

JUST ONE MORE PAGE

2020 Recommendation List

Compiled by the WSRA Children's Literature Committee
from titles published between September 2018-December 2019
www.wsra.org/children-s-literature

Committee members dedicate themselves to reading widely to evaluate the newest books published each year, in order to recommend the most interesting and valuable books for educators and children to read.

Submitted and nominated titles are evaluated based on appeal for students and value for classroom use while also representing high-quality literature with a focus on diversity, authenticity, real-world awareness, thought-provoking response, engaging storytelling, and artistry of writing craft, and exemplary illustrations..

Interest Level K-3

Bruce's Big Fun Day by Ryan T. Higgins (Hyperion, 2019)

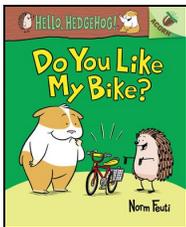
Nibbs the mouse wants to give Bruce the bear a big fun day, but unfortunately grumpy Bruce does not like fun.

Charlie & Mouse Even Better by Laurel Snyder; illustrated by Emily Hughes (Chronicle Books, 2019)

It is Mom's birthday, and Charlie and Mouse and their Dad want everything to be perfect--so when the cake gets burnt the boys have to come up with a new plan, pronto.

Dinosaurs by the Numbers: A Book of Infographics by Steve Jenkins (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

Uses infographics to explore dinosaurs, including what they looked like, how fast they could run, and if any of them are alive today.



Do You Like My Bike? (Hello, Hedgehog Acorn book) by Norm Feuti (Scholastic, 2019)

Hedgehog loves his new bike. His best friend Harry says he likes it, too. But when Hedgehog asks Harry to go bike riding with him, Harry says he does not want to go. Does Harry not like his friend's new bike? Or could this all have something to do with training wheels?

Earthrise: Apollo 8 and the Photo That Changed the World by James Gladstone; illustrated by Christy Lundy (Owlkids Books, 2018)

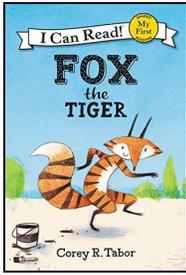
1968 was a year of unrest: many nations were at war. People marched for peace, fairness, and freedom. At the same time, the Apollo 8 crew was about to go farther into space than anyone had gone before--to the moon.

Fly With Me: A Celebration of Birds Through Pictures, Poems, and Stories by Jane Yolen (National Geographic, 2018)

Enchanting stories, lyrical poems, stunning photography, and real-life science fill the pages of this treasury celebrating the amazing world of birds. This thoughtful and beautifully curated collection of our flying, feathery friends highlights the role birds play in human life from centuries ago to present day.

Follow that Bee! A First Book of Bees in the City by Scot Ritchie (Kids Can Press, 2019)

An introduction to honeybees and how they live in urban spaces. Five friends help their neighbor look after his backyard beehive. Along the way, they learn about how bees feed and pollinate; how bees build their hive; what happens inside a bee colony; how and why some bee populations are currently at risk; and more.



Fox the Tiger by Corey R. Tabor (Balzer+Bray, 2018)

Fun-loving, mischievous Fox wishes he were a tiger. Tigers are big and fast and sneaky. So he decides to become one! Soon Turtle and Rabbit are joining in the fun. But will Fox want to be a tiger forever?

Friends Forever (Croc and Ally) by Derek Anderson (Penguin Workshop, 2018)

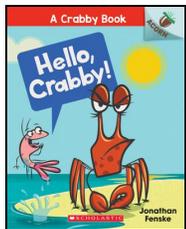
Croc is grumpy. Ally is happy. Croc sees a problem. Ally finds a solution. Whether it's choosing new chairs, going for a walk, or looking for the moon, these best friends will always work together despite their differences.

Fun, Fun, Fun (Croc and Ally) by Derek Anderson (Penguin Workshop, 2018)

Croc is grumpy. Ally is happy. Croc sees a problem. Ally finds a solution. The best friends overcome their differences as they go for a swim, shop for hats, and deal with a big bug.

Harold & Hog Pretend for Real by Dan Santat (Hyperion Books for Children, 2019)

Harold and Hog are best friends. But can Harold and Hog's friendship survive a game of pretending to be Elephant & Piggie?



Hello, Crabby! (An Acorn book) by Jonathan Fenske (Scholastic, 2019)

Crabby is not a happy crab, in fact Crabby is quite crabby, so pushy Plankton, who is always trying to cheer up fellow marine creatures, bakes Crabby a cake--but will Crabby finally smile?

I Will Race You Through This Book by Jonathan Fenske (Penguin Workshop, 2019)

Book-It Bunny challenges the reader to race her to the end of the story. But with distractions and tricks up her sleeve along the way, the competition becomes both fierce and funny at the same time. On your mark, get set, read!

Kiwi Cannot Reach by: Jason Tharp (Simon Spotlight, 2019)

Kiwi sees a rope. He wants to pull it, but he cannot reach! What will happen next? Beginning readers can help Kiwi by turning the pages, shaking the book, and more in this interactive story.

Let's Have a Sleepover! (Hello, Hedgehog! An Acorn book) by Norm Feuti (Scholastic, 2019)

Hedgehog is having a sleepover! His best friend Harry is excited. But when Harry arrives, he finds out that they will be sleeping outside. Suddenly, Harry doesn't feel very well. Does Harry not want to sleep over? Or does this all have something to do with first-sleepover jitters?

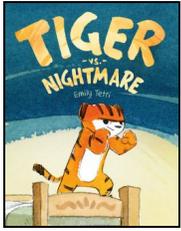


Snow Place Like Home (Diary of an Ice Princess #1) by Christina Soontornvat; illustrated by Barbara Szepesi Szucs (Scholastic Paperbacks, 2019)

Princess Lina has a life any kid would envy. She lives in a massive palace in the clouds. Everyone in her family has the power to control the wind and weather. On a good day, she can even fly! She loves making lemons into lemon ice, riding wind gusts around the sky, and turning her bedroom into a real life snow globe.

Sparkly New Friends (Unicorn and Yeti Acorn book) by Heather Ayris Burnell; illustrated by Hazel Quintanilla (Scholastic, 2019)

Unicorn and Yeti run into each other (literally) while looking for sparkly things, and despite some differences, (for instance Unicorn is magic, Yeti is not, Yeti likes snowball fights, Unicorn cannot throw snowballs)--the two become friends over a shared love of hot chocolate with rainbow sprinkles.



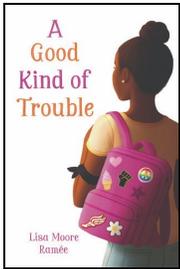
Tiger vs. Nightmare by Emily Tetri (FirstSecond, 2018)

Tiger is a lucky kid: She has a monster living under her bed. This monster arrived when Tiger was just a baby. It was supposed to scare her--after all, that's what monsters do. But Tiger was just too cute! Now, Tiger and Monster are best friends. But Monster is a monster, and it needs to scare something. So every night, Monster stands guard and scares all of Tiger's nightmares away. This arrangement works out perfectly, until a nightmare arrives that's too big and scary for even Monster. Only teamwork and a lot of bravery can chase this nightmare away.

Flubby is Not a Good Pet! By J. E. Morris (Penguin Workshop, 2019)

Meet Flubby--the lovably lazy feline who prefers a purr-fectly laid-back lifestyle! In this story designed to engage early readers, charming characters combine with simple text, lively illustrations, and laugh-out-loud humor to help boost kids' confidence and create lifelong readers!

Interest Level 3-6



A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramée (Balzar + Bray, 2019)

Twelve-year-old Shayla is allergic to trouble. All she wants to do is to follow the rules. But in junior high, it's like all the rules have changed. Now she's suddenly questioning who her best friends are and some people at school are saying she's not black enough.

Because of the Rabbit by Cynthia Lord (Scholastic Press, 2019)

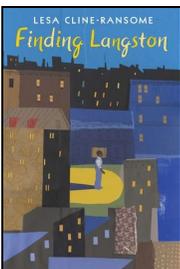
On the last night of summer, Emma and her Maine game warden father rescue a small domestic rabbit stuck in a fence; the very next day Emma starts fifth grade after years of being home schooled, excited and apprehensive about making new friends, but she is paired with Jack, a hyperactive boy, who does not seem to fit in with anyone--except that they share a love of animals, which draws them together, because of the rabbit.

Best Friends by Shannon Hale, illustrated by LeUyen Pham (First Second, 2019)

Sixth grade is supposed to be perfect. Shannon's got a sure spot in the in-crowd called The Group, and her best friend is their leader. Jen, the most popular girl in school. But the rules are always changing, and Shannon has to scramble to keep up. She never knows which TV shows are cool, what songs to listen to, and which boys she's allowed to talk to. Who makes these rules, anyway? And does Shannon have to follow them?

Extraordinary Birds by Sandy Stark-McGinnis (Bloomsbury, 2019)

A heartbreaking and hopeful debut novel about a unique young girl on a journey to find home.



Finding Langston by Lesa Cline-Ransome (Holiday House, 2018)

Discovering a book of Langston Hughes' poetry in the library helps Langston cope with the loss of his mother, relocating from Alabama to Chicago as part of the Great Migration, and being bullied.



Freedom Fire (Dactyl Hill Squad #2) by Daniel Jose Older (Arthur A. Levine, 2019)
Magdalys Roca and her friends from the Colored Orphan Asylum are heading southwest on the back of Stella, the giant pteranodon, to find Montez, her brother, wounded during the siege of Vicksburg; now they are heading into the heart of the fighting, depending on Magdalys's ability to communicate telepathically with dinosaurs--but one of the companions is not quite what she seems, and Magdalys's talent could make her a target for both sides.

Guts by Raina Telgemeier (Graphix, 2019)

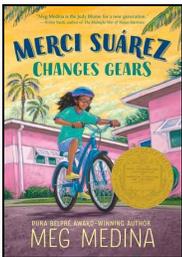
In graphic novel form, Raina Telgemeier relates her struggles with stress and anxiety as a child.

How High the Moon by Karyn Parsons (Little, Brown and Company, 2019)

Eleven-year-old Ella seeks information about her father while enjoying a visit with her mother, a jazz singer, in Boston in 1944, then returns to the harsh realities of segregated, small-town South Carolina.

Just Jaime by Terri Libenson (Balzer & Bray, 2019)

Friends. Frenemies. Middle school... The last day of seventh grade has Jaime and Maya wondering who their real friends are. Jaime knows something is off with her friend group. They've started to exclude her and make fun of the way she dresses and the things she likes. At least she can count on her BFF, Maya, to have her back . . . right?

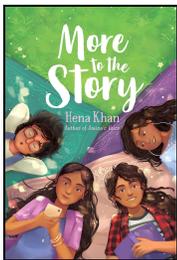


Merci Suarez Changes Gears by Meg Medina (Candlewick Press, 2018)

Merci Suarez relies on her close, extended family as she goes through many changes during her sixth-grade year at Florida's Seaward Pines Academy.

Monster Mayhem by Christopher Eliopoulos (Dial Books for Young Readers, 2018)

Science-obsessed Zoe finds herself trapped in one of her favorite monster movies and needs to invent her way out of a disaster while also saving the monster who has become her friend.



More to the Story by Hena Khan (Salaam Reads, 2019)

As features editor of her school newspaper, thirteen-year-old Jameela Mirza wants to impress her father by writing a spectacular story about the new student, but a misunderstanding and family illness complicate matters.

My Jasper June by Laurel Snyder (Walden Pond Press, 2019)

Laurel Snyder, author of Orphan Island, returns with another unforgettable story of the moments in which we find out who we are, and the life-altering friendships that show us what we can be.



New Kid by Jerry Craft (Harper, 2019)

Seventh grader Jordan Banks is enrolled in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one.

Orange For the Sunsets by Tina Athaide (Katherine Tegen Books, 2019)

In alternating voices, friends Asha and Yesofu, one Indian and one African, find their world turned upside-down when Idi Amin decides to expel Asian Indians from Uganda in 1972.

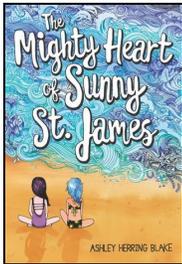


Planet Earth is Blue by Nicole Panteleakos (Wendy Lamb Books, 2019)

Autistic and nearly nonverbal, twelve-year-old Nova is happy in her new foster home and school, but eagerly anticipates the 1986 Challenger launch, for which her sister, Bridget, promised to return.

Song For A Whale by Lynne Kelly (Delacorte Press, 2019)

Twelve-year-old Iris and her grandmother, both deaf, drive from Texas to Alaska armed with Iris's plan to help Blue-55, a whale unable to communicate with other whales.



The Mighty Heart of Sunny St. James by Ashley Herring Blake (Little, Brown and Company, 2019)

Twelve-year-old Sunny St. James must navigate heart surgery, reconnections with a lost mother, the betrayal of a former best friend, first kisses, and emerging feelings for another girl.



The Moon Within by Aida Salazar (Arthur A. Levine Books, 2019)

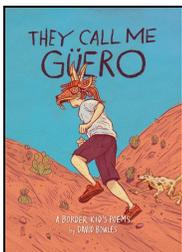
Eleven-year-old (nearly twelve) Celi Rivera, who is a mix of Black-Puerto Rican-Mexican Indian is uncomfortable about her approaching period, and the changes that are happening to her body; she is horrified that her mother wants to hold a traditional public moon ceremony to celebrate the occasion--until she finds out that her best friend Magda is contemplating an even more profound change of life.

The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise by Dan Gemeinhart (Henry Holt, 2019)

Twelve-year-old Coyote and her father rush to Poplin Springs, Washington, in their old school bus save a memory box buried in a park that will soon be demolished.

The Season of Styx Malone by Kekla Magoon (Wendy Lamb Books, 2018)

Caleb Franklin and his big brother, Bobby Gene, spend an extraordinary summer with their new, older neighbor, Styx Malone, a foster boy from the city.

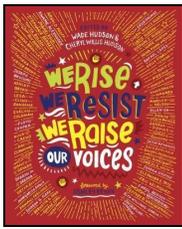


They Call Me Güero: A Border Kid's Poems by David Bowles (Cinco Puntos Press, 2018)

Twelve-year-old Güero, a red-headed, freckled Mexican American border kid, discovers the joy of writing poetry, thanks to his seventh grade English teacher.

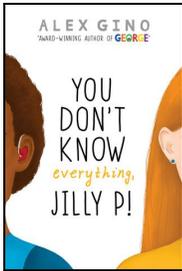
Understanding the News (Fact Finders: Cracking the Media Literacy Code) by Pamela Dell (Capstone Press, 2018)

What is the news? — The many forms of news — Facts and fiction — 21st Century challenge; recognizing the real — Staying ahead of the game.



We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices Edited by Wade Hudson & Cheryl Willis Hudson (Crown Books for You, 2018)

What do we tell our children when the world seems bleak, and prejudice and racism run rampant? With 96 lavishly designed pages of original art, poetry, and prose, fifty diverse creators lend voice and comfort to young activists.



You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P! by Alex Gino (Scholastic Press, 2018)

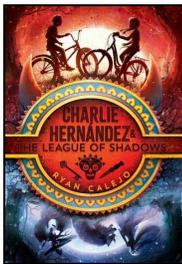
When her new baby sister is born deaf, Jilly makes an online connection with a fellow fantasy fan, who happens to be black and deaf, and begins to learn about the many obstacles that exist in the world for people who are different from her.

Young, Gifted and Black: Meet 52 Heroes From Past and Present by Jamia Wilson (Wide Eyed Edition, 2019)
Meet figureheads, leaders, and pioneers such as Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, and Rosa Parks, as well as cultural trailblazers and sporting heroes, including Stevie Wonder, Oprah Winfrey, and Serena Williams. Discover how their childhood dreams and experiences influenced their adult achievements.

Interest Level 5-8

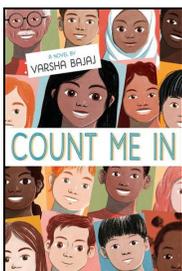
A Place to Belong by Cynthia Kadohata; illustrated by Julia Kuo (Atheneum Books, 2019)

Twelve-year-old Hanako and her family, reeling from their confinement in an internment camp, renounce their American citizenship to move to Hiroshima, a city devastated by the atomic bomb dropped by Americans.



Charlie Hernandez and the League of Shadows by Ryan Calejo (Aladdin, 2018)

Steeped in Hispanic folklore since childhood, middle schooler Charlie Hernandez learns the stories are true when, shortly after his parents disappearance, he grows horns and feathers and finds himself at the heart of a battle to save the world.



Count Me In by Varsha Bajaj (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2019)

Told from two viewpoints, sixth-graders Karina and Chris use social media to stand up to racism in Houston, Texas, after an attack puts Karina's Indian American grandfather in the hospital.

Countdown: 2979 Days to the Moon by Suzanne Slade; illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez (Peachtree Publishers, 2018)

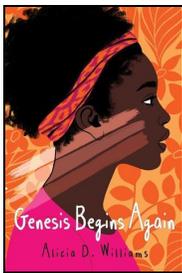
Award-winning author and former mechanical engineer Suzanne Slade joins up with New York Times best-selling illustrator Thomas Gonzalez to tell the powerful story of the successes, failures, triumphs, tragedies, and lessons learned from Apollos 1 through 10 that led to the first Moon landing.

Crush (Berrybrook Middle School) by Svetlana Chmakova (JY, 2018)

Jorge seems to have it all together. He's big enough that nobody really messes with him, but he's also a genuinely sweet guy with a solid, reliable group of friends. The only time he ever really feels off his game is when he crosses paths with a certain girl... But when the group dynamic among the boys starts to shift, will Jorge be able to balance what his friends expect of him versus what he actually wants?

Dear America: The Story of an Undocumented Citizen by Jose Antonio Vargas (Harper, 2019)

Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas, called "the most famous undocumented immigrant in America," tackles one of the defining issues of our time in this explosive and deeply personal call to arms.

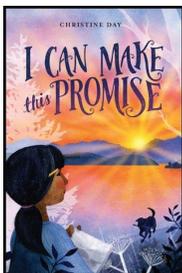


Genesis Begins Again by Alicia Williams (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2019)

This deeply sensitive and powerful debut novel tells the story of a thirteen-year-old who must overcome internalized racism and a verbally abusive family to finally learn to love herself.

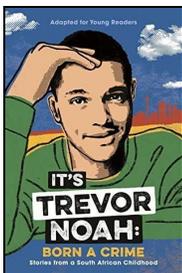
Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions By Women by Catherine Thimmesh; illustrated by Melissa Sweet (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018)

In kitchens and living rooms, in garages and labs and basements, even in converted chicken coops, women and girls have invented ingenious innovations that have made our lives simpler and better. What inspired these girls, and just how did they turn their ideas into realities?



I Can Make This Promise by Christine Day (HarperCollins, 2019)

When twelve-year-old Edie finds letters and photographs in her attic that change everything she thought she knew about her Native American mother's adoption, she realizes she has a lot to learn about her family's history and her own identity.



It's Trevor Noah: Born A Crime - Stories from a South African Childhood (A Young Reader's Adaptation) by Trevor Noah (Delacorte Press, 2019)

This fascinating memoir blends drama, comedy, and tragedy to depict the day-to-day trials that turned a boy into a young man. In a country where racism barred blacks from social, educational, and economic opportunity, Trevor surmounted staggering obstacles and created a promising future for himself, thanks to his mom's unwavering love and indomitable will.

Lifeboat 12 by Susan Hood (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2018)

Award-winning author Susan Hood brings this little-known World War II story to life in a riveting novel of courage, hope, and compassion. Based on true events and real people, *Lifeboat 12* is about believing in one another, knowing that only by banding together will we have any chance to survive.

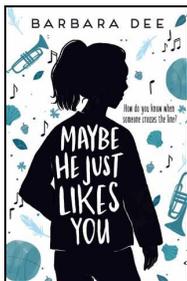


Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks by Jason Reynolds (Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2019)

Jason Reynolds conjures ten tales (one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one wickedly funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life.

Lu (Track series) by Jason Reynolds (Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2018)

Lu knows he can lead Ghost, Patina, Sunny, and the team to victory at the championships, but it might not be as easy as it seems. Suddenly, there are hurdles in Lu's way--literally and not-so-literally--and Lu needs to figure out, fast, what winning the gold really means.



Maybe He Just Likes You by Barbara Dee (Aladdin, 2019)

When boys in her class start touching seventh-grader Mila and making her feel uncomfortable, she does not want to tell her friends or mother until she reaches her breaking point.

Momentous Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti Bowling (Sterling Children's Books, 2019)

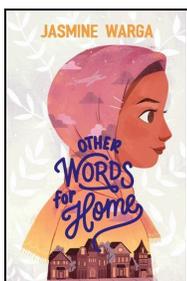
After navigating middle school, ninth-grader Aven, born without arms, struggles with the challenges of high school, which test her confidence, strength, and sense of self.

Never Caught The Story of Ona Judge: George and Martha Washington's Courageous Slave Who Dared to Run Away by Erica Armstrong Dunbar (Aladdin, 2019)

In this incredible narrative, Erica Armstrong Dunbar reveals a fascinating and heartbreaking behind-the-scenes look at the Washingtons when they were the First Family--and an in-depth look at their slave, Ona Judge, who dared to escape from one of the nation's Founding Fathers.

Nowhere Boy by Katherine Marsh (Roaring Brook Press, 2019)

Fourteen-year-old Ahmed, a Syrian refugee, and thirteen-year-old Max, an American boy, are bound by a secret that sets them on the adventure of a lifetime.

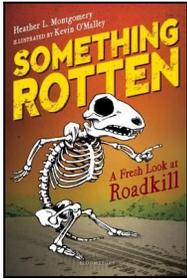


Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga (Balzer+Bray, 2019)

A gorgeously written, hopeful middle grade novel in verse about a young girl who must leave Syria to move to the United States, perfect for fans of Jason Reynolds and Aisha Saeed.

Sea Prayer by Khaled Hosseini (Riverhead Books, 2018)

An illustrated book on the refugee crisis that will break your heart in under 48 pages, from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Kite Runner*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, and *And the Mountains Echoed*.



Something Rotten: A Fresh Look at Roadkill by Heather L. Montgomery; illustrated by Kevin O'Malley (Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2018)

This engaging narrative nonfiction is an eye-opening and irreverent look at the dead and dying animals that we pass by without a second thought--as well as a fascinating insight to the scientific research process.

Spooked! How a Radio Broadcast and The War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America by Gail Jarrow (Calkins Creek, 2018)

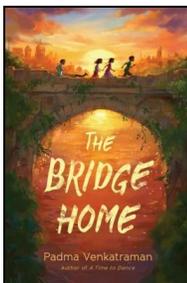
Looks at the War of the Worlds radio broadcast from 1938 and looks at the artists behind the broadcast, the broadcast itself, the aftermath, and the repercussions of "fake news" today. Includes bibliographical references and index.

Strange Birds by Celia Pérez (Kokila, 2019)

When three very different girls find a mysterious invitation to a lavish mansion, the promise of adventure and mischief is too intriguing to pass up.

Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster by Johnathan Auxier (Amulet Books, 2018)

Sweep is the story of a girl and her monster. Together, these two outcasts carve out a new life--saving each other in the process. Lyrically told by one of today's most powerful storytellers, Sweep is a heartrending adventure about the everlasting gifts of friendship and wonder.

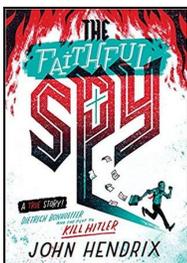


The Bridge Home by Padma Venkatraman (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2019)

Readers will be captivated by this beautifully written novel about young people who must use their instincts and grit to survive. Padma shares with us an unflinching peek into the reality millions of homeless children live every day but also infuses her story with hope and bravery that will inspire readers and stay with them long after turning the final page.

The Crossover: The Graphic Novel Adaptation of the Newbery Medal Winner by Kwame Alexander; illustrated by Dawud Anyabwile (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

See the Bell family in a whole new light through Dawud Anyabwile's dynamic illustrations as the brothers' winning season unfolds, and the world as they know it begins to change.



The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler by John Hendrix (Amulet Books, 2018)

In his signature style of interwoven handwritten text and art, John Hendrix tells the true story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a pastor who makes the ultimate sacrifice in order to free the German people from oppression during World War II.

The Line Tender by Kate Allen (Dutton Children's Books, 2019)

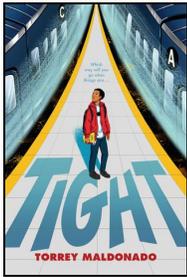
Following a tragedy that further alters the course of her life, twelve-year-old Lucy Everhart decides to continue the shark research her marine biologist mother left unfinished when she died years earlier.

The Whispers by Greg Howard (GP Putnam's Sons, 2019)

Eleven-year-old Riley's mom has disappeared and Riley knows that if he leaves tributes for the whispers, magical fairies that grant wishes, his mom will come back to him.

This Promise of Change: One Girl's Story in The Fight for School Equality by Jo Ann Allen Boyce (Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2019)

In 1956, one year before federal troops escorted the Little Rock 9 into Central High School, fourteen year old Jo Ann Allen was one of twelve African-American students who broke the color barrier and integrated Clinton High School in Tennessee. This is the heartbreaking and relatable story of her four months thrust into the national spotlight and as a trailblazer in history.



Tight by Torrey Maldonado (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018)

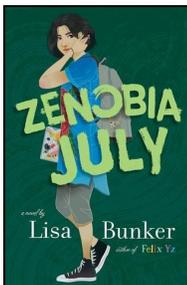
Bryan's mom has always encouraged his quiet, thoughtful nature, but his dad is different. He thinks it's time for the sixth-grader to toughen up. With a quick temper and recently out of jail on probation, he tells Bryan it's better for a man to be feared than to be liked.

Small Spaces by Katherine Arden (G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2018)

After eleven-year-old Ollie's school bus mysteriously breaks down on a field trip, she has to take a trip through scary woods, and must use all of her wits to survive. She must stick to small spaces.

We Are The Change: Words of Inspiration from Civil Rights Leaders by Selina Alko, et. al. (Chronicle Books, 2019)

Sixteen award-winning children's book artists illustrate the civil rights quotations that inspire them in this stirring and beautiful book. Featuring an introduction by Harry Belafonte, words from Eleanor Roosevelt, Maya Angelou, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. among others, this inspirational collection sets a powerful example for generations of young leaders to come.



Zenobia July by Lisa Bunker (Viking, 2019)

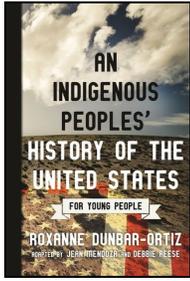
Zenobia July, an excellent coder and hacker, investigates a mystery while wrestling with the challenges of a new school, a new family, and presenting her true gender for the first time.

Interest Level Young Adult

A Heart in a Body in the World by Deb Caletti (Simon Pulse, 2018)

Followed by Grandpa Ed in his RV and backed by her brother and friends, Annabelle, eighteen, runs from Seattle to Washington, D.C., becoming a reluctant activist as people connect her journey to her recent trauma.

American Road Trip by Patrick Flores-Scott (Christy Ottaviano Books, Henry Holt and Company, 2018)
Brothers Teodoro and Manny Avila take a road trip to address Manny's PTSD following his tour in Iraq, and to help T. change his life and win the heart of Wendy Martinez. Includes information and resources about PTSD.



An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People by Debbie Reese, Jean Mendoza, Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz (Beacon Press, 2019)
A history of the United States for young people told from the perspective of Indigenous people, revealing how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the U.S. empire.

Anne Frank's Diary: The Graphic Adaptation by Ari Folman; illustrated by David Polonsky (Pantheon Books, 2018)

A comic adaptation of the diary penned by Anne Frank, a girl whose family was in hiding from the Nazis.

Black Enough: Stories of Being Young & Black in America Edited by: Ibi Zoboi (Balzer + Bray, 2019)

A collection of coming-of-age short stories that reflect on the African American teenage experience in America.

Buried Beneath the Baobab Tree by Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani (Katherine Tegen Books, 2018)

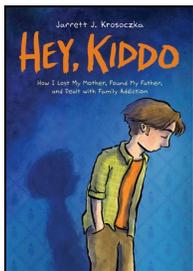
Based on interviews with young women who were kidnapped by Boko Haram, this poignant novel by Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani tells the timely story of one girl who was taken from her home in Nigeria and her harrowing fight for survival. Includes an afterword by award-winning journalist Viviana Mazza.

Dream Country by Shannon Gibney (Dutton, 2018)

Spanning two centuries and two continents, *Dream Country* is the story of five generations of young people caught in a spiral of death and exile between Liberia and the United States.

Dry by Neal Shusterman & Jarrod Shusterman (Simon & Schuster BFYR, 2018)

A lengthy California drought escalates to catastrophic proportions, turning Alyssa's quiet suburban street into a warzone, and she is forced to make impossible choices if she and her brother are to survive.



Hey, Kiddo by Jarrett Krosoczka (Graphix, 2018)

In graphic novel format author and illustrator Jarrett J. Krosoczka discusses growing up in a family grappling with addiction.



Internment by Samira Ahmed (Little, Brown and Company, 2019)

A terrifying, futuristic United States where Muslim-Americans are forced into internment camps, and seventeen-year-old Layla Amin must lead a revolution against complicit silence.

Just Mercy: Adapted for Young Adults: A True Story of the Fight for Justice by Bryan Stevenson (Ember, 2018)

Acclaimed lawyer and social justice advocate Bryan Stevenson offers a glimpse into the lives of the wrongfully imprisoned and his efforts to fight for their freedom.

Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me by Mariko Tamaki; illustrated by Rosemary Valero-O'Connell (First Second, 2019)

Laura Dean, the most popular girl in high school, was Frederica Riley's dream girl: charming, confident, and SO cute. There's just one problem: Laura Dean is maybe not the greatest girlfriend.

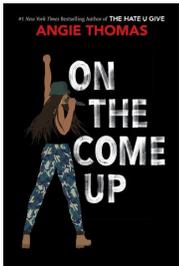


Love from A to Z by S.K. Ali (Salaam Reads, 2019)

Eighteen-year-old Muslims Adam and Zayneb meet in Doha, Qatar, during spring break and fall in love as both struggle to find a way to live their own truths.

Maybe This Time by Kasie West (Scholastic, 2019)

Sophie Evans works for the local florist and party planner in her small southern town, so she attends all of the big 'events,' all the time sketching and dreaming of applying to design school; but this year there is a fly-in-the-ointment of her life--Andrew Hart, son of the fancy new chef in town, who is also at all the local events, and keeps getting in her way, making her life more complicated.



On the Come Up by Angie Thomas (Balzer + Bray, 2019)

Sixteen-year-old Bri hopes to become a great rapper, and after her first song goes viral for all the wrong reasons, must decide whether to sell out or face eviction with her widowed mother.



Patron Saints of Nothing by Randy Ribay (Kokila, 2019)

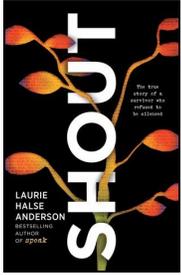
After finding out about his cousin Jun's violent death, Jay Reguero travels from America to the Philippines to uncover how such a gentle person met such a grim end.

Pride by Ibi Zoboi (Balzer + Bray, 2018)

Pride and Prejudice gets remixed in this smart, funny, gorgeous retelling of the classic, starring all characters of color, from Ibi Zoboi, National Book Award finalist and author of American Street.

Sadie by Courtney Summers (Wednesday Books, 2018)

Sadie hasn't had an easy life. Growing up on her own, she's been raising her sister Mattie in an isolated small town, trying her best to provide a normal life and keep their heads above water. But when Mattie is found dead, Sadie's entire world crumbles.

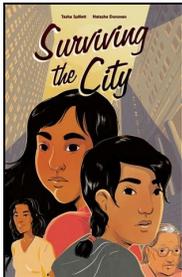


Shout by Laurie Halse Anderson (Viking Books for Young Readers, 2019)

Bestselling author Laurie Halse Anderson is known for the unflinching way she writes about, and advocates for, survivors of sexual assault. Now, inspired by her fans and enraged by how little in our culture has changed since her groundbreaking novel *Speak* was first published twenty years ago, she has written a poetry memoir that is as vulnerable as it is rallying, as timely as it is timeless.

Stepsister by Jennifer Donnelly (Scholastic Press, 2019)

Isabelle should be blissfully happy - she's about to marry a prince. Except that Isabelle isn't the girl who lost the slipper. And the glass shoe on her foot is filling with blood . . .



Surviving The City (The Debwe Series) by Tasha Spillett, illustrated by Natasha Donovan (HighWater Press, 2018)

This graphic novel debut is a story about womanhood, friendship, colonialism, and the anguish of a missing loved one.

The Unwanted: Stories of The Syrian Refugees by Don Brown (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018)

Starting in 2011, refugees flood out of war-torn Syria in Exodus-like proportions. The surprising flood of victims overwhelms neighboring countries, and chaos follows. Resentment in host nations heightens as disruption and the cost of aid grows. By 2017, many want to turn their backs on the victims. The refugees are the unwanted.

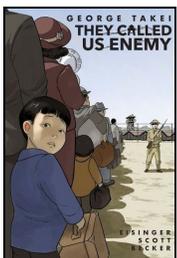


The Weight of Our Sky by Hanna Alkaf (Salaam Reads, 2019)

A music loving teen with OCD does everything she can to find her way back to her mother during the historic race riots in 1969 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in this heart-pounding, "stunning" debut.

There's Something About Sweetie by Sandhya Menon (Simon Pulse, 2019)

The irresistible companion novel to the New York Times bestseller *When Dimple Met Rishi*, which follows Rishi's brother, Ashish, and a confident, self-proclaimed fat athlete named Sweetie as they both discover what love means to them.

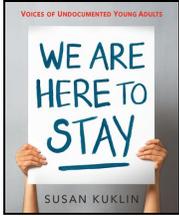


They Called Us Enemy by George Takei, Justin Eisinger, Steven Scott; Illustrated by Harmony Becker

A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself -- in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love.

Watch Us Rise by Renée Watson and Ellen Hagan (Bloomsbury, 2019)

Jasmine and Chelsea are best friends on a mission--they're sick of the way women are treated even at their progressive NYC high school, so they decide to start a Women's Rights Club. They post their work online--poems, essays, videos of Chelsea performing her poetry, and Jasmine's response to the racial microaggressions she experiences--and soon they go viral.



We Are Here To Stay: Voices of Undocumented Young Adults by Susan Kuklin (Candlewick Press, 2019)

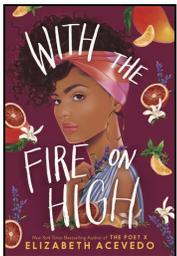
Meet nine courageous young adults who have lived in the United States with a secret for much of their lives: they are not U.S. citizens. They came from Colombia, Mexico, Ghana, Independent Samoa, and Korea. They came seeking education, fleeing violence, and escaping poverty. All have heartbreaking and hopeful stories about leaving their homelands and starting a new life in America.

We Set the Dark on Fire by Tehlor Kay Mejia (Katherine Tegen Books, 2019)

At the Medio School for Girls, distinguished young women are trained for one of two roles in their polarized society. Depending on her specialization, a graduate will one day run a husband's household or raise his children. Both paths promise a life of comfort and luxury, far from the frequent political uprisings of the lower class. Daniela Vargas is the school's top student, but her pedigree is a lie. She must keep the truth hidden or be sent back to the fringes of society.

Wilder Girls by Rory Power (Delacorte Press, 2019)

Friends Hetty, Byatt, and Reece go to extremes trying to uncover the dark truth about the mysterious disease that has had them quarantined at their boarding school on a Maine island.



With the Fire on High by Elizabeth Acevedo (Harper Teen, 2019)

Ever since she got pregnant freshman year, Emoni Santiago's life has been about making the tough decisions--doing what has to be done for her daughter and her abuela. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen, where she adds a little something magical to everything she cooks, turning her food into straight-up goodness.