Robbie Couch

(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-53447-785-8

In a small Michigan town, openly gay high school senior Sky Baker battles internal and external demons after a promposal goes awry. (14-17)

**(D) (M) Take Me with You When You Go**

by David Levithan and Jennifer Niven

(Alfred A. Knopf/ Random House Children's Books/ PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-525-58099-7

Bea disappears from home, leaving her brother an email address. In their correspondence, they begin to unpack the story and experience of their abusive home. Can they free themselves? (14-17) Mature content

**(D) (M) Tonight We Rule the World**

by Zack Smedley

(Page Street Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-64567-332-3

After bisexual Owen, who is on the autism spectrum, is sexually assaulted, he hides the identity of the perpetrator to avoid losing his girlfriend, Lily, and his tight-knit friend group. (14-17) Mature content

**(D) We Are Inevitable**

by Gayle Forman

(Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-425-29080-4

As 19-year-old Aaron struggles to keep his family's bookstore afloat after his brother overdoses and his mother leaves, the dire financial difficulties bring help from unexpected allies. (15-18)

**(M) \* What Beauty There Is**

by Cory Anderson

(Roaring Brook/Holtzbrinck, \$18.99)

978-1-250-26809-9

Jack, 17, is the only one who can prevent Child Protective Services from taking his younger brother. Themes of abandonment, survival, and brotherly love are movingly told in this thriller. (15-18) Mature content

**(D) (M) When We Make It**

by Elisabet Velasquez

(Dial BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$19.99) 978-0-593-32448-6

Sarai, 14, struggles to overcome the problems of her single-parent family in gentrifying Brooklyn: poverty, housing insecurity, and mental illness. Written in verse by a Boricua author. (14-16) Mature content

**(D) Where I Belong**

by Marcia Argueta Mickelson

(Carolrhoda Lab/Lerner, \$18.99) 978-1-54159-797-6

Millie, a Guatemalan American, becomes a reluctant activist and part of the national debate on immigration when a senatorial candidate mentions her achievements. (14-17)

**(D) Why We Fly**

by Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal

(Sourcebooks Fire/Sourcebooks, \$17.99)

978-1-49267-892-2

Senior year is full of challenges for Eleanor, White, and Chanel, Black, college-bound stars of their cheerleading squad. The political act of kneeling during the national anthem at a game brings serious consequences and threatens their futures. (14-17)

**\* You'd Be Home Now**

by Kathleen Glasgow

(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/ PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-525-70804-9

Inspired by the author's experience and the play *Our Town*, the novel explores opioid addiction in a small town, through the eyes of the sister of a struggling boy. Resources. (14-17)

## Family/School/Community

**(D) American Betiya**

by Anuradha D. Rajurkar

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984897-15-2

Rani falls hard for artsy Oliver but must keep their relationship secret from her strict Indian parents, with devastating results (16-18)

**(D) (M) \* Firekeeper's Daughter**

by Angeline Boulley

(Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, \$18.99) 978-1-250-76656-4

As her Ojibwe community is ravaged by drug overdoses, Daunis, 17, works with the FBI to identify the dealers. A richly detailed view of tribal life. (14-17) Mature content



**D The Last Words We Said**

by Leah Scheier

(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-53446-939-6

In a Modern Orthodox Jewish community in Atlanta, three best friends harbor guilt and mourn the disappearance of Danny, who one of the three dated nine months earlier. (15-18)

**D Made in Korea**

by Sarah Suk

(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-53447-437-6

Two Korean American teens, each trying to balance family duty with their own ambitions, find themselves in a hostile entrepreneurial rivalry, complicated by their mutual attraction. (13-15)

**D The Other Side of Perfect**

by Mariko Turk

(Poppy/Little, Brown/ Hachette Book Group, \$17.99) 978-0-316-70340-6

After an injury ends her ballet career, Alina confronts the racial discrimination she encountered in dance class. Joining the high school musical helps her discover new opportunities. (14-17)

**D M The Problem with the Other Side**

by Kwame Ivery

(Soho Teen/Soho Press, \$18.99) 978-1-64129-205-4

Sallie and Uly's love for one another is pitted against sibling loyalty as their sisters wage vitriolic, racially charged campaigns for high school president. (15-18) Mature content

**D \* Sugar Town Queens**

by Malla Nunn

(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-525-51560-9

Living in a post-apartheid, South African shantytown, biracial Amandla, 15, has never met her White mother's relatives. Friends help her uncover family secrets and truths. (14-17)

**D Sway with Me**

by Syed M. Masood

(Little, Brown BFYR/ Hachette Book Group, \$17.99) 978-0-316-49241-6

Pakistani American Arsalan lives a cloistered existence with his 100-year-old great-grandfather. Then a tempestuous girl asks Arsalan to be her dancing partner, and his world opens up. (13-16)

## Fantasy

**D Jade Fire Gold**

by June CL Tan

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-305636-7

Living in the desert of the Shi Empire, Ahn, 16, discovers her magical powers. She joins with Altan, rightful heir to the throne, to battle evil forces and restore peace. (14-17)

**M Lore**

by Alexandra Bracken

(Hyperion/BuenaVista, \$18.99) 978-1-48477-820-3

The last survivor of the House of Perseus, Lore battles for survival in an ancient deadly game of the descendants of Zeus. A complex story set in Manhattan. (14-17) Mature content

**D \* The Other Merlin**

by Robyn Schneider

(Viking Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-35102-4

Merlin's daughter replaces her magically-challenged brother as the apprentice wizard in Arthur's court. Rollicking humor, wry wit, and smoldering romance flourish amid political intrigues. (13-16)

**The Outlaws Scarlett and Browne (Scarlett and Browne series)**

by Jonathan Stroud

(Alfred A. Knopf/ Random House Children's Books/ PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-43036-1

Two misfits, with secrets of their own, team up to survive in a brutal, dystopian Britain where pursuit, danger, and death await any who do not conform. (13-15)

**D Walking in Two Worlds**

by Wab Kinew

(Penguin Teen/Penguin Random House Canada Young Readers/PRH Canada, \$17.99) 978-0-7352-6900-2

An Anishinaabe girl on a Canadian reservation who has a superb reputation in the gaming world bonds with a Chinese Uyghur boy forced to flee his country. (13-16)

### \* **Year of the Reaper**

by Makiia Lucier

(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-358-27209-0

Despite a plague, Princess Jehan marries King Rayan to end the war between their kingdoms. As the royal family is targeted by assassins, Lord Cassiapus returns, three years after being imprisoned. (13-16)

### **(D) (M) Yesterday Is History**

by Kosoko Jackson

(Sourcebooks Fire/Sourcebooks, \$17.99)

978-1-4926-9434-2

A life-saving liver transplant imbues Andre with the ability to time travel as his organ donor did, which could be dangerous for a Black teenager. (14-17) Mature content

## Folklore and Fairy Tales

### **(D) Beasts and Beauty: Dangerous Tales**

by Soman Chainani, illustrated by Julia Iredale

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-265263-8

Sophisticated contemporary reinterpretations of 12 old tales, including *Bluebeard*, *Peter Pan*, and *Hansel and Gretel*. Appropriately scary dark illustrations. (13-16)

### **(M) House of Hollow**

by Krystal Sutherland

(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-11034-8

While trying to save their sister, teenagers Vivi and Iris learn about who the real monsters are in their past and present. (16-18) Mature content

## Historical Fiction

### **(D) \* Angel of Greenwood**

by Randi Pink

(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99)

978-1-250-76847-6

Two African American teens living in Tulsa, Oklahoma, slowly connect over poetry and dance until a vicious White mob sets fire to the Greenwood district, known as the "Black Wall Street." Back matter. (14-17)

### **(D) Beyond the Mapped Stars**

by Rosalyn Eves

(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-984849-55-7

In the western United States in the 1870s, Elizabeth, 17, struggles to reconcile the expectations of her Mormon faith with her dreams of becoming an astronomer. (14-17)

### **(M) Bluebird**

by Sharon Cameron

(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-33835-596-3

At the end of World War II, the daughter of a notorious concentration camp doctor makes it her mission to keep him from committing further atrocities. (13-16) Mature content

### **Don't Breathe a Word**

by Jordyn Taylor

(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-303888-2

Skipping between 1962 and today, the book unravels the mystery behind an authoritarian secret society and a psychological experiment that goes tragically wrong in a private school's fallout shelter. (13-16)

### **(D) Last Night at the Telegraph Club**

by Malinda Lo

(Dutton Books/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-525-55525-4

Aspiring scientist Lily Hu, 17, is conflicted between the expectations of her traditional upbringing in 1950s Chinatown and her awakening sexuality. Sensitively nuanced coming of age portrayal. (14-17)

### **(D) \* Rebel Daughter**

by Lori Banov Kaufmann

(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-12581-6

Esther, a high priest's daughter challenging traditional Jewish female roles, faces loss, love, capture, and enslavement during the Roman siege of Jerusalem during the first century CE. Well-referenced. (14-17)

### **(D) (M) \* A Sitting in St. James**

by Rita Williams-Garcia

(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-236729-7

A chronicle of the terrible history of the Guilberts and the traumatic impact they had on the enslaved workers on their Louisiana plantation. Back matter. (16-18) Mature content

## **Walls**

by L. M. Elliott, photo essay by Megan Behm  
(Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin Books/Workman Publishing, \$19.95) 978-1-64375-024-8  
In 1960, when Drew's father is deployed to divided Berlin, his mother connects with her German relatives in the Russian sector, putting both families in jeopardy. Photo essay of political and cultural events of the period. Afterword. (13-16)

## **ⓓ Your Heart, My Sky: Love in a Time of Hunger**

by Margarita Engle  
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-6496-4  
A stray dog unites teens Liana and Amado, who evade oppressive "voluntary" labor. Set in a period of Cuban history when people on the island struggled with starvation. In verse. (13-16)

## **Magical Realism**

### **ⓓ Beasts of Prey**

by Ayana Gray  
(G. P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-40568-0  
With differing motivations, indentured servant Koffi and warrior-in-training Ekon join forces to hunt a murderous monster lurking in the forest. A richly textured Pan-African novel. Author's note. (14-17)

### **Glimpsed**

by G. F. Miller  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-53447-135-1  
Charity, 18, is an actual fairy godmother who loves making wishes come true, but those "happily-ever-afters" might be less successful than she thinks. (13-16)

### **ⓓ \* Home Is Not a Country**

by Safia Elhillo  
(Make Me a World/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-17705-1  
A bullied Muslim teen immigrant living with her widowed mother in an unnamed, post-9/11 American town dreams of a homeland she's never seen. Free verse. (15-18)

### **ⓓ Instructions for Dancing**

by Nicola Yoon  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$19.99) 978-1-52471-896-1  
African American Evie, 17, is done with love after witnessing her father's infidelity. Can handsome X and a dance competition change her mind? An endearing romance with a dash of magic. (13-16)

### **ⓓ \* Me (Moth)**

by Amber McBride  
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99)  
978-1-250-78036-2  
Grieving for her deceased family, African American Moth, 17, helps Sani, a Navajo boy, overcome depression by sharing her grandfather's hoodoo wisdom. Free verse. (14-17)

### **ⓓ A Snake Falls to Earth**

by Darcie Little Badger  
(Levine Querido, \$18.99) 978-1-64614-092-3  
When a cataclysmic event on Earth occurs, the real world of Nina, a Lipan Apache teen, and the spirit world of Oli, a cottonmouth, are brought together with strange results. (13-16)

### **\* We Can Be Heroes**

by Kyrie McCauley  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-06-288505-0  
Beck, Vivian, and the ghost of Cassie, their beloved friend, seek revenge and justice after Cassie is shot by her abusive boyfriend, son of the town's powerful firearms manufacturer. (14-17)

## **Science Fiction**

### **\* Dustborn**

by Erin Bowman  
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)  
978-0-358-24443-1  
In a post-apocalyptic world, Delta struggles to interpret the map carved on her back that will free her family from the tyranny of the General. (14-17)

## The Ones We're Meant to Find

by Joan He

(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$18.99)

978-1-25025-856-4

In a future world on the brink of extinction due to environmental destruction, two sisters, Kasey and Celia Mizuhara, try to save humanity. But is it worth saving? (14-17)

## Sports

### In the Same Boat

by Holly Green

(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-33872-663-3

Seventeen-year-old Sadie teams up with an estranged former friend for a 265-mile, multi-day canoe race. Conflict, courage, and endurance will change their relationship. (13-16)

## POETRY

### ⓓ Carry On:

#### Poetry by Young Immigrants

by students from the PGLO high school in Outremont, Québec, illustrated by Rogé, translated from the Canadian French by Susan Ouriou (Owlkids, \$19.95) 978-1-77147-416-0  
Newcomers from many lands express loss and pain about what they've left behind and their hopes and concerns about their new homes. Free verse. Expressively painted portraits. (13-15)

### The Girl Who Became a Tree:

#### A Story Told in Poems

by Joseph Coelho, illustrated by Kate Milner (Otter-Barry Books, \$19.99) 978-1-913074-78-4  
Fourteen-year-old Daphne, mourning her father's death, finds refuge in the library until she falls into a magical world of monsters. Free verse. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (13-16)

### ⓓ \* You Don't Have to Be Everything:

#### Poems for Girls Becoming Themselves

edited by Diana Whitney, illustrated by Cristina González, Kate Mockford, and Stephanie Singleton (Workman Publishing, P \$14.95) 978-1-5235-1099-3  
Sixty-eight poetic voices share their experiences to help guide and ease girls' transition from adolescence to adulthood. Organized thematically. Elegant, colorful illustrations. (14-17)

## INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

## Anthologies and Collections

### ⓓ Ⓜ Disability Visibility:

#### 17 First-Person Stories for Today

edited by Alice Wong

(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-38167-0

From an outgrowth of the Disability Visibility Project and Story Corps come personal stories of living and loving with disabilities. Content warnings, author profiles, further reading. Young readers edition. (15-18) Mature content

### ⓓ Growing Up Trans:

#### In Our Own Words

edited by Lindsay Herriot and Kate Fry, illustrated by various artists

(Orca Book Publishers, P \$24.95) 978-1-45983-137-7

In a variety of writing genres and art media, trans youth explore their experiences of self-care, dysphoria, transphobia, acceptance, school issues, and more. Glossary and resources. (14-17)

### ⓓ \* Living beyond Borders:

#### Growing Up Mexican in America

edited by Margarita Longoria

(Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-20497-9

A varied selection of stories, poems, graphic format pieces, and personal essays about life as a Mexican American. Many take place in the Rio Grande Valley. (14-17)

### ⓓ Ⓜ Wild Tongues Can't Be Tamed:

#### 15 Voices from the Latinx Diaspora

edited by Saracicia J. Fennell

(Flatiron Books/Macmillan, \$18.99)

978-1-25076-342-6

What is it like feeling you never fit in? Writers from Afro-Latinx, Caribbean, and Central American communities share their experiences of racism, identity, culture, and self-acceptance. (14-17) Mature content



## Arts

**ⓓ Can't Stop Won't Stop:  
A Hip-Hop History**

by Jeff Chang, with Dave "Davey D" Cook  
(Wednesday Books/St. Martin's Publishing, \$18.99)  
978-1-25079-051-4

The birth and evolution of hip-hop are chronicled through histories and profiles of pioneering artists, including their cultural and political contexts. Young readers edition. (14-17)

**ⓓ The Power of Style:  
How Fashion and Beauty Are Being Used to  
Reclaim Cultures**

by Christian Allaire, illustrated by Jacqueline Li  
(Annick Press, \$19.95) 978-1-77321-490-0  
Bright photographs accompany clear text about non-mainstream fashion styles. Emphasis on diverse body shapes, body decoration, and cross-dressing. Simple, elegant illustrations. Well sourced. (13-16)

## Biography and Memoir

**ⓓ The Beautiful Struggle: A Memoir**

by Ta-Nehisi Coates  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/  
PRH, \$20.99) 978-1-984894-03-8

Acclaimed author Coates describes growing up in Baltimore and the influences, especially those of his father and brother, that shaped him. Young readers edition. (16-18)

**ⓓ \* Becoming Michelle Obama**

by Michelle Obama  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/  
PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-30374-0  
Michelle Obama relates her journey as an African American girl from modest circumstances who became a highly respected First Lady of the United States. Young readers edition. (15-18)

**ⓓ Boy from Buchenwald:  
The True Story of a Holocaust Survivor**

by Robbie Waisman, with Susan McClelland  
(Bloomsbury, \$19.99) 978-1-5476-0600-9  
Romek (now Robbie) was 14 when he was liberated from the Buchenwald concentration camp in 1945. Here he chronicles his survival and return to society. Photos. Back matter. (13-16)

**\* Gone to the Woods:  
Surviving a Lost Childhood**

by Gary Paulsen  
(Farrar Straus and Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99)  
978-0-374-31415-6

Paulsen's first experience with a stable family at his aunt's farm ended abruptly when his alcoholic mother came to take him to the Philippines. (13-17)

**ⓓ Notes from a Young Black Chef: A Memoir**

by Kwame Onwuachi, with Joshua David Stein  
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/  
PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-593-17600-9  
Onwuachi, with Nigerian, Southern, and Caribbean roots, faced racism and poverty on his difficult journey from the Bronx to high-end restaurants. A frank memoir. Includes recipes. Young readers edition. (14-17)

**ⓓ Paul Robeson:  
No One Can Silence Me: The Life of the Legendary  
Artist and Activist**

by Martin Duberman, foreword by Jason Reynolds  
(The New Press, \$25.99) 978-1-62097-646-4  
The great singer and activist's magnetism and flaws, along with the accusations that he was a Communist that had a devastating effect on his career, are explored. Archival images. Listing of videos and recordings. Young readers edition. (14-17)

**ⓓ Singled Out:  
The True Story of Glenn Burke, the First Openly Gay  
MLB Player and Inventor of the High Five**

by Andrew Maraniss  
(Philomel/Penguin Young Readers Group/PRH, \$18.99)  
978-0-593-11672-2  
The promising career of the outfielder for the L.A. Dodgers and Oakland A's was cut short, largely because of anti-gay prejudice. Archival photos. Back matter. (14-17)

**ⓓ  \* When I Grow Up:  
The Lost Autobiographies of Six Yiddish Teenagers**

written and illustrated by Ken Krimstein  
(Bloomsbury, \$28.00) 978-1-63557-370-1  
Life in Eastern Europe is described by contestants in a 1932 literary contest for Jewish teenagers. Filled with joy, romance, humor, and tragedy. Delicate two-color illustrations. Back matter. (14-17)





**D** **Why Is Everybody Yelling?:  
Growing Up in My Immigrant Family**

written and illustrated by Marisabina Russo  
(Farrar Straus and Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$19.99)  
978-0-374-30383-9

An author/illustrator chronicles her life from 1957 to 1967 in Queens, New York, coping with an overprotective mother, religious conflicts, and the usual childhood and adolescent issues. Detailed graphic panels. (13-16)

## History

**D** **Black Birds in the Sky:  
The Story and Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race  
Massacre**

by Brandy Colbert  
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$19.99)  
978-0-06-35666-4

Moving backward and forward in time, Colbert interweaves survivors' histories with her own to contextualize the obliteration of Greenwood, an affluent African American community in Oklahoma, by a White mob. Extensive notes, sources, additional reading. (14-17)

**D** \* **The Burning:  
Black Wall Street and the Tulsa Race Massacre of  
1921**

by Tim Madigan, adapted by Hilary Beard  
(Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan Children's Publishing  
Group, \$19.99) 978-1-250-78769-9

This detailed account of White rioters' destruction of Greenwood, a prosperous Oklahoman Black community, includes updates connecting the event to the Black Lives Matter movement. Extensive back matter. Young readers edition. (14-17)

\* **Fallout:  
Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War  
Showdown**

by Steve Sheinkin  
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$19.99)  
978-1-250-14901-5

A dramatic recounting of the tension-fraught years of the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union after World War II, ending in the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. Archival photos. Extensive back matter includes source notes. (13-15)

**D** **Four Streets and a Square:  
A History of Manhattan and the New York Idea**

by Marc Aronson  
(Candlewick Press, \$29.99) 978-0-7636-5137-4

An ode to the city's endless change through a look at the arts and the creativity born of the great diversity of its population. Maps and archival photos. Excellent back matter. (14-17)

**D** **The Light of Days:  
The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in  
Hitler's Ghettos**

by Judy Batalion  
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-303769-4  
Eight young Jewish women served as couriers and bravely fought, along with many others, against the Nazis in Poland. Archival photographs. Glossary, sources, bibliography. Young reader's edition. (13-16)

**D** \* **No Way, They Were Gay?:  
Hidden Lives and Secret Loves**

by Lee Wind  
(Zest Books/Lerner, \$37.32) 978-1-5415-8162-3  
Extensive primary sources enhance a breezy text depicting the lives of many LGBTQIA+ individuals throughout history. Photographs. Letters, footnotes, and author's note. (13-16)



**D** **Wake:  
The Hidden History of Women-Led Slave Revolts**

by Rebecca Hall, illustrated by Hugo Martínez,  
lettered by Sarula Bao  
(Simon & Schuster, \$29.99) 978-1-982115-18-0  
The personal story of a historian, interwoven with an account of the centuries-long—and still resonating—transatlantic slave trade that she painstakingly researches. Stark black-and-white artwork. Sources. (14-17)



**D** **We Hereby Refuse:  
Japanese American Resistance to Wartime  
Incarceration**

by Frank Abe and Tamiko Nimura, illustrated by  
Ross Ishikawa and Matt Sasaki  
(Wing Luke Museum/Chin Music Press, P \$19.95),  
978-1-63405-976-3  
Three American citizens, at great personal cost, challenged having their rights unlawfully stripped solely on the basis of race. Dynamic, well-researched illustrations. (15-18)

**ⓓ When Can We Go Back to America?:  
Voices of Japanese American Incarceration during  
WWII**

by Susan H. Kamei, forward by Secretary  
Norman Y. Mineta  
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster Children's  
Publishing/S & S, \$22.99) 978-1-4814-0144-9  
Exhaustively researched yet accessible history of  
the approximately 80,000 American citizens of  
Japanese ancestry and their immigrant parents who  
were incarcerated without due process. First-person  
accounts, biographies, time line, glossary. (14-17)

## Law and Justice

**ⓓ Allies:  
Real Talk about Showing Up, Screwing Up, and  
Trying Again**

edited by Shakirah Bourne and Dana Alison Levy  
(DK/Penguin Random House, \$16.99)  
978-0-7440-3991-7

This anthology of essays and a black-and-white comic  
strip showcases power, privilege, and allyship in  
support of others in the quest for social justice. Many  
resources and activities. (15-18)



**\* Free Speech Handbook:  
A Practical Framework for Understanding Our Free  
Speech Protections (World Citizen Comics series)**

by Ian Rosenberg, illustrated by Mike Cavallaro  
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck,  
\$28.99) 978-1-250-61975-4

This graphic-format adaptation of *The Fight for Free  
Speech: Ten Cases that Define Our First Amendment  
Freedoms* is a must for every civics classroom. Colorful  
artwork. (13-16)

**ⓓ Ⓜ In the Name of Emmett Till:  
How the Children of the Mississippi Freedom  
Struggle Showed Us Tomorrow**

by Robert H. Mayer, foreword by Leslie-Burl McLemore  
(NewSouth Books, \$19.95) 978-1-58838-437-9  
Following 14-year-old Emmett Till's 1955 lynching,  
young people in Mississippi rose up to launch the civil  
rights movement. Map and archival photos. Extensive  
back matter. (14-17) Mature content

**ⓓ Kids on the March:  
15 Stories of Speaking Out, Protesting, and  
Fighting for Justice**

by Michael G. Long  
Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin Books/Workman  
Publishing, \$16.95) 978-1-64375-100-9  
Profiles of young activists, from participants in  
the 1903 March of the Mill Children to teens who  
organized protests following the 2020 murder of  
George Floyd. Archival photos, suggestions for  
organizing, and notes. (13-16)

**ⓓ Revolution in Our Time:  
The Black Panther Party's Promise to the People**

by Kekla Magoon  
(Candlewick Press, \$24.99) 978-1-5362-1418-5  
Magoon illuminates the history of the Black Panther  
Party and its work to protect and support Black  
citizens, despite persecution by the FBI. Archival  
images and photos. Fully documented. (14-17)

**ⓓ Together:  
An Inspiring Response to the "Separate-but-Equal"  
Supreme Court Decision that Divided America**

by Amy Nathan  
(Paul Dry Books, P \$14.95) 978-1-58988-148-8  
Descendants of the opponents in the infamous  
Supreme Court decision that established racial  
segregation joined forces to teach the continuing  
impact of the historic Plessy v. Ferguson case. Archival  
photographs. Extensive back matter. (14-17)

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

**Black Hole Chasers:  
The Amazing True Story of an Astronomical  
Breakthrough**

by Anna Crowley Redding  
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$21.99)  
978-1-250-62232-7  
How can you take a picture of something you cannot  
see? It takes a small army of scientists with big dreams.  
Diagrams and archival photos. Bibliography, source  
notes. (13-16)

**In the Shadow of the Moon:  
America, Russia, and the Hidden History of the  
Space Race**

by Amy Cherrix

(Balzar + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-288875-4

Mutual fear and distrust fueled the high-stakes race between the United States and the Soviet Union to dominate space exploration. Compellingly told. Archival photos. Richly resourced. (13-16)

## World

**ⓓ Ⓜ \* Determined to Stay:**

**Palestinian Youth Fight for Their Village**

by Jody Sokolower

(Olive Branch Press/Interlink Publishing Group,  
P \$20.00), 978-1-62371-888-6

An American social studies teacher interviews Palestinian youth about their heartbreaking trauma under Israeli occupation, connecting their resistance to that of Native Americans. Photos, maps. Glossary, footnotes. (14-17) Mature content

# The Best Children's Books of the Year

2022 Edition / Books Published in 2021

Looking for just the right children's books?

Here—for parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends, as well as for teachers and librarians—is the perfect guidebook. Each year, the Children's Book Committee issues an annotated guide to more than 650 children's books they consider the best publications of the prior year, in this case 2021.

The fiction listings are divided into sections by age and arranged by topic: adventure, animals, coming of age, folklore and fairy tales, humor, science fiction, sports, and more. Another section lists informational books and poetry titles, also arranged by topic.



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