

NEWBERRY AWARDS



The Crossover

by Alexander, Kwame Book – 2014

"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering," announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood.

Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.



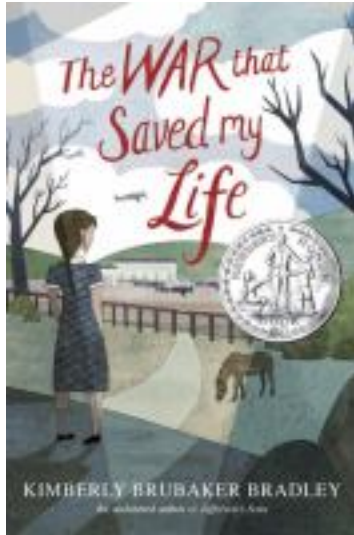
Merci Suárez Changes Gears

by Medina, Meg Book – 2018

Thoughtful, strong-willed sixth-grader Merci Suarez navigates difficult changes with friends, family, and everyone in between in a resonant new novel from Meg Medina.

Merci Suarez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just how different. For starters, Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school in Florida, because she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. They don't have a big house or a fancy boat, and they have to do extra community service to make up for their free tuition. So when bossy Edna Santos sets her sights on the new boy who happens to be Merci's school-assigned Sunshine Buddy, Merci becomes the target of Edna's jealousy. Things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather and most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely lately — forgetting important things, falling from his bike, and getting angry over nothing. No one in her family will tell Merci what's going on, so she's left to her own worries, while also feeling all on her own at school. In a coming-of-age tale full of humor and wisdom, award-winning author Meg Medina gets to the heart of the confusion and constant change that defines middle school — and the steadfast connection that defines family.

AWARD WINNING CHAPTER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS For Grade 5-7



The War That Saved My Life

by Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. Book – 2015

Ten-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute—she sneaks out to join him.

So begins a new adventure of Ada, and for Susan Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in. As Ada teaches herself to ride a pony, learns to read, and watches for German spies, she begins to trust Susan—and Susan begins to love Ada and Jamie. But in the end, will their bond be enough to hold them together through wartime? Or will Ada and her brother fall back into the cruel hands of their mother?

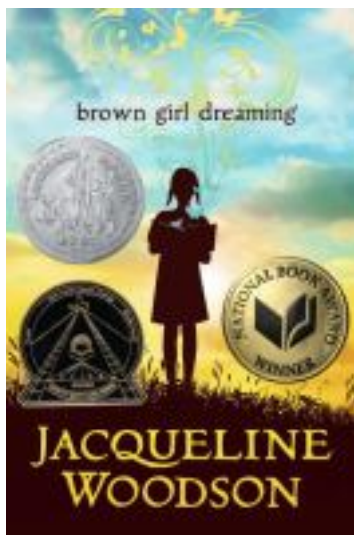


Roller Girl

by Jamieson, Victoria Book – 2015

For fans of Raina Telgemeier's *Smile*, a heartwarming graphic novel about friendship and surviving junior high through the power of roller derby.

Twelve-year-old Astrid has always done everything with her best friend Nicole. So when Astrid signs up for roller derby camp, she assumes Nicole will too. But Nicole signs up for dance camp with a new friend instead, and so begins the toughest summer of Astrid's life. There are bumps and bruises as Astrid learns who she is without Nicole...and what it takes to be a strong, tough roller girl.

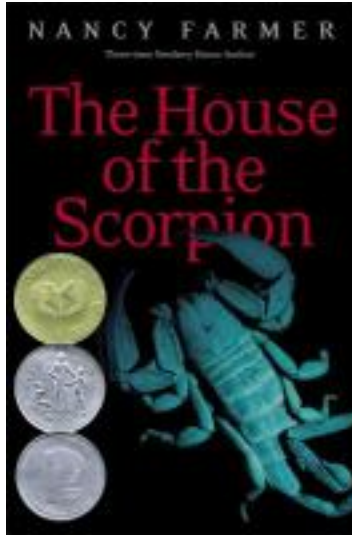


Brown Girl Dreaming

by Woodson, Jacqueline Book – 2014

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.

AWARD WINNING CHAPTER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS For Grade 5-7



The House of the Scorpion

by Farmer, Nancy Book – 2002

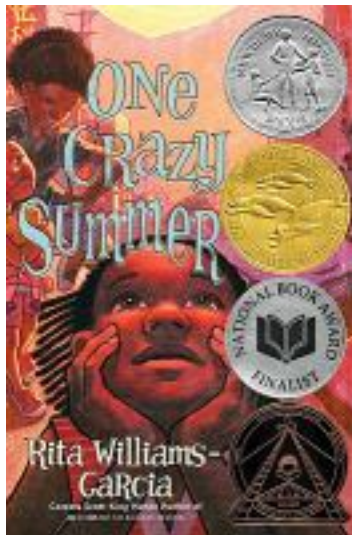
With undertones of vampires, Frankenstein, dragons' hoards, and killing fields, Matt's story turns out to be an inspiring tale of friendship, survival, hope, and transcendence. A must-read for teenage fantasy fans.

At his coming-of-age party, Matteo Alacrán asks El Patrón's bodyguard, "How old am I?...I know I don't have a birthday like humans, but I was born."

"You were harvested," Tam Lin reminds him. "You were grown in that poor cow for nine months and then you were cut out of her."

To most people around him, Matt is not a boy, but a beast. A room full of chicken litter with roaches for friends and old chicken bones for toys is considered good enough for him. But for El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium—a strip of poppy fields lying between the U.S. and what was once

called Mexico—Matt is a guarantee of eternal life. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself for Matt is himself. They share identical DNA.



One Crazy Summer

by Williams-Garcia, Rita Book – 2010

In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.

In a humorous and breakout book by Williams-Garcia, the Penderwicks meet the Black Panthers.

AWARD WINNING CHAPTER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS For Grade 5-7

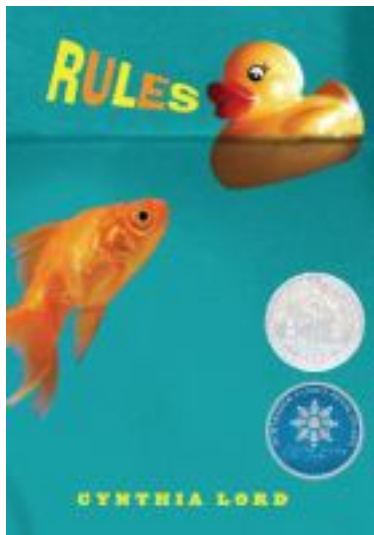


The Dark Is Rising

by Cooper, Susan Book – 1973

"When the Dark comes rising, six shall turn it back, three from the circle, three from the track; wood, bronze, iron; water, fire, stone; five will return, and one go alone."

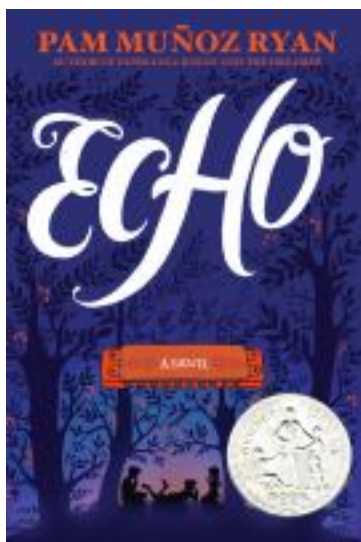
With these mysterious words, Will Stanton discovers on his 11th birthday that he is no mere boy. He is the Sign-Seeker, last of the immortal Old Ones, destined to battle the powers of evil that trouble the land. His task is monumental: he must find and guard the six great Signs of the Light, which, when joined, will create a force strong enough to match and perhaps overcome that of the Dark. Embarking on this endeavor is dangerous as well as deeply rewarding; Will must work within a continuum of time and space much broader than he ever imagined.



Rules

by Lord, Cynthia. Book – 2006

Twelve-year-old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules-from "a peach is not a funny-looking apple" to "keep your pants on in public"-in order to stop his embarrassing behaviors. But the summer Catherine meets Jason, a paraplegic boy, and Kristi, the next-door friend she's always wished for, it's her own shocking behavior that turns everything upside down and forces her to ask: What is normal?



Echo

by Ryan, Pam Muñoz. Book - 2015

Lost and alone in a forbidden forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica.

Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each, in turn, become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. And ultimately, pulled by the invisible thread of destiny, their solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo.

RED CEDAR AWARDS

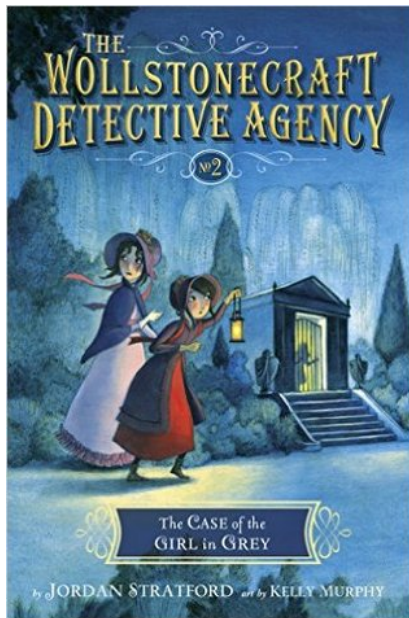


Book Uncle and Me

by Uma Krishnaswami (Anansi/Groundwood)

Nine-year-old Yasmin intends to read a book a day for the rest of her life. Book Uncle, who runs a free lending library on the street corner, always has the perfect book for her. But when Book Uncle seems to be in trouble, Yasmin has to take her nose out of her book and do something.

With the elections coming up and the grown-ups busy with their own affairs, what difference can Yasmin and her friends possibly make? Will they get help from Karate Samuel, the eccentric superstar who's standing for Mayor? Yasmin gets to work, ideas begin to fly like feathers, and soon everything starts to spin out of control.



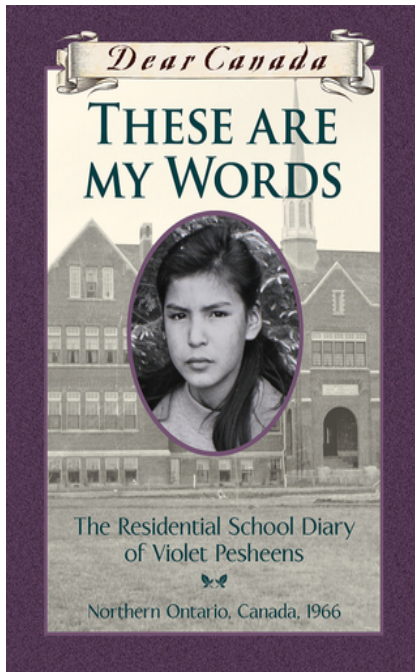
The Case of the Girl in Grey

by Jordan Stratford, art by Kelly Murphy (Knopf)

This history-mystery series continues with another fine display of brains and bravery from the Wollstonecraft Girls—Ada Bryon Lovelace and Mary Shelley. The Wollstonecraft Detective Agency was supposed to be a secret constabulary, but after the success of their first case (*The Case of the Missing Moonstone*), all of London knows that Lady Ada and Mary are the girls to go to if you have a problem.

Their new case is a puzzle indeed. It involves a horrible hospital, a missing will, a hasty engagement, and a suspiciously slippery servant. But Mary has stumbled onto a mystery of her own. She spotted a ghostly girl in a grey gown dashing through the park. A girl who is the spitting image of their new client.

The two cases must be linked . . . or else there's a perfectly supernatural explanation.



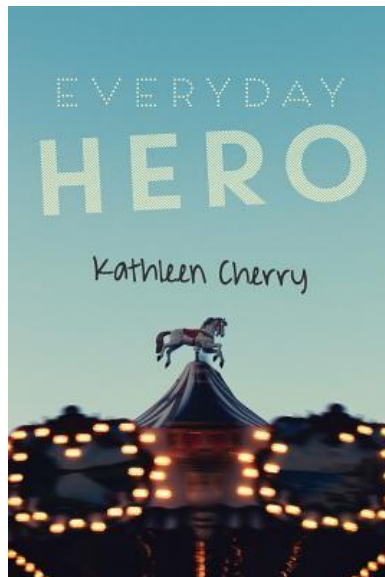
Dear Canada: These Are My Words

by Ruby Slipperjack (Scholastic)

Violet Pesheen is struggling to adjust to her new life at Residential School. She misses her Grandma; she has run-ins with Cree girls; at her “white” school, everyone just stares; and everything she brought has been taken from her, including her name—she is now just a number. But worst of all, she has a fear. A fear of forgetting the things she treasures most: her Anishnabe language; the names of those she knew before; and her traditional customs. A fear of forgetting who she was.

Her notebook is the one place she can record all of her worries, and heartbreaks, and memories. And maybe, just maybe there will be hope at the end of the tunnel.

Drawing from her own experiences at Residential School, Ruby Slipperjack creates a brave, yet heartbreaking heroine in Violet, and lets young readers glimpse into an all-too important chapter in our nation’s history.



Everyday Hero

by Kathleen Cherry (Orca)

Alice doesn't like noise, smells or strangers. She does like rules. Lots of rules. Nobody at her new school knows she has Asperger's, so it doesn't take long for her odd behavior to get her into trouble. When she meets Megan in detention, she doesn't know what to make of her. Megan doesn't smell, she's not terribly noisy, and she's not exactly a stranger, but is she a friend? Megan seems fearless to Alice--but also angry or maybe sad. Alice isn't sure which. When Megan decides to run away, Alice resolves to help her friend, no matter how many rules she has to break or how bad it makes her feel



Heart of a Champion

by Ellen Schwartz (Tundra)

Ten-year-old Kenny (Kenji in Japanese) worships his older brother, Mickey (Mitsuo), a baseball hero whose outstanding performance on the Asahi baseball team has given him fame and popularity. Despite Kenny's suspected heart condition, he is determined to practice secretly with Mickey so he, too, can one day try out for the Asahi. But world events soon overtake life in this quiet community. When Japan attacks Pearl Harbor in 1941, everything for Kenny and his family spirals out of control: schools are closed, businesses are confiscated, fathers are arrested and sent to work camps in the BC interior and mothers and children are relocated to internment camps. When Mickey is arrested for a small act of violence, Kenny manages to keep his family's spirits up, despite the deplorable conditions in camp. Coming across a "vacant" field covered with scrap wood, broken shakes and torn tar paper, Kenny gets permission to clear it and convert it into a baseball field. One by one, the boys in the camp

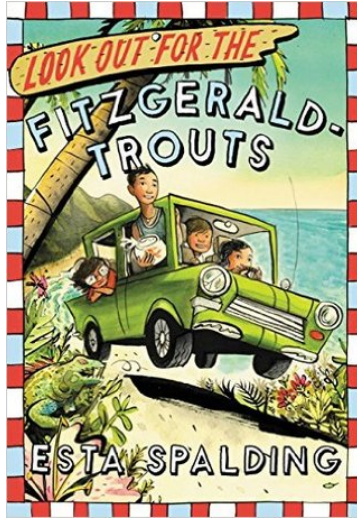
pitch in, and the work gives purpose to their long days. Kenny's persistence, hard work and big dreams shape the teen he is to become in this story of happiness found despite all odds.



Howard Wallace, P.I.

by Casey Lyall (Sterling)

Twelve-year-old Howard Wallace lives by his list of rules of private investigation. He knows more than anyone how to work with what he's got: a bathrobe for a trench coat, a makeshift office behind the school equipment shed, and not much else—least of all, friends. So when a hot case of blackmail lands on his desk, he's ready to take it on himself . . . until the new kid, Ivy Mason, convinces him to take her on as a junior partner. As they banter through stakeouts and narrow down their list of suspects, Howard starts to wonder if having Ivy as a sidekick—and a friend—is such a bad thing after all.



Look Out for the Fitzgerald-Trouts

by Esta Spalding, illustrated by Sydney Smith (Tundra)

Kim Fitzgerald-Trout took to driving with ease--as most children would if their parents would ever let them try. She had to. After all, she and her siblings live in a car.

Meet the Fitzgerald-Trouts, a band of four loosely related children living together in a lush tropical island. They take care of themselves. They sleep in their car, bathe in the ocean, eat fish they catch and fruit they pick, and can drive anywhere they need to go--to the school, the laundromat, or the drive-in. If they put their minds to it, the Fitzgerald-Trouts can do anything. Even, they hope, find a real home.



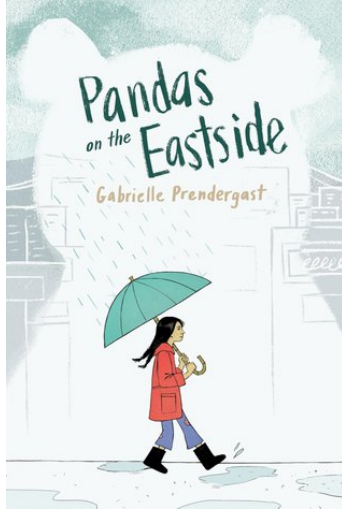
Magic Animal Adoption Agency 3: The Missing Magic

by Kallie George, illustrated by Alexandra Boiger (HarperCollins Canada)

A new volunteer has joined the Magical Animal Adoption Agency, and Clover's not too happy about it! Oliver Von Hoof is supposed to be an expert on magical animals, but he's barely older than Clover. How can he be an expert on *anything*? And it doesn't help that Mr. Jams keeps turning to Oliver instead of Clover for help with the animals.

When Mr. Jams is called away from the Agency on a secret mission, Clover and Oliver are put in charge of the Agency once again. But when Picnic the invisible puppy starts turning visible, and the Agency's green cat, Dipity, begins to look white, Clover and Oliver realize that all of the amazing creatures are becoming

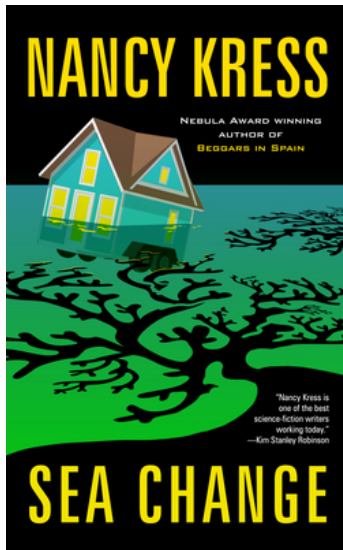
ordinary. Even Oliver's trusty magical wands aren't enough to cure them! Will Oliver and Clover learn to work together in time to restore the animals' magical powers?



Pandas on the Eastside

by Gabrielle Prendergast (Orca)

When ten-year-old Journey Song hears that two pandas are being held in a warehouse in her neighborhood, she worries that they may be hungry, cold and lonely. Horrified to learn that the pandas, originally destined for a zoo in Washington, might be shipped back to China because of a diplomatic spat between China and the United States, Journey rallies her friends and neighbors on the poverty-stricken Eastside. Her infectious enthusiasm for all things panda is hard to resist, and soon she's getting assistance from every corner of her tight-knit neighborhood



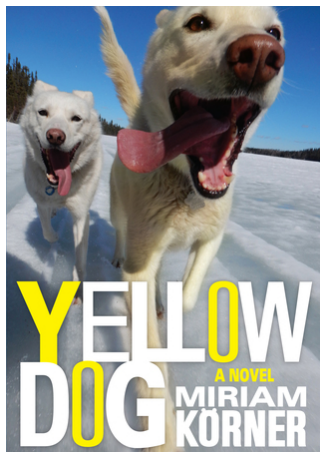
Sea Change

by Frank Viva (Tundra)

In 2022, GMOs were banned after a biopharmed drug caused the Catastrophe: worldwide economic collapse, agricultural standstill, and personal tragedy for a lawyer and her son. Ten years later, Renata, a.k.a. Caroline Denton, is an operative of the Org, an underground group that could save the world from itself. Their illegal research is performed and protected by splinter cells, which are hunted by the feds.

Now a mole is in the Org. Who would put the entire Org in jeopardy? Renata is the only one who can find out--and she will need to go to her clients in the Quinault Nation for answers.

Nancy Kress (*Beggars in Spain, Yesterday's Kin*) once again delivers a smart, mesmerizing bio-thriller, with a hard, nuanced look at the perils and promise of technology.

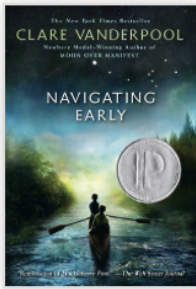


Yellow Dog

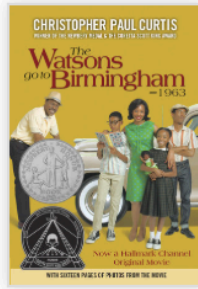
by Miriam Korner (Red Deer Press)

Jeremy lives in a small community where winters are long and stray dogs roam the streets. When peer pressure leads Jeremy into a bad prank, he is immediately struck with guilt—and that's when his life changes forever. Trying to make amends, Jeremy befriends Yellow Dog—and in the process meets a curious old man who introduces him to the adventures of sled dogging. Soon Jeremy is forming his own old-time dog team that includes Yellow Dog and discovers more about himself—and the old man—than he ever thought possible.

AWARD WINNING CHAPTER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS For Grade 5-7



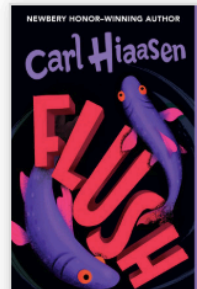
Navigating Early
Clare Vanderpool



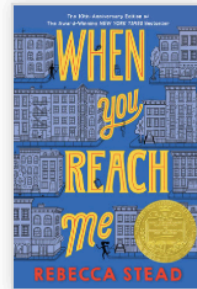
The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963
Christopher Paul Curtis



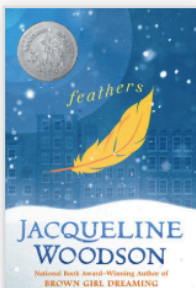
Three Times Lucky
Sheila Turnage



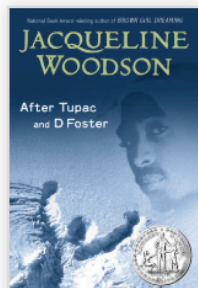
Flush
Carl Hiaasen



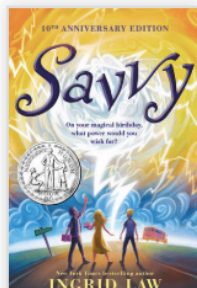
When You Reach Me
Rebecca Stead



Feathers
Jacqueline Woodson



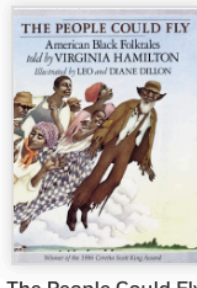
After Tupac and D Foster
Jacqueline Woodson



Savvy
Ingrid Law



Zorgamazoo
Robert Paul Weston



The People Could Fly
Virginia Hamilton

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Watership Down, by Richard Adams
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase, by Joan Aiken
Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott
The Chronicles of Prydain series, by Lloyd Alexander
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, by Sherman Alexie
The Strange Case of Origami Yoda series, by Tom Angleberger
The One and Only Ivan, by Katherine Applegate
Mr. Popper's Penguins, by Richard and Florence Atwater
Poppy, by Avi
Tuck Everlasting, by Natalie Babbitt
Peter Pan, by J.M. Barrie
Oz series, by Frank Baum
The House With a Clock in its Walls, by John Bellairs
Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret, by Judy Blume
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, by Judy Blume
Caddie Woodlawn, by Carol Ryrie Brink
The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Ender's Game, by Orson Scott Card

AWARD WINNING CHAPTER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS For Grade 5-7

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, by Lewis Carroll
The House on Mango Street, by Sandra Cisneros
Ramona series, by Beverly Cleary
The Dark is Rising series, by Susan Cooper
Walk Two Moons, by Sharon Creech
The Watsons Go To Birmingham-1963, by Christopher Paul Curtis
Catherine, Called Birdy, by Karen Cushman
D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths, by Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire
James and the Giant Peach, by Roald Dahl
Danny the Champion of the World, by Roald Dahl
Matilda, by Roald Dahl
The Little Prince, by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
Because of Winn-Dixie, by Kate DiCamillo
The City of Ember, by Jeanne DuPrau
Half Magic, by Edward Eager
The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles, by Julie Edwards
The Saturdays, by Elizabeth Enright
The Birchbark House, by Louise Erdrich
The Hundred Dresses, by Eleanor Estes
House of the Scorpion, by Nancy Farmer
Harriet the Spy, by Louise Fitzhugh
The Lincolns, by Candice Fleming
The Diary of Anne Frank, by Anne Frank
Eleanor Roosevelt, by Russell Freedman
The Graveyard Book, by Neil Gaiman
Julie of the Wolves, by Jean Craighead George
My Side of the Mountain, by Jean Craighead George
Misty of Chincoteague, by Marguerite Henry
Bunnicula, by James Howe
Redwall series, by Brian Jacques
The Phantom Tollbooth, by Norton Juster
Diary of a Wimpy Kid series, by Jeff Kinney
The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankwiler, by E.L. Konigsburg
A Wrinkle in Time series, by Madeleine L'Engle
Inside Out and Back Again, by Thanhha Lai
The Earthsea Cycle series, by Ursula K. Le Guin
To Kill A Mockingbird, by Harper Lee
Ella Enchanted, by Gail Carson Levine
The Chronicles of Narnia series, by C.S. Lewis
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon, by Grace Lin
Number the Stars, by Lois Lowry
The Giver, by Lois Lowry
Sarah, Plain and Tall, by Patricia MacLachlan
The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh, by A.A. Milne
Anne of Green Gables series, by Lucy Maud Montgomery
The Borrowers, by Mary Norton
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH, by Robert C. O'Brien
Island of the Blue Dolphins, by Scott O'Dell
Wonder, by R.J. Palacio
Bridge to Terabithia, by Katherine Paterson
Hatchet, by Gary Paulsen
A Long Way From Chicago series, by Richard Peck

AWARD WINNING CHAPTER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS For Grade 5-7

The Twenty-One Balloons, by William Pène du Bois
The Wee Free Men, by Terry Pratchett
His Dark Materials series, by Phillip Pullman
Where The Red Fern Grows, by Wilson Rawls
Percy Jackson & the Olympians series, by Rick Riordan
Harry Potter series, by J. K. Rowling
Esperanza Rising, by Pam Munoz Ryan
Holes, by Louis Sachar
Okay For Now, by Gary Schmidt
The Cricket in Times Square, by George Selden
The Invention of Hugo Cabret, by Brian Selznick
Bomb, by Steven Sheinkin
A Tree Grows In Brooklyn, by Betty Smith
The Bone Series, by Jeff Smith
A Series of Unfortunate Events books, by Lemony Snicket
The Witch of Blackbird Pond, by Elizabeth George Speare
Maniac Magee, by Jerry Spinelli
When You Reach Me, by Rebecca Stead
The Egypt Game, by Zilpha Keatley Snyder
The Arrival, by Shaun Tan
The Annotated Classic Fairy Tales, by Maria Tatar
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, by Mildred D. Taylor
All-of-a-Kind Family, by Sydney Taylor
The Hobbit, by J.R.R. Tolkien
Mary Poppins, by P.L. Travers
Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White
The Sword in the Stone, by Terence Hanbury White
Little House on the Prairie series, by Laura Ingalls Wilder
One Crazy Summer, by Rita Williams-Garcia
American Born Chinese, by Gene Luen Yang