

FICTION

Applegate, Katherine

Wishtree

A red oak tree and a crow help their human neighbors work out their differences

Barnes, Derrick

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut

Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair.

Cao, Wenxuan

Bronze and Sunflower

Taken in by a poor family in a rural village after the death of her father, Sunflower bonds with the family's only child, Bronze, who has not spoken since being traumatized by a terrible fire.

Erdrich, Louise

Makoons

Named for the Ojibwe word for little bear, Makoons and his twin, Chickadee, have traveled with their family to the Great Plains of 1860s Dakota Territory. There they must learn to become buffalo hunters and once again help their people make a home in a new land. But Makoons has had a vision that foretells great challenges -- challenges that his family may not be able to overcome

King, A.S.

Me and Marvin Gardens

Obe Devlin spends a lot of his time cleaning up the creek that runs through what little is left of his family's once extensive farmland, and worrying about what the developers are doing nearby, and the pollution it is causing--but one day he finds a strange creature by his creek that eats plastic, and soon the animal he calls Marvin Gardens becomes his personal secret, which he believes needs to be protected from pretty much everybody.

MacLachlan, Patricia

Just Dance

On a farm in the middle of the prairie, ten-year-old Sylvie struggles to understand why her mother gave up singing on stage while she sets off on an adventure of her own as the town reporter.

Medina, Juana

Juana and Lucas

A spunky young girl from Colombia loves playing with her canine best friend and resists boring school activities, especially learning English, until her family tells her that a special trip is planned to an English-speaking place.

Oh, Ellen

Flying Lessons and Other Stories

From basketball dreams and family fiascos to first crushes and new neighborhoods, this anthology, written by award-winning children's authors, celebrates the uniqueness and universality in all of us.

Shofner, Corabel

Almost Paradise

When twelve-year-old Ruby's mother goes to jail, Ruby finds her Aunt Eleanor, an ornery nun with some dark secrets, who Ruby hopes will help free her mother.

Williams-Garcia, Rita

Clayton Byrd Goes Underground

Clayton feels most alive when he's with his grandfather, Cool Papa Byrd, and the band of Bluesmen -- he can't wait to join them, just as soon as he has a blues song of his own. But then the unthinkable happens. Cool Papa Byrd dies, and Clayton's mother forbids Clayton from playing the blues. And Clayton knows that's no way to live. He runs away from home in search of the Bluesmen, hoping he can join them on the road.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

D.G., Gigi

Cucumber Quest: The Doughnut Kingdom

The seven kingdoms of Dreamside need a legendary hero. Instead, they'll have to settle for Cucumber, a nerdy magician who just wants to go to school. As destiny would have it, he and his way more heroic sister, Almond, must now seek the Dream Sword, the only weapon powerful enough to defeat Queen Cordelia's Nightmare Knight. Can these bunny siblings save the world in its darkest hour?

Jamieson, Victoria

All's Faire in Middle School

Homeschooled by Renaissance Fair enthusiasts, eleven-year-old Imogene has a hard time fitting in when her wish to enroll in public school is granted.

Sturm, James

Ape & Armadillo Take Over the World

Armadillo is trying to come up with a plan for global domination but with every new idea, being a bad guy seems a little less fun-especially if ruling the world means losing your best friend.

Yang, Gene Luen

Secret Coders: Potions and Parameters

Dr. One-Zero won't stop until the whole town--no, the whole world--embraces the "true happiness" found in his poisonous potion, Green Pop. And now that he has the Turtle of Light, he's virtually unstoppable. There's one weapon that can defeat him: another Turtle of Light. Unfortunately, they can only be found in another dimension! To open a portal to this new world, Hopper, Eni, and Josh's coding skills will be put to the test.

NON-FICTION

Brown, Don

Older than Dirt: A Kinda-Sorta Biography of Earth
Conveys the history of the Earth in humorous graphic novel format, from the big bang through continent formation, discussing how weather events and climate change continue to shape the landscape.

Chin, Jason

Grand Canyon
An exploration of the Grand Canyon on a grand scale, as only Jason Chin can illustrate and explain.

Eggers, Dave

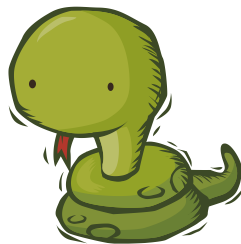
Her Right Foot
In this fascinating, fun take on nonfiction, uniquely American in its frank tone and honest look at the literal foundation of our country, Dave Eggers and Shawn Harris investigate a seemingly small trait of America's most emblematic statue.

Frier, Raphael

Malala: Activist for Girls' Education
Describes how a young Pakistani activist was violently targeted by the Taliban for her efforts to secure educational rights for girls.

Macy, Sue

Trudy's Big Swim: How Gertrude Ederle Swam the English Channel and Took the World by Storm
Tells the story of Gertrude Ederle's 1926 swim across the English Channel, describing how she overcame difficult environmental, physical, and cultural challenges to become the first woman to establish her historic record.



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RECOMMENDED READS

