



BIRTH TO AGE SEVEN

AFTER THE FALL: HOW HUMPTY DUMPTY GOT BACK UP AGAIN

by Dan Santat

Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press

978-1626726826

Lively illustrations accompany Humpty's struggle with anxiety after his fall. The use of bright, warm colors and darker tones draw the reader in to the egg-shaped character's emotional journey while humorous details lighten this tale about overcoming fears.

CROWN: AN ODE TO THE FRESH CUT

by Derrick Barnes

Illustrated by Gordon C. James

Agate Publishing - Denene Millner Books

978-1572842243

Brilliant full page spreads in magnificent color capture the diverse hairstyles of satisfied customers at a community barbershop. The poetic, colloquial text expresses the princely pleasure and transformative glory of a young boy's fresh cut.

BIG CAT, LITTLE CAT

by Elisha Cooper

Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press

978-1626723719

This gentle tale about the cycle of life is told through opposites. Thick, black lines; spacious, white backgrounds; and the passage of time reveal that growth ultimately ends in death, but—in a comforting conclusion—kittens will appear again.

BULLDOZER HELPS OUT

by Candace Fleming

Illustrated by Eric Rohman

Simon & Schuster - Atheneum

978-1481458948

A little bulldozer really wants to help out, but something keeps him from doing his job. Fleming's repetitive sounds and Rohman's boldly outlined construction equipment bring this construction site to life and the adorable surprise ending will have everyone sighing.

CAN AN AARDVARK BARK?

by Melissa Stewart

Illustrated by Steve Jenkins

Simon & Schuster - Beach Lane Books

978-1481458528

This introductory science book asks questions to reveal a series of interesting facts about the noises animals make. The realistic cut-paper illustrations show a wide variety of animals, and we learn about how they bark, grunt, squeal, whine, bellow, growl, and laugh.

CHARLIE & MOUSE

by Laurel Snyder

Illustrated by Emily Hughes

Chronicle

978-1452131535

Organizing an impromptu party and selling rocks in their diverse, friendly neighborhood are two of the four adventures of lovable brothers in this lively early reader. Charming graphite drawings match the humor and appeal of the text. Charlie & Mouse & Grumpy is an equally delightful sequel.



DAD AND THE DINOSAUR

by Gennifer Choldenko

Illustrated by Dan Santat

Penguin Random House - Putnam (Penguin)

978-0399243530

Nick can be brave like his dad as long as his dinosaur friend is there to be brave for him. The illustrations capture the world of Nick's imagination, and the story shows us a father who knows how to respond in a crisis with complete respect for his son's feelings.

HELLO HUMPBACK!

by Robert Budd

Illustrated by Roy Henry Vickers

First West Coast Books

978-1550177992

Sparse, rhyming words and high contrast colors introduce salmon, otters, orcas and other sea life from the west coast, in a bright and tactile board book.

LA PRINCESA AND THE PEA

by Susan Middleton Elya

Illustrated by Juana Martinez-Nerl

Penguin Random House - Putnam (Penguin)

978-0399251566

This Latino flavored retelling of the classic tale intersperses Spanish words in the rhyming text. Soft Peruvian-inspired art and a plot twist enhance the fresh offering. Includes a glossary.

LITTLE FOX IN THE FOREST

by Stephanie Graegin

Penguin Random House - Schwartz & Wade Books (Random House)

978-0553537895

Beautiful watercolors feature in a charming hybrid of wordless picture book and graphic novel that tells a story of discovery, friendship, magic, and sharing.

NOISY NIGHT

by Mac Barnett

Illustrated by Brian Biggs

Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press

978-1596439672

Repeating, rhythmic text, full of fresh and familiar onomatopoeia, captures the wild nighttime goings-on in a high-rise. What is that noise? Split-level spreads give a clue, showing the inhabitants on adjacent floors.

NOW

by Antoinette Portis

Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press

978-1626721371

Lively illustrations portray a young girl cataloging and celebrating her favorite things—digging, singing, cuddling on her mother's lap with a book. Portis captures a child's innate ability to find joy in the moment.



ON A MAGICAL DO-NOTHING DAY

by Beatrice Alemagna

HarperCollins - HarperCollins Children's Books

978-0062657602

Atmospherically dark mixed-media illustrations mirror the mood of a bored child on a rainy day in the country. The loss of a Martian destroying video game leads to discovering the world “brand-new” in a dreamlike forest of marvels.

OVER AND UNDER THE POND

by Kate Messner

Illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal

Chronicle

978-1452145426

Rhythmic text takes the reader deep inside the rich natural world over, under, and inside a pond, exploring the diverse and sometimes surprising life of the plants and animals who call this environment home.

A PERFECT DAY

by Lane Smith

Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press

978-1626725362

Animal friends each delight in a simple pleasure that makes for a perfect day, until Bear comes along, when "it was a perfect day" takes on an entirely different meaning.

PROFESSIONAL CROCODILE

by Giovanna Zoboli

Illustrated by Mariachiara Di Giorgio

Chronicle

978-1452165066

In a wordless, visually dramatic odyssey, a dapperly dressed crocodile rushes through a busy city where humans and anthropomorphic animals intermingle to practice his surprising profession.

A RIVER

by Marc Martin

Chronicle

978-1452154237

A river can take you on a journey of imagination—and back again. Each page is filled to the edges with detailed illustrations with minimal text that does not get in the way of the journey.

THE ROOSTER WHO WOULD NOT BE QUIET!

by Carmen Agra Deedy

Illustrated by Eugene Yelchin

Scholastic - Scholastic Press

978-0545722889

An exuberant rooster helps a town return to its spirited, somewhat noisy ways, in this brightly illustrated original fable with Latin American roots.



THAT IS MY DREAM! A PICTURE BOOK OF LANGSTON HUGHES'S "DREAM VARIATION"

by Langston Hughes

Illustrated by Daniel Miyares

Penguin Random House - Alfred A. Knopf (Random House)

978-0399550171

Daniel Miyares' warm illustrations bring life to Langston Hughes' poem, *Dream Variations*, as he shows a black boy dreaming of befriending a white boy and girl in the segregated south.

THE WAY HOME IN THE NIGHT

by Akiko Miyakoshi

Kids Can Press

978-1771386630

Elegant pencil and charcoal illustration with a touch of color, accompany this soothing nighttime tale as a young, sleepy bunny is carried home and tucked into bed.

WAITING FOR GOLIATH

by Antje Damm

Lerner Publishing Group - Gecko Press USA

978-1776571413

Bear patiently waits on a bus stop bench for his best friend to arrive as the months and even seasons pass. The charming artwork blends illustrated characters with three-dimensional diorama style set pieces.

WHY AM I ME?

by Paige Britt

Illustrated by Selina Alko and Sean Qualls

Scholastic - Scholastic Press

978-1338053142

Two children pose the universal childhood question of what distinguishes each of us from everyone else. An artfully simple dialogue in text and illustration celebrates human difference and fosters empathy.

WINDOWS

by Julia Denos

Illustrated by E.B. Goodale

Candlewick

978-0763690359

A child in a bright red hoodie walks a dog at dusk as the neighborhood windows glow with warm yellow and orange hues. Descriptive language and quiet illustrations depict a diverse neighborhood alive with indoor activity at sunset.

WOLF IN THE SNOW

by Matthew Cordell

Macmillan - Feiwel & Friends

978-1250076366

A little girl lost in a blizzard is discovered by wolves when she befriends one of their own and is in turn saved by the pack. Wordless but for ominous sounds of nature and drawn in exquisite water color.



YO SOY MUSLIM: A FATHER'S LETTER TO HIS DAUGHTER

by Mark Gonzales
Illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini
Simon & Schuster - Salaam Reads
978-1481489362

Dreamlike illustration accompanies a poetic, loving affirmation of cross-cultural identity that explores the human condition, with its depths of emotion and perils of fear and prejudice.

SEVEN TO TEN

BEFORE SHE WAS HARRIET

by Lesa Cline-Ransome
Illustrated by James E. Ransome
Holiday House
978-0823420476

Lyrical free verse and striking watercolor illustrations pay homage to Harriet Tubman in a look back through the many roles she held in her life.

A BOY CALLED BAT

by Elana K. Arnold
Illustrated by Charles Santoso
HarperCollins - Walden Pond Press
978-0062445827

Bixby, nicknamed "Bat", may have a neuroatypical personality, but that is not the focus of this early chapter book. The story is told through Bixby's voice, a young boy who loves animals, especially the wild skunk his veterinarian Mom rescues.

A DIFFERENT POND

by Bao Phi
Illustrated by Thi Bui
Capston Young Readers
978-1623708030

A boy and his father fish under a starry sky in the early morning hours and discuss the differences in ponds between cultures old and new, one in Minnesota and one in Vietnam.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS: THE LION WHO WROTE HISTORY

by Walter Dean Myers
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper
HarperCollins - HarperCollins Children's Books
978-0060277093

As a young slave, Frederick Douglass would not be contained. Insightful writing and expressive artwork highlight the events in his life that lead him toward activism for all men and women.

GRAND CANYON

by Jason Chin
Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press
978-1596439504

Imagining a mountain lion's trek down from the North Rim to the river and an Asian-American child and her father's journey back up to the South rim, author-illustrator Chin celebrates the geology, ecology and glory of Arizona's Grand Canyon.



HER RIGHT FOOT

by Dave Eggers

Illustrated by Shawn Harris

Chronicle

978-1452162812

Bold construction paper and ink illustrations and humorous, conversational prose convey facts about the Statue of Liberty and an earnest challenge to the reader: like the statue, we must step forward to welcome those seeking freedom.

HOW TO BE AN ELEPHANT: GROWING UP IN THE AFRICAN WILD

by Katherine Roy

Illustrated by Katherine Roy

Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press

978-1626721784

African elephants can weigh up to 13,000 pounds, but newborn elephants still have a lot of growing—and learning—to do. Luckily, the herd will guide their every step as they learn to master their powerful and remarkable bodies.

THE LEGEND OF ROCK PAPER SCISSORS

by Drew Daywalt

Illustrated by Adam Rex

HarperCollins - Balzer + Bray

978-0062438898

A favorite childhood game comes literally to life in this boldly-illustrated, hilarious story about three legendary warriors who each yearn for a match that truly tests their might. Who will be the ultimate champion?

THE LEGENDARY MISS LENA HORNE

by Carole Boston Weatherford

Illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon

Simon & Schuster - Atheneum

978-1481468244

Lena Horne not only overcame—but actively fought against—segregation and racism to become a widely recognized singer and actor. Expressive mixed media illustrations and vivid descriptions of the inequities she and others faced convey her perseverance and fortitude.

MALALA'S MAGIC PENCIL

by Malala Yousafzai

Illustrated by Kerascoët

Little, Brown & Company - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

978-0316319577

Malala Yousafzai tells her well-known story for younger readers, acknowledging but keeping violence and scary topics off the page. Gold accented, cartoon-style illustrations emphasize her account of a life both important and youthful.

MAYA LIN: ARTIST-ARCHITECT OF LIGHT AND LINES

by Jeanne Walker Harvey

Illustrated by Dow Phumiruk

Macmillan - Henry Holt Books for Young Readers

978-1250112491

With straightforward language, soft illustrations, and an appropriately striking use of perspective, this picture book biography follows Maya Lin, the artist-architect designer of the Vietnam Memorial from her early childhood creativity to her prolific adult career.



NIKO DRAWS A FEELING

by Bob Raczka

Illustrated by Simone Shin

Lerner Publishing Group - Carolrhoda Books

978-1467798433

Not everyone understands Niko's drawings, which makes him sad, until a new neighbor arrives who embraces Niko's abstract style. This celebration of creativity and friendship comes to life through acrylic paintings adorned with the colorful squiggles and strokes of Niko's art.

RIVERS OF SUNLIGHT: HOW THE SUN MOVES WATER AROUND THE EARTH

by Molly Bang and Penny Chisholm

Scholastic - The Blue Sky Press

978-0545805414

The sun narrates all the ways water moves around our unique planet. Flowing illustrations with vibrant blues, greens and yellows accompany strong scientific explanations of the water cycle, along with clarifying comparisons to deepen understanding.

SCHOMBURG: THE MAN WHO BUILT A LIBRARY

by Carole Boston Weatherford

Illustrated by Eric Velasquez

Candlewick

978-0763680466

Arturo Schomburg dedicated his life to collecting works of art, literature, music and more from across Africa and the African diaspora, ultimately creating and curating a history-making collection for the New York Public Library that remains popular with scholars today.

THE SEARCH FOR OLINGUITO: DISCOVERING A NEW SPECIES

by Sandra Markle

Lerner Publishing Group - Millbrook

978-1512410150

Scientist Kristofer Helgen had evidence there was a new animal species in the Ecuadorian cloud forests; now he had to find it. Photographs follow his steps on this exciting mystery, from DNA and skulls to the treetops of Ecuador.

THE SHAPE OF THE WORLD: A PORTRAIT OF FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

by K.L. Going

Illustrated by Lauren Stringer

Simon & Schuster - Beach Lane Books

978-1442478213

Geometric watercolor illustrations paired with descriptive prose show Frank Lloyd Wright's progression from finding shapes all around him as a child to designing unique nature-inspired buildings as an architect.

SOLDIER SONG: A TRUE STORY OF THE CIVIL WAR

by Debbie Levy

Illustrated by Gilbert Ford

Disney (Hyperion)

978-1484725986

One lonely night both Union and Confederate soldiers all heard the same song. Swirls of music dance on the pages, and bold blues and oranges accompany excerpts from soldiers' letters home to capture the heavy emotion of the Civil War.



THIS IS HOW WE DO IT: ONE DAY IN THE LIVES OF SEVEN KIDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

by Matt Lamothe

Chronicle

978-1452150185

Straightforward prose and detailed panel illustrations depict the daily routines of children living in seven different countries. The children's varying cultures and preferences are organized around what they have in common: everyone eats meals, goes to school, plays, and sleeps under one night sky.

TOWN IS BY THE SEA

by Joanne Schwartz

Illustrated by Sydney Smith

House of Anansi Press - Greenwood Books

978-1554988716

In a seaside Canadian town where the men mine coal under the ocean, a thoughtful, reflective miner's son describes his life and the familiar routines of his world. Ink-and-watercolor illustrations contrast the town's light with the mine's darkness.

WHERE'S HALMONI?

by Julie Kim

Sasquatch Books

978-1632170774

A young girl and boy travel through a world of myth and folklore searching for their lost grandmother in this graphic novel with accompanying Korean text.

WISHTREE

by Katherine Applegate

Macmillan - Feiwel & Friends

978-1250043221

Red, a long-lived wishing tree, brings a friend to 10-year-old Samar who is Muslim and new in the neighborhood. When a hate message is scratched into Red's bark, the tree is threatened with being chopped down until its animal inhabitants and human neighbors respond.

THE WORLD IS NOT A RECTANGLE: A PORTRAIT OF ARCHITECT ZAHA HADID

by Jeanette Winter

Illustrated by Jeanette Winter

Simon & Schuster - Beach Lane Books

978-1481446693

Zaha Hadid's unusual artistic style and her hard-fought journey toward acceptance as a Middle Eastern woman in architecture is vividly portrayed using detailed text and bold, colorful illustrations.

YOURS SINCERELY, GIRAFFE

by Megumi Iwasa

Illustrated by Jun Takabatake

Lerner Publishing Group - Gecko Press USA

978-1927271889

Lonely Giraffe tries to imagine what his new pen pal Penguin looks like through descriptions in his letters, and then goes to visit, dressed similarly, he thinks, in this charming epistolary narrative illustrated with playful line drawings.



TEN TO FOURTEEN

ALL'S FAIRE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

by Victoria Jamieson

Penguin Random House - Dial Books for Young Readers (Penguin)

978-0525429999

Brightly illustrated panels show eleven-year-old Impy's adjustment to middle school after a life of home schooling with her Renaissance Faire friends and family. The squire-in-training encounters some middle school "dragons" along the way.

AMINA'S VOICE

by Hena Khan

Simon & Schuster - Salaam Reads

978-1481492065

Amina shuns the spotlight but loves to sing. Now, in middle school, everything seems to be changing with friends and family. When her mosque is vandalized, Amina finds her voice and helps bring a diverse community together to rebuild it.

CROSSING EBENEZER CREEK

by Tonya Bolden

Bloomsbury

978-1599903194

Suddenly emancipated from slavery, Mariah and her younger brother join Sherman's army as it marches through Georgia. There she meets Caleb, a freed black man, and dares to dream about the future until the tragedy at Ebenezer Creek. This riveting novel explores a little known historical event.

EYES OF THE WORLD: ROBERT CAPA, GERDA TARO AND THE INVENTION OF MODERN PHOTOJOURNALISM

by Marc Aronson and Marina Budhos

Macmillan - Henry Holt Books for Young Readers

978-0805098358

A partnership of two talents is told through their photographs, with emphasis on the revolutionary role of Taro in a "man's war" (The Spanish Civil war) and a man's profession.

FLYING LESSONS & OTHER STORIES

by edited by Ellen Oh

Penguin Random House - Crown (Random House)

978-1101934593

This collection of short stories by a group of diverse writers will both surprise (a female Chinese pirate) and warm readers' hearts (a father and son bond over his basketball life).

HELLO, UNIVERSE

by Erin Entrada Kelly

Illustrated by Isabel Roxas

HarperCollins - Greenwillow Books

978-0062414151

The stars align one ill-fated day in the woods after a bully's actions land an introvert at the bottom of a well. Four diverse tweens forge unlikely friendships in a relatable, heartfelt, and humorous tale of everyday heroes.



LOVING VS. VIRGINIA: A DOCUMENTARY NOVEL OF THE LANDMARK CIVIL RIGHTS CASE

by Patricia Hruby Powell
Illustrated by Shadra Strickland
Chronicle
978-1452125909

In 1955 Caroline County, Virginia, one Black and one white teenager fell in love and got married—but Mildred and Richard Loving's marriage was against the law. Sparely, beautifully told in alternate voices, their story is a powerful account of a couple who battle all the way to the U. S. Supreme Court to defend their marriage.

MAYA LIN: THINKING WITH HER HANDS

by Susan Goldman Rubin
Chronicle
978-1452108377

This photographic biography tells the story of Maya Lin's life, from her childhood, to the selection of her design for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at age 21, to her later monuments and works. The eight chapters of the book are each named for a natural material (e.g. clay, water, earth), in acknowledgment of Maya Lin's environmentally-focused artistic process.

ME AND MARVIN GARDENS

by Amy Sarig King
Scholastic - Arthur A. Levine Books
978-0545870740

When 11-year old Obe visits the creek on his family's farm, he meets a strange creature he names Marvin Gardens. The creature eats only plastic and has toxic poop neither of which are good for the suburban homes now being built, in this funny and wise environmental tale.

ONE LAST WORD: WISDOM FROM THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

by Nikki Grimes
Illustrated by Cozbi A. Cabrera, et. al
Bloomsbury
978-1619635548

This radiant volume, celebrating the Harlem Renaissance, connects the past to the present with original and classic poems. Breathtaking original art by African American artists, a wealth of introductory notes and backmatter complement this essential edition.

THE STARS BENEATH OUR FEET

by David Barclay Moore
Penguin Random House - Alfred A. Knopf (Random House)
978-1524701246

Twelve-year-old Wallace "Lolly" Rachpaul constructs a towering city of Legos in his community center basement to channel his grief after losing his brother to gang violence. Nuanced secondary characters support Trinidadian Lolly's hopeful efforts to navigate Harlem's St. Nick projects.

STORMY SEAS: STORIES OF YOUNG BOAT REFUGEES

by Mary Beth Leatherdale
Illustrated by Eleanor Shakespeare
Annick Press
978-1554518968

First-person narratives of five children forced to flee their homelands unveil the lives and fates of refugees seeking asylum in various countries during humanitarian crises current and past. Watery collages that evoke the tumultuous journeys layer quotations from and photos of actual refugees.



THICK AS THIEVES

by Megan Whalen Turner
HarperCollins - Greenwillow Books
978-0062568243

Kamet, a Mede slave, escapes when he hears of his master's sudden death and makes a dangerous journey to safety with an Attolean soldier, only to learn that the whole thing was a scheme engineered by the King of Attolia.

TRAIN I RIDE

by Paul Mosier
HarperCollins - HarperCollins Children's Books
978-0062455734

Ryder's solo journey on an eastbound train slowly reveals her story and helps her realize that hope is possible and new friends are there to be found.

UNDEFEATED: JIM THORPE AND THE CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

by Steve Sheinkin
Macmillan - Roaring Brook Press
978-1596439542

Biographical accounts of star athlete Jim Thorpe and coach Pop Warner are woven together in a compelling story about the history of football, the Carlisle Indian School, and the school football team's legendary undefeated season. Thoroughly researched and supplemented with photographs.

THE VANDERBEEKERS OF 141ST STREET

by Karina Yan Glaser
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - Clarion
978-0544876392

The Vanderbeeker children have days to convince their landlord to let them stay in their New York brownstone. This heartwarming story is full of the whimsy of naïve schemes, a true sense of community, and the feel of a modern classic.

THE WAR I FINALLY WON

by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
Penguin Random House - Dial Books for Young Readers (Penguin)
978-0525429203

In this sequel to *The War that Saved My Life*, Ada's clubfoot has been cured, but her spirit still needs time to heal, as the tragedies of WWII come ever closer to her new home and pieced-together family.

THE WONDERLING

by Mira Bartók
Candlewick
978-0763691219

A one eared fox goes from being a victim (named 13) to a hero (named Arthur) as he embarks on a journey to save music.

FOURTEEN AND UP

THE 57 BUS: A TRUE STORY OF TWO TEENAGERS AND THE CRIME THAT CHANGED THEIR LIVES

by Dashka Slater
Macmillan - Farrar Straus & Giroux for Young Readers
978-0374303235

The true story of an Oakland teen who is set on fire by another teen is sometimes difficult to read, and packed with information about being agender/genderfluid, as well as about the juvenile criminal justice system in California.



AMERICAN STREET

by Ibi Zoboi

HarperCollins - Balzer + Bray

978-0062473042

Fabiola, a US citizen who has lived most of her life with her mother in Haiti, moves in with her aunt and cousins in Detroit. Her very protected life in Haiti has left her unprepared for some of the gritty parts of her new life.

BULL

by David Elliott

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - HMH Books for Young Readers

978-0544610606

A fresh and irreverent multi-voiced novel in verse updates the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur.

CITY OF SAINTS AND THIEVES

by Natalie C. Anderson

Penguin Random House - Putnam (Penguin)

978-0399547584

In this debut thriller set in modern-day Congo, sixteen-year-old Tina returns from Kenya to exact revenge on the man she believes killed her mother. But not all is as it seems.

DISAPPEARED

by Francisco X. Stork

Scholastic - Arthur A. Levine Books

978-0545944472

Sara and Emiliano are a sibling pair navigating Juarez, Mexico in search of a better life. When searching for justice entangles the family in the criminal underworld, they put everything on the line. Short, suspenseful chapters move this fast-paced narrative along to a thrilling conclusion. Based on true events.

ELIZA AND HER MONSTERS

by Francesca Zappia

HarperCollins - Greenwillow Books

978-0062290137

Eliza loves nothing more than to shed reality for her online persona, Lady Constellation, as she creates her worldly popular webcomic, Monstrous Sea. All of that success and anonymity could come crumbling down when she takes a chance and lets her real self open up to transfer student, Wallace. A contemporary, entertaining story that will connect with a variety of readers.

FAR FROM THE TREE

by Benway, Robin

HarperCollins - HarperTeen

978-0062330628

Three half-siblings, teenagers Grace, Joaquin and Maya, learn of each other's existence and grow together as a new sort of family in this National Book Award winner that explores adoption and foster care in a contemporary light.

FAULT LINES IN THE CONSTITUTION: THE FRAMERS, THEIR FIGHTS, AND THE FLAWS THAT AFFECT US TODAY

by Cynthia Levinson & Sanford Levinson

Peachtree Publishers

978-1561459452

Discover the history of the United States Constitution from its creation to how it affects us today. This fascinating and accessible narrative explores the Electoral College, gerrymandering, voter ID regulations, and veto powers, among many other topics, woven together with supportive graphics and thoughtful analysis on past and contemporary constitutional issues.



THE GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO VICE AND VIRTUE

by Mackenzi Lee

HarperCollins - Katherine Tegen Books

978-0062382801

Monty has never met the high expectations of his father, but the time has come for him to become a gentleman at last. With his last summer of freedom, Monty, his best friend/crush Percy, and his sister Felicity take one last romp around Europe. With pirates and alchemy, this work of historical fiction is nothing but fun!

GOODBYE DAYS

by Jeff Zenter

Penguin Random House - Crown (Random House)

978-0553524062

Carver Briggs had the three best friends a guy could ask for, but then one text message changed everything. Now, Carver is left with nothing but guilt, and it seems the cops might agree. Through a series of "goodbye days," Carver and the families of his friends try to heal everything that has been broken.

I AM NOT YOUR PERFECT MEXICAN DAUGHTER

by Erika L. Sánchez

Penguin Random House - Alfred A. Knopf (Random House)

978-1524700485

Julia struggles with her relationship with her parents after her "perfect" sister, Olga, is killed in a bus accident, but some things aren't always what they seem on the outside. Will Julia find out the real truth about Olga's life? Will she ever mend her relationship with her parents? Will she ever be able to live outside of her sister's shadow?

THE INEXPLICABLE LOGIC OF MY LIFE

by Benjamin Alire Saenz

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - Clarion

978-0544586505

Salvador, who is white, was adopted at age 3 by a gay, Mexican-American man, and grows up a part of a loving and very extended Mexican American family, with a wide group of diverse friends. Senior year in high school is a life altering one for Salvador, his friends, and his family.

LONG WAY DOWN

by Jason Reynolds

Simon & Schuster - Atheneum

978-1481438254

In the elevator on his way to avenge his brother's murder, teenaged Will is visited by several ghosts. Reminiscent of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, each ghost in this intense and sparing verse novel gives Will something to consider about the rules of the street: No crying. No snitching. Revenge.

THE MARCH AGAINST FEAR: THE LAST GREAT WALK OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND THE EMERGENCE OF BLACK POWER

by Ann Bausum

National Geographic

978-1426326653

The violence and tensions of the Civil Rights era are masterfully explored in this compelling look at the shooting of activist James Meredith and its aftermath. Bausum thoughtfully chronicles a pivotal, but sometimes overlooked incident in this complex period.



MARESI (THE RED ABBEY CHRONICLES)

by Maria Turtschaninoff
Abrams - Amulet Books
978-1419722691

This Finnish import is by turns a dystopian novel, a historical fantasy and a female empowerment treatise, all told as a chronicle of a recent devastating attack on the all-female island where Maresi lives.

PIECING ME TOGETHER

by Renée Watson
Bloomsbury
978-1681191058

A mentorship program at her mostly white prep school leaves sixteen year old Jade feeling even more vulnerable and less confident. Jade finds her path through the arts and scholarship, and learns to speak up for herself.

THE UPSIDE OF UNREQUITED

by Becky Albertalli
HarperCollins - HarperTeen
978-0062348708

Molly is a 17-year-old who has had 26 crushes and no love life while watching her twin sister, Cassie, fall in and out of love. Then suddenly there are two new boys in Molly's life, Will and Reid. Are these just the next crush or is she falling in love with one of them? And are they falling for her?

THEY BOTH DIE AT THE END

by Adam Silvera
HarperCollins - HarperTeen
978-0062457790

No one wants that late night call from Death-Cast, the service that lets you know you're about to die, but that is exactly what Mateo and Rufus get. When they are brought together through an app called Last Friend, these teens live life knowing they are incapable of cheating death. This modern day science fiction novel is both chilling and heartwarming.

VICTORIA: PORTRAIT OF A QUEEN

by Catherine Reef
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - Clarion
978-0544716148

This account of Queen Victoria and the age of hemophilia, palace intrigue, and assassination attempts will captivate even those who know her story. Informative and thorough and enriched by illustrations, this exquisite biography grants one of the longest serving queens her due.

WE ARE OKAY

by Nina LaCour
Penguin Random House - Dutton Books for Young Readers
978-0525425892

Alone in a dorm room void of personal possessions, Marin lives a quiet, desperate life miles away from home. With grief and betrayal swirling in her head, Marin fears the arrival of her best friend will destroy her fragile state.



WHEN DIMPLE MET RISHI

by Sandhya Menon

Simon & Schuster - Simon Pulse

978-1481478687

Indian-American teens, Rishi and Stanford-bound, independent Dimple are the subjects of their parents' arranged marriage plans. When the two are paired as partners at their summer coding program emotions ignite in a delightful and humorous coming-of-age romance.

YOU BRING THE DISTANT NEAR

by Mitali Perkins

Macmillan - Farrar Straus & Giroux for Young Readers

978-0374304904

The lives and choices of three generations of sweet and sometimes doggedly determined Indian and Indian-American women—who they fall in love with, and how they choose to live their American plus Bengali lives—are profiled.

AUDIOBOOKS

ALEX AND ELIZA: A LOVE STORY

by Melissa de la Cruz

Narrated by Cassandra Campbell

Penguin Random House - Listening Library (Audio)

978-0525492016

Cassandra Campbell dramatically narrates the story of the courtship between the impoverished Alexander Hamilton and wealthy Eliza Schuyler, two figures heavily influenced by and important to the American Revolution. New insights into Eliza's character add to the power of their story.

ALLEGEDLY

by Tiffany D. Jackson

Narrated by Bahni Turpin

HarperCollins - Blackstone Audio

978-1470859138

When Mary was nine, she killed a baby. Allegedly. Now fifteen, pregnant, and living in a group home while authorities revisit the crime, Mary must rely on the person she trusts least. Turpin's narration deftly conveys complex and unsettling emotions as tensions mount in this gripping tale.

ALMOST HOME

by Joan Bauer

Narrated by Brittany Pressley

Penguin Random House - Listening Library (Audio)

978-1524755140

Though she and her mother become homeless due to her father's gambling debts, Sugar never loses her strength and spark in this story filled with sweetness and emotional resonance.

BOOK OF DUST

by Philip Pullman

Narrated by Michael Sheen

Penguin Random House - Listening Library (Audio)

978-0525522980

Narrator Michael Sheen perfectly voices the intense drama, action, and subtle humor of this first book in Pullman's new series. Young Malcolm seeks to rescue baby Lyra and grapple with forces of good—and terrible evil.



FEEL THE BEAT: DANCE POEMS THAT ZING FROM SALSA TO SWING

by Marilyn Singer

Illustrated by Kristi Valiant

Penguin Random House - Dial Books for Young Readers (Penguin)

978-0803740211

An original score accompanies rhythmic poems about social dances from many cultures—from the Argentine Tango to the Waltz.

THE FREE

by Lauren McLaughlin

Narrated by James Edward Shippy

Recorded Books

978-1501936432

Isaac gets involved in a scheme that goes bad and he ends up taking the wrap. Therapy in a detention center forces him to acknowledge the truths of his life. James Edward Shippy's narration captures vulnerability, bravado, and gut-wrenching truth.

THE HATE U GIVE

by Angie Thomas

Narrated by Bahni Turpin

HarperCollins - HarperAudio

978-1470827137

Bahni Turpin's stunning narration brings this incredible debut to life with pitch-perfect dialogue and snappy narration. Starr and her family and friends are vividly depicted as they come to terms with tragedy.

MATYLDA, BRIGHT AND TENDER

by Holly M. McGhee

Narrated by Jenna Lamia

Penguin Random House - Listening Library (Audio)

978-1524781842

After a tragic accident, Sussy must reconcile her grief with the hope that both a beloved pet and the memory of her lost friend will endure. Lamia's narration brings Sussy's heartbreak, innocence, and confusion to life.

REFUGEE

by Alan Gratz

Narrated by Michael Goldstrom, Kyla Garcia, and Assaf Cohen

Scholastic - Scholastic Audio

978-1338191073

Three alternating narrators—each from a different era--convey with compelling immediacy the once innocent voices of young refugees from Germany, Cuba and Syria, all of them changed through the same horrors: war, violence, and loss of their known worlds.

SEE YOU IN THE COSMOS

by Jack Cheng

Narrated by Kivlighan de Montebello

Penguin Random House - Listening Library (Audio)

978-1524750008

First-person narrator Alex is obsessed with Carl Sagan, and records an audio journal, just like his hero. This conceit makes the novel perfect for a listen and the full cast elevates this story even further.



SHORT

by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Narrated by Tara Sands

Penguin Random House - Listening Library (Audio)

978-1524750305

Extremely short for her age, Julia Marks learns by the end of the summer run of The Wizard of Oz how big she is inside. Narrator Tara Sands brings Julia's growth as a confident artist believably to life.

STRANGE THE DREAMER

by Laini Taylor

Narrated by Steve West

Little, Brown & Company - Hachette Audio

978-1478913054

Steve West's narration conveys the multitude of emotions Lazlo experiences when a group of mythical warriors appears in his city and dreams and reality melt together in a world where gods and humans battle each other.



Capitol Choices

Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

WHO WE ARE

The first edition of Capitol Choices published in 1996, built on the work of the late Peggy Coughlan at the Children's Literature Center of the Library of Congress, who for many years edited an annual list entitled "Books for Children." The founding members of the Capitol Choices group who worked on these lists appreciated the opportunity to hone their critical skills during those years and wished to carry the work of that committee forward.

Since 1996, Capitol Choices has included librarians, teachers, booksellers, children's literature specialists, reviewers, and magazine editors who work in cities, suburbs, and rural areas in and around Washington, D.C. Most of us work directly with young people, and all of us share a passion for books and a commitment to pairing children with books.

CRITERIA

Our mission is to identify and select a yearly list of outstanding titles for children and teens. We consider books and audiobooks published in the current calendar year for readers from birth through the high school years. We look not only for those books and audiobooks that are obviously remarkable but also for those whose charm, art, information, or depth of feeling may enhance a young person's world. We especially look for books that may not find an audience without the benefit of special attention.

What does Capitol Choices mean by "the best"? "Best" of the year? "Best" by this author? "Best" of its type? Our discussions are often heated, always serious, filled with good humor and, in the end, the titles we choose meet all of these criteria. In addition to the qualities that mark good titles—clarity, accuracy, credibility, and that most elusive quality of all, distinguished writing, illustration or narration—we place special emphasis on titles which we believe appeal to and reflect the sensibilities of their intended audience.

JOIN US

We welcome you in person at our monthly meetings. Capitol Choices members are also available to present workshops on the best titles of the year, how to evaluate literature for young people, and other topics related to our passion for books and audiobooks for young readers. Please visit our website www.capitolchoices.org to schedule a workshop or find out more about joining our group.

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