## FICTION

### Adventure and Mystery

**Gorilla Dawn**  
by Gill Lewis, illustrated by Susan Meyer  
(A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $16.99)  
978-1-4814-8657-6  
A Congolese girl, kidnapped by rebels involved in an illegal mining operation which threatens animal habitats and village life, becomes “mother” to a gorilla baby. Black-and-white digitally rendered illustrations. (9-12)

**The Harlem Charade**  
by Natasha Tarpley  
(Scholastic Press, $16.99)  
978-0-545-78387-3  
Three children join forces to save their historic neighborhood from development by an ambitious politician. (10-12)

**Jasper and the Riddle of Riley’s Mine**  
by Caroline Starr Rose, map by Richard Amari  
(G.P. Putnam’s Sons/PRH, $16.99)  
978-0-399-16811-6  
Jasper follows his brother to the “Klondike Gold Rush,” encountering danger and intriguing characters. Includes detailed map of the goldfields. (9-12)

**Pigs Might Fly**  
by Nick Abadzis, illustrated by Jerel Dye, color by Laurel Lynn Leake and Alex Campbell  
(First Second/ Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $22.99)  
978-1-62672-743-4  
Lily Leanchop is determined to invent an airplane without using magic. Her goal becomes more urgent when the evil Warthogs attack Pigdom Plains. Will pigs fly? Detailed, vividly colored artwork. (8-11)

### The Wonderling
written and illustrated by Mira Bartók  
(Candlewick Press, $21.99)  
978-0-7636-9121-9  
With the gifts of song and true friends, Number Thirteen, a one-eared, foxlike groundling, escapes the orphanage along with other human/animal creatures in order to seek his origins. Detailed pencil illustrations. (10-13)

**The World’s Greatest Detective**  
by Caroline Carlson  
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99)  
978-0-06-236827-0  
This Victorian period whodunit is enlivened with amusing, idiosyncratic characters and hilarious incidents. (10-13)

### Coming of Age

**All’s Faire in Middle School**  
written and illustrated by Victoria Jamieson  
(Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, $20.99)  
978-0-525-42998-2  
Can Imogene survive her own mistakes, middle school, and being a knight-in-training at the Renaissance Faire where her family works? Colorful illustrations. (9-12)

**Almost Paradise**  
by Corabel Shofner  
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $16.99)  
978-0-374-30378-5  
After her mother is sent to jail, 12-year-old Ruby Clyde must rekindle a relationship with her mother’s estranged identical twin sister, who is a nun. (9-12)

**Amina’s Voice**  
by Hena Khan  
(Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster, $16.99)  
978-1-4814-9206-5  
Amina is a young Pakistani American who is musically gifted but suffers from stage fright. Can she find the courage to perform when it really counts? (9-12)
Coming of Age, continued

Blooming at the Texas Sunrise Motel
by Kimberly Willis Holt
(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-1-62779-324-7
After her parents die in an accident, Stevie slowly learns about the family she never knew and finds a new home and good friends. (10-12)

Caleb and Kit
by Beth Vrabel
(RP Kids/Running Press, $16.99) 978-0-7624-6223-0
Caleb, a 12-year-old boy dealing with cystic fibrosis, discovers true friendship when he meets Kit, a girl with magical stories and beliefs. (9-12)

Confessions from the Principal’s Kid
by Robin Mellom
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $16.99) 978-0-544-81379-3
Being the principal’s daughter has perks, but fifth grader Allie West would rather be “normal.” (9-12)

The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora
by Pablo Cartaya
(Viking/Penguin YR/PRH, $16.99) 978-1-101-99723-9
Third-generation Cuban American eighth grader Arturo spends his summer working at his family’s restaurant and rallying the community against gentrification. Includes recipes. (10-12)

The First Rule of Punk
written and illustrated by Celia C. Pérez
(Viking Children’s Books/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-425-29040-8
Of both Mexican and Irish-American heritage, Malú, 12, just wants to be punk. Black-and-white pencil illustrations. (9-12)

Forever, or a Long, Long Time
by Caela Carter
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-238568-0
After years in many foster homes, a sister and brother are finally adopted, but can they ever trust anyone? (9-12)

*Georgia Rules
by Nanci Turner Steveson
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-237457-8
When Maggie inherits her estranged father’s farm, her mother moves them to Vermont, where an unusual family shows them that certain rules are made to be broken. (9-12)

Just Dance
by Patricia MacLachlan
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster, $15.99) 978-1-4814-7252-4
In a small town in Wyoming, 10-year-old Sylvie wants to understand why her mother, a famous opera singer, is content to live on the farm. She also has great hopes for her own life. (8-10)

*Little Bits of Sky
by S. E. Durrant, illustrated by Katie Harnett
(Holiday House, $16.95) 978-0-8234-3839-6
After foster homes and a London orphanage, will Ira, 11, and brother Zac, 9, find a place to belong? Ira narrates in diary form. Spot drawings. (9-12)

*Louis Undercover
by Fanny Britt, illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault, translated from the French by Christelle Morelli and Susan Ouriou
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $19.95) 978-1-55498-859-4
In this heartfelt graphic novel, an adolescent boy copes with an alcoholic father. Pencil and ink drawings. (9-12)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Children’s Books of the Year</th>
<th>Nine to Twelve</th>
<th>2018 Edition</th>
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<td><strong>Coming of Age, continued</strong></td>
<td><strong>Short</strong></td>
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</table>
| **Otherwise Known as Possum**    | by Holly Goldberg Sloan  
(Scholastic Press, $16.99) 978-0-545-92795-6  
(LizBetty “Possum” Porter, 11, already knows everything, but after her mother dies, she must attend school, where her fierce loyalty is challenged by unexpected truths. (9-12) | by Maria D. Laso  
(Scholastic Press, $16.99) 978-0-545-92795-6  
(Emma “Possum” Porter, 11, already knows everything, but after her mother dies, she must attend school, where her fierce loyalty is challenged by unexpected truths. (9-12) | (Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-399-18621-9  
(Undersized Julia grows in a variety of ways and learns to be comfortable and confident when she performs in a challenging summer production of *The Wizard of Oz.* (9-12) |
| **Paper Chains** by Elaine Vickers, illustrated by Sara Not  
(Two best friends—one concerned about adoption secrets and the other with a father who has abandoned the family—powerfully challenge and support each other. Spot black-and-white illustrations. (8-12) |  
(8-12) |  
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $16.99) 978-0-544-87331-5  
(Eleven-year-old Matt struggles with math. But a project on business gets him to start a dog sled school, and he learns a lot. (8-10) |
| **Quicksand Pond** by Janet Taylor Lisle  
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, $16.99) 978-1-4814-7222-7  
(Jessie and Terri find a raft to explore a hidden pond, but a long-ago murder and present-day prejudice threaten Jessie’s vacation and Terri’s life. (9-12) |  
(8-12) |  
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-244576-6  
(When Charlie and his siblings travel to see their father who was wounded in Afghanistan, Charlie challenges his fears as he confronts many new situations. Black-and-white spot art. (9-12) |
| **Real Friends** by Shannon Hale, illustrated by LeUyen Pham  
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $21.99) 978-1-62672-416-7  
(Budding storyteller Shannon relies on her imagination to help navigate elementary school friendships within the context of tricky group dynamics. Bold full-color panels. (8-11) |  
(8-12) |  
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-235275-0  
(When Danny falls ill, best friend Clover uses science and the belief in their specially shared magic to bring hope. (8-12) |
| **The Secret of Nightingale Wood** by Lucy Strange  
(Chicken House/Scholastic, $16.99) 978-1-338-15747-5  
(Henrietta, 12, must find strength in herself, her imagination, and maybe from the witch in the wood, to bring her lost family together again. (9-12) |  
(8-12) |  
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-30686-7  
(An artistic 13-year-old chafes at her loving immigrant family’s overprotectiveness and at her identification with the family’s taco truck business. (10-12) |
Coming of Age, continued

Three Pennies
by Melanie Crowder
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, $16.99)
978-1-4814-7187-9
Eleven-year-old Marin is at a tricky age in foster care but, surprisingly, someone seeks to adopt her. She, however, is convinced her mother will return for her. (9-12)

Vilonia Beebe Takes Charge
by Kristin L. Gray
(A Paula Wiseman Book/Simon & Schuster, $16.99)
978-1-4814-5842-9
Vilonia struggles to help her father keep the household going after her grandmother dies and her mother becomes depressed. (9-12)

Walking with Miss Millie
by Tamara Bundy
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin YR/PRH, $16.99)
978-0-399-54456-9
Alice, a white girl, learns about accepting loss and misjudging people during her daily walks with her elderly African American neighbor in 1960s Georgia. (10-12)

The Way to Bea
by Kat Yeh
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, $16.99)
978-0-316-23667-6
Bea turns to her poetry when her old friends reject her. Then, as she embarks on a quest to find the perfect labyrinth, she develops new friendships. (11-13)

Fantasy

Broken Pride (Bravelands series)
by Erin Hunter, illustrated by Owen Richardson
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-264202-8
A young lion, baboon, and elephant experience friendship, revenge, magic, and betrayal on the African savanna. First in a series. Finely detailed black-and-white spot art. (9-12)

The Crooked Sixpence (The Uncommoners series)
by Jennifer Bell, illustrated by Karl James Mountford
(Crown BFYR/Random House/PRH, $16.99)
978-0-553-49843-1
Eleven-year-old Ivy and her brother, Seb, 14, discover a magical underground world that holds clues to their parents’ disappearance and grandmother’s past. Black-and-white drawings. (9-12)

The Dragon with a Chocolate Heart
by Stephanie Burgis, illustrated by Freya Hartas
(Bloomsbury Children’s Books, $16.99)
978-1-68119-343-4
A feisty young dragon, turned into a girl by a food mage, has to make a livelihood as a human and becomes an apprentice chocolatier. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (10-12)

The Gauntlet
by Karuna Riazi
(Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster, $16.99)
978-1-4814-8696-5
An ancient game springs to life as soon as Farah, 12, and her friends begin playing. Now they must win the game or remain its prisoners. (9-12)

His Royal Whiskers: A Furry-Tailed Fairy Tale
by Sam Gayton, illustrated by Sydney Hanson
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster, $16.99) 978-1-4814-9090-0
A young alchemist, a “mathemagician,” and a giant cat (really a prince) stage a revolution to take down an evil czar. Sly and satirical. Clever pencil drawings. (9-12)
Fantasy, continued

Monsterland
by James Crowley
(G.P. Putnam’s Sons/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-399-17589-3
On Halloween, ten-year-old Charlie, grieving over the disappearance of his cousin, finds Monsterland, where vampires and ogres teach him about love, loss, and friendship. (9-12)

Nightlights
written and illustrated by Lorena Alvarez
(Nobrow, $18.95) 978-1-910620-13-7
When a new school friend threatens Sandy and her artwork, she finds a clever way to escape. The bright colors of her drawings of her fantasies contrast with the muted palette of her real world. (8-10)

Orphan Island
by Laurel Snyder
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-244341-0
Nine orphans live on an island. Each year, a boat arrives with a young child and departs with the oldest. Jinny is next to leave, but she doesn’t want to go. (10-12)

*Podkin One-Ear (Longburrow series)
by Kieran Larwood, illustrated by David Wyatt
(Clarion Books/HMH, $16.99) 978-1-328-69582-6
An elderly storyteller relates the adventures of Podkin, Paz, and Pook, young rabbits forced to flee the evil Gorm. Shaded pencil drawings. First in a series. (9-12)

*The Purloining of Prince Oleomargarine
by Mark Twain and Philip C. Stead, illustrated by Erin E. Stead
(Doubleday BFYR/Random House/PRH, $24.99)
978-0-553-52322-5
Kindness and friendship guide an unfortunate boy through adventures, expanding a long-forgotten Twain manuscript. Exquisite illustrations and book design. (10-13)

Rise of the Jumbies
by Tracey Baptiste
(Algonquin Young Readers/Workman Pub., $16.95)
978-1-61620-665-9
Corinne, half human girl and half Jumbie, must rescue missing children from her Caribbean island. The story's folkloric roots span the Atlantic. (9-11)

Siren Sisters
by Dana Langer
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, $16.99) 978-1-4814-6686-8
With her friend Jason, Lolly manages to destroy the spell cast on everyone deemed to be a siren. (10-13)

Threads of Blue
by Suzanne LaFleur, map by Jensine Eckwall
(Wendy Lamb Books/Random House/PRH, $16.99)
978-1-101-93999-4
Mathilde reunites with the other members of the Adolescent Army and awaits her punishment for her past treasonous act. Elegant black-and-white map. A sequel to Beautiful Blue World. (8-12)

Tumble & Blue
by Cassie Beasley
(Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, $17.99) 978-0-525-42844-2
Friends Tumble and Blue must confront the golden alligator who can undo a family curse that causes the children never to succeed. (9-12)

The Witch Boy
written and illustrated by Molly Knox Ostertag
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-338-08952-3
Aster is drawn toward witchcraft, which boys are not allowed to learn. Can he save the shapeshifters with magic? Diverse characters. Clean, colorful artwork. (9-12)
Historical Fiction

Ahimsa
by Supriya Kelkar
(Tu Books/Lee & Low, $18.95) 978-1-62014-356-8
When her Brahmin-born mother becomes a freedom fighter in 1942 India, Anjali, ten, finds she must overcome ingrained prejudices and superstitions as she also becomes an activist. Back matter. (9-12)

Bertha Takes a Drive: How the Benz Automobile Changed the World
written and illustrated by Jan Adkins
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-58089-696-2
In late 19th-century Germany, Bertha Benz drove 100 kilometers in a car developed by her husband, Karl. Based on a true story. Colorful Photoshop illustrations, engine diagrams, and timeline. Back matter. (8-11)

*Beyond the Bright Sea
by Lauren Wolk
(Dutton Children’s Books/PRH, $16.99)
978-1-101-99485-6
Orphaned as a newborn, Crow, 12, is determined to find her roots even if it means learning that she was born in a leper colony. Set on an island off the Massachusetts coast early in the 20th century. (9-12)

*Bronze and Sunflower
by Cao Wenxuan, illustrated by Meilo So, translated from the Chinese by Helen Wang
(Candlewick Press, $16.99) 978-0-7636-8816-5
During China’s Cultural Revolution, an orphaned city girl is adopted by a poor village family, and together they survive poverty, floods, and famine. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (10-12)

Calico Girl
by Jerdine Nolen
(A Paula Wiseman Book/Simon & Schuster, $16.99)
978-1-4814-5981-5
At the dawn of the Civil War, 12-year-old Callie Wilcomb’s family escapes slavery and flees to Union-held Fort Monroe, Virginia. Extensive back matter. (10-13)

Flowers for Sarajevo
by John McCutcheon, illustrated by Kristy Caldwell
(Peachtree, $19.95) 978-1-56145-943-8
When a mortar kills 22 people at a bakery, a musician plays his cello in the rubble for 22 consecutive days in remembrance. Affecting mixed-media illustrations. Includes CD with audio narrative and music by the cellist. (8-11)

Genevieve’s War
by Patricia Reilly Giff
(Holiday House, $16.95) 978-0-8234-3800-6
On the eve of World War II, French American Genevieve, 13, makes a fateful decision to remain with her grandmother in Alsace, France, and help with her farm. (9-12)

Lucky Broken Girl
by Ruth Behar
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin YR/PRH, $16.99)
978-0-399-54644-0
After Ruthie’s family flees Cuba for America in the 1960s, Ruthie is in a car accident and has to spend months in a body cast. Friends and family help her cope. (9-12)

The Many Reflections of Miss Jane Deming
by J. Anderson Coats
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, $16.99)
978-1-4814-6496-3
Promised a better life in the Washington Territory, a New England family boards a steamship that doesn’t deliver that promise. Stepdaughter Jane perseveres despite obstacles. (10-13)
Historical Fiction, continued

Mary Anning’s Curiosity
by Monica Kulling, illustrated by Melissa Castrillón
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $14.95)
978-1-55498-898-3
In early 19th-century England, determination, courage, and luck make the impossible possible for Mary Anning, a fossilist since childhood. Period illustrations and informative back matter. (9-12)

Miriam’s Secret
by Debby Waldman
(Orca Book Publishers, P $10.95) 978-1-4598-1425-7
In 1930, 10-year-old Miriam, staying at her grandparents’ upstate New York farm, makes a new friend and shares the celebration of Jewish holidays. (9-12)

Muddy: The Story of Blues Legend Muddy Waters
by Michael Mahin, illustrated by Evan Turk
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $17.99) 978-1-4814-4349-4
Moving from the deep South to Chicago’s South Side, Muddy Waters was inspired and determined to sing the blues his way. A fictionalized account. Bold mixed-media illustrations. (8-11)

My Brigadista Year
by Katherine Paterson, map by Mike Reagan
(Candlewick Press, $15.99) 978-0-7636-9508-8
In 1961 post-revolutionary Cuba, Lora, a 13-year-old student from Havana, faces dangerous situations while traveling to the mountains as a literacy campaign volunteer. Black-and-white map. Back matter. (10-13)

Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh
by Uma Krishnaswami
(Tu Books/Lee & Low, $16.95) 978-1-60060-261-0
For fifth grader Maria Singh, playing softball is everything. But will her father let her dress like the other girls? Set in California during WW II. (9-12)

Stolen Words
by Melanie Florence, illustrated by Gabrielle Grimard
(Second Story Press, $17.95) 978-1-77260-037-7
In contemporary Canada, a granddaughter helps her Cree grandfather remember words that a First Nations residential school took from him and rediscover the language’s familiarity and beauty. Muted color illustrations. (8-10)

*The War I Finally Won
by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
(Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-525-42920-3
In this sequel to The War That Saved My Life, Ada’s clubfoot is mended, but the stress of life during WW II in England and the pain from her past remain. (9-12)

The Warden’s Daughter
by Jerry Spinelli
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House/PRH, $16.99)
978-0-375-83199-7
In the summer of 1959, Cammie, 12, hopes to find a mother figure in one of the inmates at the prison her father runs in Pennsylvania. (9-12)

Humor

The Care and Feeding of a Pet Black Hole
written and illustrated by Michelle Cuevas
(Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-399-53913-8
Bereaved 11-year-old Stella has a very unusual pet: a black hole that swallows everything—including Stella and her younger brother. Humorous black-and-white sketches. (8-10)

Grandpa’s Great Escape
by David Walliams, illustrated by Tony Ross
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-256089-6
Jack plans the rescue of his wonderful grandfather, a World War II ace, from a ghastly old folks home. Funny black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)
Humor, continued

**Olga and the Smelly Thing from Nowhere**  
written and illustrated by Elise Gravel  
Olga dreams of becoming a great zoologist. Has she discovered a new—possibly alien—species? Quirky cartoon illustrations. (8-10)

**The Real McCoys**  
by Matthew Swanson, illustrated by Robbi Behr  
(Imprint/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-1-250-09852-8  
Someone has stolen Tiddlywhump Elementary School’s beloved owl mascot. Can ten-year-old Moxie unmask the culprit? Amusing black-and-white illustrations on every page. (8-11)

Magical Realism

**Boat of Dreams**  
written and illustrated by Rogério Coelho  
(Tilbury House, $22.95) 978-0-88448-528-5  
This dreamlike wordless picture book features an old man and a young boy. Sepia toned expressionistic storyboard-style illustrations. (8-11)

**In Darkling Wood**  
by Emma Carroll  
(Delacorte Press/Random House/PRH, $16.99)  
978-0-399-55601-2  
Alice’s little brother is recovering from a heart transplant. What do the fairies in her grandmother’s woods have to do with saving his life? (10-13)

**The Many Worlds of Albie Bright**  
by Christopher Edge  
(Delacorte Press/Random House/PRH, $16.99)  
978-1-5247-1357-7  
Albie Bright’s mother has died of cancer, but using a box, a banana, a Geiger counter, and her computer, can he travel to a parallel universe to find her? (9-12)

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*Me and Marvin Gardens*  
by Amy Sarig King  
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, $16.99)  
978-0-545-87074-0  
When Obe discovers a new animal species, he has to protect it from the neighborhood bullies and the encroaching housing development built on his family’s century-old farm. (9-12)

*A Properly Unhaunted Place*  
by William Alexander, illustrated by Kelly Murphy  
In this ghost story and memory-evoking tale, Rosa, daughter of the town’s new ghost appeaser, helps the community resolve its deepest, darkest secret. Pencil illustrations. (9-12)

**Wishtree**  
by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Charles Santoso  
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $16.99)  
978-1-250-04322-1  
With gentle humor, Red, an old oak tree, narrates a story in which she faces her own mortality and gets her neighborhood to welcome a Muslim girl. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)
Science Fiction

Last Day on Mars (Chronicle of the Dark Star series)
by Kevin Emerson
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-230671-5
Liam and Phoebe, both 13, are the last humans left on Mars. They discover a plot to exterminate humankind. First in a series. (9-12)

The Last Panther
by Todd Mitchell
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-399-55558-9
In a future world where most animals are extinct, Kiri discovers a panther family. Can she save them from being hunted or locked up in a lab? (10-12)

*Sputnik’s Guide to Life on Earth
by Frank Cottrell Boyce
To prevent Earth’s destruction, Prez, a foster kid, and alien/dog Sputnik must find Prez’s imprisoned grandfather and “10 things worth seeing or doing.” Will they succeed? (10-13)

Sports Stories

Baseball Genius (Jeter Publishing series)
by Tim Green and Derek Jeter
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, $16.99) 978-1-4814-6864-0
How does a 12-year-old math whiz realize his dream of playing for the big leagues when his hard-working Italian immigrant father can’t even afford to pay the tuition for the travel team? (9-13)

*Harry Miller’s Run
by David Almond, illustrated by Salvatore Rubbino
(Candlewick Press, $16.99) 978-0-7636-8975-9
As he helps pack Harry Miller’s belongings, Liam, 11, hears about the time Harry ran a half marathon in 1938. Colorful mixed-media illustrations. (9-12)

Today

Books and Bricks: How a School Rebuilt the Community
by Sindiwe Magona, illustrated by Cornelius Van Wright
(Star Bright Books, $8.99) 978-1-59572-779-4
In contemporary South Africa, parents and children get excited about improving their school and community opportunities. Realistic, soft black-and-white drawings. Extensive back matter. (8-10)

A Boy Called Bat
by Elana K. Arnold, illustrated by Charles Santoso
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-244582-7
A young boy who has difficulties in human relationships falls in love with an orphan skunk. Black-and-white illustrations. (8-10)

*Clayton Byrd Goes Underground
by Rita Williams-Garcia, illustrated by Frank Morrison
(Amistad Press/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-221591-8
When his beloved grandfather, a blues guitarist, dies, Clayton struggles with the loss and with his desire to continue pursuing his own dream of playing the blues on his harmonica. Black-and-white spot art. (9-12)
Today, continued

*Letters to a Prisoner
written and illustrated by Jacques Goldstyn, author’s note translated from the French by Angela Keenlyside
(Owlkids Books, $18.95) 978-1-77147-251-7
In this nearly wordless story, a father’s peaceful protest leads to harsh imprisonment by hostile forces until a deluge of letters from supporters arrives. Colorful pen and ink illustrations. (9-12)

Lights, Camera, Cook! (Next Best Junior Chef series)
by Charise Mericle Harper, illustrated by Aurélie Blard-Quintard
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $12.99) 978-0-544-91260-1
Four preteen chefs engage in a challenging competition to create complicated dishes using a wide range of techniques and ingredients. Friendship and personal growth ensue. Humorous illustrations. First in a series. (8-11)

Matylda, Bright & Tender
by Holly M. McGhee
(Candlewick Press, $16.99) 978-0-7636-8951-3
A ten-year-old tries to overcome her grief and remorse over her best friend’s death by caring for his beloved lizard. (9-11)

The Notations of Cooper Cameron
by Jane O’Reilly
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, $17.99) 978-1-5124-0415-9
Spending the summer at a lake cabin, the scene of his grandfather’s death two years earlier, gives Cooper opportunities to confront his fears and grief. (10-12)

Once You Know This
by Emily Blejwas
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $16.99) 978-1-5247-0097-3
Brittany’s new teacher at her urban school provides art and new ideas that help her to cope with her many challenges at home. (9-12)

Outside In
by Jennifer Bradbury
(A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $16.99) 978-1-4424-6827-6
Living on the streets in India, 12-year-old Ram becomes an apprentice to a hardworking sculptor. Inspired by the true story of Nek Chand, one of India’s most beloved artists. (9-12)

Patina (Track series)
by Jason Reynolds
(A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $16.99) 978-1-4814-5018-8
An African American tween who loves to run for her track team faces challenges at her posh new school and in her close-knit extended family. (10-12)

*Superstar
by Mandy Davis
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-237777-7
Space-obsessed ten-year-old Lester Musselbaum, on the autism spectrum, experiences the challenges of being a fifth grader in public school after years of home schooling. (9-11)

*Train I Ride
by Paul Mosier
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-245573-4
On a train from Palm Springs to Chicago to live with an uncle she’s never met, Rydr, 13, is also on a journey of self-discovery. (9-12)

The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street
written and illustrated by Karina Yan Glaser, map by Jennifer Thermes
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $16.99) 978-0-544-87639-2
When a large, happy family living on a friendly Harlem block is being forced to move by their mysterious, curmudgeonly landlord, the children devise a plan. Will it work? Spot pencil sketches. Map on the endpapers. (9-11)
**POETRY**

**Gone Camping: A Novel in Verse**
by Tamera Will Wissinger, illustrated by Matthew Cordell
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $15.99) 978-0-544-63873-0
This playful verse narrative includes family humor, adventure, and sibling rivalry. Black-and-white pen and ink illustrations. (8-11)

*I’m Just No Good at Rhyming and Other Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-Ups*
by Chris Harris, illustrated by Lane Smith
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, $19.99)
978-0-316-26657-4
One hundred hilarious poems, often irreverent, zany, and sometimes tender, surprise at every turn with their variety of themes and styles. Humorous textured mixed-media double-page spreads. (8-12)

**Miguel’s Brave Knight: Young Cervantes and His Dream of Don Quixote**
by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Raúl Colón
(Peachtree, $17.95) 978-1-56145-856-1
The imaginative man who wrote the first modern novel more than 400 years ago endured a difficult childhood. Extraordinary pen and ink and watercolor illustrations. (9-12)

*Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets*
by Kwame Alexander, with Chris Colderley and Marjory Wentworth, illustrated by Ekua Holmes
(Candlewick Press, $16.99) 978-0-7636-8094-7
An inspirational collection of poems paired with dynamic mixed-media illustrations emulate the style, feeling, and themes of 20 culturally diverse poets from various periods. References. Biographies. (10-13)

**INFORMATION BOOKS**

**Activities**

**The Playbook: 52 Rules to Aim, Shoot, and Score in This Game Called Life**
by Kwame Alexander, photographed by Thai Neave
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $14.99) 978-0-544-57097-9
Solid tips for being the best possible person you can be are presented within the framework of a basketball game. Black-and-white photographs. (9-12)
Activities, continued

Yoga for You: Feel Calmer, Stronger, Happier!
by Rebecca Rissman, illustrated by Colonel Moutarde
(Walter Foster Jr./Quarto Pub., $14.95)
978-1-63322-319-6
This introduction to the ancient practice presents two
yoga sequences, one energizing and one calming, with
35 illustrated poses. (9-13)

Animals

The Elephant Keeper: Caring for Orphaned Elephants
in Zambia (CitizenKid series)
by Margriet Ruurs, illustrated by Pedro Covo
(Kids Can Press, $18.99) 978-1-77138-561-9
After rescuing a drowning baby elephant, a young boy
gets a job as her caretaker at an elephant orphanage.
Muted mixed-media illustrations. (8-11)

Arts

*The Quilts of Gee’s Bend
by Susan Goldman Rubin
(Abrams BFYR, $21.95) 978-1-4197-2131-1
The women of an African American community in
Alabama have created striking abstract quilts for
generations while enduring dire circumstances and
backbreaking labor. A triumphant narrative illustrated
with photographs of the quilts. Back matter. (8-12)

*Silent Days, Silent Dreams
written and illustrated by Allen Say
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, $21.99)
978-0-545-92761-1
Deaf, autistic folk artist James Castle created amazing
works with spit and ashes. This fictionalized account
features original illustrations in his style. Bibliography.
(7-10)

Biography and Memoir

*Dangerous Jane
by Suzanne Slade, illustrated by Alice Ratterree
(Peachtree, $17.95) 978-1-56145-913-1
Evocative watercolors and poetic text portray the life of
social worker and activist Jane Addams, who devoted
her life to helping others and to the cause of peace.
Back matter. (8-12)

Finding the Edge: My Life on the Ice
by Karen Chen, with Natalie England, foreword by Kristi
Yamaguchi
(Harper/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-282268-0
National figure skating champion Karen Chen writes
about her challenges and victories as a shy girl hoping
for an Olympic medal in 2018. Photographs and back
matter. (9-12)

*Fred Korematsu Speaks Up (Fighting for Justice series)
by Laura Atkins and Stan Yogi, illustrated by Yutaka
Houlette
(Heyday, $18.00) 978-1-59714-368-4
Korematsu fought against discrimination and sought
justice for himself and other Japanese Americans who
were sent to internment camps during World War II.
Told in verse. Striking illustrations, photographs,
sources, bibliography, and other back matter. (9-13)

Frederick Douglass: The Lion Who Wrote History
by Walter Dean Myers, illustrated by Floyd Cooper
(Harper/HarperCollins, $17.99) 978-0-06-027709-3
Through determination and the wise decisions he made
when he was young, Douglass learned to read, escaped
from slavery, and became a leading abolitionist.
Expressive illustrations created with erasers and oil on
board. (8-11)
Biography and Memoir, continued

*The Legendary Miss Lena Horne
by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-4814-6824-4
Despite racial prejudice and political persecution, Horne became a successful performer and a vibrant civil rights activist. Oil and collage illustrations. (8-11)

The Magician and the Spirits: Harry Houdini and the Curious Pastime of Communicating with the Dead
by Deborah Noyes
(Viking/YR/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-8037-4018-1
A magician and an escape artist, Houdini also became obsessed with exposing phenomena related to ghosts and the spirit world. Sepia-toned archival photographs. Back matter. (10-12)

*Maya Lin: Thinking with Her Hands
by Susan Goldman Rubin
(Chronicle Books, $17.99) 978-1-4521-0837-7
Through interactive constructions, including the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial, architect/artist Maya Lin has contributed to new views on US history and the environment. Archival photographs, bibliography, source notes, index. (8-11)

Noah Webster’s Fighting Words
by Tracy Nelson Maurer, illustrated by Mircea Catusanu
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $19.99) 978-1-4677-9410-7
This witty portrayal of the creator of the first American English dictionary includes editorial comments by his "fictional ghost." Lively collage-style illustrations. Back matter. (8-11)

Our Story Begins: Your Favorite Authors and Illustrators Share Fun, Inspiring, and Occasionally Ridiculous Things They Wrote and Drew as Kids
edited by Elissa Brent Weissman
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, $17.99) 978-1-4814-7208-1
Twenty-six notable, diverse authors and illustrators of children’s and young adult books talk about their childhood efforts. Includes original examples of their early work. (10-13)

*Pathfinders: The Journeys of 16 Extraordinary Black Souls
by Tonya Bolden
(Abrams BFYR, $24.95) 978-1-4197-1455-9
Meet Sissieretta Jones, concert singer, Eugene Bullard, combat pilot, and 14 other African American women and men who achieved great success as bankers, soldiers, filmmakers, architects, attorneys, mathematicians, and spies. Archival images and photographs. Back matter. (9-12)

*Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library
by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Eric Velasquez
(Candlewick Press, $16.99) 978-0-7636-8046-6
Free verse poetry and vivid oil paintings depict Arturo Schomburg’s life and work researching and collecting black historical and cultural materials. Back matter. (9-12)

Ecology

*Grand Canyon
written and illustrated by Jason Chin
(A Neal Porter Book/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-59643-950-4
Information about the geology of the Grand Canyon is seamlessly interwoven into the story of a father and daughter exploring the canyon’s natural wonders. Breathtakingly detailed panoramic scenes. Well referenced. (9-12)
Ecology, continued

The New Ocean: The Fate of Life in a Changing Sea
written and illustrated by Bryn Barnard
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House/PRH, $18.99)
978-0-375-87049-1
What will become of marine life as the oceans grow more polluted and global warming increases? Tales of six sea creatures describe that decline. Oil on canvas illustrations. Glossary. Sources. (10-13)

Health

Not So Different: What You Really Want to Ask about Having a Disability
by Shane Burcaw, photographed by Matt Carr
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, $17.99)
978-1-62672-771-7
Shane answers questions about living with SMA, a rare form of muscular disease, with cheery candor. He aims to break barriers and make friends. Appealing photographs. (8-10)

History

Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story
by Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace
(Calkins Creek/Boyds Mills Press/Highlights, $17.95)
978-1-62979-428-0
Journal entries, photographs, and numerous archival illustrations enhance the saga of an ill-fated exploratory voyage to the North Pole in 1879. Back matter. (10-13)

Dazzle Ships: World War I and the Art of Confusion
by Chris Barton, illustrated by Victo Ngai
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $19.99) 978-1-5124-1014-3
Hoping to confuse German submarines, Britain and America painted their World War I ships with bold brightly colored geometric patterns. Mixed-media illustrations reflect the decorations that were used to disguise the vessels. (8-11)

The Good Fight: The Feuds of the Founding Fathers (and How They Shaped the Nation)
by Anne Quirk, illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House/PRH, $16.99)
978-1-5247-0035-5
This lively and humorous account portrays the rivalry and disagreements among five founding fathers. Pencil illustrations. Sources, bibliography. (10-13)

The Great American Foot Race: Ballyhoo for the Bunion Derby!
by Andrew Speno
(Calkins Creek/Highlights, $17.95) 978-1-62979-602-4
In 1928, 199 runners began a marathon race from Los Angeles to New York; 54 finished. Photographs and extensive back matter. (9-12)

Her Right Foot
by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Shawn Harris
(Chronicle Books, $19.99) 978-1-4521-6281-2
Learn the symbolic relevance, past and present, of the Statue of Liberty. Engaging construction paper and India ink illustrations. (8-11)

*Motor Girls: How Women Took the Wheel and Drove Boldly into the Twentieth Century
by Sue Macy, foreword by Danica Patrick
(National Geographic Children’s Books, $18.99)
978-1-4263-2697-4
Automobiles in the early 1900s had a dramatic impact on women’s lives, allowing them to work as ambulance drivers during in World War I, travel across the United States campaigning for suffrage, and more. Photographs, index, primary sources. (10-13)

*Soldier Song: A True Story of the Civil War
by Debbie Levy, illustrated by Gilbert Ford
(Disney-Hyperion Books, $18.99) 978-1-4847-2598-6
On opposite sides of a river, Union and Confederate troops each mourned their dead, but once they played music together across the divide. Extensive back matter and expressive illustrations. (8-11)
Law and Justice

*A Fair Deal: Shopping for Social Justice*
by Kari Jones
(Orca Footprints/Orca, $19.95) 978-1-4598-1043-3
Learn about the history of trade and the importance of purchasing goods made by workers who are treated and compensated fairly. Photographs. (10-12)

**This Is Our Constitution: Discover America with a Gold Star Father**
by Khizr Khan
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House/PRH, $16.99) 978-1-5247-7091-4
Mr. Khan, a lawyer, provides the historical context of the Constitution, a cornerstone of American democracy, explaining it amendment by amendment for today’s young people. Back matter. (9-12)

The Wedding Portrait: The Story of a Photograph and Why Sometimes We Break the Rules
written and illustrated by Innosanto Nagara
(Triangle Square BFYR/Seven Stories Press, $17.95) 978-1-60980-802-0
Discover some of the different ways that people can take action when they see something that is wrong or unjust in the world. Striking collages. (8-12)

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)

*Be a Night Detective: Solving the Mysteries of Twilight, Dusk, and Nightfall*
written and illustrated by Peggy Kochanoff
(Nimbus Publishing/Orca, $14.95) 978-1-77108-464-2
Who’s out only at night, and why? Learn about cicadas, moths, skunks, and other nocturnal creatures. Watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (9-12)
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), continued

**Fooled Ya!: How Your Brain Gets Tricked by Optical Illusions, Magicians, Hoaxes & More**
by Jordan D. Brown, illustrated by Emily Bornoff
(MoonDance Press/Quarto, $14.95) 978-1-63322-158-1
Cartoon narrator Brian D. Brain guides readers through topics in neuroscience and psychology. Playful illustrations. Activities, glossary, and index. (9-12)

**From Here to There: The Story of How We Transport Ourselves and Everything Else (Smithsonian: Invention & Impact series)**
by HP Newquist
(Viking/PRH, $18.99) 978-0-451-47645-6
This detailed historical timeline of locomotion, along the ground, on the water, and in the air, also provides a peek at the future. Archival photographs. (10-13)

**How Many Guinea Pigs Can Fit on a Plane?: Answers to Your Most Clever Math Questions**
by Laura Overdeck, illustrated by Jim Paillot
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $17.99) 978-1-250-07229-0
How can you solve these zany math questions? Helpful photographs and colorful illustrations. Resources and seven slick tricks. (9-12)

**If Sharks Disappeared**
written and illustrated by Lily Williams
(Rearing Brook Press/Macmillan, $17.99) 978-1-62672-413-6
Sharks may seem fearsome, but if they all disappeared, life on earth would be in peril. Clear, bold illustrations. Glossary, back matter, references. (8-10)

**Impact!: Asteroids and the Science of Saving the World (Scientists in the Field series)**
by Elizabeth Rusch, photographed by Karin Anderson
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $18.99) 978-0-544-67159-1
Follow scientists who have made significant breakthroughs as they search for asteroids that might collide with Earth. Color photographs, charts, and back matter. (9-12)

**Karl, Get Out of the Garden!: Carolus Linnaeus and the Naming of Everything**
by Anita Sanchez, illustrated by Catherine Stock
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-58089-606-1
A boy’s love of nature led him to give a scientific name to every living thing and create taxonomy, the system still used to classify and name organisms. Watercolor and pen and ink illustrations. Sources. (8-10)

**Land Mammals of the World: Notes, Drawings, and Observations about Animals That Live on Land (Animal Journal series)**
written and illustrated by Juan Carlos Alonso
(Walter Foster Jr./Quarto Pub., $19.95) 978-1-63322-196-3
Text and scientific illustrations detail a wealth of information about mammals, both common and esoteric. (10-13)

**Lesser Spotted Animals: The Coolest Creatures You’ve Never Heard Of**
written and illustrated by Martin Brown
(David Fickling Books/Scholastic, $18.99) 978-1-338-08934-9
Find out about little-known animals with outlandish names, from the numbat to the zorilla and many in between. Amusing illustrations. Glossary, back matter. (8-10)
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), continued

Life on Surtsey: Iceland’s Upstart Island (Scientists in the Field series)
by Loree Griffin Burns, illustrated by Sarah Green
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $18.99) 978-0-54468723-3
An Icelandic entomologist and his crew tirelessly follow the geological and ecological changes on an island formed by a 1963 volcanic eruption. Spot illustrations and photographs. Extensive back matter. (9-12)

Lost in Outer Space: The Incredible Journey of Apollo 13 (Lost series)
by Tod Olson
(Scholastic Press, $12.99) 978-0-545-92815-1
Black-and-white archival photographs illustrate a riveting account of the ill-fated Apollo 13 mission. Includes glossary and source notes. (9-13)

• Made by Hand series
  *Bicycles (978-1-4814-7896-0)
  *Skateboards (978-1-4814-7896-0)
by Patricia Lakin
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, $17.99 each)
Follow step-by-step as craftsmen create bicycles and skateboards. Clear text, color photographs, and diagrams convey the pleasure and satisfaction of making something by hand. (8-10)

Older Than Dirt: A Wild but True History of Earth
by Don Brown and Mike Perfit, illustrated by Don Brown
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $18.99) 978-0-544-80503-3
A ground hog and an earthworm narrate a history of the creation of Earth. Colorful graphic format and detailed sources in back matter. (8-11)

Zoo Scientists to the Rescue
by Patricia Newman, photographed by Annie Crawley
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $33.32) 978-1-5124-1571-1
Three scientists bring their knowledge of endangered species to zoos, guiding the animals’ care. Clear format with photographs that enhance the text. Back matter. (8-12)