

# Green Acres School

## Reading Suggestions for 5th or 6th Graders

Updated June 2019


(The books recommended below are part of the Green Acres Library collection. Reading levels and interests vary greatly, so you may want to look also at [Reading Suggestions for 4th Graders](#) and [Reading Suggestions for 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Graders.](#))

### This list includes:

- Fiction
- Poetry and Short Stories
- Biography and Memoir
- Other Nonfiction

Graphic books are denoted with the  symbol.

## Fiction

 **Alice, Alex; transl. by Anne Smith and Owen Smith.**

*Castle In the Stars: The Space Race of 1869*

"In ... this lavishly illustrated graphic novel, Alex Alice delivers a historical fantasy adventure set in a world where man journeyed into space in 1869, not 1969." Graphic steampunk/Historical fantasy. (Publisher)

**Appelt, Kathi and Alison McGhee.**

*Maybe a Fox*

"A fox kit born with a deep spiritual connection to a rural Vermont legend has a special bond with 11-year-old Jules." Fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Avi.**

*The Unexpected Life of Oliver Cromwell Pitts*

"A 12-year-old boy is left to fend for himself in 18th-century England following a terrible storm and the disappearance of his father... Impossible to put down." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Bauer, Joan.**

*Soar*

"Sports, friendship, tragedy, and a love connection are all wrapped up in one heartwarming, page-turning story. ...This coming-of-age tale features a boy who is courageous and witty; readers—baseball fans or otherwise—will cheer on Jeremiah and this team. The latest middle grade novel from this award-winning author is triumphant and moving." Fiction. (*School Library Journal*)

**Beckhorn, Susan.**

*The Wolf's Boy*

"Sometime in prehistory, a crippled boy and his wolf companion face coming-of-age challenges... This bracing, well-told story, laced with themes of self-responsibility, compassion, and honor, is both vital and nourishing." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Behar, Ruth.**

*Lucky Broken Girl*

"In the 1960s, Ruthie Mizrahi, a young Jewish Cuban immigrant to New York City, spends nearly a year observing her family and friends from her bed... A poignant and relevant retelling of a child immigrant's struggle to recover from an accident and feel at home in America." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Booth, Coe.**

*Kinda Like Brothers*

"When his mother takes in a 12-year-old foster boy, Jarrett is forced to share his room and his friends." Fiction. (Publisher)

**Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker.**

*Jefferson's Sons: A Founding Father's Secret Children*

"Presents a fictionalized look at the last 20 years of Thomas Jefferson's life at Monticello through the eyes of three of his slaves, two of whom were his sons by his slave, Sally Hemings." Historical fiction. (Publisher)

**Brown, Gavin.**

*Josh Baxter Levels Up*

"A video game-obsessed middle schooler tackles his third new school in two years. Smartly paced and emotionally engaging, a book even those who have never held a controller will enjoy." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Brown, Peter.**

*The Wild Robot*

A sophisticated robot—with the capacity to use senses of sight, hearing, and smell—is washed to shore on an island, the only robot survivor of a cargo of 500... Thought-provoking and charming." Science fiction/Fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Burg, Ann.**

*Serafina's Promise: A Novel in Verse*

"In a poor village outside of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Serafina works hard to help her family as she dreams of going to school and becoming a doctor. Then the 2010 earthquake hits, and Serafina must summon all her courage to find her father and get medicine for her sick baby brother, as she has promised." Historical fiction. (Publisher)

**Burgis, Stephanie; Illus. by Freya Hartas.**

*The Dragon with a Chocolate Heart*

Aventurine, a brave young dragon whose family doubts her readiness to explore the world beyond the family's mountain cave, shows her worth by capturing a human, who then tricks her into drinking enchanted hot chocolate. Fantasy. The companion book is *The Girl with the Dragon Heart*.

**Burt, Jake.**

*Greetings from Witness Protection!*

"A funny and poignant debut middle-grade novel about a foster-care girl who is placed with a family in the witness protection program and finds that hiding in plain sight is complicated and dangerous." Fiction. (*Goodreads*)

**Camper, Cathy; illus. by Raul the Third.**

*Lowriders in Space*

Lupe, Flapjack, and Elirio customize their car into a low rider in order to win the Universal Car Competition cash prize that will enable them to buy their own garage. Graphic adventure. The sequel is *Lowriders to the Center of the Earth*.

**Carman, Patrick.**

*Trackers* (series)

The trackers, four tech-savvy teens armed with high-tech video cameras and coding skills, are in a high-stakes game with the world's most dangerous hacker. Adventure/Novelty.

**Cheng, Jack.**

*See You in the Cosmos*

"If you made a recording to be heard by the aliens who found the iPod, what would you record? ... Taking inspiration from the Voyager Golden Record released to space in 1977, 11-year-old Alex Petroski, who explains he has 'light brown skin,' records all the important moments of a journey that takes him from a family of two to a family of plenty." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Chmakova, Svetlana.**

*Awkward* (Book 1)

On her first day at a new school, Penelope--Peppi--Torres tries to remember the basic rules for surviving school, but she ends up getting into one awkward situation after another. Graphic novel.

**Chmakova, Svetlana.**

*Brave* (Awkward, Book 2)

"In his daydreams, Jensen is the biggest hero that ever was, saving the world and his friends on a daily basis. But his middle school reality is VERY different." Graphic novel. (Publisher)

**G Craft, Jerry.**

*New Kid*

“Jordan Banks takes readers down the rabbit hole and into his mostly white prep school in this heartbreakingly accurate middle-grade tale of race, class, microaggressions, and the quest for self-identity. ... An engrossing, humorous, and vitally important graphic novel that should be required reading in every middle school in America.” Graphic fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Deuker, Carl.**

*Payback Time*

A suspenseful novel “combining a Seattle high-school football team’s march toward the state championship game with a school reporter’s investigation of an apparent ringer that the coach has slipped in to bolster the defense.” Fiction. (*Booklist*)

**Donoghue, Emma; illus. by  
Caroline Hadilaksono.**

*The Lottery Plus One*

After winning the lottery, two same-sex couples – one male and one female – retire and create a large, diverse family through birth and adoption. The riotously, exuberantly loving Lotterys live in an urban Toronto neighborhood and consist of four parents and seven home-schooled children (all named for trees), plus assorted pets. Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Emerson, Kevin.**

*Last Day on Mars*

"All remaining humans are leaving Mars for a distant planet, but departure day goes sideways... Enigmatic enemies, sabotage, space travel, and short, bone-wracking bits of time travel make for a banging adventure." Science fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**G Fajardo, Alexis E.**

*Kid Beowulf: The Blood-Bound Oath*

“‘Beowulf’ reimagined. ... What Rick Riordan did for the Greek gods, Fajardo has done for ‘Beowulf’: magnificent.” Graphic fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Freedman, Paula.**

*My Basmati Bat Mitzvah*

Tara Feinstein, proud of both her East Indian and Jewish heritage, questions what it means to have a Bat Mitzvah and deals with her own doubts about her faith. Fiction.

**Frost, Helen.**

*Hidden*

When 14-year-olds Wren and Darra meet at a Michigan summer camp, both are overwhelmed by memories from six years earlier, when Darra's father stole a car, unaware that Wren was hiding in the back. Fiction. Told in narrative verse with hidden messages.

**Fusco, Kimberly Newton.**

*Chasing Augustus*

“A sweetly satisfying novel about a girl and her lost dog, perfect for fans of Jennifer E. Holm and Kirby Larson.” (*Goodreads*)

**Gemeinhart, Dan.**

*Scar Island*

An accident leaves the youthful male inmates in the remote Slabhenge Prison on Skull Island without their cruel supervisors. On their own, the boys get caught up in a fast-paced adventure involving dark struggles, power plays, and changing loyalties. Fiction.

**Gidwitz, Adam; illus. by Hatem Aly.**

*The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog*

This multiple-narrator fairy tale relates the adventures of a white Christian peasant girl who has prophetic visions, a biracial Muslim-born monk-in-training with extraordinary strength, and a Jewish boy with remarkable healing powers. Fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Gratz, Alan.**

*Grenade*

"In the waning days of World War II, two young soldiers tell both sides of their fight to survive. ... Intense and fast-paced, this is a compelling, dark, yet ultimately heartening wartime story." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Green, Tim.**

*New Kid*

"A teenage baseball star struggles not only with game-day stress, but also with the ever-present fear that his world is about to end." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*) The sequel is *First Team*.

**Green, Tim.**

*Unstoppable*

In a new foster family with Coach as his new dad, 13-year-old Harrison begins to play on the football team and shows great skill until he is sidelined by an injury and ultimately by bone cancer. Supported by the people around him and by an unstoppable spirit, he struggles to achieve his goals. Fiction.

**Grimes, Nikki.**

*Garvey's Choice*

"Written in poignantly poetic tanka verse, Grimes' newest follows a young black boy searching for his own unique voice, lost among his father's wishes and society's mischaracterizations." Verse novel. (*Kirkus Reviews*)



**Gusti; transl. by Mara Faye Lethem.**

*Mallko & Dad*

"In a mixed-media account that won the BolognaRagazzi Award for Disability, Argentine illustrator Gusti (*Half of an Elephant*, 2006) relates how he learned to embrace his son's Down syndrome." (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Hagen, George.**

*Gabriel Finley & the Raven's Riddle*

Aided by the young raven Paladin, with whom he has a magical bond, 11-year-old Gabriel travels to the foreboding land of Aviopolis, where he must face challenges and unanswerable riddles to rescue his long-missing father. Fantasy.



**Hale, Nathan.**

*Lafayette! A Revolutionary War Tale.*

"The eighth entry in Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales tackles the early life of the Marquis de Lafayette, hero of the American Revolution." Graphic historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Hashimi, Nadia.**

*One Half from the East*

"Obayda's family moved to a rural village after a Kabul bomb blast took her father's leg and the family's livelihood; in a bid to attract good fortune, relatives persuade her mother to transform Obayda, 10, youngest of four daughters, into a *bacha posh*: a boy." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Hernandez, Carlos.**

*Sal and Gabi Break the Universe*

"Salvador Vidón is the new kid at Miami's magnet school Culeco Academy of the Arts, but being at a special school doesn't protect Sal from trouble. ... This book, drenched in Cuban Spanish and personality, is a breath of fresh air." Science fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Holczer, Tracy.**

*The Secret Hum of a Daisy*

Twelve-year-old Grace and her mother have been looking for the perfect home, but after her mother's sudden death, Grace is forced to live with a grandmother she's never met. Clues in a mysterious treasure hunt that her grandmother has set up help her to find her way. Fiction.

**Hosseini, Khaled; illus. by Dan Williams.**

*Sea Prayer*

"A poignant letter written by a fearful Syrian father to his son on the eve of a treacherous sea crossing to Europe. ... Powerful." Sophisticated picture book. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Hunt, Lynda Mullaly.**

*Fish in a Tree*

Smart, sensitive 6<sup>th</sup> grader Ally excels at math, but she has dyslexia and struggles with reading. An inspirational teacher offers help, and Ally moves beyond the bullies to make new friendships. Fiction.

**G Jacques, Brian.**

*Redwall: The Graphic Novel*

"What can the peace-loving mice of Redwall Abbey do to defend themselves against Cluny the Scourge and his battle-seasoned army of rats? If only they had the sword of Martin the Warrior, they might have a chance. But the legendary weapon has long been forgotten—except, that is, by the bumbling young apprentice Matthias, who becomes the unlikeliest of heroes. Teeming with riddles, humor, unforgettable characters, and high-bounding adventure..." (Publisher)

**G Jamieson, Victoria.**

*All's Faire in Middle School*

"A home-schooled squireling sallies forth to public school, where the woods turn out to be treacherous and dragons lie in wait." Graphic fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Johnson, Varian.**

*To Catch a Cheat*

"A doctored video showing Jackson Greene and his eighth-grade friends sneaking in to clog Maplewood Middle School toilets pulls the former prankster and his crew into an elaborate set of strategies to catch the perpetrator and foil a couple of would-be cheaters in the process." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*) This is the stand-alone sequel to *The Great Greene Heist*.

**Key, Watt.**

*Terror at Battle Creek*

Thirteen-year-old Cort has been learning everything he can from his father, an expert on hunting and swamp lore in southern Alabama, but all of Cort's skills and his bravery are tested in a battle against a Gulf Coast hurricane. Adventure/Fiction.

**Kirby, Matthew.**

*Icefall*

"The king's three children and a small group of warrior-protectors take refuge in a winter-bound steading on a northern fjord and discover there's a traitor in their midst. ... Recommend this one to teens who crave a good mystery set in an icily different time and place." Alternative historical mystery. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Klages, Ellen.**

*Out of Left Field*

"Katy's such a good pitcher that she is accepted as one of the boys on the local sandlot in 1957 San Francisco. ... A grand slam in every way." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Korman, Gordon.**

*Payback*

"In this [*Masterminds*] trilogy closer, the four escaped clones from Project Osiris are still on the run, trying to avoid capture, discover the truth behind their criminal origins, and rescue the rest of the clones from the clutches of the evil Dr. Hammerstrom." Adventure/Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Korman, Gordon.**

*Supergifted*

"In the sequel to *Ungifted* (2012), Noah Youkilis gets himself kicked out of the Academy for Scholastic Distinction to see what it's like at regular middle school." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**G Larson, Hope.**

*All Summer Long*

"Summer adventures begin when Bina accidentally locks herself out of her house in Larson's newest middle-grade graphic novel." Graphic fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Levinson, Cynthia & Sanford Levinson.**

*Fault Lines in the Constitution: The Framers, Their Fights, and the Flaws That Affect Us Today*

"A fascinating, thoughtful, and provocative look at what in the Constitution keeps the United States from being 'a more perfect union.'" Nonfiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Levy, Dana Alison.**

*It Wasn't Me*

"Six seventh-graders in small-town Massachusetts reluctantly spend school vacation week participating in a restorative-practice justice circle in hopes of identifying a vandal." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Libenson, Terri.**

*Invisible Emmie*

"This is the story of two totally different girls—quiet, shy, artistic Emmie, popular, outgoing, athletic Katie—and how their lives unexpectedly intersect one day, when an embarrassing note falls into the wrong hands." Graphic fiction. (Publisher)

**Libenson, Terri.**

*Positively Izzy*

"Libenson captures middle-school dramas—family, friendships, crushes, stereotypes, grades, self-discovery—with candor, fast pacing, and authentic, relatable characters. Positively satisfying." Graphic fiction. (*The Horn Book*)

**Mafi, Tahereh.**

*Furthermore*

"A 12-year-old girl who doesn't fit into her own world embarks on a harrowing quest with a boy she doesn't trust to find her missing father... An original new Alice confronts her own wonderland in this smashing fantasy." Fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*) The sequel is *Whichwood*.

**McAnulty, Stacy.**

*The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl*

"Four years ago, 12-year-old Lucy Callahan was struck by lightning. The strike left her with brain damage, resulting in acquired savant syndrome and a 'supercomputer brain.' ... Unique and utterly satisfying." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Medina, Meg.**

*Merci Suárez Changes Gears*

"Merci navigates the challenges of being a scholarship kid at a posh South Florida private school and the expectations of and responsibilities to her intergenerational family. ... Medina delivers another stellar and deeply moving story." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Meloy, Maile.**

*The Apothecary* (series)

A 14-year-old American girl's life changes unexpectedly when her family moves to London in 1952 and she and a mysterious apothecary's son, Benjamin, get swept up in a race to save the world from nuclear war. Historical fantasy.

**Milford, Kate.**

*Greenglass House*

Twelve-year-old Milo, the innkeepers' adopted son, plans to spend his winter holidays relaxing at Greenglass House (a smuggler's inn), but guests begin to arrive with strange stories about Greenglass House, and Milo and Meddy, the cook's daughter, embark on an adventure. Mystery/Fantasy. The sequel is *Ghosts of Greenglass House*.

**Miller, Jessica; illus. by Yelena Bryksenkova.** *Elizabeth and Zenobia*

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, timid Elizabeth's only friend is obsessed with finding a ghost in Elizabeth's father's creepy old mansion, which holds a terrible secret. Horror. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Millwood Hargrave, Kiran.**

*The Island at the End of Everything*

"Life on an island for those with Hansen's disease is all Amihan has ever known. Now she must face the outside world, ostracized for living among the lepers." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Mosier, Paul.**

*Train I Ride*

"A poignant story about a young girl's travels by train from Los Angeles to Chicago in which she learns along the way that she can find family wherever she is." Fiction. (*Publishers Weekly*)

**Nolen, Jerdine.**


*Calico Girl*

"At once heartbreaking and uplifting, a gentle, lyrical story of a determined black girl's journey toward freedom during the Civil War." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Oppel, Kenneth.**


*The Boundless*

Aboard "The Boundless," the greatest train ever built, on its maiden voyage across Canada, teenager Will enlists the aid of a traveling circus to save the train from villains. Historical fantasy.

 **Ostertag, Molly Knox.**

*The Witch Boy* (The Witch Boy, #1)

"Thirteen-year-old Aster is of age to find the animal that will deem him worthy to take its shape as a shape-shifter. There's just one problem. Aster doesn't want to shape-shift—he wants to do witchery, which is forbidden for boys." Graphic fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

 **Ostertag, Molly Knox.**

*The Hidden Witch* (The Witch Boy, #2)

"After fighting the darkness that consumed his great-uncle, young witch Aster must now help him heal. ... An absolutely bewitching sequel." Graphic fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Pennypacker, Sara; illus. by Jon Klassen.**

*Pax*

"A motherless boy is forced to abandon his domesticated fox when his father decides to join soldiers in an approaching war... Moving and poetic." Animal fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Pla, Sally J.; illus. by Steve Wolfhard.**

*Stanley Will Probably Be Fine*

"Superheroes can be found in unlikely places. ... Add to the growing list of intelligent books about kids whose brains operate outside the norm." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Respicio, Mae.**

*The House That Lou Built*

"A 13-year-old biracial girl longs to build the house of her dreams." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Reynolds, Jason.**

*As Brave as You*

"Eleven-year-old Brooklynite Genie has 'worry issues,' so when he and his older brother, Ernie, are sent to Virginia to spend a month with their estranged grandparents while their parents 'try to figure it all out,' he goes into overdrive." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Rhodes, Jewell Parker.**

*Ghost Boys*

"In a story that explicitly recalls the murder of Tamir Rice, Jerome, a 12-year-old black boy killed by a white Chicago cop, must, along with the ghosts of Emmett Till and others, process what has happened and how." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Rhuday-Perkovich, Olugbemisola  
and Audrey Vernick.**

*Two Naomis*

"Two girls named Naomi build an unlikely friendship after their parents begin dating each other." Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Riazi, Karuna.**

*The Gauntlet*

A 12-year-old Bangladeshi-American hijabi girl, her brother, and her friends are trapped in a mysterious board game called The Gauntlet of Blood and Sand. Fantasy.

**Ruby, Laura.**

*York: The Shadow Cipher*

In this series opener, set in an alternate New York City transformed with miraculous engineering feats, three middle schoolers from diverse backgrounds set out to solve the Old York Cipher, a puzzle embedded within the city a century and a half earlier, in order to save their home. Mystery/Fantasy. The second book in the trilogy is *The Clockwork Ghost*.

**Sayre, Justin.**

*Pretty*

Sophie, a pretty, light-skinned black teen whose moody mother is a freelance fashion journalist, considers the real meaning of beauty through a high school project and discovers that it is nothing like what she finds in her mother's fashion magazines. Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Scaletta, Kurtis.**

*Rooting for Rafael Rosales*

A young man grows up in the Dominican Republic with ambitions to play baseball, and a 12-year-old girl in a white, middle-class family in Minnesota finds the world both bigger and more encouraging when she becomes his fan. Fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Schreffer, Eliot; illus. by Emilia Dziubak.**

*Mez's Magic* (The Lost Rainforest series)

"When the magical rainforest of Caldera is threatened by a terrible evil, four young animal friends must overcome their differences to save the rainforest from destruction. ... Magic with depth in this new series stunner." Fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)



**Sell, Chad, ed.**

*The Cardboard Kingdom*

"Comics creator and illustrator Sell teams up with 10 different authors to create an extraordinary linked anthology, seamlessly interweaving stories of unabashed joy and friendship. ... A breath of fresh air, this tender and dynamic collection is a must-have for any graphic-novel collection." Graphic fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Selznick, Brian.**

*The Marvels* (follow-up to *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* and *Wonderstruck*)

"The journey begins on a ship at sea in 1766, with a boy named Billy Marvel. After surviving a shipwreck, he finds work in a London theatre. There, his family flourishes for generations as brilliant actors until 1900, when young Leontes Marvel is banished from the stage. Nearly a century later, Joseph Jervis runs away from school and seeks refuge with a reclusive uncle in London. Albert Nightingale's strange, beautiful house, with its mysterious portraits and ghostly presences, captivates Joseph and leads him on a search for clues about the house, his family, and the past." Fiction. (Publisher)

**Shabazz, Ilyasah and Renée Watson.**

*Betty Before X*

"A passion for social justice blossoms during the middle school years for the girl who grew up to become Dr. Betty Shabazz. ... A personal, political, and powerful imagining of the early life of the late activist." Historical fiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Shevah, Emma; illus. by Helen Crawford-White.** *Dara Palmer's Major Drama*

When 11-year-old Dara, who was adopted as a baby from Cambodia, doesn't get a role in the school production, she begins to think it's because she doesn't look like the other girls in her class. Irrepressible, she comes up with a plan to change her school and the world, too. Fiction. (*Goodreads*)

**Smith, Ronald.**

*Hoodoo*

"A sinister stranger stalks young Hoodoo Hatcher in rural 1930s Alabama." Horror. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Snyder, Laurel.**

*Orphan Island*

In an island paradise where nine orphans live, a boat comes once a year to bring a new child and to take the oldest child away. Everything is perfect until the new Elder breaks an important rule. Fiction.

**Stanley, Diane.**

*Joplin, Wishing*

"Stanley's fantasy offers an enticing blend of suspense, an ancient curse, a lonely girl, a hint of romance, and a fairy-tale trope." Fantasy. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Stead, Rebecca.**

*Goodbye Stranger*

As Bridge makes her way through seventh grade on Manhattan's Upper West Side with her best friends, Em, Tab, and a curious new friend--or more than friend--Sherm, she finds the answer she has been seeking since she barely survived an accident at age eight: "What is my purpose?" Fiction. (Publisher)



**Stead, Rebecca.**

*When You Reach Me*

Sixth grader Miranda and best friend Sal's relationship in their New York City neighborhood starts to fall apart when Sal gets punched by a kid and stops talking to Miranda. Mysterious messages begin to arrive that convince her that only she can prevent a tragedy from occurring. Fiction.

**Stevenson, Noelle.**

*Lumberjanes* (series)

Five girls at Miss Quinzella Thistwin Penniquiquil Thistle Crumpet's Camp for Hardcore Lady Types solve mysteries concerning strange creatures, supernatural phenomena, and other unnerving goings-on around camp. Graphic fiction.

**Tarpley, Natasha.**

*The Harlem Charade*

The lives of three kids of color in Harlem intersect in a mystery involving the history of 1960s Harlem artists and different approaches to justice for inner-city residents. Mystery.

**Weeks, Sarah and Gita Varadarajan.**

*Save Me a Seat*

"Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common - but soon enough they have a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week." (Scholastic Press)

**Woodson, Jacqueline.**

*Harbor Me*

"Just before she begins seventh grade, Haley tells the story of the previous school year, when she and five other students from an experimental classroom were brought together. ... An extraordinary and timely piece of writing." Fiction. (Kirkus Reviews)

**Yang, Gene Luen.**

*Secret Coders* (series)

"Hopper's first day at Stately Academy goes terribly until her '7'-shaped earrings trigger a code in a robot bird, commanding it to display three eyes." Graphic mystery. (Kirkus Reviews) Other books in the series are *Secret Coders: Secrets & Sequences*; *Secret Coders: Robots & Repeats*; *Secret Coders: Paths & Portals*; *Secret Coders: Potions & Parameters*.

## Poetry and Short Stories

**Alexander, Kwame, Chris Colderley, and Marjory Wentworth; illus. by Ekua Holmes.**

*Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets*

"A magnificent exploration of the poetic imagination." Poetry. (Kirkus Reviews)

**Argueta, Jorge; illus. by Alfonso Ruano; transl. from Spanish by Elisa Amado.**

*Somos como las nubes / We Are Like the Clouds*

"With tenderness and humanity, this bilingual book describes the hopes, fears, and uncertainties of the thousands of displaced children that arrive every year at the southern border of the United States." Poetry. (Kirkus Reviews)

**Bird, Betsy, ed.**

*Funny Girl: Funniest. Stories. Ever.*

"The 28 short stories, autobiographical essays, and comic strips in this entertaining anthology are meant to prove that females can be funny, and they succeed." Anthology. (Kirkus Reviews)

**Bryan, Ashley.**

*Freedom over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life*

"Bryan gives voices to the voiceless and presents the dreams of slaves who went to the grave without living them." Poetry. (Kirkus Reviews)

**Delacre, Lulu.**

*Us, In Progress: Short Stories About Young Latinos*

"Pura Belpré honoree Delacre's chronicles—each different from the next—offer moving snapshots of family heartbreak, disadvantage, dysfunctionality, heartbreak, privilege, and joy." Short stories. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Grimes, Nikki.**

*One Last Word: Wisdom from the Harlem Renaissance*

"This striking, passionate anthology reminds young readers and adult fans of poetry alike that while black life remains 'no crystal stair,' there remains reason to hope and a reserve of courage from which to draw." Poetry. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Latham, Irene and Charles Waters; illus. by Sean Qualls and Selina Alko.**

*Can I Touch Your Hair? Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship*

"A fresh approach to exploring interracial communication." Poetry. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Orgill, Roxane; illus. by Francis Vallejo.**

*Jazz Day: The Making of a Famous Photograph*

"In 21 poems, Orgill introduces Art Kane's iconic 1958 Harlem photograph to young readers, spotlighting many of the 57 jazz musicians pictured." Poetry. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Pinkney, Andrea Davis; illus. by Brian Pinkney.** *Martin Rising: Requiem for a King*

"The multiaward-winning Pinkneys' requiem lovingly explains in a set of 'docu-poems' the events surrounding Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, particularly the Memphis sanitation workers' strikes that brought him to the city where he eventually died." Poetry. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Vardell, Sylvia and Janet Wong.**

*Here We Go: A Poetry Friday Power Book*

"A story in poems and a writing journal designed to help kids think about social change." Poetry. (Publisher)

**Wallace, Rich.**

*Wicked Cruel*

Three ghost stories explore rural New England legends – about bullying, loneliness, guilt, atonement, life and death -- and how they changed lives. Ghost stories. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Weatherford, Carole Boston; illus. by Jeffery Boston Weatherford.**

*You Can Fly: The Tuskegee Airmen*

"The story of the struggles and achievements of the Tuskegee Airmen is told in vivid informational poetry... A masterful, inspiring evocation of an era." Poetry. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

## **Biography and Memoir**

**📍 Bell, Cece.**

*El Deafo*

In this funny, poignant memoir, the author recounts her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including using a bulky hearing aid strapped to her chest, learning how to lip read, and determining her "superpower." Graphic memoir.

**📍 Findakly, Brigitte and Lewis Trondheim; transl. from French by Helge Dascher.** *Poppies of Iraq*

"From the daughter of a French mother and Iraqi father comes a touching memoir of childhood in Iraq." Graphic memoir. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**📍 Gill, Joel Christian.**

*Bessie Stringfield*

"An incredible true story that has as much power as Bessie and the motorcycles she rode...Being the first woman to ride a motorcycle across the United States did not satisfy Bessie Stringfield; she did it eight times!" Graphic biography. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**G Hale, Shannon; illus. by LeUyen Pham.** *Real Friends*  
"A painful and painfully recognizable tale of one girl's struggle to make and keep 'one good friend.'" Graphic memoir. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**G Lewis, John and Andrew Aydin; illus. by Nate Powell.** *March: Book Three* (trilogy)  
"A living icon of the civil rights movement brings his frank and stirring account of the movement's most tumultuous years (so far) to a climax." Graphic memoir. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Sheinkin, Steve.** *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery*  
"Sheinkin sees Arnold as America's 'original action hero' and succeeds in writing a brilliant, fast-paced biography that reads like an adventure novel. ...The author's obvious mastery of his material, lively prose and abundant use of eyewitness accounts make this one of the most exciting biographies young readers will find." Biography. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Silvey, Anita.** *Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall*  
A biography of a woman who made scientific breakthroughs in chimpanzee research beginning in her early twenties. The focus is on Goodall's scientific relationships with the chimpanzees that she observed and studied.

**Turner, Pamela S.; illus. by Gareth Hinds.** *Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune*  
"The life of 12th-century samurai Minamoto Yoshitsune unfolds in this compelling and often shocking nonfiction account. The opening warning doesn't lie: very few people die of natural causes." Biography. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Weissman, Elissa Brent et al.** *Our Story Begins: Your Favorite Authors and Illustrators Share Fun, Inspiring, and Occasionally Ridiculous Things They Wrote and Drew as Kids*  
"Twenty-six notable authors and illustrators of children's books—including the book's editor—introduce themselves via their childhood memories." Collective memoir. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Wilson, Jamia; illus. by Andrea Pippins.** *Young, Gifted and Black: Meet 52 Black Heroes from Past and Present*  
"A beautifully crafted volume that can serve either as an introduction to these figures or as a supplementary text." Collective biography. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Woodson, Jacqueline.** *Brown Girl Dreaming*  
The author describes her birth during the Civil Rights Movement, her struggles with reading as a child, what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, the inspiration she found in stories, and her development as a writer. Memoir. Told in narrative verse.

## Other Nonfiction

**Atkinson, Rick.** *D-Day: The Invasion of Normandy, 1944*  
Meticulously researched account of a vital World War II operation. Nonfiction.

**Aronson, Marc.** *Rising Water: The Story of the Thai Cave Rescue*  
"Aronson sheds light on the intricate rescue of 12 soccer players and their coach who were stranded in the Tham Luang Nang Non cave in Thailand in June 2018." Nonfiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Ballard, Chris.**

*One Shot at Forever: A Small Town, an Unlikely Coach,  
and a Magical Baseball Season*

"A nonfiction gem about an underdog team that made good. This is the kind of baseball book that has long arms." Nonfiction. (*Library Journal*)

**Brown, Don.**

*Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans*

"Brown tells the story of Hurricane Katrina and its impact on New Orleans, beginning with 'a swirl of unremarkable wind' in 'early August, 2005' and ending with the observation that 'By 2012, only 80 percent of New Orleans's residents had returned.'" Graphic nonfiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Carson, Mary Kay.**

*Inside Biosphere 2: Earth Science Under Glass*

"A 1990s science experiment aimed at space exploration finds a new purpose in the 21st century." Nonfiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Casey, Susan.**

*Women Heroes of the American Revolution: 20 Stories of Espionage,  
Sabotage, Defiance, and Rescue*

Presents facts and legends about 20 women in the American Revolution. Nonfiction.

**Doeden, Matt.**

*The World Cup: Soccer's Global Championship*

"The story of the World Cup, crown jewel of international soccer... Mesmerizing." Nonfiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Fleming, Candace.**

*Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart*

Reading like a suspenseful thriller, this book provides a fresh look by alternating between biographical chapters and a dramatic recounting of Earhart's last flight and the subsequent search. Nonfiction.

**Fleming, Candace.**

*The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, & the Fall of Imperial Russia*

This is a meticulously researched account of the personal lives of the family of Russia's last tsar, set against the backdrop of the social and political upheaval of the period. Nonfiction.

**Hale, Nathan.**

*Raid of No Return: A World War II Tale of the Doolittle Raid* (Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales series)

"Presented in the author's instantly recognizable artistic and storytelling style, this new series installment centers on the Doolittle air raid over Japan during World War II." Graphic nonfiction. (*School Library Journal*)

**Hopkinson, Deborah.**

*Dive! World War II Stories of Sailors & Submarines*

"Hopkinson's writing plumbs the depths in relating the undersea exploits of American submariners during World War II." Nonfiction. (*Kirkus Reviews*)

**Jarrow, Gail.**

*Fatal Fever: Tracking Down Typhoid Mary*

Tells the story of the typhoid fever epidemic in New York City in the early 1900s and the search for the Irish immigrant suspected of carrying typhoid bacteria and infecting her coworkers. Nonfiction.

**Levinson, Cynthia.**

*Watch Out for Flying Kids! How Two Circuses, Two Countries, and Nine Kids Confront Conflict and Build Community*

Follows the kids who participate in two circuses that work together periodically: Circus Harmony, in St. Louis, whose participants are inner-city and suburban kids, and Circus Galilee in Israel, whose participants are Jews and Arabs. Nonfiction.

**Miller, Sarah.**

*The Borden Murders: Lizzie Borden and the Trial of the Century*

This is a true-crime account of Lizzie Borden's story in 1892, complete with the two murders she was accused of committing and the ensuing court battles and sensational newspaper headlines. Nonfiction.

**Napoli, Donna Jo.**

*Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods,  
Goddesses, Heroes & Monsters*

This introduction to Greek mythology combines retellings of classic Greek tales and detailed illustrations with character profiles, historical insights, and cultural facts. Nonfiction.

 **O'Connor, George.**

*Apollo: The Brilliant One*

This is the latest volume in the Olympians series, the graphic retellings of the Greek myths. Graphic mythology.

**Osborne, Linda Barrett.**

*This Land Is Our Land: A History of American Immigration*

"Fascinating reading for both browsers and those seeking a more thorough understanding of immigration." Nonfiction. *(Kirkus Reviews)*

**Sheinkin, Steve.**

*Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World's Most  
Dangerous Weapon*

A spy-thriller account of the countries and players involved in the race to build an atomic bomb. Nonfiction.

**Sheinkin, Steve.**

*Lincoln's Grave Robbers*

Describes how a counterfeiting ring plotted to ransom Lincoln's body to secure the release of their imprisoned ringleader and how a fledgling Secret Service and an undercover agent conducted a daring election-night sting operation. Nonfiction.

**Stone, Tanya Lee.**

*Courage Has No Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickles:  
America's First Black Paratroopers*

Recounts the untold story of the formation and contributions of America's first black paratroopers, the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, in the face of rampant discrimination and prejudice. Nonfiction.

**Thornhill, Jan.**

*The Tragic Tale of the Great Auk*

"A sobering, beautifully presented extinction story." Nonfiction. *(Kirkus Reviews)*