

Capitol Choices

Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

2000 Books for Ages Up to Seven

Please click on a cover to see a larger image

DANCING IN THE WINGS

by Debbie Allen

illustrated by Kadir Nelson

Dial; ISBN: 0803725019; \$16.99;

The illustrations capture the emotions of all the characters in this story in which perseverance and faith in herself help long-legged Sassy achieve her balletic dreams.

FARAWAY HOME

by Jane Kurtz

illustrated by E.B. Lewis

Harcourt Brace; ISBN: 0152000364; \$16;

Evocative, realistic watercolor paintings join a lyrical text in this story of family ties, memory, longing and the meaning of home as Desta and her father discuss his impending journey to visit family in Ethiopia.

GOOD NIGHT, GOOD KNIGHT

by Shelley Moore Thomas

illustrated by Jennifer Plecas

Dutton; ISBN: 0525463267; \$13.99;

A brave knight gallops from his crumbly, tumbly tower to settle three small dragons for the night with songs and stories, water and kisses. Easy-to-read words and delightfully silly drawings—a treasure for both toddlers and beginning readers.

GROWING FROGS

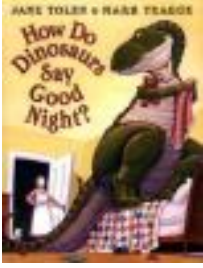
by Vivian French

illustrated by Alison Bartlett

Candlewick; ISBN: 0763603171; \$15.99;

In their kitchen, a girl and her mother observe tadpoles develop into frogs from spawn they gathered at a pond. Life-cycle information and advice in smaller type appear in sidebars and around the edges of the sunny acrylic paintings.





HOW DO DINOSAURS SAY GOOD NIGHT?

by Jane Yolen

illustrated by Mark Teague

Scholastic; ISBN: 0590316818; \$15.95;

Clever perspectives of expressive dinosaurs engage young readers as they discover the do's and don'ts of dinosaur bedtime in this rhyming text.

IN THE HOLLOW OF YOUR HAND: SLAVE LULLABIES

by Alice McGill

illustrated by Michael Cummings

Houghton Mifflin; ISBN: 0395857554; \$18;

African American slave lullabies were an expression of hope for a better future, sung with love to children who knew only hardship and bitterness. This unique collection, handsomely illustrated with quilt collages, includes a CD featuring McGill's rich voice.

KISS THE COW!

by Phyllis Root

illustrated by Will Hillenbrand

Candlewick; ISBN: 0763602981; \$15.99;

Curious and stubborn Annalisa refuses to kiss the cow, and the result is chaos and lots of "hungry, crying children." Milk flows again when lovely bovine Luella receives her kiss in this humorous, original folktale, perfect for reading aloud.

LAMBY LAMB

by Chris Raschka

Hyperion; ISBN: 0786806400; \$3.99;

Reverse psychology is cleverly employed in this small-sized offering for two-to-three-year-olds. Bold lines washed with muted colors provide a nice departure from standard toddler book art. Look for other titles in Raschka's appealing Thingy Things series.

LUCKY PENNIES AND HOT CHOCOLATE

by Carol Diggory Shields

illustrated by Hiroe Nakata

Dutton; ISBN: 0525464506; \$13.99;

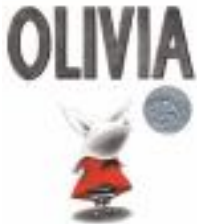
Cheerful watercolor drawings give a cozy, companionable look at the things the narrator and his favorite person, a lively grand-relation, like best to do together.

MAX

by Bob Graham

Candlewick; ISBN: 0763611387; \$15.99;

Max's parents, Madam Thunderbolt and Captain Lightning, are gently supportive when their Superbaby does not take to flying at an early age. Eventually, a baby bird in need of rescue gives Max a reason to soar.



OLIVIA

by Ian Falconer

Atheneum; ISBN: 0689829531; \$16;

The delightful, feisty porcine heroine Olivia is constantly on the move, building towering sand castles, imitating Jackson Pollack's paintings on her bedroom wall, or negotiating the number of books at bedtime.



ONE LIGHTHOUSE, ONE MOON

by Anita Lobel

Greenwillow; ISBN: 0688155391; \$15.95;

An ever-present cat and a girl observe the days, months and numbers one to ten. Rich with repeated images in deeply colored paintings.

PICTURE THIS

by Alison Jay

Dutton; ISBN: 0525463801; \$15.99;

Images from the crackle-glazed, muted-tone scenes on the antique clock pop up over and over again in varying perspectives that are connected from page to page.

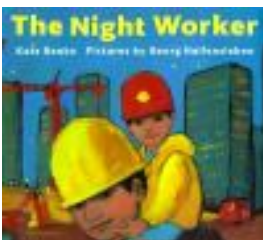
THE BABY BEEBEE BIRD

by Diane Redfield Massie

illustrated by Steven Kellogg

HarperCollins; ISBN: 0060280832; \$15.95;

There's someone new at the zoo—and his exuberant singing keeps all the animals awake until they teach him that "nighttime is really best for sleeping, especially for very little birds." This newly illustrated reissue of a storytime favorite is sure to elicit giggles.



THE NIGHT WORKER

by Kate Banks

illustrated by Georg Hallensleben

Frances Foster; ISBN: 0374355207; \$16;

The construction site shimmers with light and seems magically larger than life to young Alex when he accompanies his father to his night job.



THE RAFT

by Jim LaMarche

HarperCollins; ISBN: 0688139779; \$15.95;

Beautiful watercolors illustrate the story of a young boy, reluctantly spending the summer at his grandmother's house on the river, as he discovers the joys of exploration on the family raft.

VIRGIE GOES TO SCHOOL WITH US BOYS

by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard

illustrated by E.B. Lewis

Simon & Schuster; ISBN: 0689800762; \$16;

Even though her older brothers must walk seven miles to the only school that educates African American children, Virgie longs to join them. Historical fiction with universal child appeal.



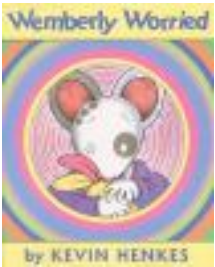
WAKE UP, HOUSE! ROOMS FULL OF POEMS

by Dee Lillegard

illustrated by Don Carter

Knopf; ISBN: 0679883517; \$12.95;

Remarkable three-dimensional illustrations using foam board, plaster and acrylic paints provide texture, depth and lots of child appeal. The short poems aptly describe ordinary places, objects and machines around the house.

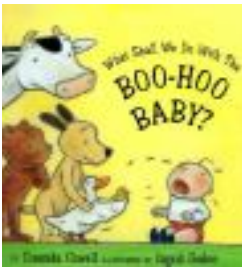


WEMBERLY WORRIED

by Kevin Henkes

Greenwillow; ISBN: 0688170277; \$15.95;

Wemberly, a small mouse who worries about everything, is only able to move beyond her fears when she realizes another child shares them. Watercolor and ink drawings express a multitude of emotions with a few deceptively simple lines.



WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE BOO-HOO BABY?

by Cressida Cowell

illustrated by Ingrid Godon

Scholastic; ISBN: 0439153115; \$15.95;

Cow, duck, bear and dog try everything they can think of to soothe Baby's prodigious tears.

[Welcome](#) | [1996](#) | [1997](#) | [1998](#) | [1999](#) | [2000](#) | [2001](#) | [2002](#) | [2003](#) | [2004](#) | [2005](#) | [2006](#) | [2007](#) | [2008](#) | [2009](#) | [2010 In Progress](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Search](#)

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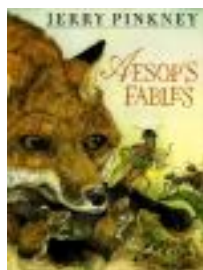
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Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

2000 Books for Ages Seven to Ten

Please click on a cover to see a larger image



AESOP'S FABLES

written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney

SeaStar; ISBN: 1587170000; \$19.95;

From "The Grasshopper and the Ants" to "The Dog and the Bone," all ages will enjoy these accomplished retellings of 61 traditional moral tales in large format. Lively pictures in detailed colored pencil and watercolor amuse and inform.



AMERICA'S CHAMPION SWIMMER: GERTRUDE EDERLE

by David A. Adler

illustrated by Terry Widener

Gulliver; ISBN: 0152019693; \$16;

Clear, lively text and clean acrylic paintings introduce young readers to the first woman to swim the English Channel. Women's social history is nicely interwoven in this out-of-the-mainstream picture-book biography.



ASTEROID IMPACT

by Douglas Henderson

Dial; ISBN: 0803725000; \$16.99;

Moment by moment the author recreates the probable events of 65 million years ago when an asteroid struck Earth, bringing death, extended winter, acid rain and global warming. Vividly imagined dramatic paintings.

BIG JABE

by Jerdine Nolen

illustrated by Kadir Nelson

Lothrop; ISBN: 0688136621; \$15.95;

In this original tall tale, a baby grows up to perform miraculous feats that help free the slaves on Plenty Plantation. Energetic illustrations help root the story in a particular time and place.

BROTHER SUN, SISTER MOON: THE LIFE AND STORIES OF ST. FRANCIS

by Margaret Mayo

illustrated by Peter Malone

Little, Brown; ISBN: 0316564664; \$16.95;

How the son of a wealthy merchant renounced his inheritance to form a religious order is recounted in carefully chosen words and illustrations that capture the spirit of St. Francis. His message of peace and joy permeates the book.

BUTTONS

by Brock Cole

Farrar, Straus & Giroux; ISBN: 0374310017; \$16;

Three dutiful yet feckless daughters set out to recover buttons to hold up their dear father's britches in an engaging romp full of enough traditional storytelling magic, humor, adventure and romance to delight both young and old.

CRAZY HORSE'S VISION

by Joseph Bruchac

illustrated by S. D. Nelson

Lee & Low Books; ISBN: 1880000946; \$16.95;

Native American artist S. D. Nelson uses his ancestors' traditional ledger-book style to illustrate the story of the compelling vision quest of a young boy who would grow up to be the legendary Lakota warrior.

DAYS LIKE THIS: A COLLECTION OF SMALL POEMS

illustrated by Simon James

selected by Simon James

Candlewick; ISBN: 0763608122; \$17.99;

The illustrations for this anthology of 19 tiny poems, joyously loose-limbed and drenched with color, illuminate the ordinary-sleeping outdoors, bouncing on the bed, watching rain-like slices of sunlight through the branches of a tree.

DIGGING FOR BIRD-DINOSAURS: AN EXPEDITION TO MADAGASCAR

by Nic Bishop

Houghton Mifflin; ISBN: 0395960568; \$16;

One of today's premier science photographers serves up a superior piece of science writing, allowing the reader a remarkable glimpse into the work of paleontologist Cathy Forster.



DINOSAURS AT THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: THE STORY OF THE CENTRAL ASIATIC EXPEDITIONS

by Brian Floca

DK Ink; ISBN: 0789425394; \$15.95;

"You have discovered-you are holding-an egg laid by a dinosaur."

Young George Olsen made a marvelous find on a Roy Chapman Andrews expedition to Mongolia in the 1920s. Full-page watercolor paintings in desert tones make the reader feel part of this incredible adventure.

FLY, EAGLE, FLY! AN AFRICAN TALE

by Christopher Gregorowski

illustrated by Niki Daly

Margaret McElderry; ISBN: 0689823983; \$16;

A farmer finds an eaglet and raises it as a chicken in this celebration of the human spirit and the need for each of us to "lift off and soar." Vibrant watercolor paintings in warm tones of earth and sky capture the essence of the parable.

GERSHON'S MONSTER: A STORY FOR THE JEWISH NEW YEAR

by Eric A. Kimmel

illustrated by Jon J. Muth

Scholastic; ISBN: 043910839X; \$16.95;

In this Jewish legend, Gershon sweeps his misdeeds into a bag and throws them into the sea. As the watercolors darken, a monster with scales made of Gershon's misdeeds rises from the sea and forces him to atone for his selfishness.



HENRY HIKES TO FITCHBURG

by D. B. Johnson

Houghton Mifflin; ISBN: 0395968674; \$15;

This picture book follows Henry and his friend as they travel the 30 miles to Fitchburg-by very different methods. Elements of time, distance, money and competition are gracefully introduced while bold illustrations sustain visual interest.



IF YOU EVER GET LOST: THE ADVENTURES OF JULIA AND EVAN

by Barbara Ann Porte

illustrated by Nancy Carpenter

Greenwillow; ISBN: 0688169473; \$15.95;

Small domestic incidents that make up children's lives are beautifully observed in this little gem that makes the ordinary engaging. The open format and short chapters are perfect for children just beginning to consolidate their reading skills.



KATE AND THE BEANSTALK

by Mary Pope Osborne

illustrated by Giselle Potter

Atheneum; ISBN: 0689825501; \$16;

Move over, Jack, and make room for Kate, a courageous, resourceful heroine. Effective use of line and perspective bring out the drama and wonder in this humorous retelling of a favorite tale.

LIBERTY

by Lynn Curlee

Atheneum; ISBN: 0689828233; \$18;

Oversize pages and bold acrylic paintings suit this fact-filled history of the design, construction, installation and renovation of the Statue of Liberty. Includes a timeline and the colossal lady's specifications.

LITTLE LIT: FOLKLORE & FAIRY TALE FUNNIES

edited by Art Spiegelman and Francoise Mouly

HarperCollins; ISBN: 0160286245; \$19.95;

Twelve familiar fairy tales (and more!) retold by an impressive collection of illustrators in the lighthearted, visually energetic style of comic books.

MAKING ANIMAL BABIES

by Sneed B. Collard, III

illustrated by Steve Jenkins

Houghton Mifflin; ISBN: 0395953170; \$16;

Using colorful paper collage illustrations and a straightforward style, this appealing book explains the various types of animal reproduction with both simple bold text and a more informative paragraph in smaller type.

MALCOLM X: A FIRE BURNING BRIGHTLY

by Walter Dean Myers

illustrated by Leonard Jenkins

HarperCollins; ISBN: 0060277076; \$15.95;

An often turbulent life shaped the young man who grew into the controversial Black Muslim leader. This concise biography presents Malcolm X through primary source material, a crisp text and rich paintings.

OPEN WIDE: TOOTH SCHOOL INSIDE

by Laurie Keller

Henry Holt; ISBN: 0805061924; \$16.95;

Join Sally Incisor, Conan Canine and the other teeth in Dr. Flossman's class, where lessons in dental hygiene make for laugh-out-loud fun. Dynamic acrylics and colorful collage art complement the wacky text.

RADIO RESCUE

by Lynne Barasch

Frances Foster; ISBN: 0374361665; \$16;

Wireless radio-the instant communication of its day-fascinates a young boy in New York who uses his knowledge and wits to rescue a family stranded by a flood in Florida in 1926.

SACRED PLACES

by Philemon Sturges

illustrated by Giles Laroche

Putnam; ISBN: 0399233172; \$16.99;

Manmade and natural places where people of different faiths worship, meditate, celebrate and hope are depicted in three-dimensional collage illustrations. Bold text presents an overview, while secondary text offers more specific information.

SATCHEL PAIGE

by Lesa Cline-Ransome

illustrated by James Ransome

Simon & Schuster; ISBN: 0689811519; \$16;

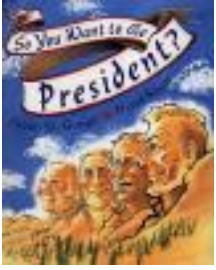
In an easy, conversational tone, the life of a legendary pitcher unfolds without moralizing or excuses. A wonderful palette breathes life into paintings filled with motion. A great read-aloud for dads (or moms) who love the history of the game of baseball.

SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE: THE MAN WHO DECIPHERED EGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHS

by James Rumford

Houghton Mifflin; ISBN: 039597934X; \$15;

From the time he was 11 years old, Jean-Francois Champollion dreamed of decoding Egyptian picture writing. Full-page watercolors and hieroglyphs scattered through text and margins decorate this picture-book biography of a man possessed by a single idea.



SO YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT?

by Judith St. George

illustrated by David Small

Philomel; ISBN: 0399234071; \$17.99;

Rollicking cartoon caricatures animate this clever collection of quirky tidbits and all-too-human facts about those 41 white males that we have come to know as "President."

THE COPPER TREASURE

by Melvin Burgess

illustrated by Richard Williams

Henry Holt; ISBN: 0805063811; \$15.95;

In the 1850s, danger and suspense accompany the attempt by three small boys to salvage a valuable roll of sheet copper from the bottom of the Thames River.

THE DOLL PEOPLE

by Ann M. Martin and Laura Godwin

Hyperion; ISBN: 0786803614; \$15.99;

Vivid descriptions, characters that truly come alive, mystery and suspense are wrapped up in this light fantasy in which a Victorian-era dollhouse family meets the modern plastic Funcraft family.

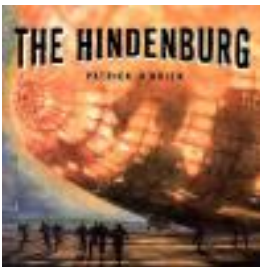
THE GIFT OF THE CROCODILE: A CINDERELLA STORY

by Judy Sierra

illustrated by Reynold Ruffins

Simon & Schuster; ISBN: 0689821883; \$17;

Luminous paintings reflect the Indonesian origins of this lively Cinderella tale in which a girl, through kindness to Grandmother Crocodile, earns a silver sarong, escapes a cruel stepmother and stepsister, and wins a prince.



THE HINDENBURG

by Patrick O'Brien

Henry Holt; ISBN: 080506415X; \$17;

Dirigibles were invented in 1900 and flew in World War I, but a tragic crash in 1937 ended this amazing form of flight forever. Watercolor and gouache paintings recreate the times and enlarge upon this simple, clear history.

THE ROYAL BEE

by Frances Park and Ginger Park
illustrated by Christopher Zhong-Yuan Zhang
Boyd's Mills; ISBN: 1563976145; \$15.95;
Song-ho overcomes poverty in his 19th century Korean village by attending school and winning the Royal Bee. Warm paintings create an authentic setting to complement this story of courage, based on the life of the authors' grandfather.

THE SHIPWRECKED SAILOR: AN EGYPTIAN TALE WITH HIEROGLYPHS

by Tamara Bower
Atheneum; ISBN: 0689830467; \$17;
"I was sailing the Red Sea on a great ship...bound for the gold mines of Nubia" begins this Middle Kingdom adventure that combines lively language with authentic illustrations, decorative borders, and helpful notes about Egyptian symbols and hieroglyphs.

THE STORY OF THE INCREDIBLE ORCHESTRA: AN INTRODUCTION TO MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND THE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

by Bruce Koscielniak
Houghton Mifflin; ISBN: 0395960525; \$15;
Packed with facts about instrument families and music periods, this lively chronicle covers the symphony orchestra from its inception in 1597 to present times. Ink and watercolor drawings supplement the information in the text.

THE TRUTH ABOUT GREAT WHITE SHARKS

by Mary M. Cerullo
illustrated by Michael Wertz
photographed by Jeffrey L. Rotman
Chronicle; ISBN: 0811824675; \$14.95;
The truth is, these huge, sharp-toothed sharks DO attack humans- but they tend to spit us out again. Packed with photos, art, good science and lots of fun facts about one of the world's most awesome animals.

THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ: A COMMEMORATIVE POP-UP

by L. Frank Baum

illustrated by Robert Sabuda

Little Simon; ISBN: 0689817517; \$24.95;

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of this American classic! Put on your spectacles and be astonished by the Emerald City, the Yellow Brick Road and every illustration that "pops up" on each page of the abridged text.



THE YEAR OF MISS AGNES

by Kirkpatrick Hill

Margaret McElderry; ISBN: 0689829337; \$16;

An unconventional teacher who wears pants and doesn't mind the smell of fish inspires children in an Athabascan Indian village in 1948 Alaska by playing opera, reading stories of Robin Hood, and celebrating their art and culture.

[Welcome](#) | [1996](#) | [1997](#) | [1998](#) | [1999](#) | [2000](#) | [2001](#) | [2002](#) | [2003](#) | [2004](#) | [2005](#) | [2006](#) | [2007](#) | [2008](#) | [2009](#) | [2010 In Progress](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Search](#)

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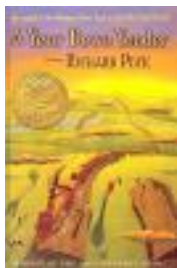
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2000 Books for Ages Ten to Fourteen

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A YEAR DOWN YONDER

by Richard Peck

Dial; ISBN: 0613579348; \$16.99;

Fifteen-year-old Mary Alice returns to spend a year with her formidable Grandma Dowdel. The hardships of the 1937 recession, colorful small-town characters, humorous events-often orchestrated by Grandma-and poignant moments combine to provide a heartwarming story.

AT THE SIGN OF THE STAR

by Katherine Sturtevant

Farrar, Straus & Giroux; ISBN: 0374304491; \$16;

In Restoration London, the odds against 12-year-old Meg realizing her dream-to eventually inherit and run her widowed father's bookshop-are further complicated by his remarriage and the birth of an heir.



BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE

by Kate DiCamillo

Candlewick; ISBN: 0763607762; \$15.99;

In this warm, straightforward novel about the redemptive power of friendship and memory, 10-year-old India Opal Buloni adopts a large stray dog whose grinning affability helps her reach out to other people in her new town.



DOVEY COE

by Frances O'Rourke Dowell

Atheneum; ISBN: 0689831749; \$16;

Wealthy Parnell Caraway-the would-be suitor of lovely Caroline Coe-is found murdered and younger sister Dovey is under suspicion in this tautly constructed novel set in rural North Carolina in 1928.



ESPERANZA RISING

by Pam Muñoz Ryan

ISBN: 0439120411; \$15.95;

Spoiled, self-centered Esperanza loses her father, wealth and easy Mexican life and starts over as a California farm worker in the 1930s. Spanish words and magical realism grace this expansive, readable novel that is written from the heart.

FRANK O. GEHRY: OUTSIDE IN

by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan

DK Ink; ISBN: 0789426773; \$19.95;

An exciting and challenging format-quotes, reminiscences about his early years in Canada, his sketches, and photographs of his works-presents Gehry's forward-thinking views of architecture, the creative process and life.



GIVE ME LIBERTY!: THE STORY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

by Russell Freedman

Holiday House; ISBN: 0823414485; \$24.95;

In a seamless narrative that gives meaning and perspective to the times, the author describes the people and events that led to the Declaration of Independence. Illustrated with well-chosen paintings and historic documents.



GOLD DUST

by Chris Lynch

HarperCollins; ISBN: 006028174X; \$15.95;

Richard Riley Moncrief knows the rules for baseball, but the rules for living in racially charged 1975 Boston remain a mystery, jeopardizing his friendship with Napoleon Charlie Ellis, and risking his chance to set up his own version of the famous Red Sox duo, the Gold Dust Twins.

IDA B. WELLS: MOTHER OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

by Dennis Brindell Fradin and Judith Bloom Fradin

Clarion; ISBN: 0395898986; \$18;

Marked by fiery dedication and tireless energy, Ida B. Wells' anti-lynching crusade consumed her life even as her tendency to refuse compromises and offend supporters undermined her cause. A complex and absorbing portrait of this heroic woman.



MEMORIES OF SUMMER

by Ruth White

ISBN: 0374349452; \$16;

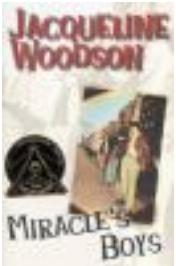
Torn between love, anger and embarrassment, a younger sister watches helplessly as her older sibling spirals downward into schizophrenia in this lyrical novel set against the gritty backdrop of Flint, Michigan, in the 1950s.

MICHELANGELO

by Diane Stanley

HarperCollins; ISBN: 0688150853; \$15.95;

The fascinating life of perhaps the greatest Renaissance artist is presented in picture-book format through an immensely readable and lively text, detailed historical research, and dramatic and expressive illustrations.



MIRACLE'S BOYS

by Jacqueline Woodson

Putnam; ISBN: 0399231137; \$15.99;

In one emotionally charged weekend, three brothers must decide the paths their lives will take. This moving yet simple book handles the issue of family ties with eloquent writing and dialogue that hooks readers.

NIGHT GARDEN: POEMS FROM THE WORLD OF DREAMS

by Janet S. Wong

illustrated by Julie Paschkis

Margaret McElderry; ISBN: 0689826176; \$16;

Fifteen vivid poems evoke familiar dream images, from scary to confusing to comical. Full-color paintings set off against backgrounds of surreal gouache patterns echo the words and recreate the fertile nighttime gardens of the mind.

OSCEOLA: MEMORIES OF A SHARECROPPER'S DAUGHTER

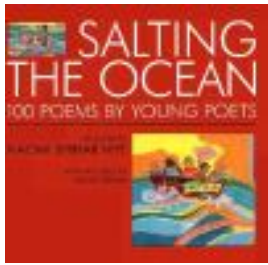
illustrated by Shane W. Evans

edited by Alan Govenar

collected by Alan Govenar

Jump at the Sun; ISBN: 0786804076; \$15.99;

Engrossing reminiscences of African American life in the segregated South provide insights into a strong woman's life after emancipation and offer children the gift of oral history through the strong narrative voice of 91-year-old Osceola Mays.



SALTING THE OCEAN: 100 POEMS BY YOUNG POETS

illustrated by Ashley Bryan

selected by Naomi Shihab Nye

Greenwillow; ISBN: 0688161936; \$16.95;

Young people writing about the things they know, from their families to their thoughts and feelings.



SILENT TO THE BONE

by E. L. Konigsburg

ISBN: 0689836015; \$16;

When Branwell Zamborska is struck dumb by an accident to his baby half-sister, only his friend Connor can communicate with him. As the mystery of the accident unfolds, both boys must confront deeply buried feelings of abandonment and newly awakened sexual thoughts.

SPACE RACE

by Sylvia Waugh

Delacorte; ISBN: 0385327668; \$15.95;

Themes of familial love, friendship and isolation are explored as aliens Thomas and his father, separated by an accident, attempt to relocate one another in time to board their spaceship and return home.



STAR IN THE STORM

by Joan Hiatt Harlow

Margaret McElderry; ISBN: 0689829051; \$16;

Set in a 1912 Newfoundland fishing village, this is old-fashioned in all the best ways: a page-turning plot; a likable heroine facing tough choices with courage and humor; loving, principled parents; and a great dog, in both size and heart.



STARGIRL

by Jerry Spinelli

Knopf; ISBN: 0679886370; \$15.95;

Stargirl Carroway is the spirited, eccentric new-girl-in-school in this bittersweet tale about the price of nonconformity, the fleeting nature of popularity and the heartbreak of first love.

STOWAWAY

by Karen Hesse

Margaret McElderry; ISBN: 0689839871; \$17.95;

In 1768, 11-year-old Nicholas Young stowed away aboard Captain James Cook's ship, the Endeavor, and sailed into history on a remarkable voyage. Nick's fictionalized journal covers dangers encountered from weather, cannibals, the Great Barrier Reef and typhoid fever.



THE BOXER

by Kathleen Karr

Farrar, Straus & Giroux; ISBN: 0374309213; \$16;

Readers will root for 15-year-old Johnny Woods as he uses his boxing talent to better the lives of his mother and five younger siblings on New York's Lower East Side in 1885.

THE LONGITUDE PRIZE

by Joan Dash

illustrated by Dusan Petricic

Frances Foster; ISBN: 0374346364; \$16;

A fully dimensional portrait of John Harrison, a village carpenter, who spent almost his entire working life-nearly 60 years-building four increasingly accurate clocks in order to solve the mystery of longitude and win an extraordinary prize.

THE SHAMAN'S NEPHEW: A LIFE IN THE FAR NORTH

by Simon Tookoome and Sheldon Oberman

Stoddart Kids; ISBN: 0773732004; \$18.95;

The words of Simon Tookoome, "one of the last Inuit to live the traditional nomadic life in the Far North," are paired with his own naïve illustrations to present a fascinating picture of a lifestyle and a culture few children can imagine.

THE WANDERER

by Sharon Creech

HarperCollins; ISBN: 0060277300; \$15.95;

Like three-sided Sophie, alternating journal entries and occasional sketches form a chronicle of this trans-Atlantic adventure incorporating multiple viewpoints that gradually reveal the truth of a child's mysterious past. Language rich with images is as the sea itself.



TORN THREAD

by Anne Isaacs

Scholastic; ISBN: 0590603639; \$15.95;

Two sisters sent to work in a German textile factory in Czechoslovakia in the closing days of World War II discover that there are many ways to define courage.

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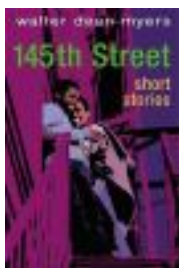
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Capitol Choices

Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

2000 Books for Ages Fourteen and Up

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145TH STREET: SHORT STORIES

by Walter Dean Myers

Delacorte; ISBN: 0385321376; \$15.95;

Authentic voices portray a wide range of emotions that weave together the fabric of a community. Without one false step, Myers creates short stories that will leave the reader knowing how life is lived on 145th Street.



ANGUS, THONGS AND FULL-FRONTAL SNOGGING: CONFESSIONS OF GEORGIA NICOLSON

by Louise Rennison

ISBN: 0064472272; \$15.95;

Presents the humorous journal of a year in the life of a fourteen-year-old British girl who tries to reduce the size of her nose, stop her mad cat from terrorizing the neighborhood animals, and win the love of handsome hunk Robbie.



BEAST

by Donna Jo Napoli

ISBN: 0689835892; \$17;

Cursed for violating religious custom, Prince Orasmyn must reconcile himself to living inside the body of the beast he has become while struggling to maintain some piece of his humanity in this sensual retelling of the classic fairy tale.



FORGOTTEN FIRE

by Adam Bagdasarian

ISBN: 0789426277; \$17.95;

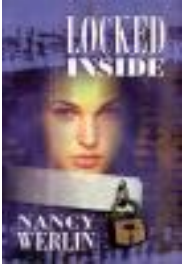
In 1915, 12-year-old Vahan Kenderian's privileged existence is turned upside down in the most brutal and horrific ways in this uncompromising novel of the Armenian genocide.

LIFE IS FUNNY

by E. R. Frank

DK Ink; ISBN: 078942634X; \$17.95;

Seven years of realistic vignettes about the gritty, not-so-funny, intertwining lives of 11 teenagers growing up in Brooklyn today. Tough street talk and painful stories belie the goodness that shines through.



LOCKED INSIDE

by Nancy Werlin

Delacorte; ISBN: 0385327005; \$15.95;

This thoughtful thriller pits two teenage gamers against a dangerous, disturbed kidnapper. Locked in a windowless cellar without spellbook or invisibility cloak, they have only a canvas cot, blanket and seltzer bottle to outsmart their captor.

MANY STONES

by Carolyn Coman

Front Street; ISBN: 1886910553; \$15.95;

In this wrenching exploration of an older sister's death, younger daughter Berry visits South Africa with her estranged father and confronts not only the devastation wreaked by political apartheid but also the tragedies within a family that create apartheid of the heart.



PEDRO AND ME: FRIENDSHIP, LOSS, AND WHAT I LEARNED

by Judd Winick

Henry Holt; ISBN: 061331574X; \$15;

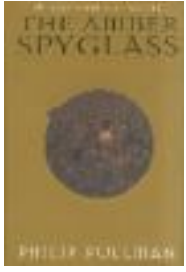
In this provocative cartoon memoir, a struggling artist recounts his experience on MTV's Real World as roommate to HIV positive AIDS educator Pedro Zamora. Important and useful information about the disease is presented in the context of a life-changing friendship.

SIR WALTER RALEGH AND THE QUEST FOR EL DORADO

by Marc Aronson

Clarion; ISBN: 039584827X; \$20;

This luxuriantly detailed account of Raleigh's life-courtier, general, explorer, quester for El Dorado, overseer of the Irish-and death (he was executed as a traitor) is also a fully dimensional portrait of the Elizabethan period.



THE AMBER SPYGLASS

by Philip Pullman

Knopf; ISBN: 0679879269; \$19.95;

The final volume of His Dark Materials weaves into whole cloth the loose threads of the previous two novels. While Pullman's conclusions will not satisfy all readers, and may offend many, they provide a fitting ending to this outstanding trilogy.



THE QUEEN OF ATTOLIA

by Megan Whalen Turner

Greenwillow; ISBN: 068817423X; \$15.95;

A powerful sequel to "The Thief" that combines adventure, political intrigue, diplomacy and romance wrapped up in an exploration of the nature of sacrifice.

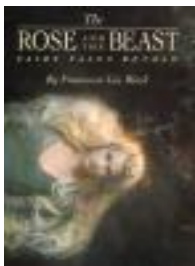


THE QUEEN'S OWN FOOL: A NOVEL OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

by Jane Yolen and Robert Harris

Philomel; ISBN: 0399233806; \$19.99;

The reign of Mary Queen of Scots comes alive with distinctively drawn characters in this clever story told from the perspective of Nicola, the Queen's fool. Power, politics and court intrigue test the degree of Nicola's honesty with the Queen but never her loyalty.



THE ROSE AND THE BEAST: FAIRY TALES RETOLD

by Francesca Lia Block

HarperCollins; ISBN: 0060281294; \$14.95;

Nine time-honored stories retold in imaginative, sensual prose that blends the conventional with the contemporary and the beastly with the beautiful. Astonishing cover art personifies the duality of the stories.

YEAR OF THE GRIFFIN

by Diana Wynne Jones

Greenwillow; ISBN: 0688178987; \$15.95;

The freshman class at down-at-the-heels Wizards' University copes with incompetent professors by teaching itself, repulses assassins, and sends Chairman Corcoran on a misfiring moon flight in this smart, funny fantasy spoof that is the sequel to Dark Lord of Derkholm.

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Capitol Choices

Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

2000 Audio Books Too Good To Miss

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ALL ALONE IN THE UNIVERSE

by Lynne Rae Perkins

narrated by Hope Davis

Listening Library; ISBN: 0807282529; \$18;

At 13, there is nothing worse than being dumped by your best friend. The narrator's youthfully expressive voice perfectly captures Debbie's anguish at this horrendous event, even as she relates the many small and funny happenings of Debbie's difficult year.



BAT 6

by Virginia Euwer Wolff

narrated by a full cast

Listening Library; ISBN: 0553526634; \$22;

Oregon, 1949, and preparations are underway for the annual Bat 6 softball game. Shazam, whose father died at Pearl Harbor, is on a collision course with Japanese American Aki. From both teams, each player takes her turn at telling the story of the events leading up to the fateful game with joy, rage, passion and bewilderment, all deftly rendered by the young voices of the narrators.



DAVE AT NIGHT (AUDIO)

by Gail Carson Levine

narrated by Jason Harris

Listening Library; ISBN: 0807282456; \$25;

Eleven-year-old orphan Dave's daytime life turns on the neglect and cruelty of The Hebrew Home for Boys, but at night the resilient boy escapes with the elderly Solly, the Gonif, to the excitement and energy of the Harlem Renaissance. This fully voiced reading skillfully portrays both the pathos and humor of Dave's divergent worlds.



HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE [AUDIOBOOK]

by J. K. Rowling

narrated by Jim Dale

ISBN: 0807282588; \$39.95;

Jim Dale proves again that he is firmly in control of all of the characters peopling Harry's world in the latest recorded offerings of the ongoing saga of life at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN [AUDIOBOOK]

by J. K. Rowling

narrated by Jim Dale

Listening Library; ISBN: 0807282316; \$35;

Jim Dale proves again that he is firmly in control of all of the characters peopling Harry's world in the latest recorded offerings of the ongoing saga of life at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

KIT'S WILDERNESS

by David Almond

narrated by Charles Keating

Listening Library; ISBN: 0553502425; \$22;

A multi-layered tale about the power of story to change lives. In startlingly visual fashion, Keating's deep, dark voice takes the listener over the landscape of a British mining village, down into the pit, and back across the centuries with a prehistoric boy whose story mingles with those of contemporary children struggling to find their place in the adult world.

MATILDA BONE [AUDIO]

by Karen Cushman

narrated by Janet McTeer

Listening Library; ISBN: 0807261769; \$22;

The colorful world of medieval England comes to life in humorous and fascinating detail in this fully voiced reading as the pious and self-centered orphan, Matilda, learns compassion and humility as assistant to Red Peg, the village bonesetter.

MONSTER

by Walter Dean Myers

narrated by Peter Francis James

Recorded Books; ISBN: 0788745646; \$32;

Budding high school filmmaker Steve Harmon-awaiting trial for murder-writes a screenplay to determine his guilt as perceived by him and others. Is he a victim of circumstances or a monster? James adroitly manages to play all of the characters in the script, at the same time reminding the listener that this is all playing out in Steve's head.



NORY RYAN'S SONG

by Patricia Reilly Giff

narrated by Susan Lynch

Listening Library; ISBN: 0807261637; \$22;

When Ireland's potato crop fails, young Nory must use cleverness to save her sisters and her neighbors from death in the famine.

SAMMY KEYES AND THE HOTEL THIEF

by Wendelin Van Draanen

narrated by Tara Sands

Live Oak Media; ISBN: 0874996929; \$23.95;

Redoubtable seventh-grader Samantha Keyes lives illegally in a seniors-only building with her grandmother and has great powers to observe and sleuth as well as to irritate and annoy. Sands, whose characters are executed with delightful stereotyping, reads this over-the-top mystery fare in an equally over-the-top manner.

SAMMY KEYES AND THE SKELETON MAN

by Wendelin Van Draanen

narrated by Tara Sands

Live Oak Media; ISBN: 0874996996; \$23.95;

Redoubtable seventh-grader Samantha Keyes lives illegally in a seniors-only building with her grandmother and has great powers to observe and sleuth as well as to irritate and annoy. Sands, whose characters are executed with delightful stereotyping, reads this over-the-top mystery fare in an equally over-the-top manner.



SPEAK (AUDIOBOOK)

by Laurie Halse Anderson

narrated by Mandy Siegfried

Listening Library; ISBN: 0807282642; \$22;

Melinda Sorvino has become almost mute and increasingly isolated as the result of a traumatic event at an end-of-summer party and the shunning by her peers. Mandy Siegfried's flat rendering of Melinda's interior voice, filled with sardonic humor, makes this a compelling listening experience.

THE SMUGGLERS

by Iain Lawrence

narrated by Ron Keith

Recorded Books; ISBN: 0788742426; \$37;

Storms at sea, smugglers, murder, mystery and intrigue-these adventure stories have it all. Ron Keith navigates cruelty and despair with subtle nuance, bringing the characters to life with his meticulous interpretation of their accents, genders and ages.

THE SUBTLE KNIFE

by Philip Pullman

narrated by Philip Pullman and a full cast

Listening Library; ISBN: 0807281859; \$35;

The second book in His Dark Materials features stunning performances by Pullman and the cast, many of whom reprise their roles from the recorded edition of *The Golden Compass*. The voice of Will is perfectly poised on the brink of adolescence and stands in steely contrast to the bold, flamboyant rendering of Lyra's character.

THE WRECKERS (AUDIO BOOK)

by Iain Lawrence

narrated by Ron Keith

Recorded Books; ISBN: 0788740083; \$37;

Storms at sea, smugglers, murder, mystery and intrigue-these adventure stories have it all. Ron Keith navigates cruelty and despair with subtle nuance, bringing the characters to life with his meticulous interpretation of their accents, genders and ages.

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