

WEST 44 BOOKS™

FALL 2024 CATALOG



Cover art from *The Brujos of Borderland High*.
See page 24.

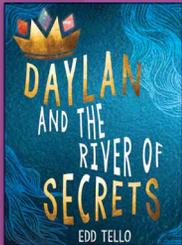
WEST 44 BOOKS™

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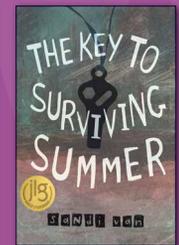
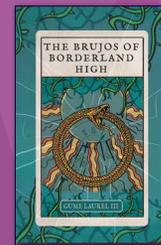
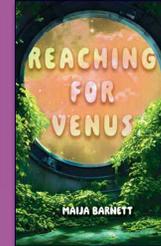


NEW FICTION FROM WEST 44 BOOKS

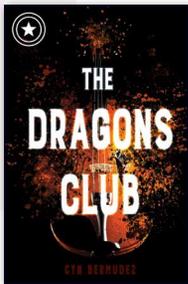
MIDDLE GRADE NOVELS IN VERSE



YOUNG ADULT NOVELS IN VERSE



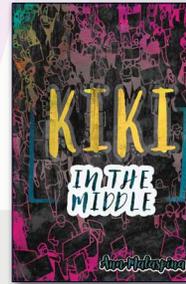
KIRKUS/STARRED REVIEWS



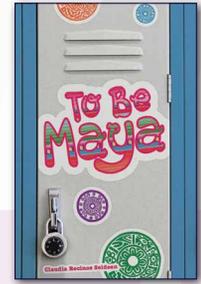
The Dragons Club
★ "Sharp, tender, carefully crafted; highly recommended for both strong and striving readers." —*Kirkus, STARRED Review*



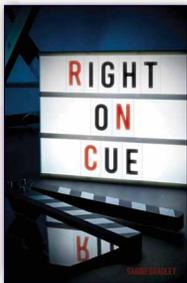
Chiara in the Dark
★ "A sympathetic and ultimately hopeful story of strength." —*Kirkus, STARRED Review*



Kiki in the Middle
"An entry point for reluctant readers to explore the personal side of social justice issues." —*Kirkus*



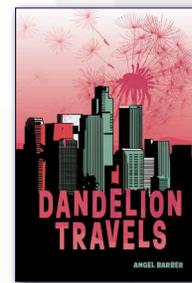
To Be Maya
"A strong voice and lyrical prose center the experiences of a Guatemalan American teen." —*Kirkus*



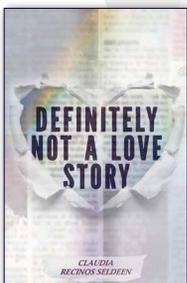
Right on Cue
"A compact, emotionally resonant tale ideal for reluctant readers." —*Kirkus*



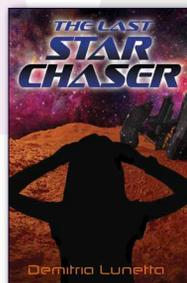
Things That Burn
"Emotional turmoil and environmental threats are skillfully handled in this accessible novel in verse." —*Kirkus*



Dandelion Travels
"A strong, emotionally complex choice for reluctant readers." —*Kirkus*



Definitely Not a Love Story
"An endearingly romantic story told in engaging verse.... Captivating and sweet." —*Kirkus Reviews*
"Artfully expresses the emotional roller coaster of Ana's travails, which feel familiar and are sometimes heartbreaking." —*Publishers Weekly*



The Last Star Chaser
"A survival story with a vulnerable realism.... A thrilling science-fiction narrative with appeal for reluctant readers." —*Kirkus Reviews*

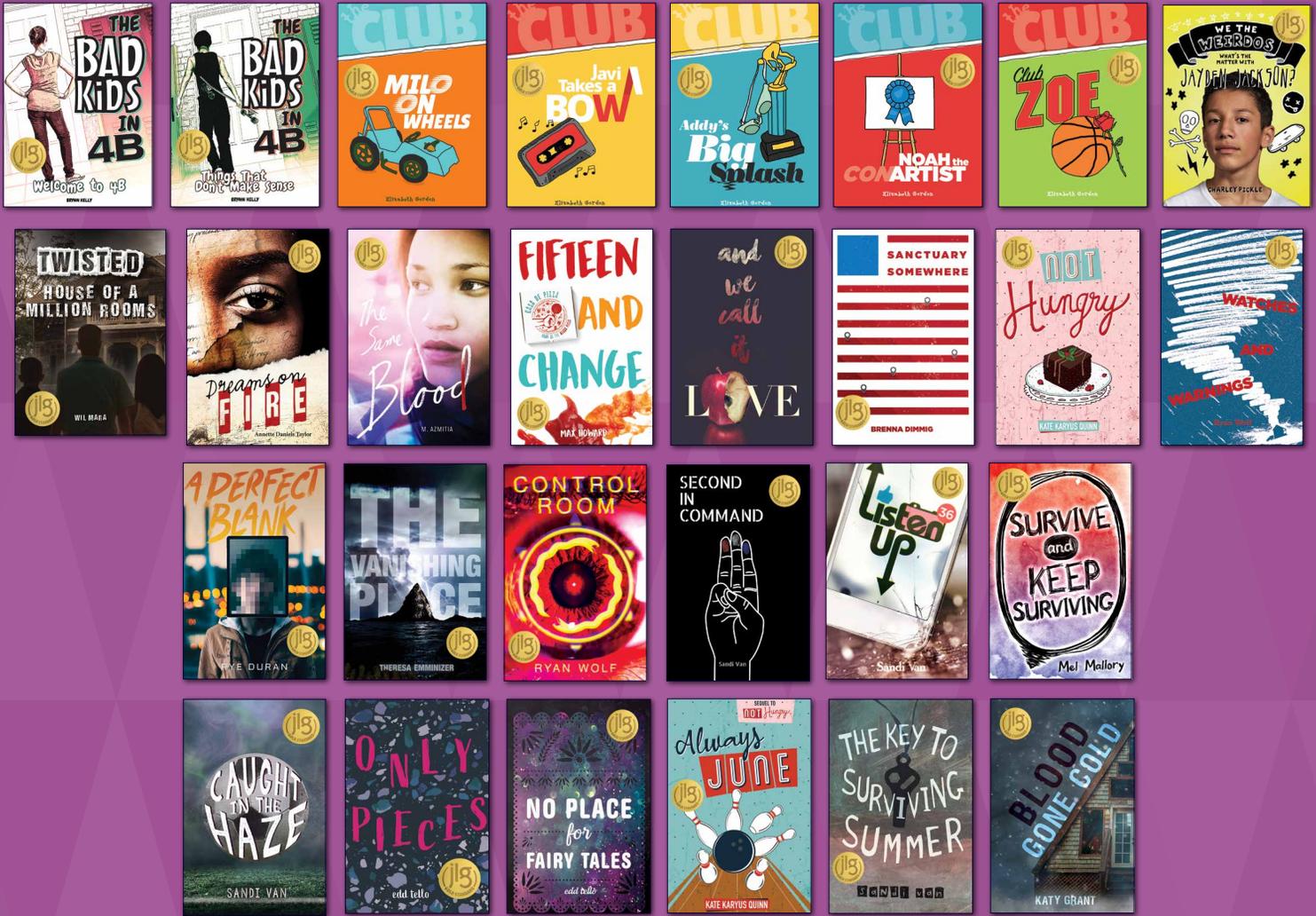


Sign Me Up
"A reluctant reader story that both validates differences and contains plenty of roller rink action." —*Kirkus Reviews*

AWARD-WINNING WEST 44 BOOKS TITLES



JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTIONS



**IN THE MARGINS
BOOK AWARD
WINNERS**

**2021
LONE STAR
READING LIST**

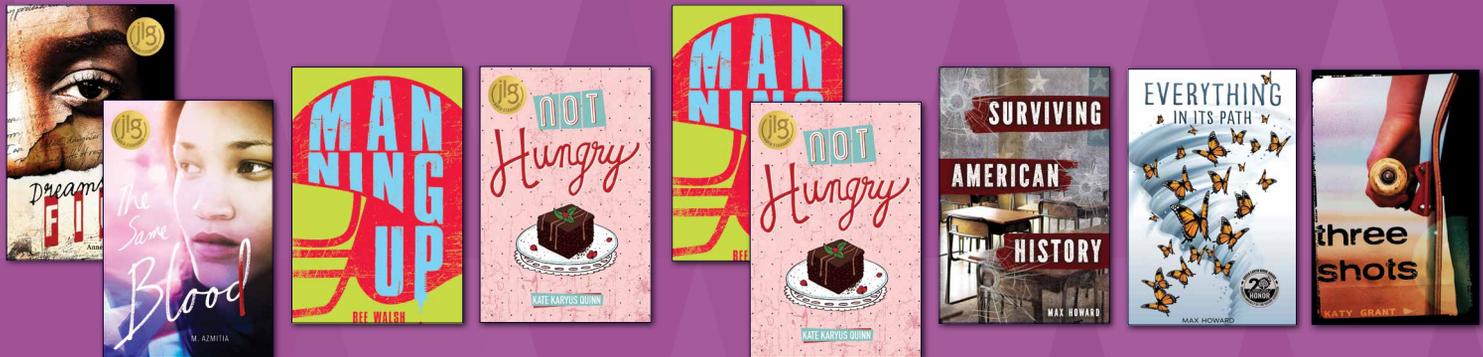
**2021
TAYSHAS
READING LIST**

**YALSA QUICK PICKS
FOR RELUCTANT
READERS**

**NORTH STAR
YA AWARD
(MAINE)**

**2024
GREEN EARTH
BOOK AWARD
HONOREE**

**WINNER OF THE
YADUEBOOKS
2024 REVIEWERS'
CHOICE AWARDS**



August

DAYLAN AND THE RIVER OF SECRETS

BY: EDD TELLO

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597471

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597495

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597488

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 ¼" x 7 ½" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Twelve-year-old Daylan hasn't gone swimming in years, not since he had a frightening encounter in El Naci river with Cihuamichin—a legendary water woman with the power to bring either safety or destruction to his small Mexican community. Daylan often has nightmares about Cihuamichin. At school, he's bullied for his fear of swimming and his social anxiety. When a new kid named Eliam starts at Daylan's school, Daylan is forced to confront feelings that he has about himself, and maybe even get in the water again. But Eliam becomes part of a troublesome crew, joining them as they break the water woman's rules. When they threaten the safety that Daylan and his town desperately need, Daylan must find a way to overcome his fear of the river—and take the plunge.

MONDAY AT SCHOOL

means wearing navy blue trousers, a uniform shirt, and well-cleaned shoes.

"I put your sandwich in your lunch box!" Mom yells as I walk to the school doors.

"I—I know," I stammer.

At least she's not blowing kisses at me anymore.

Mom is a counselor at a high school. She believes that's why she always says the "right words."

Brissia's eyes are glued to a page as I enter our classroom.

H

Brissia is the town's star swimmer.

Before even saying hello, she says, with a smile that shows her braces, "Look, look!"

She hands me the page:

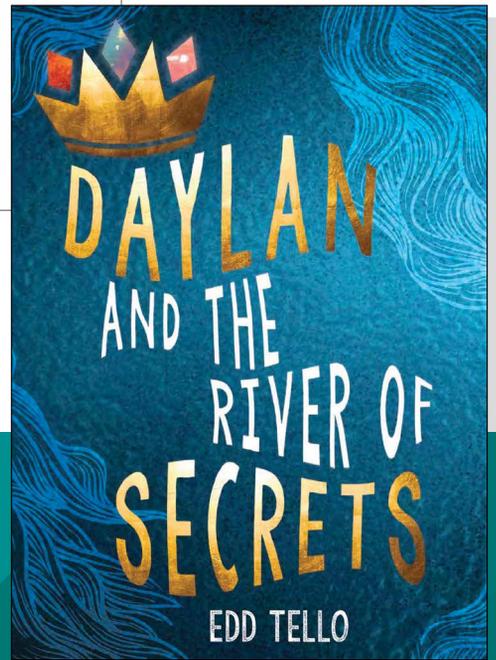
THE SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO THE OPEN WATER SWIMMING COMPETITION

Another thing to stress about besides math.

Brissia thinks she can help me swim again. I'm not sure about that.



Edd Tello is the author of the young adult books *Only Pieces* (2022) and *No Place for Fairy Tales* (2023) from West 44 Books. Both titles are Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections. Edd holds a master's degree in creative writing from the University of Seville. When he isn't reading or writing, you can find him drinking coffee or making his friends laugh with his unfortunate anecdotes and jokes. Edd currently lives in Vancouver, Canada. You can find him online at eddtello.com, and @eddstello on socials.



August

DAYLAN Y EL RÍO DE LOS SECRETOS (DAYLAN AND THE RIVER OF SECRETS)

BY: EDD TELLO

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597563

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597587

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597570

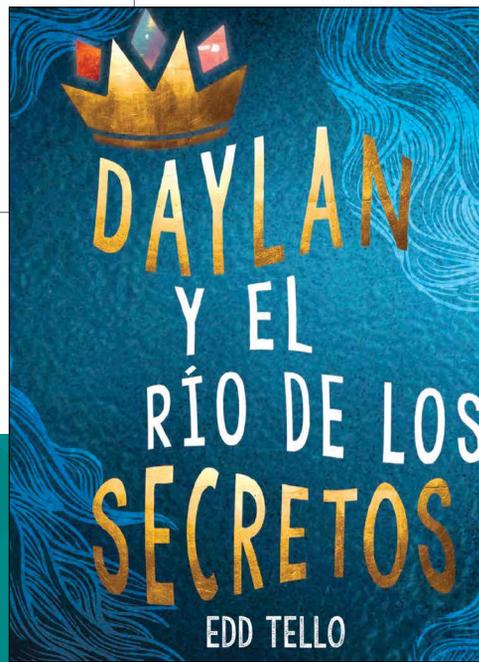
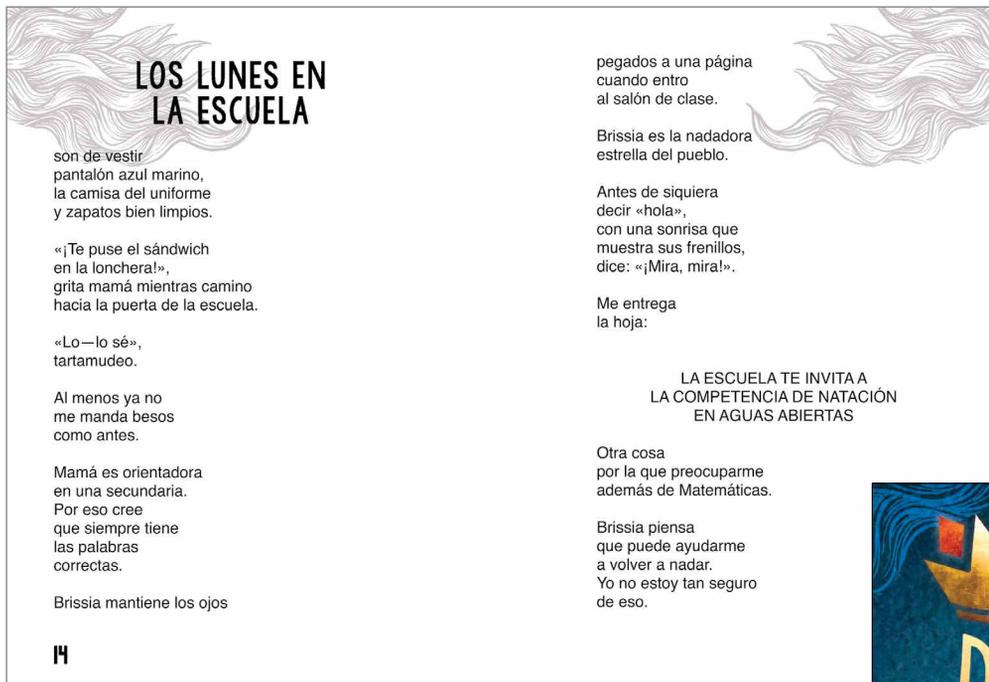
GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 ¼" x 7 ⅛" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

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FICTION

NEW FALL 2024!



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December

LIAM AND THE GIANT EELS

BY: ANN MALASPINA

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597532

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597556

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597549

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Giant eels have invaded the Jersey Shore town where 12-year-old Liam is spending the summer at Gramps's cottage. The eels chew up postcards in mailboxes, get into Mom's paints, and cause traffic accidents. No one knows why the eels are so enormous, or how to stop them from crawling everywhere. Some answers could lie in the journals Gramps left behind before he died last fall. Does it have to do with the local power plant? Will the stubborn town leaders listen to a couple of kids? Liam and his new friend Ceila set out to crack the mystery of the giant eels, but one wrong step could get them into a world of trouble.

FICTION

NEW FALL 2024!

SURPRISE

Liam braked his bike
at Gramps's seashell driveway.

He reached
into the mailbox
like he did every day.

Something—
warm,
slimy, alive

(and definitely not mail)—

jumped out
like a birthday surprise.

Only Liam's
12th birthday
was a month ago.

"Whaaat!"

8

SLIDE, SLITHER, SLIP

The animal climbed up
Liam's right arm.

It crawled across his shoulders.

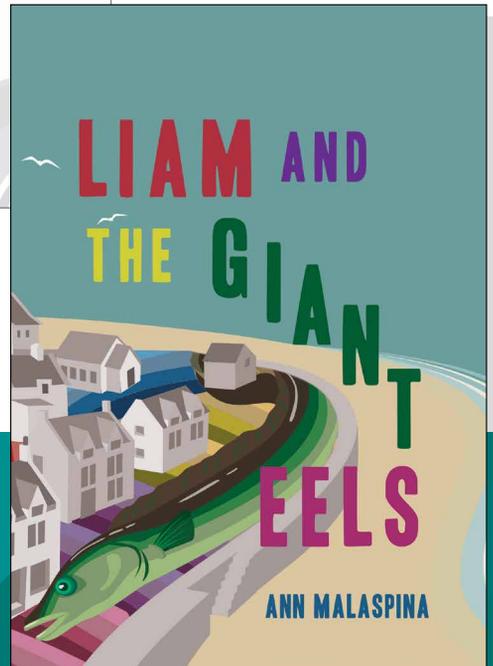
Slid to the ground.
Slithered across the driveway.
Slipped across the road.

Liam watched in shock
as it
DISAPPEARED
into the storm gutter.

Was this the
"something odd"
Rosie was talking about?



Ann Malaspina is an award-winning author of books for young people. She often writes about social justice and civil rights. Ann has an MFA in writing for children and young adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts. When not writing, Ann likes to listen to spoken word poetry, visit art museums, and travel. She is also the author of the YA verse novel *Kiki in the Middle*. Check out her website at www.annmalaspina.com.



October

THE FABIAN FILE

BY: DAVID ARO

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597501

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597525

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597518

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Ace hates sharing a computer with his older sister, Nora. When Ace and Nora get into a fight over the computer, they're both grounded from using it. But Ace has a new idea he wants to work on—designing a magician character named Fabian who reminds him of learning magic tricks with his absent father. Ace sneaks onto his mom's top-secret work computer in the middle of the night. But when Ace saves the Fabian file, something strange happens. Fabian comes to life on the screen and starts deleting files. When Ace and Nora try to fix the issue, they're sucked into the computer world. Now the siblings have no choice but to work together before Fabian erases everything on the hard drive—including them.

FICTION

NEW FALL 2024!



I Can't

sleep at night.

I'm like a wide-eyed owl under the moon.

Even when I do manage to squeeze in a few z's,

all I can think about is tapping on the keys.

By day three, it feels like I have bugs in my bed.

I claw at my arms and legs.

I'm ready to break free from my skin.



Dream

Then it hits me.

I wake with a magician glued to my brain.

His name, Fabian.

Tall. Slender. Purple top hat and matching suit.

A deck of cards fanned out in his hands.

I take a random card from him.

It's the ace of diamonds, as if he's calling to me.



20



David Aro is the author of several stories for young readers, including the middle grade verse novel *My Own Spin*, the *Alton Heights All-Stars* hi/lo series, and the picture book *Slam Dunk Sammy*. He is a former Collegiate All-American basketball player, conference player of the year, and college coach. When he is not spending time with his family, coaching his kids, or playing table tennis, he follows his passion of writing children's books. You can visit him online at www.davidaro.com.

TELL ME WHY THE JACK PINE GROWS

BY: D. J. BRANDON

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597235

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597259

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597242

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Meadow is enjoying a carefree country summer, tending her beloved 4-H chickens and freely exploring the outdoors. Content at home with her father, brother, and Nanna, Meadow wishes she could stay a kid forever. Everything changes the day the man in the green car stops her on the road, alarming her with an uncomfortable request. The brief encounter fills her with a strange new anxiety that she can't share with anyone. As fear fills her every move, she makes her world smaller and smaller to feel safe. But when a friend is also approached by the driver of the green car, Meadow realizes she must talk about what happened to protect others. Like the jack pine growing from the rocky cliff, Meadow can't fight growing up any longer, but maybe she can change her corner of the world for the better.

MY FREEDOM WAS THE CREEK

and the road
that took me there.

I close the chicken gate
and wander
down
the
driveway.
Glancing to the right.
Then to the left.

My eyes follow
the rolling hills
of County Road Nine.

And my heart
trembles.
*What if the green car
comes back?*

Will I
ever
dare
to walk our road
again?

THE CONSTANT CHIRP OF CRICKETS

makes the night air
BUZZZZ.

Through my open bedroom window,
moonlight seeps.

It forms
a pool of light
across my bed.

On the walls,
eerie shadows
dance.

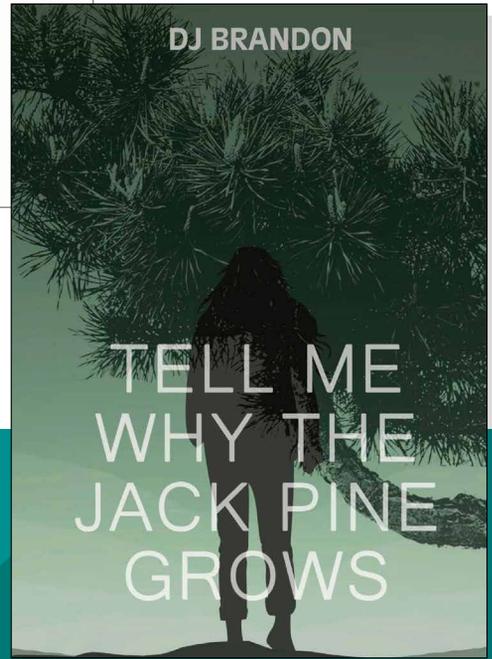
The rest of the house
is sleeping.
But
I
am

wide awake.

28



D. J. Brandon had a long career in nursing before setting out to turn her dream of writing stories for kids into a new career. West 44 Books' *Graveyard Gruber* series followed. Now, with *Tell Me Why the Jack Pine Grows*, she has written her first novel in verse for middle grade. D. J. is the mother of two grown children and has welcomed five beautiful grandchildren who inspire her writing every day. Visit her at www.djbrandonauthor.com.



MY OWN SPIN

BY: DAVID ARO

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597266

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597280

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597273

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Twelve-year-old Arlo doesn't want to stand in his big sister's shadow on the basketball court. He wants to do something different. Something he can call his own. A Ping-Pong master at home, Arlo decides to try his hand at the Olympic sport of table tennis. But he quickly learns it is a completely different game than the one he grew up playing in the basement. Also, he's not the only kid who takes Ping-Pong seriously. As Arlo enters the world of competitive table tennis, he finds himself challenged unlike ever before. Will Arlo give up when it gets hard or find a way to persevere against all odds?

FICTION

NEW SPRING 2024!

CANDY WRAPPER

Of course, Zoe starts with the jokes.

I feel like the empty candy wrapper shoved under the seat.

My thoughts are folded over on each other. And sticky.

I like Ping-Pong. A lot.

I thought I was pretty good. Before today.

If I'm going to lose that bad, maybe it would be better if it were to Zoe?

At her game of basketball. On the driveway.

At least then she'd help me,

instead of making jokes about me losing to a man with a cane!



LEAVE ME ALONE

I bounce a ball on the bottom of the racket's handle.

It isn't loud enough to block the knock at my door.

Of course, it's Zoe coming back for more.

I know I give you a hard time.

It's my way of showing you I care.

But I can't leave for college tomorrow with you still mad at me.

Reviews/Awards:

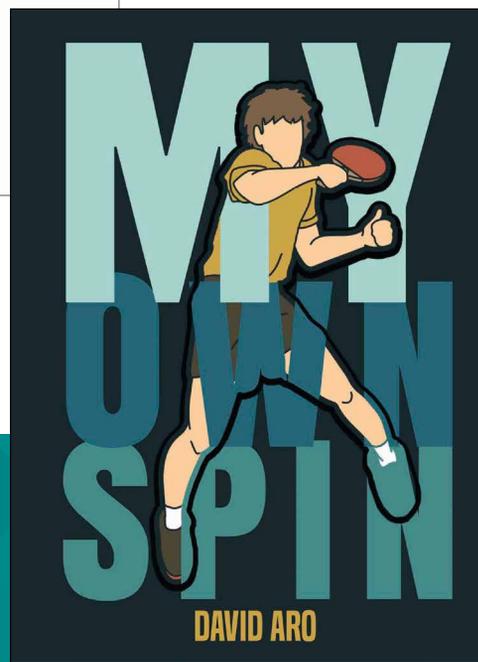
June 2024

Hot Off the Press Reading List

10



David Aro is the author of several stories for young readers, including the *Alton Heights All-Stars* hi/lo series and the picture book *Slam Dunk Sammy*. He is a former Collegiate All-American basketball player, conference player of the year, and college coach. When he is not spending time with his family, coaching his kids, or playing table tennis, he follows his passion of writing children's books. You can visit him online at www.davidaro.com.



THE MEMORY VAMPIRES

BY: RYAN WOLF

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597204

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597228

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597211

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Twins Adam and Adriana Carver couldn't be more different these days, but they are forced to spend time together on a family vacation in a remote New England village. Though the neighborhood looks charming, the locals are spacey and distant. They seem barely able to speak. Soon the twins' parents begin forgetting everyday things—the locations of keys and parked cars. This quickly escalates into something far more troubling. As the adults start losing their core memories, the twins must hunt down the nightmarish cause of this tragedy. But the monsters in this peaceful seaside community prove far darker and more threatening than anything they might have imagined.

I nudged Adriana.
But she wouldn't
look up
from her phone.

"See the lighthouse?"
I asked.

At the end
of the pier,
a white tower
stood over
the waves.
Beyond it,
tiny boats sailed
beneath cloudless skies.

"Uh-huh,"
she said.

She still
didn't bother
looking.

Adriana used
her phone
more than I
ever used mine.



We turned again.
The harbor
disappeared behind
more maples.

"We're staying near
the old mines,"
Mom told us.
"They dug for
silver and lead
around here.
Right up
until the 1910s."

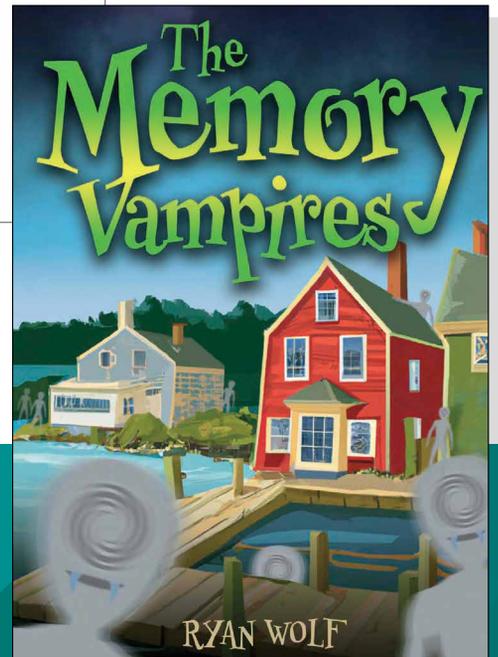
"I thought
we were staying
on the water,"
I said,
disappointed.

"We are,"
Dad said.
"By a little river
that flows
into the bay."

10



Ryan Wolf is the author of novels for young adult and middle grade readers, as well as the *Creepy Critter Keepers* chapter book series for children. He has also published stories, poems, and nonfiction, and appeared in episodes of the paranormal investigation series *Death Walker*. Ryan holds his B.A. from Canisius College and his M.A. in the humanities from the University of Chicago. He currently resides in Buffalo, New York, with his wife and daughter.



DISASTER TRAIL

BY: KATY GRANT

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596887

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596900

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596894

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Oliver loves mountain biking on rocky, wooded trails. And he has an unlikely partner—his much older half sister Morgan. One summer evening while out with their dog Digby, Oliver tries to impress Morgan by leading her down a new trail he claims to know. They end up at the bottom of a canyon with no choice but to push their bikes up the steep trail. Then disaster strikes. Morgan slips and badly injures her ankle. With no cell service, it's up to Oliver to hike out and get help. But daylight is fading fast, and danger waits in the wilderness.

ROCKS, DIRT, SPEED

It's like flying.
Bouncing over a
rocky dirt trail.

It's like flying
but a lot bumpier.

Rise up out of
your seat.
Grip your handlebars
with your fingerless gloves.

Keep your fingertips
on your brakes ready
to squeeze.

Then point
your bike
downhill
and fly.



2

SPEED DEMON

Speed demon.
That's what Morgan
calls me.

Me—Oliver Weiss.
I've actually got
a cool nickname.

When we're going uphill,
Morgan goes first.
She's a lot faster and stronger.

But when we're going downhill,
she lets me go first.
She says I'm faster.
She's just being nice.

Morgan is really good at sports.
All I ever played was
soccer and T-ball way back
in elementary school.

She knows a ton
of stuff about mountain biking.
Now she's teaching me.

Reviews/Awards:

"A harrowing survival adventure in which a teen must keep a calm head when disaster strikes. . . . Grant depicts the unfolding sibling relationship and Oliver's burgeoning self-confidence with tenderness and heart."

—Publishers Weekly



Katy Grant is the author of nine novels for young readers. For many years, she taught creative writing and composition courses at the college level. A native of Tennessee, she now lives in Arizona with her husband. She enjoys travel, hiking, biking, and spending time with her two adult sons.



MOVING THROUGH WALLS

BY: RYAN WOLF

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596917

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596931

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596924

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Dennis feels out of place after moving to a gloomy town where his dad accepted work at a controversial chemical plant. He struggles to fit in and soon senses something may be very wrong with his new middle school. When he finds the journal of a student who went missing decades ago, he begins exploring the haunting truth behind the disappearance. Everything points to a dark and strange reality lurking behind the walls of the school itself. Dennis must uncover a long-buried secret if he hopes to make it through the year.

WEEKEND

Wish
I had
a better grip
on life.

I spend most
of the weekend
dreading school
on Monday.

With each box
I unpack,
it's like I'm giving up
a little of
who I was.

I find
old yearbooks.
Flip through
the faces
I knew.

I can try
to keep up
with everyone
online.

But things
will never be
the same.

24

MONDAY

While
waiting
for the bus,
I see smoke
spewing
from
Gardenview Chemical.

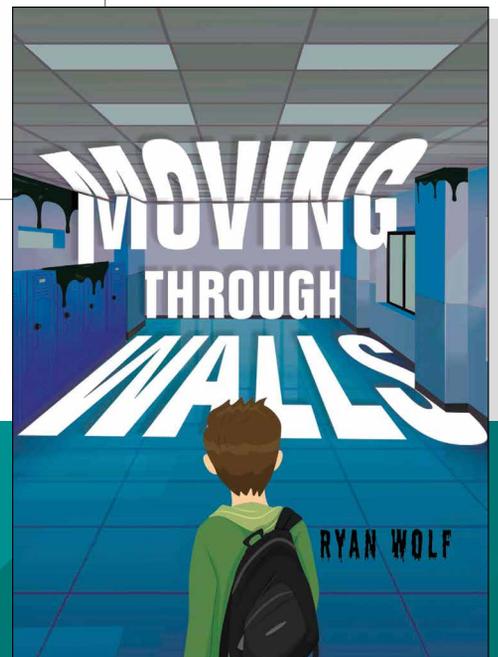
It's less than
a mile away.
Casting clouds
over this
wasteland
of a neighborhood.

I hope
my dad's job
is worth it.

Because
everything
feels
up in smoke
to me.



Ryan Wolf is the author of the young adult novels *Watches and Warnings* (2019) and *Control Room* (2020), as well as the *Creepy Critter Keepers* chapter book series for children. He has published stories, poems, essays, reviews, and journalism. Ryan holds his BA from Canisius College and his MA in the humanities from the University of Chicago. He currently resides in Buffalo, NY, with his wife and daughter.



NORA WRIGHT AND THE SECRETS OF THE KNIGHT

BY: MAX HOWARD

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596856

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596870

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596863

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 ¼" x 7 ⅛" • 160 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Twelve-year-old Nora's mom manages The Knight, a medieval theme restaurant on the verge of shutting down for good. When Nora and her new friend Mavis stop by The Knight to borrow costumes for their school play, a snowstorm hits. Nora and Mavis are trapped overnight with Diane, the restaurant's eccentric cook. Nora is familiar with Diane's many tall tales, so she doesn't pay much attention to her strange theory about hidden gold. But when they find evidence that Diane might be telling the truth, Nora starts to wonder if treasure really is hidden in the crumbling castle—and if it could save the restaurant.

FICTION



Last year
in sixth grade
Ms. Simmons
asked me to
help with the
school play.

I ran the spotlight.

So I really was a light maker.

This year, Ms. Simmons asked me to be
Tech Director.

It's a big step up.

Now I can borrow
keys to the
light booth. Keys to the
workshop. Keys to the
power tool
cupboard. Keys to the
costume room.

2



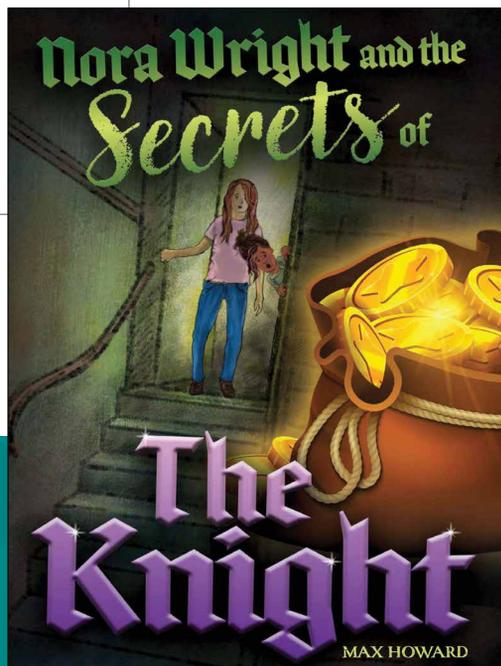
Last year
Liam Benes was the
tech director. Now he's at
Oso High.

I'm the
first seventh
grader to do this
job.

Last year my best friend
Britta did
stage crew, too.

She always forgot her cues.

But we got to throw
confetti
over the crowd.
We made it snow.



Max Howard is the author of *Everything in Its Path*, *Fifteen and Change*, *The Water Year*, and *Surviving American History*. Max's writing has received recognition from the American Library Association (YALSA), the Junior Library Guild, and the North Star YA Award committee.



CREEPY CRITTER KEEPERS

By Ryan Wolf

Bruce, Mei, Nia, and Pablo are best friends whose lives are perfectly normal—until they find an alien in their neighborhood. Can they keep it in their tree-house fort, and how can they take care of it? Soon, the friends find out they've unlocked a whole world of mischief and mayhem, as they encounter more and more creepy critters. The Creepy Critter Keepers have to use their teamwork, smarts, and hearts to save the day!

HC ed.: \$23.25 / \$17.45 • eBook: \$23.25 / \$17.45
PB ed.: \$13.35 / \$11.60

5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 64 pp. • Illustrations, Meet the Characters Infographic, Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section

See page 64 for Ryan Wolf's bio.



CAN WE KEEP A BIGFOOT?

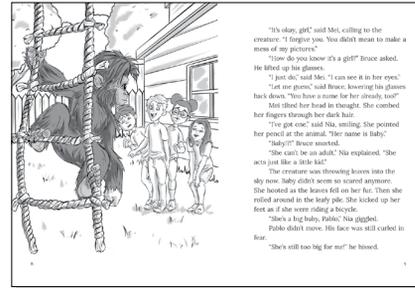
Hardcover: 9781538384558 • eBook: 9781538384572 • Paperback: 9781538384565
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CAN WE KEEP A WEREWOLF?

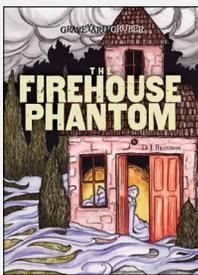
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CAN WE KEEP AN ALIEN?

Hardcover: 9781538384527 • eBook: 9781538384541 • Paperback: 9781538384534
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"It's okay, girl," said Mei, calling to the creature. "I forgive you. You didn't mean to make a mess of my glasses."
"I see do," said Mei. "I can see it in her eyes."
"I'm not going," said Bruce, lowering his glasses back down. "You have a name for her already, right?"
Mei tilted her head in thought. She combed her fingers through her dark hair.
"I've got one," said Mei, smiling. She pointed her pencil at the animal. "Her name is baby."
"Baby?" Bruce asked.
"She can't be an adult," he explained. "She acts just like a little kid."
The creature was throwing leaves into the sky now. Baby didn't seem so scared anymore. She looked at the leaves fall on her face. Then she rolled around in the leafy pile. She kicked up her feet as if she were riding a bicycle.
"She's a big baby, huh?" he giggled.
Pablo didn't move. His face was still curled in fear.
"She's still too big for me!" he hissed.



GRAVEYARD GRUBER

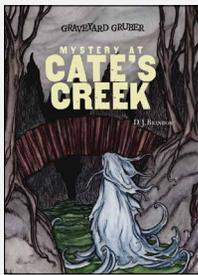
By D. J. Brandon

Grady Gruber thinks he'll never shake his laughable name. That is, until he discovers his hidden talent for ghost whispering, and earns the name Graveyard Gruber. Now, he and his friends set out to take on the ghosts of their small town—including a cranky cemetery caretaker, a 19th-century tween who haunts Cate's Creek, and the Firehouse Phantom. Graveyard Gruber is determined to right past wrongs and bring comfort to the restless spirits who seem to find him.

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See page 62 for D. J. Brandon's bio.



THE FIREHOUSE PHANTOM

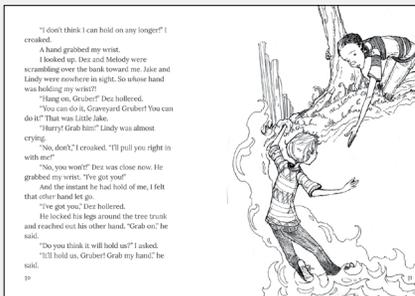
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THE LEGEND OF GRAVEYARD GRUBER

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MYSTERY AT CATE'S CREEK

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"I don't think I can hold on any longer!" I cried out.
A hand grabbed my wrist.
I looked up. Dez and Mebody were scrambling over the bank toward me. Just as I landed, they were nowhere in sight. So whose hand was holding my wrist?
"Hang on, Gruber!" Dez yelled.
"You can do it, Graveyard Gruber! You can do it!" That was Little Jake.
"Hang on, Gruber!" Mebody was almost crying.
"No, don't!" I cried out. "I'll pull you right in with me!"
"No, you wait!" Dez was close now. He grabbed my wrist. "He's got you!"
And the instant he had hold of me, I felt that other hand let go.
"The girl you!" Dez yelled.
He locked his legs around the tree trunk and reached out his other hand. "Grab on!" he said.
"Do you think it will hold up?" I asked.
"I'll hold on, Gruber! Grab my hand!" he said.
10



THE MARVELOUS MARVELLA J.Q.

By Annette Daniels Taylor

Marvella Juanita Quincy is a little girl with a big personality. She likes to collect sunglasses and spend time in the Big City. When Marvella's parents get divorced, she's forced to leave behind everything she's ever known. Then, Marvella discovers a secret power she has within her—the ability to communicate with animals—and her life is changed forever.

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See page 94 for Annette Daniels Taylor's bio.



MARVELLA FINDS HER MAGIC

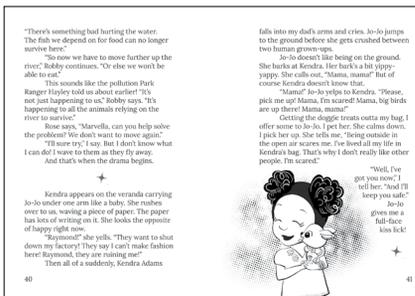
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MARVELLA IS A MODEL!

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MARVELLA TAKES FLIGHT

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"There's something bad hurting the water. The fish we depend on for food can no longer survive!"
"So now we have to move further up the river," Bobby continues. "Or else we won't be able to eat."
This sounds like the pollution Park Ranger hadler told us about earlier! "It's not just happening to us," Bobby says. "It's happening to all the animals relying on the river to survive."
Bobby says, "Marvella, can you help solve the problem? We don't want to move again."
"I'll sure try," I say. But I don't know what I can do. I want to them as they fly away. And that's when the drama begins.

falls into my dad's arms and cries. So-to jumps to the ground before the gets crushed between two human grown-ups.
So-to doesn't like being on the ground. She looks at Kendra. Her burk's a bit yippy-yippy. She calls out, "Mama, mama!" But of course Kendra doesn't know that.
"Mama!" So-to yelps to Kendra. "Please, pick me up! Mama, I'm scared! Mama, big birds are up there! Mama, mama!"
Getting the doggie treats outta my bag, I offer some to So-to. I pet her. She calms down. I pick her up. She tells me, "Icing outside in the open air scares me. I've lived all my life in Kendra's bag. That's why I don't really like other people. I'm scared."
"Well, I've got you now," I tell her. "And I'll keep you safe."
So-to gives me a full-face lion lick!



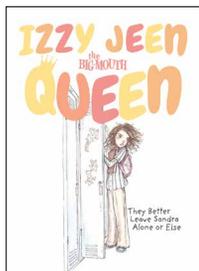
IZZY JEEN THE BIG-MOUTH QUEEN

By Wil Mara

Izzy is determined to get her way, no matter what. Nicknamed Izzy Jeen the Big-Mouth Queen by a classmate, she can't always control her words or temper, and that can lead to big trouble! Through her adventures and misadventures, Izzy learns how to fight for what's right. But can she keep her cool?

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EMMA SANCHEZ IS NOT MOVING AWAY!

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NO ONE CLOSES MY PARK AND GETS AWAY WITH IT

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THEY BETTER LEAVE SANDRA ALONE OR ELSE

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WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FAVORITE FLAVOR?!

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WHOEVER STOLE MY BIKE IS GONNA GET IT

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LOGAN LEWIS: KID FROM PLANET 27

By Wil Mara

To all Earth-dwellers, Logan Lewis might look like a normal kid. But he's actually an alien from Kepri, or Planet 27. His parents are Keprian scientists who have been sent to Earth to study humans, and Logan is along for the ride. Logan is ready to jump headfirst into the human-kid experience, but can he keep his cover?

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THE CREEPY OLD HOUSE

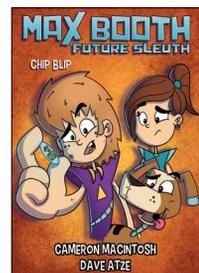
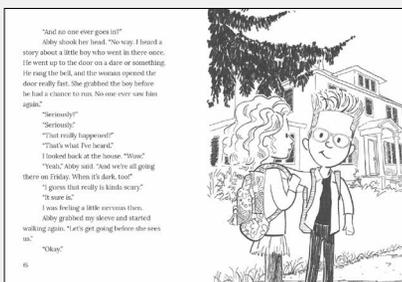
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THE GIRL WHO KNOWS EVERYTHING

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THE MEANEST BOY AROUND

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MAX BOOTH: FUTURE SLEUTH

By Cameron Macintosh, Illustrated by Dave Atze

Max Booth is on a mission. In the year 2424, this 11-year-old orphan is determined to survive his futuristic society all on his own. He's scrappy and smart, using his investigative skills to earn his keep. Everyday items from today's world are unknown in 2424, and it's Max's job to identify them. With his trusty—and sometimes neurotic—robotdog by his side, Max sets out to unlock the answers to the technological mysteries of his time. Now, he just has to outsmart some sinister and strange characters and keep important artifacts out of the wrong hands!

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40
PB ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20

6" x 8 1/4" • 120–144 pp. • Map, Excerpt from another book in series, Suggestions for further reading, About the Author section, Spot illustrations



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MINECRAFT® EXPLORERS

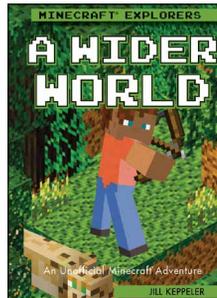
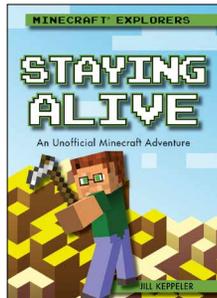
By Jill Keppeler

For Matt Lopez and his friends Dave, Jaz, and Kayla, *Minecraft* was just a game, their favorite game, to be sure, but just a game. Then, Matt acquired a very special virtual reality headset and found himself in the world of *Minecraft*! These books will draw in young *Minecraft* fans with intriguing stories as the friends venture into the world, learning how to survive and create their own place with their gaming know-how. Useful fact boxes meld gameplay tips with real-life STEM knowledge related to the game, and challenges related to game survival will pull readers in.

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Matt sounded fine, she thought, rounding a corner in the dark. He sounded relieved. Well, so was she.

And there he was. He looked OK. In fact, he was holding...

"Diamonds!"

Matt held them out to her, grinning. "I wasn't looking when I was placing torches," he admitted. "And that gravel pit fell apart underneath me! I fell down into it!"

He frowned briefly. "I couldn't breathe for a second...but I dug myself out. Still, I was stuck down here." He looked around. "And I didn't have many torches left."

■ A PLAYER CAN SUFFOCATE OR DIE FROM BEING UNABLE TO BREATHE. IN MINECRAFT, THIS CAN HAPPEN FROM BEING UNDERWATER TOO LONG OR HAVING GRAVEL OR SAND DROP ON THEIR HEAD.

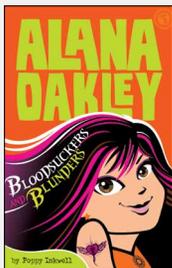


There was only one torch placed, right at his feet. Jaz looked down at it. "And you just happened to be stuck in a cave with diamonds?"

"Yep!" Matt sounded far too cheerful. He continued to hold them out to her. Finally, Jaz put her hands out. Matt spilled the gemstones...five, six, seven, eight!...into her hands.

"Thanks for finding me!" he told her. "Now, let's take our treasure and our obsidian and get out of here!"

MIDDLE GRADE



ALANA OAKLEY

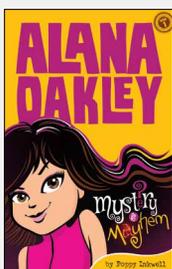
By Poppy Inkwell

Alana Oakley is a fresh and upbeat mystery series. Gutsy and bold, teen sleuth Alana Oakley, along with her unique group of friends, deftly wrangles misdeeds, mysteries, and her slightly absurd mother. This set is fast-paced with just the right balance of comedy, crazy antics, and serious messages for readers.

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5" x 7 3/4" • 256–352 pp. • About the Author



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BLOODSUCKERS AND BLUNDERS

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MYSTERY AND MAYHEM

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TORMENT AND TRICKERY

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CHAPTER 1

Matt, Jordan, Sandberg, and
the Orange Boyz.

3 February, First Year of High School

Alana Oakley took the train to a station. She was really early for school today, excited and nervous to begin high school. A tremendous throng accompanied her final jump onto the landing, prompting her mom, Emma, to look up from her computer.

Alana looked to her mother, who resembled her in so many ways. They shared almond-shaped eyes, although Alana's had flecks of blue, whereas Emma's were a warm brown.

Their funny hair stuck out at matching odd angles, and their skin was the same honeyed shade. Alana had the way her mouth, like Emma's, it reminded her of sun-kissed peach-rose and flesh. It was the smell of home. The only thing Alana seemed to have inherited from

her father were his dimples. They made her look like she was always up to something, even when she wasn't.

"Whoa, look, dad!" Her mom took a second look, taking in the new uniform. "Oh my, it's new today, is it?"

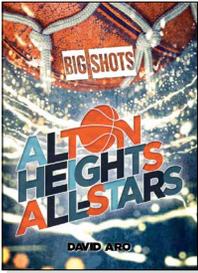
"Yep. First day of high school. Mom, remember?" But of course, Emma never did. Or if she did, she got the date wrong. Important stuff. Her whole life revolved around when school was needed to be paid, so she'd be right out of her head. Emma had her! In her words, like an indelible ink on her forehead.

Since the death of Alana's dad, Hugo, three years ago, things had become worse.

Emma's eyes widened with shock to the clipped a hand to her mouth.

"I was sure it was next week. Have you got everything you need?"

Alana ran through the list of things she'd done on the entrance exam and achieved a scholarship to Clinton High. Check. Bought school supplies



ALTON HEIGHTS ALL-STARS

By David Aro

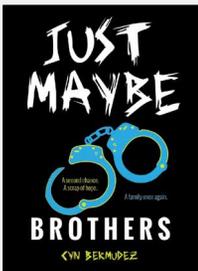
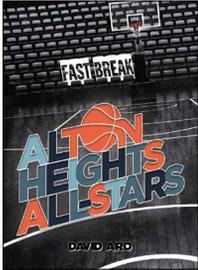
What happens when a school cuts its basketball team? The kids who live in the Alton Heights housing complex need to come up with a plan fast. That's how the Alton Heights All-Stars team is born. They may not have matching jerseys, a coach, or even a regular court to practice on, but they make up for it with perseverance and heart. Cam, Jasmine, Brianna, Tyler, and Markus prove to everyone that they're not just playing around; they're out to be all-stars.

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5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 64 pp. • Further Information Section, Illustrations, Meet the Characters Infographic, Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"Simple vocabulary and sentence structure, combined with frequent inset illustrations and short chapters, make this a classic high/low transitional chapter book for older readers."
—*Booklist* (On *Alton Heights All-Stars*)



BROTHERS

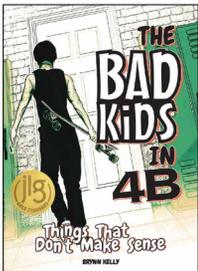
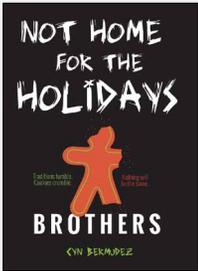
By Cyn Bermudez

The Reyes siblings have been separated by the incarceration of their mother and are living in different foster homes. Victor and Isaac have one connection to their old life: the emails they sneak to each other, detailing the experiences they have adjusting to their new homes. Can they hold on to their family with the distance between them? Will things ever go back to normal?

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THE BAD KIDS IN 4B

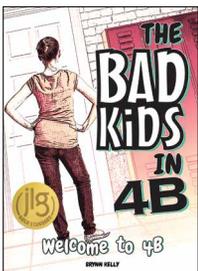
By Brynn Kelly

The kids in classroom 4B have a reputation as the "baddest" kids in school. What no one sees is that each kid has a reason for acting that way. Mila has been removed from her mom's care and placed with her aunt, whom she doesn't trust. Landon has trouble learning, but doesn't want anyone to know. Jordan's father was recently sent to jail. Jayme has been taking care of her younger siblings while her mother starts dating again. Together, the "bad kids" in 4B learn about acceptance, stepping out of their molds, and confronting life's challenges.

HC ed.: \$24.55 / \$18.45 • eBook: \$24.55 / \$18.45
PB ed.: \$14.85 / \$12.90

5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 88 pp. • Further Information Section, Illustrations, Meet the Characters Infographic, Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Visit West44books.com for Brynn Kelly's bio.



BIG SHOTS

Hardcover: 9781538382202 • eBook: 9781538383100 • Paperback: 9781538382196
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

FAST BREAK

Hardcover: 9781538382189 • eBook: 9781538383094 • Paperback: 9781538382172
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

MEET ME ON THE COURT

Hardcover: 9781538382127 • eBook: 9781538383063 • Paperback: 9781538382110
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

NOTHING BUT NET

Hardcover: 9781538382141 • eBook: 9781538383070 • Paperback: 9781538382134
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ©2020

SWISH

Hardcover: 9781538382165 • eBook: 9781538383087 • Paperback: 9781538382158
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2020

See page 61 for David Aro's bio.

JUST MAYBE

Hardcover: 9781538382363 • eBook: 9781538383186 • Paperback: 9781538382356
GRL: L • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

NOT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Hardcover: 9781538382349 • eBook: 9781538383179 • Paperback: 9781538382332
GRL: L • DEWEY: [E] • ©2020

TAKEN AWAY

Hardcover: 9781538382301 • eBook: 9781538383155 • Paperback: 9781538382295
GRL: L • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

THIS PLACE IS NOT MY HOME

Hardcover: 9781538382325 • eBook: 9781538383162 • Paperback: 9781538382318
GRL: L • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

Reviews/Awards:

"The series presents a realistic yet accessible look at a family encountering stressful circumstances. VERDICT: Written at a second and third grade reading level, *Brothers* is an unflinching exploration of a family navigating foster care."
—*School Library Journal* (On *Taken Away*)

CUTTING THROUGH THE NOISE

Hardcover: 9781538382288 • eBook: 9781538383148 • Paperback: 9781538382271
GRL: L • DEWEY: [Fic] • ATOS: 2.9 • ©2022

DETENTION IS A LOT LIKE JAIL

Hardcover: 9781538382264 • eBook: 9781538383131 • Paperback: 9781538382257
GRL: L • DEWEY: [E] • ATOS: 2.9 • ©2020

THINGS THAT DON'T MAKE SENSE

Hardcover: 9781538382240 • eBook: 9781538383124 • Paperback: 9781538382233
GRL: L • DEWEY: [E] • ATOS: 2.8 • ©2019

WELCOME TO 4B

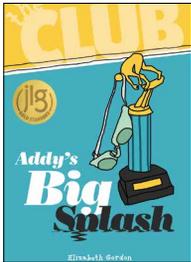
Hardcover: 9781538382226 • eBook: 9781538383117 • Paperback: 9781538382219
GRL: L • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

Reviews/Awards:

"One of those impressive fictional stories that is exceptionally entertaining while dealing with what is basically serious subject matter. As a result, *Welcome to 4B* is unreservedly recommended for family, school and community library fiction collections."
—*The Midwest Book Review* (On *Welcome to 4B*)

JLG Gold Standard Selections

Things That Don't Make Sense
Welcome to 4B



THE CLUB

By Elizabeth Gordon

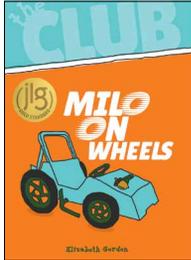
Every day after school, kids in the Parkside neighborhood hang out at the community rec center, which they call The Club. Milo, Noah, Zoe, Javi, and Addy couldn't be more different, but they have one thing in common, The Club. The Club has a way of pushing their comfort zones and making them try new things, from competing in the annual go-kart rally to starring in a musical. Together, they'll learn some tough life lessons, discover their strengths, and find their true friends.

HC ed.: \$24.55 / \$18.45 • eBook: \$24.55 / \$18.45
PB ed.: \$14.85 / \$12.90

5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 88 pp. • Further Information Section, Illustrations, Meet the Characters Infographic, Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"A realistic, hopeful take on meeting challenges and making friends." —Kirkus (On *Milo on Wheels*)



Visit West44books.com for Elizabeth Gordon's bio.

ADDY'S BIG SPLASH

Hardcover: 9781538382448 • eBook: 9781538383223 • Paperback: 9781538382431
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ATOS: 3.1 • ©2020

CLUB ZOE

Hardcover: 9781538382424 • eBook: 9781538383216 • Paperback: 9781538382417
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ATOS: 3.0 • ©2021

JAVI TAKES A BOW

Hardcover: 9781538382462 • eBook: 9781538383230 • Paperback: 9781538382455
GRL: M • DEWEY: [E] • ATOS: 3.3 • ©2020

MILO ON WHEELS

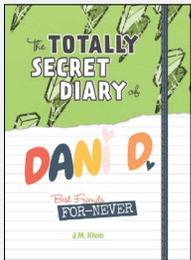
Hardcover: 9781538382387 • eBook: 9781538383193 • Paperback: 9781538382370
GRL: M • DEWEY: [E] • ATOS: 3.4 • ©2019

NOAH THE CON ARTIST

Hardcover: 9781538382400 • eBook: 9781538383209 • Paperback: 9781538382394
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ATOS: 3.4 • ©2021

JLG Gold Standard Selections

Addy's Big Splash, Club Zoe, Javi Takes a Bow, Milo on Wheels, Noah the Con Artist



THE TOTALLY SECRET DIARY OF DANI D.

By J. M. Klein

Dani D. is the new girl in school. She's determined to convince people that she is cool, talented, and worthy of being part of the popular crowd. Dani pretends she has no worries, but secretly she's dealing with her parents' separation and divorce and being forced to live with her strict grandparents. Dani's new clique isn't very understanding, and she's one misstep away from blowing her cover. Dani confides her feelings and the truth behind the lies she tells only in her diary, which is totally top secret.

HC ed.: \$23.25 / \$17.45 • eBook: \$23.25 / \$17.45
PB ed.: \$13.35 / \$11.60

5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 64 pp. • Further Information Section, Illustrations, Meet the Characters Infographic, Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

BEST FRIENDS FOR-NEVER

Hardcover: 9781538382028 • eBook: 9781538383018 • Paperback: 9781538382011
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

MY HOME IS A BATTLEFIELD

Hardcover: 9781538381984 • eBook: 9781538382998 • Paperback: 9781538381977
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

NEW SCHOOL, NEW ME!

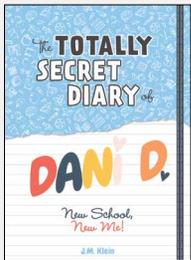
Hardcover: 9781538381960 • eBook: 9781538382981 • Paperback: 9781538381953
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

STAR OF THE SHOW

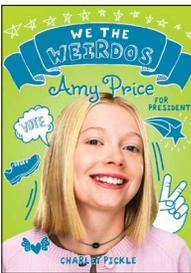
Hardcover: 9781538382004 • eBook: 9781538383001 • Paperback: 9781538381991
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2020

Reviews/Awards:

"The reading level will appeal to both younger readers and struggling older middle graders...This brief book's pat message: Be yourself."
—Kirkus (On *New School, New Me!*)



Visit West44books.com for J. M. Klein's bio.



WE THE WEIRDOS

By Charley Pickle

Four kids sit together at the outcast lunch table on the first day of middle school. Amy has a stutter, but wants to be class president. Maci would rather draw than talk to people. Eli is a pastor's kid who has been labeled a "goody two-shoes." Jayden often lashes out at people and gets upset in class. The kids have almost nothing in common, except one thing: they're the class weirdos. If they want to rise above their reputations, they're going to need to do it together.

HC ed.: \$23.25 / \$17.45 • eBook: \$23.25 / \$17.45
PB ed.: \$13.35 / \$11.60

5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 64 pp. • Further Information Section, Illustrations, Meet the Characters Infographic, Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

AMY PRICE FOR PRESIDENT!

Hardcover: 9781538382042 • eBook: 9781538383025 • Paperback: 9781538382035
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ATOS: • ©2019

ELI MICHAELS, RULE BREAKER

Hardcover: 9781538382103 • eBook: 9781538383445 • Paperback: 9781538382097
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ATOS: • ©2022

MACI MASAKI MAKES HER MARK

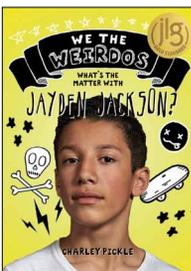
Hardcover: 9781538382080 • eBook: 9781538383049 • Paperback: 9781538382073
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ATOS: • ©2020

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH JAYDEN JACKSON?

Hardcover: 9781538382066 • eBook: 9781538383032 • Paperback: 9781538382059
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ATOS: 2.8 • ©2020

Reviews/Awards:

JLG Gold Standard Selection
What's the Matter with Jayden Jackson?



Visit West44books.com for Charley Pickle's bio.

THE Z TEAM

By D. E. Daly

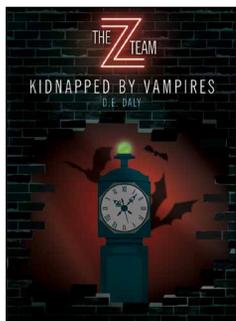
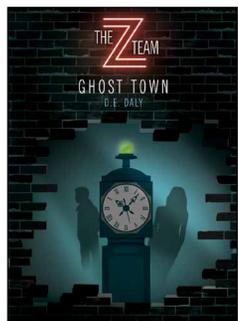
Chloe, Malik, and Justin are best friends, drawn together by their love of all things weird and spooky. One night, the abandoned railroad station in town becomes a portal to a supernatural world. Zombies have come to town, and the three friends form the Z Team to find the zombies and save the day. Along the way, they stumble into other supernatural situations involving ghosts, werewolves, vampires, and more. What's next on board the Eerie Express?

HC ed.: \$23.25 / \$17.45 • eBook: \$23.25 / \$17.45

PB ed.: \$13.35 / \$11.60

5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 64 pp. • Further Information Section, Illustrations, Maps, Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Visit West44books.com for D. E. Daly's bio.



GHOST TOWN

Hardcover: 9781538381922 • eBook: 9781538382967 • Paperback: 9781538381915
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2020

KIDNAPPED BY VAMPIRES

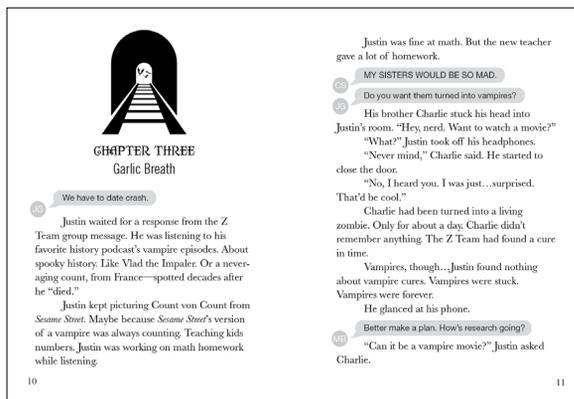
Hardcover: 9781538381908 • eBook: 9781538382950 • Paperback: 9781538381892
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

WEREWOLVES ON THE LOOSE!

Hardcover: 9781538381946 • eBook: 9781538382974 • Paperback: 9781538381939
GRL: K • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2021

WHEN ZOMBIES INVADE

Hardcover: 9781538381885 • eBook: 9781538382943 • Paperback: 9781538381878
GRL: K • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019



TWISTED

By Wil Mara



Read if you dare, but prepare for the worst! This middle grade thriller series unleashes twisted tales of the paranormal. From time traps to haunted houses to out-of-this-world video games, the characters in each *Twisted* book come face-to-face with supernatural situations that will change their lives forever. Will each unlucky character be stuck in a weird world of magic and mayhem? Will they survive to tell the story? Readers are in for one twisted ride.

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20

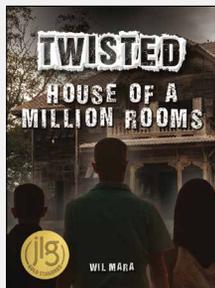
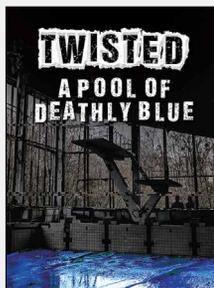
5 1/4" x 7 1/8" • 120 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"Recommended for middle school collections, especially where hi-lo titles are in demand." —*School Library Journal* on *The Secret of Locker 24*

JLG Gold Standard Selection

House of a Million Rooms



Visit West44books.com for info on Wil Mara

Coming Soon! *The War at Home*.
Another *Twisted* title from Wil Mara!

THE GIRL WHO GREW NASTY THINGS

Hardcover: 9781538383612 • eBook: 9781538383568 • Paperback: 9781538383667
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2020

HOUSE OF A MILLION ROOMS

Hardcover: 9781538383582 • eBook: 9781538383537 • Paperback: 9781538383636
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2019

THE OTHER

Hardcover: 9781978595309 • eBook: 9781978595323 • Paperback: 9781978595316
GRL: M • DEWEY: [F] • ©2022

A POOL OF DEATHLY BLUE

Hardcover: 9781978595279 • eBook: 9781978595293 • Paperback: 9781978595286
GRL: M • DEWEY: [F] • ©2022

THE SECRET OF LOCKER 24

Hardcover: 9781978596214 • eBook: 9781978596238 • Paperback: 9781978596221
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2023

THE TIME TRAP

Hardcover: 9781538383599 • eBook: 9781538383544 • Paperback: 9781538383643
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2019

THE VIDEOMANIAC

Hardcover: 9781538383575 • eBook: 9781538383520 • Paperback: 9781538383629
GRL: M • DEWEY: [E] • ©2019

WHERE DID MY FAMILY GO?

Hardcover: 9781538383605 • eBook: 9781538383551 • Paperback: 9781538383650
GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2020

December

BLOOD GONE COLD

BY: KATY GRANT

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597389

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597402

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597396

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Abby used to be close to her older sister Natalie, but now they seem to have nothing in common. And their constant bickering is putting a strain on the family's winter vacation. After a day on the slopes, their frustrated parents leave the girls alone in their cabin together. But when two suspicious men appear at the remote cabin where they're staying, Natalie is in serious danger. It's up to Abby to use her quick thinking to fend off the intruders. Though the sisters initially escape the intruders, they're forced out into the elements—with the men in hot pursuit. Can the sisters put their differences aside to survive this blood-chilling night?

Reviews/Awards:

JLG Gold Standard Selection

FICTION

NEW FALL 2024!

PAYBACK

The hot tub cycle ends
and the jets turn off
automatically.

I sigh. Climb out,
dry off fast.

I pull on my hoodie and
fold the cover back.
Snap all the buckles closed.

I head to the back door,
turn the knob,
but

it doesn't budge.

It's locked.

Of course.

I'm wet.
It's freezing.
It's dark.

Forget what Dad said.

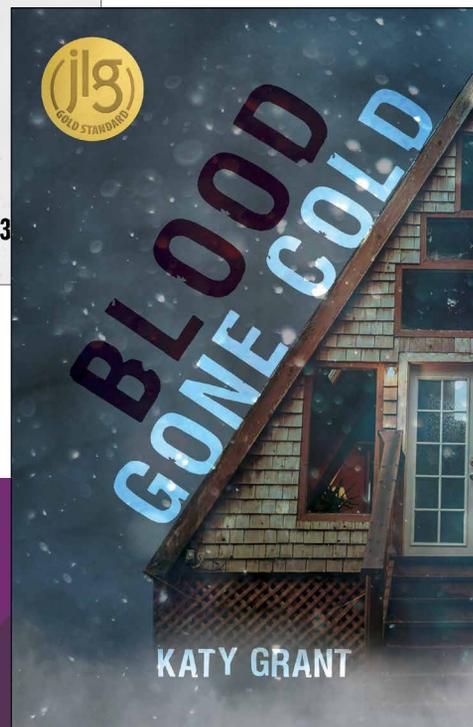
I
am going
to kill
my sister.

22

23



Katy Grant is the author of ten novels for young readers, including *Three Shots* and *Disaster Trail*. For many years, she taught creative writing and composition courses at the college level. A native of Tennessee, she now lives in northern Arizona with her husband. She enjoys travel, hiking, biking, and spending time with her two adult sons.



RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader®

October

REACHING FOR VENUS

BY: MAIJA BARNETT

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597327

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597341

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597334

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Living in a dystopic future, Leah and her younger sister Rachel are fighting to survive in a world that's becoming increasingly unlivable. Earth's atmosphere has been poisoned by pollution, so each year the government—Terra—holds a contest for all eligible, healthy 16-year-olds. The winners, 100 teens who possess skills that will contribute to Venus's floating biosphere, are sent to the Floating City. Though both Leah and Rachel are talented gardeners, Leah's pollution-induced asthma makes her ineligible. After Rachel is selected for the Floating City, she tricks Terra's medical staff and sends Leah in her place to save Leah's life. Once on Venus, Leah continues to hide her true identity. She is assigned to work in the city's greenhouse where she meets Rose, who awakens something inside her she never knew existed. But when Leah's asthma returns, she's forced to find out whether true love can survive deceit, and if her sister's sacrifice was ultimately worth the price.

Reviews/Awards:

"A heartfelt journey of finding oneself that explores the sense of becoming that accompanies discovering a new home. ...An appealing romantic adventure." —*Kirkus Reviews*

THE PROMISE

Rain pounded our metal roof.

Making it hard to hear.

Rachel was in the greenhouse tending plants.

I was inside tending someone else.

Deathwatch, I thought, though we didn't call it that.

We just said Mom was resting.

Waiting for when she'd meet up with Dad.

I was adjusting her blanket when she grabbed my arm.

"Leah," she wheezed. Her voice a kettle's hiss.

"If Rachel's chosen, make her go.

She's the only chance this family has."

"Promise," said Mom, fingers hot on my wrist.

Her dark eyes full of fear.

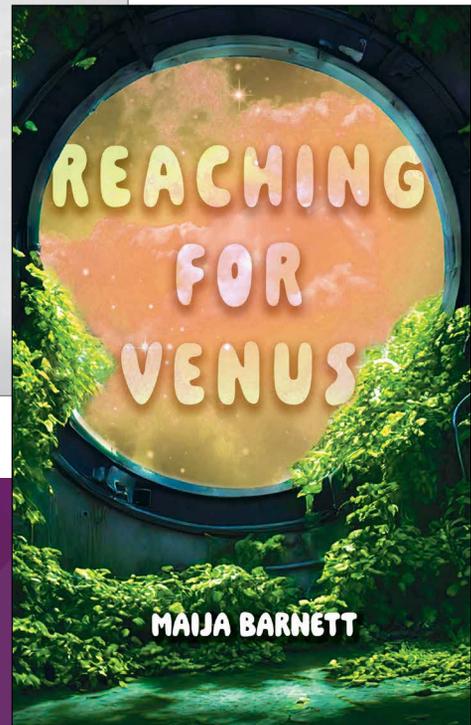
"I promise," I whispered, looking away.

Trying my best to swallow the lie.

14



Maija Barnett grew up in central Vermont and now lives in Massachusetts with her husband and two teenage daughters. She loves nature, poetry, hiking in the woods with her dogs, and finding ways to get kids excited about reading. Maija holds degrees in English and teaching and currently teaches at a school for students with learning differences. *Reaching for Venus* is her third novel.



December

SONGS FOR THE OFFSEASON

BY: RYAN WOLF

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597440

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597464

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597457

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

It's the summer before his senior year, and Dustin can't wait to take a special trip to Japan with his high school baseball team. His plans are quickly dashed by the sudden death of his similarly athletic cousin. As someone focused on fitness, Dustin is deeply shaken by this loss. While attending his very first funeral, Dustin meets Andrea, the new stepdaughter of a distant relative who seems to have a playlist for every occasion. At first, Dustin dislikes her. But as the summer continues, death seems to be stalking them both. More funerals crop up, one after another, challenging Dustin's sense of stability. Andrea is there at every gathering, each with its own flair and antics by quirky family members, trying to find meaning in the madness alongside Dustin. As they reflect on life, death, and music, they learn to embrace the weird ways people cope—and find a path forward.

Reviews/Awards:

"Wolf creates an emotional tone that beckons to readers, inviting them to reflect on their own mortality and place in the world. . . . A lyrical and sweet coming-of-age story."

—Kirkus Reviews

RUNNING TO STAND STILL

My cousin Jack was 20 years old.

He played baseball at a university in Houston.

He was jogging laps around a local track when he fell.

Jack did that same routine four times a week.

There was nothing unusual about the day he died. Nothing off.



But when Jack tumbled down, he never got up.

Experts cut him open, looking for answers.

They dug into his broad chest.

His heart was large and inflamed.

Cardiomyopathy, they called it.

No one knew he was at risk.

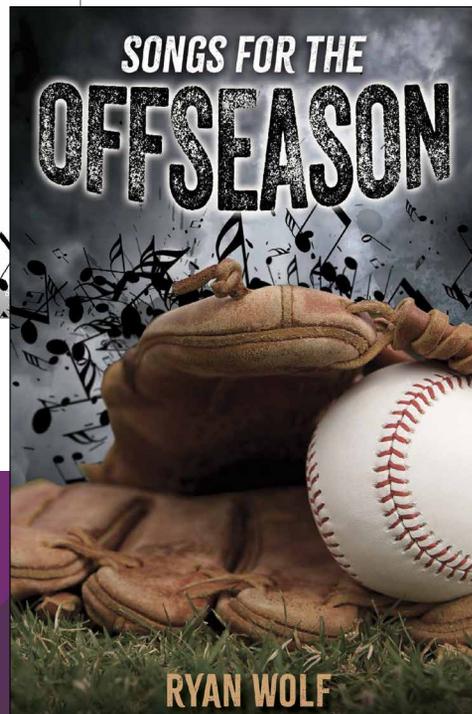
There was no family history with the disease. Jack didn't drink or do drugs.

12

NEW FALL 2024! FICTION



Ryan Wolf is the author of books for young adults, middle graders, and children. His work has been recognized by the Junior Library Guild and nominated for the North Star YA Award. He has also published short stories, poems, essays, journalism, and music reviews. Wolf holds his master's degree from the University of Chicago and at one point lived within walking distance of Wrigley Field. He currently resides in Buffalo, New York. You can learn more about his work at ryanswolf.com.



October

TAKE A SAD SONG

BY: ONA GRITZ

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597419

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597433

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597426

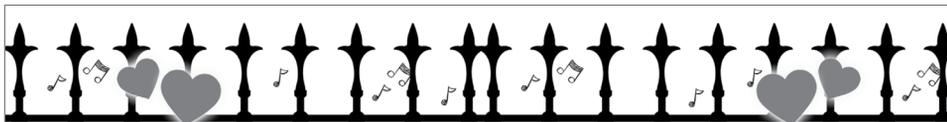
GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

It's the summer of 1970, and 15-year-old Jane is still reeling from the violent death of her father. She starts partying to deal with her grief, but a frantic call from her mother leads to her arrest. Jane awaits her hearing with hope, but instead she is sentenced to a yearlong stay at the New York State Training School for Girls. She faces bullying and solitary confinement, and all seems lost. Then she's introduced to the Racket, an underground world of gender role-play, romantic relationships, and chosen families the inmates have created. She befriends and develops deep feelings for fellow inmate Jo-Jo, who shares her love of music. Jane comes to appreciate the complex lives of people she never would have gotten to know on the outside—but she knows that her new family can be taken away in an instant.

Reviews/Awards:

★ "A thoughtful must-read that explores grueling attempts to destroy girls' spirits."
—*Kirkus*, STARRED REVIEW



The Only Music

we heard at Spofford
was TV theme songs.
And jingles
from commercials.

Now, "Band of Gold" plays.
And the lonely words
touch me in a new
bruised place.

Next, "Gimme Dat Ding,"
which makes me think
of bullies grabbing cookies.
And that music
might be ruined for me.

Then,
"Signed, Sealed,
Delivered" comes on.
Kids sing along.
And it strikes me
that maybe
we have more
than just
our terrible luck
in common.

22

We Arrive

at a large,
grassy campus.
Catskill Mountains
in the distance.
Hudson River
beside us.
Buildings
of matching
red brick.

The New York State
Training School for Girls.
It might pass for
a fancy boarding school.

Except the iron fence
and stone walls
aren't here to keep out
thugs and thieves.
They're here to keep us in.



Ona Gritz holds a master of arts in poetry from the creative writing program at New York University. She is the author of many books, most recently, *The Space You Left Behind*, a West 44 young adult novel in verse, and *Everywhere I Look*, a memoir about her sister Angie who was the inspiration for *Take a Sad Song*. Ona's writing has appeared widely, including in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *Ploughshares*, *Brevity*, and *Salon*. She teaches creative writing to teenagers with disabilities through the Numberless Dreams Project. Learn more at onagritz.com.



August

THE BRUJOS OF BORDERLAND HIGH

BY: GUME LAUREL III

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597358

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597372

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597365

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

High school is rough for a gay teen brujo going through his first breakup. And Alejandro's supernatural ability to see the past with the use of his tarot cards makes it so the past is all he ever really focuses on. Alejandro would like to pour his passion into piano to prepare for the upcoming winter recital, but bizarre supernatural forces seem out to get him. When a time-traveling demon arrives with a mission to stop the upcoming high school winter recital from taking place, Alejandro must focus on the future to slay the demon, save the recital, and maybe get a second chance at love.

Reviews/Awards:

CBC August Hot Off the Press List

"An accessible and witchy romantic adventure. A sweet and hopeful story of queer love and brujo magic." —Kirkus Reviews

FICTION

NEW FALL 2024!

ONE-CARD PULL

An image appears in my card.

Zander slaps his forehead. "Of course! I forgot to check my band hall locker!"

I don't react to his response. I simply swallow a spork-full of the fruit cup.

Then, I shuffle the card back into my deck.

Zander pulls out his deck of cards. They're exactly like mine. And exactly like every other *brujo's* deck of cards. His initials are engraved in emerald.

Z.A. for Zander Avaloz.

"Bruh, for real," I say. "I don't care to know anything about my future."

8

ZANDER SHUFFLES HIS CARDS

My head turns away. To a random direction. I instantly regret it.

Gustavo is walking into the crowded cafeteria. His arm is wrapped around Rey's scrawny neck.

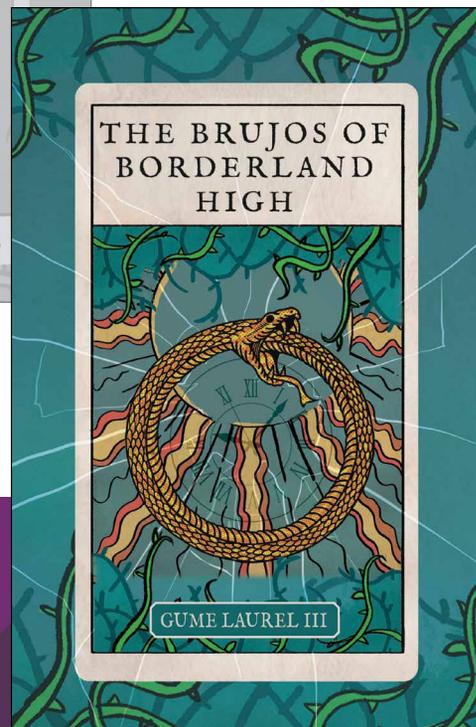
The guy he left me for.

My hands quickly brush my bushy brown hair into place. It was an Edgar haircut two months ago. Now it's more like an untamed mushroom.

9



Gume Laurel III is a Texan, native to the Rio Grande Valley on the southernmost border. For the past decade, he has dedicated himself to crafting literary works that promote inclusion and showcase diverse characters with intersectional identities, including his first YA verse novel, *Samson & Domingo*. The bulk of Gume's writings are focused on underrepresented groups, especially those from the communities he is a part of: Latine and queer. When he isn't writing, Gume can be found getting lost on a hiking trail with his dogs Blu and Mouse. For more info on what he's up to, check out GumeLaurel.com and @TX.Author on Instagram.



August

THE KEY TO SURVIVING SUMMER

BY: SANDI VAN

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597297

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597310

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597303

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2025 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

It's the summer before sophomore year, and Moe is stuck in the middle of Nowhere-ville, in a broken-down cottage on Lake Ontario with no one her age for miles. Her neighbor's grandson, Zeke, definitely doesn't count. He is only eight, but desperation and loneliness force Moe to follow Zeke on his adventures. After a nasty storm, Moe finds a strange key and begins having visions of a girl roller-skating at sunset and then disappearing into the lake. Moe and Zeke comb the shoreline looking for clues, but when his grandparents find out, they forbid Zeke from spending any more time with Moe. Faced with even more isolation and increasingly vivid visions, Moe must figure out what happened to the mysterious girl and why it forced her temporary hometown into silence.

Reviews/Awards:

JLG Gold Standard Selection

"This satisfying story delivers quick pacing and an emotional core with wide appeal. A gentle mounting tension serves as the backdrop for discovery. . . . A bingeable mystery."

—Kirkus Reviews

FIRST STOP

There's a park not far from our lane.
It's a public park
with walking trails
and a boat launch.

At the entrance,
there's a strange pile of rocks.

Grams says this used to be a hotel.
Do you think she's hiding here?

For a minute,
I forgot
what we came here to do.

For a minute,
I was just exploring and
having fun.

But then Zeke touches my arm
to get my attention.

I trip on a rock.

The key bounces against
my chest.

I feel its heat
like a flame.

38

THE HOTEL

She's here.

I see her
standing by the water.

Arm in arm with
two other girls.

They are laughing.
Her blonde hair sparkles in the
setting sun.

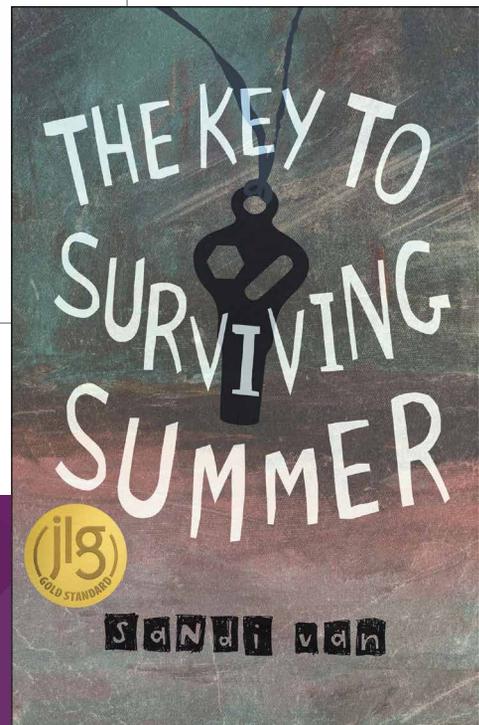
She reaches into her pocket
and pulls out three keys.

They look like the one on
the chain.

Papa stamped them for us,
she says.

BEST FRIENDS FOREVER.

39



Sandi Van is a writer and academic advisor from Buffalo, New York. She is the author of the young adult verse novels *Second in Command*, *Listen Up*, *Everything It Takes*, and *Caught in the Haze*. Her family spends summer weekends at their cottage on Lake Ontario, where sunsets truly are a mandatory nightly ritual. You can follow her on social media @sandivanwrites or visit her website at sandivan.com.

FICTION
NEW FALL 2024!



101 PROM NIGHTS

BY: D. E. DALY

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597020

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597044

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597037

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Halley had a perfectly fine junior prom with her two best friends. Yet when she wakes up the next morning, it's the day of junior prom. Again. And again. And again. Guided by her genre-savvy knowledge of movies and books, Halley assumes there's some burgeoning disaster the universe wants her to fix ... if only she knew what. The only way to find out is by delving into the lives and secrets of her classmates, both her friends and those she's been in school with for years and yet barely knows. Prom night after prom night, Halley begins to suspect that maybe everyone's a bit of a disaster—and maybe she doesn't know anyone as well as she thinks.

Reviews/Awards:

**June 2024
Hot Off the Press Reading List**

Prom Math

Mariana didn't dance with anybody.

Except me. And Roman, of course.

But we don't count.

Roman
(my other Actual Friend)
and Mariana
and me:

we're kind of
one person.

Roman helped us
pick our dresses.
He bought our corsages.
And we three
went to prom.
Like we went to kindergarten:
together.

Mariana
spent one quarter of prom upset.
In the bathroom.

So I spent one quarter of prom
with her.
In the bathroom.

I finally got her out,
because
we couldn't leave Roman
alone.

We spent the next quarter of prom
looking for him.

We found Roman outside,
with theater friends.
Trying a vape pen.
Despite his asthma.
And allergies.

Prom's last half:

- Roman coughed.
(Constantly.)

- We found the buffet stations.
(The good stuff? Gone.)
(The rest? Cold.)

- Watched our classmates.

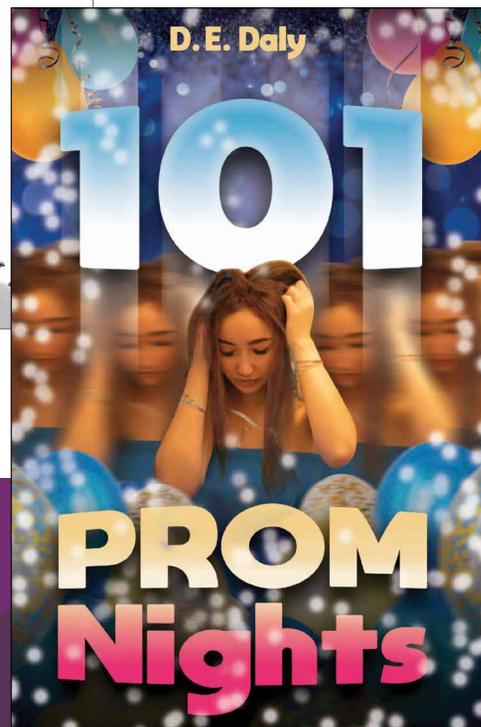
(Plus Mark Peterson's date,
who doesn't go to our school, and who
hung around alone.)

And we three
danced.

4



D. E. Daly has never been caught in a time loop but does watch *Groundhog Day* every year. She lives in Buffalo, New York. She studied writing in New Orleans and is also the author of the supernatural West 44 middle grade series *The Z Team*. Once upon a time, her own prom dress was hot pink, and she'd wear the same one if she could do it all over again.



DEFINITELY NOT A LOVE STORY

BY: CLAUDIA RECINOS SELDEEN

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597143

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597167

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597150

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Ana has big plans to be an important writer. But not a romance writer, like her mom, because she's seen what love does to people. From her parents' constant bickering to her sister's endless string of broken hearts to her best friend's on-again, off-again relationship, love is messy and Ana wants no part of it. When a school writing contest pairs her up with Alejandro, a notorious serial dater, Ana is annoyed. Alejandro is everything she can't stand—romantic, sentimental, and idealistic. But Ana is willing to put her qualms aside for the sake of the big prize: publication. As the two work together to create a winning story, Ana finds herself impressed with Alejandro's writing. But despite their new connection, there's no way she can fall for him. After all, she's sure this is definitely not a love story.

Reviews/Awards:

"An endearingly romantic story told in engaging verse for reluctant readers. . . . Captivating and sweet." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Parallel plots drive the story forward and radiate a cozy atmosphere, and Seldeen's verse artfully expresses the emotional roller coaster of Ana's travails at home and school, which feel familiar and are sometimes heartbreaking."
—*Publishers Weekly*



STORY

I don't want to be
a page
in someone else's
story.

I want to write
my own story.

I want to
decide
what happens.

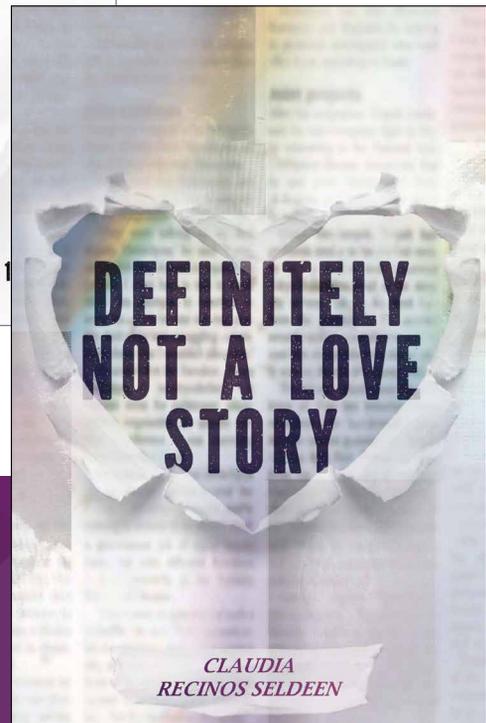
And what
doesn't.

GHOSTS

That night,
I lie in bed,
my covers
pulled up
to my chin.

I stare up at
my bedroom ceiling.
At the peeling remains
of glue
in the faint shape
of stars.
Ghosts
of glow-in-the-dark
stickers
I took down
long ago.

100



Claudia Recinos Seldeen is the author of the young adult novels *To Be Maya*, *Catch Me if I Fall*, and *Everything I Know*. Her work has appeared in *The Amphibian Literary Journal* and *First Peoples Shared Stories*. Claudia is a first generation Guatemalan American. When not writing, she is either playing video games with her husband and son, or flying through the air on a trapeze. Find out more at www.recinoseldeen.com.

SAMSON & DOMINGO

BY: GUME LAUREL III

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597082

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597105

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597099

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Samson and Domingo fall in love during the summer before their junior year of high school. But Samson is the star player of Weslaco North's football team and Domingo is a French horn player for Weslaco South's marching band. Once school starts, their new love is challenged by those who don't agree with their rival schools mixing, especially Domingo's older brother, Pablo, a football player for South. As if that wasn't enough, Samson's Olympian-like athleticism is shrouded in mystery; the source of his strength is a secret he has vowed to keep his entire life. As Samson and Domingo's love blossoms, Samson learns to trust Domingo more than he has ever trusted anyone before, and Domingo opens his heart once again after heartbreak. But will their love be Samson's downfall?

FICTION

NEW SPRING 2024!

Summer Vacation's End

"I wish this summer
could last forever.
I don't want it to end,"
I say.

"Do you think things will change?
When we go back to school
in a couple of weeks?"
Samson asks.

I take a deep breath.

Then, I allow more
of my weight to rest
against him and say,
"I don't want things to change."

"Do you think they will, though?"
he asks.

"Only if we allow it,"
I say.

Crescent Moon

We watch the sun sink beneath the horizon.
With it, all the magic of a Texas sunset.

One by one,

the stars appear. The crescent moon glows.
Like a light tower.

It's the exact same shape as the night we first met.
During a bonfire at
South Padre Island.
After hours of taking turns catching the
other staring
from opposite sides of the dancing flames.

*I had stepped away from the rowdy crowd
for a moment of peace.*

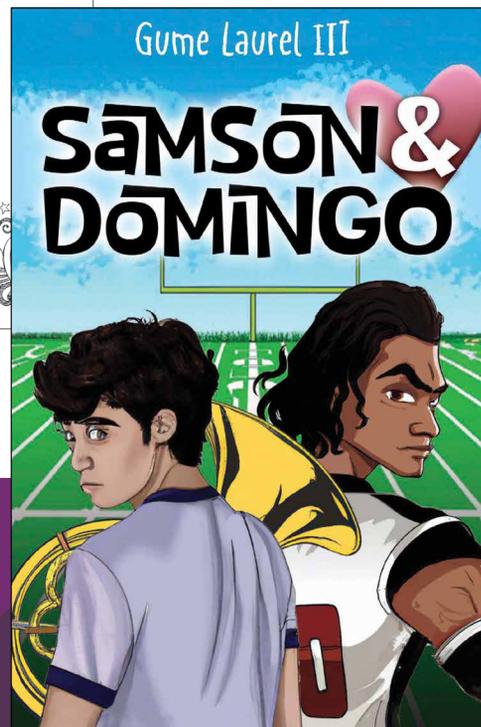
*Samson had followed me
out to where the sand met the tide.
Where it was only us two.*

He told me his name &

*I said,
"I know."*



Gume Laurel III is a Texan, native to the Rio Grande Valley on the southernmost border. For the past decade, he has dedicated himself to crafting literary works that promote inclusion and showcase diverse characters with intersectional identities. The bulk of Gume's writings are focused on underrepresented groups, especially those from the communities he is a part of: Latine and queer. When he isn't writing, Gume can be found getting lost on a hiking trail with his dogs Blu and Mouse. For more info on what he's up to, check out GumeLaurel.com and [@ATX.Author](https://www.instagram.com/ATX.Author) on Instagram.



SIGN ME UP

BY: C. H. WILLIAMS

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597174

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597198

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597181

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Alyssa is an ice skater who prefers to skate alone. She lives in rural Alaska, where a quiet frozen lake is her happy place. But now she's moving to sunny, loud Los Angeles. As the new girl in town, Alyssa isn't sure if she'll ever fit in. When the local roller derby team takes Alyssa under its wing, she's not sure she wants to trade her ice skates and solitude for roller skates and teammates. Alyssa decides to leave her comfort zone. Will she find her place, or will the pace and volume of roller derby be too much to handle?

FICTION

NEW SPRING 2024!

WE STAND OUTSIDE

Our house.
Our home.

(Though, I guess it's someone else's now.)

It's too dark to see it
clearly.

Too dim to do more than trace
the outline of the pitched roof.

Or to count the many legs
on which it stands.

Stilts to keep the permafrost
at bay ...

The perfect place to hide.

My childhood den
with a whole house
on top.

IT'S TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING

for a proper
goodbye.

But we wait
for a minute
even so.

I suck in one last breath,
taking in the peace
and quiet
and cold.

I think
what I'll miss the most

is this.
Right here.

The Last Frontier.

Where I could scream
just as loud as I liked.

No one else
would hear.

No one else would even care,
or know.

Reviews/Awards:

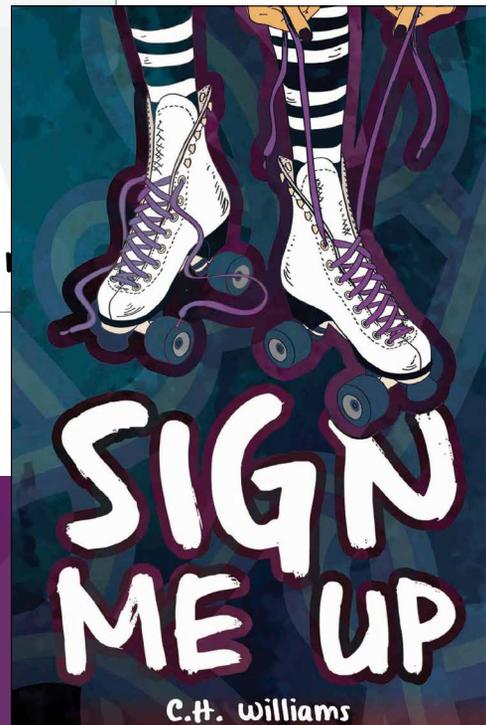
"A reluctant reader story that both validates differences and contains plenty of roller rink action."

—Kirkus Reviews

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C. H. Williams once thought roller derby was a fictional sport. The day she discovered it wasn't, she purchased her first pair of quad skates, and signed up for her local team. C.H. is a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, and is a strong advocate for queer youth, and promoting inclusion in her stories. She currently resides in the Welsh mountains with her nerdy husband, and their wonderful daughter, along with a growing collection of rocks, sticks, and feathers from their adventures together.



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THE LAST STAR CHASER

BY: DEMITRIA LUNETTA

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597112

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597136

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597129

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

When a solar flare engulfs an interstellar space route, the vacation ship *Star Chaser* crash-lands on a hostile planet. Sixteen-year-old Zenna finds herself separated from her parents and in charge of her younger brother. They must traverse the alien wilderness to find her parents—if they are even still alive. Worse yet, *Star Chaser* wasn't the only ship to crash. Zenna soon comes face-to-face with juvenile delinquents that were being transported to a prison planet, and the last thing they want is to be rescued. But Zenna may find an ally in the stoic Arron. Strong and silent, he may just be the help she needs to reunite with her family and make it off the hostile planet alive.

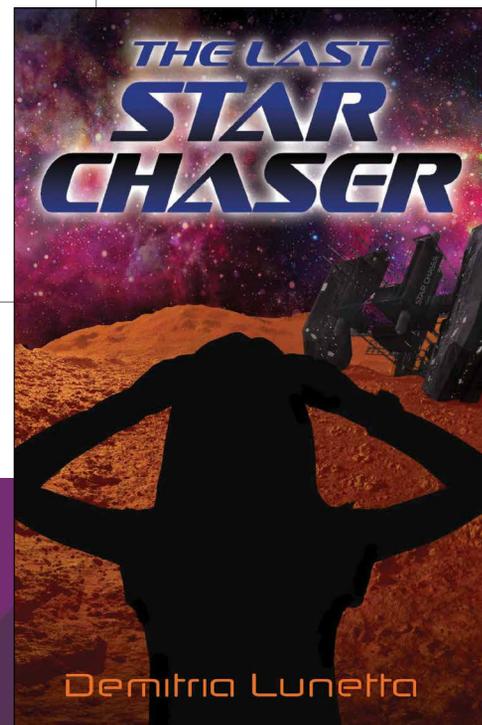
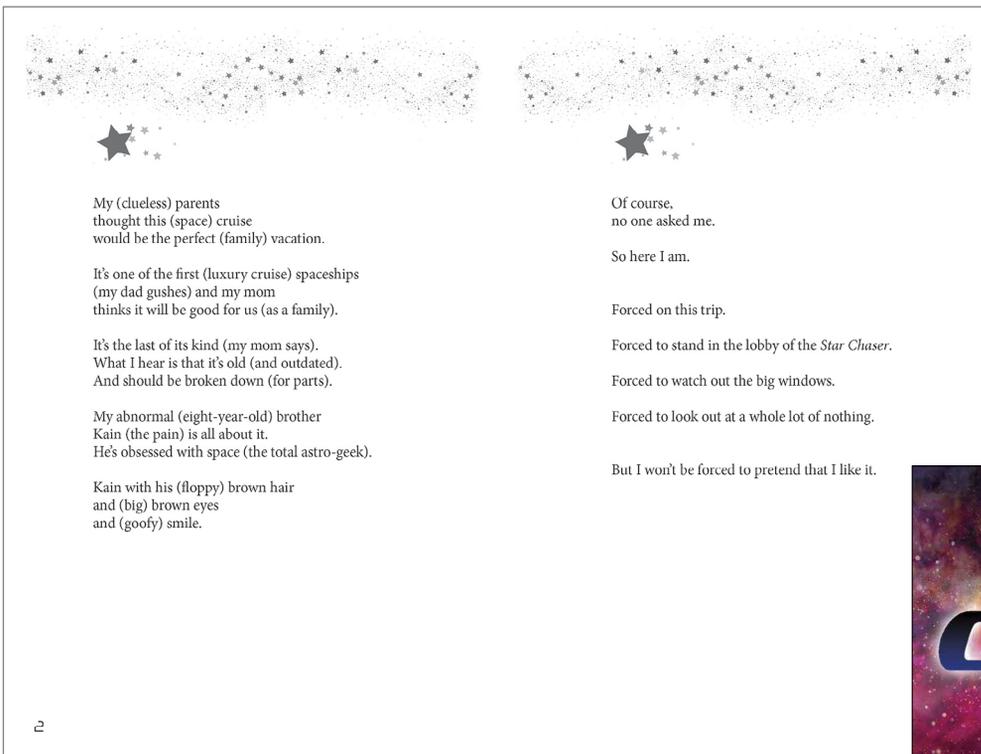
Reviews/Awards:

"This accessible story captures the fast-paced momentum of a survival story with a vulnerable realism. . . . A thrilling science-fiction narrative with appeal for reluctant readers."

—Kirkus Reviews

FICTION

NEW SPRING 2024!



Demitria Lunetta is the author of many YA and middle grade books including: *The Fade*, *Bad Blood* (Delacorte), and the sci-fi duology, *In the After* and *In the End* (HarperTeen). Her hi-lo books include *Bitter & Sweet* and the verse novels *Our Broken Earth* and *The Shining City*. Her graphic novel, *Anti/Hero* is now available from DC Kids. Find her at demitrialunetta.com, on Twitter @DemitriaLunetta and on Facebook at facebook.com/DemitriaLunettaAuthor.

THE SPACE YOU LEFT BEHIND

BY: ONA GRITZ

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597051

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978597075

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978597068

GRL: N • DEWEY: [F] • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Sixteen-year-old Cara has cerebral palsy. Self-conscious about her limp, Cara is convinced her disability is what causes boys to always place her in the friend zone. This summer, it seems to be happening again with her new crush, Josh. The two of them are huge fans of a popular mystery podcast and, as it happens, Cara has a real-life mystery of her own. She's never been that curious about the donor who is her biological father, but now that Josh shows an interest in learning his identity, she's all in. As Cara starts exploring, she stumbles upon a family secret that just might explain the feeling she's always had that something important is missing from her life. But with this knowledge, her life may never be the same again.

FICTION

NEW SPRING 2024!

Mom Tells Me

Celeste's wispy baby hair was the same red as mine.

Grandma says we looked almost exactly alike.

But I was bigger. I was stronger. Our rough birth was much harder on her.

If she had lived, Mom goes on, it's likely she'd be very disabled. Unable to walk. Or speak. Or see.

She would have had a good life anyway, I say. She would have had me.

I Thought

they didn't tell me about my twin because it upset them too much. I thought they were protecting themselves.

We were so happy and so sad at the same time, Mom explains.

So we did our best to focus on the happy part, Grandma says. After all, you needed us.

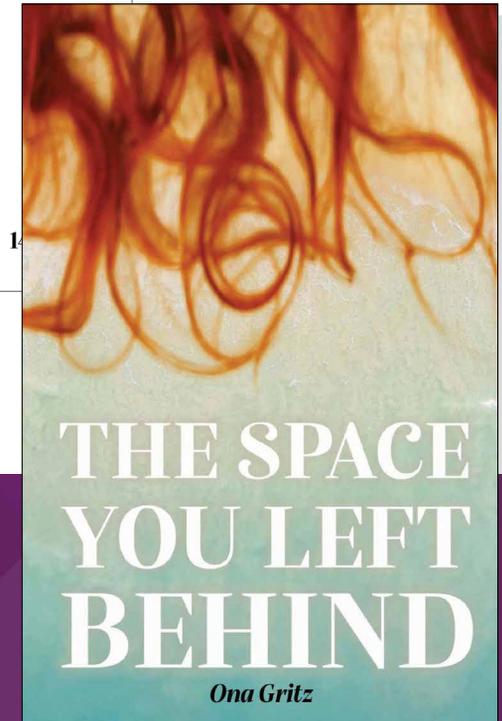
And, Mom takes my hand, we never wanted you to think, even for a moment, that you weren't enough.

Reviews/Awards:

June 2024
Hot Off the Press Reading List

"A compelling, fast page-turner!"
—Meg Eden Kuyatt, author of *Good Different*

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Ona Gritz holds a master of arts in poetry from the creative writing program at New York University. She is the author, most recently, of *Everywhere I Look*, a memoir. Her writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *Ploughshares*, *Salon*, and many other places. Ona's earlier books include *August Or Forever*, a Reader's Choice and Wishing Shelf finalist in middle grade fiction; *Geode*, a finalist for the Main Street Rag Poetry Book Award and *Tangerines and Tea: My Grandparents and Me*, a Nick Jr. Family Magazine Best Alphabet Book of the Year and Scholastic Magazine Teacher's Pick. She teaches creative writing to teenagers with disabilities through the Numberless Dreams Project. This is her first book for teen readers.

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NOT HUNGRY (*HUNGRY, BOOK 1*)

BY: KATE KARYUS QUINN

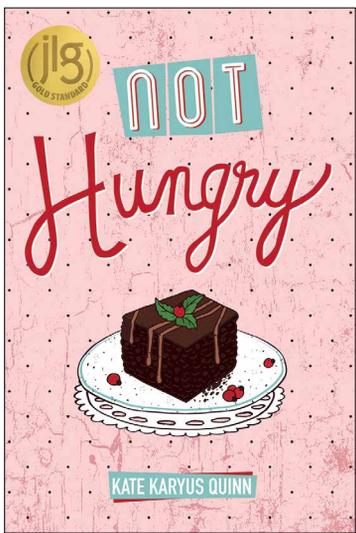
HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781538382707

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781538383353

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781538382691

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 3.1 • ©2020 • 5 1/2"x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content



Reading
Guide
Available

June is fat. June also has an eating disorder, but no one sees. When she doesn't eat, her friends and family think they see a fat girl on a diet, not someone starving herself. When June's secret is found out by Toby, the new boy next door, she is panicked. Then she learns he also has a secret. Everyone has their own little lies.

Reviews/Awards:

"Exquisite writing allows each poem to be savored individually as readers find bits of themselves reflected in the situations and characters and cheer on the unlikely hero." —*Kirkus*

"Recommend to teens who want a lighter, shorter version of novels in verse by authors like Ellen Hopkins." —*YALSA*

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
2021 TAYSHAS Reading List
YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers



Kate Karyus Quinn is an avid reader and menthol chapstick addict. After living in both California and Tennessee, she returned to her hometown of Buffalo, New York, and now lives there with her husband, three children, and one enormous dog. She is the author of young adult novels *Another Little Piece*, *(Don't You) Forget About Me*, and *Down with the Shine*.

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader

ALWAYS JUNE (*HUNGRY, BOOK 2*)

BY: KATE KARYUS QUINN

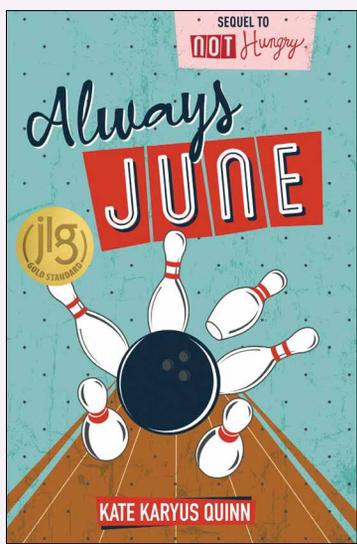
HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596375

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596399

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596382

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2023 • 5 1/2"x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content



June's secret eating disorder has been exposed to her whole school, and she knows there's no going back to the way things were. Plus, her mom has started dating again—and it's serious. What's worse, her big sister Mae leaves for college early after a big fight. While taking refuge at the local bowling alley, June gets roped into joining the girls' bowling team. As she improves her bowling game, June finds a newfound appreciation of all her body can do, a surprising group of outcast friends, and even a new love interest. But June must find a way to deal with her eating disorder—or risk losing everything else.

Reviews/Awards:

"Such a realistic and relatable expression of eating disorders. I truly appreciate this collection and the author's tone."

—NetGalley Reviewer

See above for Kate Karyus Quinn's bio.

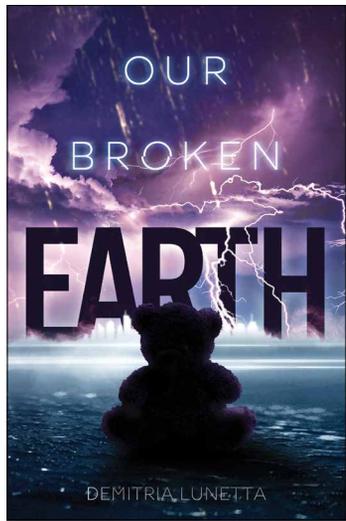
OUR BROKEN EARTH

(MALCOLM WALKER, BOOK 1)

BY: DEMITRIA LUNETTA

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978595392eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978595415Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978595408

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2022 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low ContentReading
Guide
Available

In the near future, the tides are rising, the weather is out of control, and the rain is poison. Mal lost his family in a storm and now lives with other young people, trying to survive the changing world. Faced with the threat of the rising water and his friend's illness, Mal and his makeshift family must travel across the country to reach a safe place. But the road is dangerous and not all will find their way safely to their new home.



Demetria Lunetta is the author of many YA and MG books including: *The Fade*, *Bad Blood*, and the sci-fi duology, *In the After* and *In the End*. Her Hi-Lo books include *Our Broken Earth* and *Bitter & Sweet*. Her graphic novel, *Anti/Hero* with co-author Kate Karyus Quinn, is now available from DC. Find her at demetrialunetta.com, on Twitter @DemetriaLunetta and on Facebook at facebook.com/DemetriaLunettaAuthor.

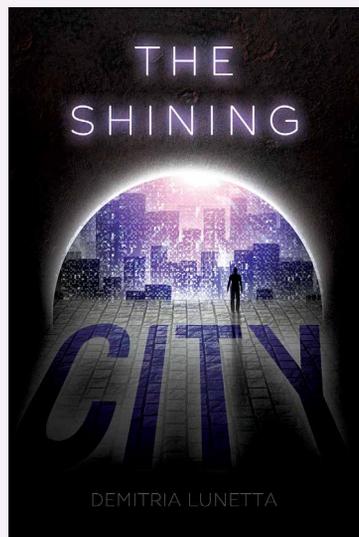
THE SHINING CITY

(MALCOLM WALKER, BOOK 2)

BY: DEMITRIA LUNETTA

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596436eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596450Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596443

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2023 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Mal has finally completed the long, dangerous journey to safety in the Shining City. And though he started the trek with friends, he is now the only survivor. There, in the sparkling metropolis, he believes that he is protected from the dangers of the climate-ravaged world. But as a refugee, Mal must live in special housing, cannot move around freely, and faces extreme prejudice. He learns that he can earn full citizenship by working through an elaborate points system, which involves taking part in deadly jobs and games. Risking his life to become a citizen of the Shining City, Mal realizes that his dream of safety was an illusion. Soon, Mal becomes involved with a group of revolutionaries. In this dystopian sequel to *Our Broken Earth*, Mal needs to choose between supporting the oppressive system that saved his life and fighting for what's right.

See above for Demetria Lunetta's bio.

CATCH ME IF I FALL

By: Claudia Recinos Seldeen

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596344

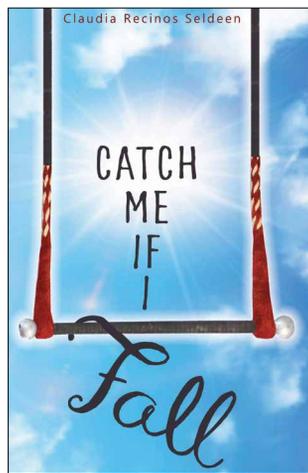
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596368

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596351

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811.60 • ©2023 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Angela has been training on a trapeze since she was a child. She loves the dizzying heights, the acrobatics, and the way it tests her strength. But she doesn't love the way her Guatemalan mother is always pushing her to train harder because "immigrants have to try twice as hard just to shine half as bright." When Angela's best friend introduces her to boxing, she finds something that makes her genuinely happy. There's no pressure to be graceful and no expectation to be perfect. But the more Angela practices boxing, the more she realizes her pursuit of happiness might risk her reputation for perfection. And if she's not the perfect daughter, then who is she?



Claudia Recinos Seldeen is the author of the young adult novels *To Be Maya*, *Catch Me if I Fall*, and *Everything I Know*. Her work has appeared in *The Amphibian Literary Journal* and *First Peoples Shared Stories*. Claudia is a first generation Guatemalan American. When not writing, she is either playing video games with her husband and son, or flying through the air on a trapeze. Find out more at www.recinosseldeen.com.

EVERYTHING I KNOW

By: Claudia Recinos Seldeen

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596764

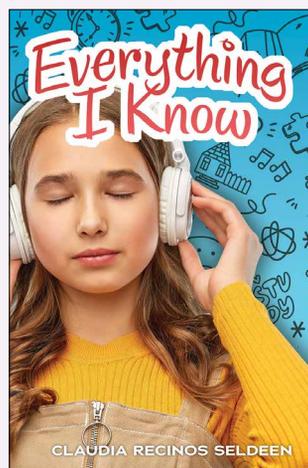
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596788

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596771

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Mia's world crumbles when she finds out she has to move across the country. Mia's autism makes it hard to handle new situations. She struggles to relate to strangers and to make new friends. Everyone at Mia's old school was familiar with her autism. But life at her new school is different. Kids don't understand Mia's behaviors and needs. All her life, Mia has coped by relying on the familiar. She's made routines that get her through each day. But in this new city, her routines fall apart. How can Mia survive when she's so far away from everything she knows?



Reviews/Awards:

"Striving readers who like school stories, books dealing with autism, and making new friends will enjoy. Recommended for library collections where school tales and novels in verse are popular."
—*School Library Journal*

See above for Claudia Recinos Seldeen's bio.



EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH

By: Max Howard

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596405

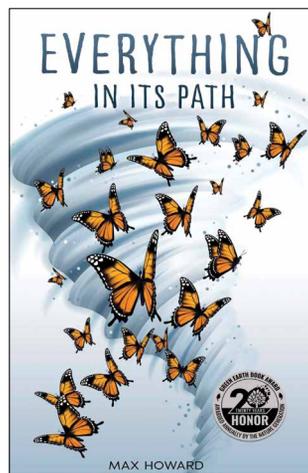
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596429

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596412

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811.60 • ©2023 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Sixteen-year-old Noah loses his home in a freak tornado. He hopes the mass devastation will serve as the wake-up call society needs to really deal with climate change and worsening storms. Instead, everyone around Noah wants to "get back to normal." Noah feels alienated from everyone except for his nerdy little brother Quinn, who is obsessed with butterflies. When Noah learns how sensitive monarch butterflies are to climate change, the two brothers take off on a journey to document their threatened migration—and hopefully make a difference in a world on the brink of disaster.



Reviews/Awards:

2024 Green Earth Book Award Honoree

Max Howard is the author of *Fifteen and Change*, *The Water Year*, and *Surviving American History*. Max's writing has received recognition from the American Library Association (YALSA), the Junior Library Guild, and the North Star YA Award committee. Max loves crosswords, Wordle, and word games in general—which is why there is an animal (or animal pun) on each of these pages, inviting you to see the nonhuman world.

EVERYTHING YOU LEFT MEBy: **Paige Classey**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596467

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596481

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596474

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2023 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

When the police come knocking at her door, Maybeth is worried her mother is caught up in their small town's drug scene again. Instead, the police are there to question Maybeth about her beloved and long-absent father. He has become the lead suspect in a string of unsolved murders across the country...and Maybeth may be the key to convicting him. Trapped between her scientific mind and her love for her father, Maybeth is forced to confront the reality of who her father really is—and what that might make her as well.



Paige Classey is a school librarian who lives with her husband and son on the Connecticut shoreline. Her articles on libraries and education have appeared in *School Library Journal*, *TEACH Magazine*, and *Education Week*. This is her first novel.

HEART LIKE A BROKEN ARROWBy: **Maija Barnett**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596498

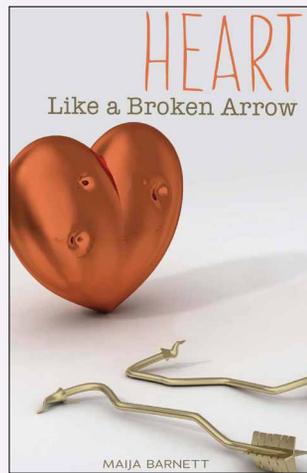
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596511

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596504

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2023 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Seventeen-year-old Fern Blakely struggles to overcome her younger brother's death, for which she feels responsible. Fern drinks to forget. After a night of partying, she crashes her truck on an icy Vermont road, and her life is changed forever. A former runner, Fern is now paralyzed from the waist down. Her depressed mother has neither the funds nor the ability to care for her, so Fern is sent to live with Helen, her estranged father's aunt. It is with Helen that Fern overcomes her own depression and develops a love for archery. This passion sets Fern on a new path, but will she ever be able to outrun her past?

**Reviews/Awards:**

"This novel in verse is brilliantly written and a must-read for all."

—NetGalley Reviewer

Maija Barnett grew up in Central Vermont and now lives in Massachusetts with her husband and two teenage daughters. She loves nature, poetry, hiking in the woods with her dog, and finding ways to get kids excited about reading. Maija holds degrees in English and teaching and currently teaches at a school for students with learning differences.

LETTERS FROM BED WORLDBy: **Mel Mallory**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596825

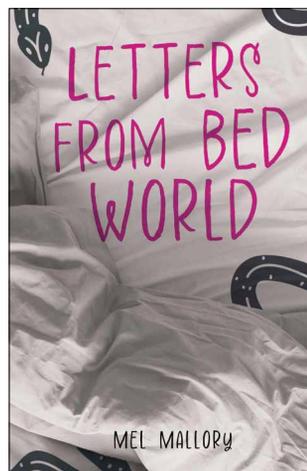
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596849

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596832

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Living with an energy-limiting chronic illness, Val spends a lot of time in her bedroom. Her older sister Lia had always found ways to make "bed world" feel just as fun as the outside world. But all that changed after Lia died in a tragic accident—an accident Val feels partially responsible for. On an online peer support forum, she meets someone she can finally open up to—a voice hearer who's dealt with her own share of grief. Through a series of letters to her sister, Val confronts life after her sister's death as she tries to find a way to make "bed world"—and the rest of the world—livable again.



Mel Mallory (she/her) works at a peer-led mental health organization. Her previous verse novels include *Survive and Keep Surviving* and *The Best Part Is at the End*. She also writes for *The Squeaky Wheel*, a satire publication written by and for disabled people. You can find her at melmallory.com.

NO PLACE FOR FAIRY TALES

By: Edd Tello

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596313

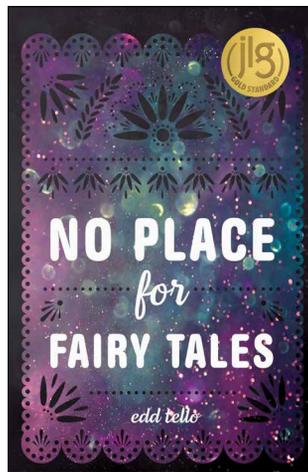
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596337

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596320

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811.60 • ©2023 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Yuriel's poor neighborhood in Monterrey, Mexico, isn't a place where fairy tales happen. Yuriel and his cousin Azul work each day doing laundry to help their family make a living. So when Azul, a trans teen, decides she wants to mark her transition to womanhood with a quinceañera, Yuriel is sure it's an impossible dream. They don't have the money, and besides, Azul's father would never support her transition. But as an openly gay artist in a traditional family, Yuriel sees how important this rite of passage is for Azul. As Yuriel risks everything to play fairy godmother to Azul, he realizes it's going to take a little bit of magic to pull off this once-in-a-lifetime quinceañera.



Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"No Place for Fairy Tales is a powerful reminder of the importance of friendship, acceptance, and unconditional love in overcoming life's hurdles. Highly recommended for readers of all ages and backgrounds."

—NetGalley Reviewer

See page 58 for Edd Tello's bio.

THE ART OF BEING A VAMPIRE

By: Kate Karyus Quinn

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596702

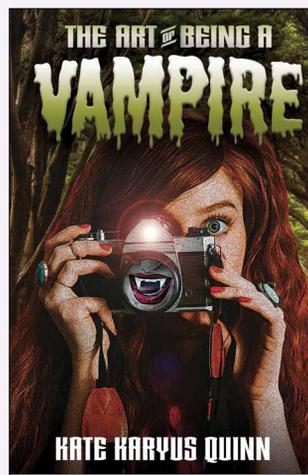
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596726

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596719

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

With an addict mother and deadbeat dad, Shelby truly hopes that blood does not define her. She discovers a passion for photography, hoping to make something of herself through art. But when her mother dies of an overdose, Shelby finds herself in a dark place. Taken in by her aunt, she rebels in school and turns away from everyone, except a mysterious classmate named Brandt. Shelby doesn't realize that Brandt is a vampire—until it's too late. Overwhelmed by new cravings for blood, Shelby must decide whether to abandon her values to satisfy her hunger—or fight for the life she's always wanted.



Reviews/Awards:

"A quick read with a gritty, urban horror setting and a moody but compelling narrator, this will appeal to a wide range of high schoolers."

—School Library Journal

See page 86 for Kate Karyus Quinn's bio.

RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader®

THE BEST PART IS AT THE END

By: Mel Mallory

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596559

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596573

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596566

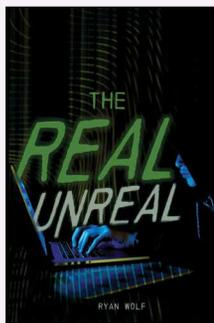
GRL: M • DEWEY: 811.60 • ©2023 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Anna loves movies. If her life were a movie and she wrote the script, she wouldn't be living with her reserved parents in rural Pennsylvania. And she wouldn't have to face her pregnant sister who just moved back home after being gone for three years. Feeling stuck, all Anna wants to do is disappear into her TV screen. But when Anna strikes up a friendship with Aiden, a cashier at one of the last remaining video stores in the state, she finds unexpected acceptance in his virtual film club. Anna knows happy endings are for the movies, but maybe she can find her own.



Mel Mallory (she/her) works at a peer-led mental health organization. As a kid, she spent way too much time debating which VHS tape to rent at her local video store. She now lives in Maryland with her two guinea pigs. Her other verse novel, *Survive and Keep Surviving*, is about healing after experiencing mental distress and trauma. You can find her at melmallory.com.



THE REAL UNREAL

By: Ryan Wolf

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596672

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596696

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596689

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Nate Reilly is having the worst summer of his life. His parents are never home, he lost his job, and his arts program was cancelled due to a virus outbreak. When Nate comes across an online "game" that promises forbidden knowledge, he is quick to click the link. Soon, he finds himself plunged down a rabbit hole of strange theories, dark plots, and fanatical believers. As he grows alienated from his family and friends, Nate is consumed by his newfound ideas. But can he unplug from a destructive alternate reality before he takes it too far?

See page 76 for Ryan Wolf's bio.

Reviews/Awards:

"An excellent hi-lo verse novel about a vital topic in today's political landscape."

—*School Library Journal*



THE SONG I'M IN

By: Maija Barnett

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596795

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596818

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596801

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Despite crippling anxiety, Skyler Reeds has weathered her parents' divorce and, along with her twin sister Katy, has moved to her mom's boyfriend's house in Burlington, Vermont. Now Skyler has to deal with living in a new blended household and brave a new high school while dealing with worsening dermatillomania, a disorder that causes her to obsessively pick her skin. Skyler's only refuge is her singing voice, which she's silenced as her face fills with wounds and scars. But Skyler is given a chance to join the school's elite chorus—a dream come true. Skyler has tried so hard to be invisible, but this might be her one chance to shine.

See page 75 for Maija Barnett's bio.



THE SURPRISE PARTY RULES

By: Max Howard

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596733

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596757

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596740

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811 • ATOS: PENDING • ©2024 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Fun-loving troublemaker Ivy Sawyer is unjustly fired from her ice cream shop job, and now she's out for revenge. The owner of the shop is running to be reelected mayor of their small town, and Ivy will do anything to keep him from winning. What she doesn't expect is being elected mayor herself as the candidate of the prankish "Surprise Party." Now Ivy has to deal with governing the town while juggling her senior year of high school and her activist friends' expectations. She has big problems to solve, from poverty to housing to flooding, and can't seem to win over the conservative city council. Knowing people's lives are on the line, Ivy sets out to govern creatively without losing who she is. But she'll have to figure out: what's the difference between a troublemaker and a leader?

See page 88 for Max Howard's bio.



Reviews/Awards:

"Readers who like books dealing with civics, school stories, and characters who are trying to make a difference will enjoy this title. Recommended where such books are popular."

—*School Library Journal*



THREE SHOTS

By: Katy Grant

HC ed.: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596528

eBook: \$25.80 / **\$19.40** • 9781978596542

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / **\$14.20** • 9781978596535

GRL: M • DEWEY: 811'60 • ©2023 • 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp.

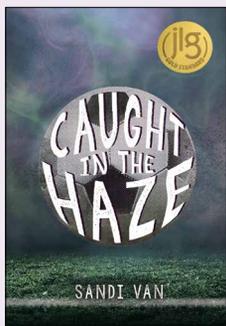
Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse,
About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Daniel Valdez loves skateboarding with his friend, Gracie. Sometimes he even wonders if they can be more than friends. Then Gracie's mother kills her two children before turning the gun on herself. As grief counselors swoop into his high school and the whole community reels from the horrific deaths, Daniel drowns in his own pain and disbelief. What is his life without Gracie in it? As Daniel works through his grief, he'll need to find a way to move forward without leaving Gracie behind.

See page 74 for Katy Grant's bio.

Reviews/Awards:

Winner of the YAdudeBooks
2024 Reviewers' Choice Awards



CAUGHT IN THE HAZE

By: Sandi Van

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595972
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595996
Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595989
GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

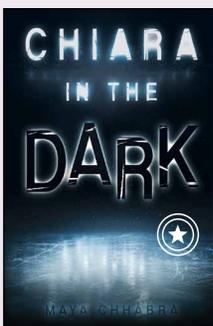
5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"A fast-paced sports novel for reluctant readers." —*Kirkus*

See page 79 for Sandi Van's bio.



CHIARA IN THE DARK

By: Maya Chhabra

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595941
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595965
Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595958
GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

★ "A sympathetic and ultimately hopeful story of strength." —*Kirkus*, STARRED REVIEW

"Chhabra weaves a complex story of the fears and stigma associated with mental health and mental illness, and . . . it is a privilege to watch Chiara grow and take control of her life." —*Booklist*

Visit West44books.com for Maya Chhabra's bio.

FEATURED AUTHOR



Angel Barber was born and raised in Buffalo, New York. He is a 19-year-old student at Buffalo State College studying television film arts, with interests in film, philosophy, and psychology. He has written various forms of poetry with the Just Buffalo Writing Center and plans to continue writing and strengthening his poetry and prose well into the future. *Dandelion Travels* is his first novel.



Reading
Guide
Available

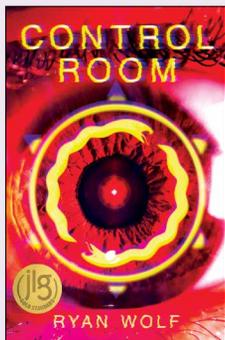
CLEAR CUT

By: Melody Dodds

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385159
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385166
Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538385142
GRL: N • DEWEY: 811.60 • ©2020

5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Melody Dodds is a chemist and former substitute teacher. In addition to this book, she is the author of another verse novel, *Little Pills*. She shares her home with two cats and one husband, and is building a foil ball exclusively from candy wrappers. It is currently the size of a small pumpkin.



CONTROL ROOM

By: Ryan Wolf

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385210
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385227
Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538385203
GRL: N • DEWEY: 811.60 • ATOS: 3.4 • ©2021

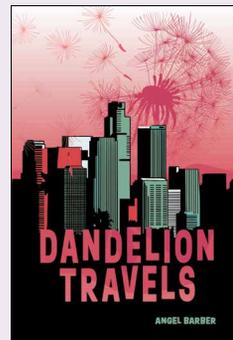
5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

See page 76 for Ryan Wolf's bio.

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader™



Reading
Guide
Available

DANDELION TRAVELS

By: Angel Barber

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596122
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596146
Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596139
GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2023

5 ½" x 8 ¼" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"A strong, emotionally complex choice for reluctant readers." —*Kirkus*

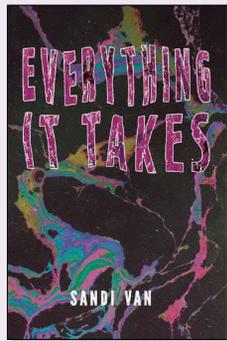
"An exploration of teen drama that will appeal to a wide range of high school readers." —*School Library Journal*

See **Featured Author** box above for Angel Barber's bio.

FEATURED AUTHOR



Edd Tello is the author of the young adult books *Only Pieces* (2022) and *No Place for Fairy Tales* (2023) from West 44 Books. Both titles are Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections. Edd holds a master's degree in creative writing from the University of Seville. When he isn't reading or writing, you can find him drinking coffee or making his friends laugh with his unfortunate anecdotes and jokes. Edd currently lives in Vancouver, Canada. You can find him online at eddtello.com, and [@eddtello](https://www.instagram.com/eddtello) on socials.



Reading Guide Available

EVERYTHING IT TAKES

By: Sandi Van

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595668

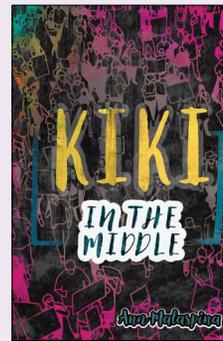
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595569

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595545

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2022

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

See page 79 for Sandi Van's bio.



Reading Guide Available

KIKI IN THE MIDDLE

By: Ann Malaspina

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596061

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596085

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596078

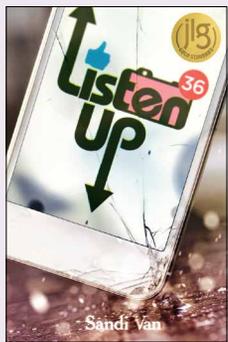
GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2023

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"An entry point for reluctant readers to explore the personal side of social justice issues." —*Kirkus*

See page 60 for Ann Malaspina's bio.



Reading Guide Available

LISTEN UP

By: Sandi Van

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385289

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385272

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538385265

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2021

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

See page 79 for Sandi Van's bio.



Reading Guide Available

ONLY PIECES

By: Edd Tello

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596009

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596023

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596016

GRL: M • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"The author infuses some lovely imagery and Mexican folklore into this overall pleasing offering. An appealing coming-of-age story that will engage reluctant readers." —*Kirkus*

"*Only Pieces* is a satisfying novel in verse about the different types of love that bind diverse people together to form a beautiful whole." —*Foreword Reviews*

See **Featured Author** box above for Edd Tello's bio.



RIGHT ON CUE

By: Sabine Bradley

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596153

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596177

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596160

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2023

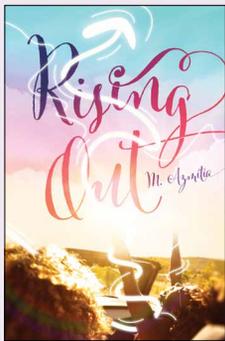
5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"A compact, emotionally resonant tale ideal for reluctant readers." —*Kirkus*

Visit West44books.com for Sabine Bradley's bio.

FICTION



Reading Guide Available

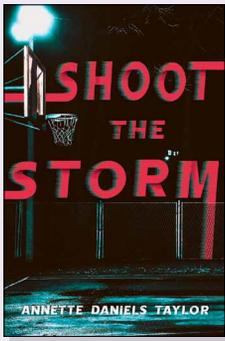
RISING OUT

By: M. Azmitia

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595422
 eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595446
 Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595439

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811:60 • ©2022
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

M. Azmitia is a government employee by day and a poet/cat lady by night in New York City. She holds a degree in English and creative writing. Azmitia writes about identity, discovery, and acceptance in marginalized communities in the hopes of starting crucial conversations about diversity. Her first novel, *The Same Blood*, is a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection about Latinidad and mental health in families of color.



SHOOT THE STORM

By: Annette Daniels Taylor

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595675
 eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595590
 Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595576

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Annette Daniels Taylor is the award-winning author of the YA novel in verse *Dreams on Fire*. She uses multiple media disciplines, including poetry, performance, filmmaking, playwriting, and vocals, to tell her stories. A veteran teaching artist, Annette leads writing, performance, and media workshops in various learning institutions and community organizations. She is an adjunct professor at SUNY Buffalo State teaching broadcast media writing. Born and raised in Staten Island, Annette works and lives with her family, cats, and plants in Buffalo, New York.



SICK GIRL SECRETS

By: Anna Russell

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595637
 eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595477
 Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595453

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811:60 • ©2022
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Anna Russell is a disabled and chronically ill writer from Buffalo, NY. She holds an MFA in creative writing. Her writing explores topics on chronic illnesses, mental health, and other disabilities to shine a light on these often underrepresented experiences. Her other novel in verse, *What If?*, was published in 2018.



SURVIVE AND KEEP SURVIVING

By: Mel Mallory

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595910
 eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595934
 Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595927

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

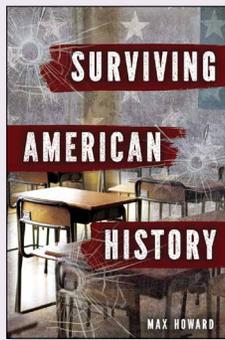
Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"This slim novel works both as a high/low pick and a selection for those seeking a realistic, emotionally intelligent read." —*Booklist*

"A novel for reluctant readers that explores a young woman's courage in finding her voice." —*Kirkus*

See page 90 for Mel Mallory's bio.



Reading Guide Available

SURVIVING AMERICAN HISTORY

By: Max Howard

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595644
 eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595507
 Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595484

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811:60 • ©2022
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Winner of North Star YA Award (Maine)

See page 88 for Max Howard's bio.



Reading Guide Available

THE DRAGONS CLUB

By: Cyn Bermudez

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596030
 eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596054
 Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596047

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2023
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

★ "Sharp, tender, carefully crafted; highly recommended for both strong and striving readers." —*Kirkus*, STARRED Review

Visit West44books.com for Cyn Bermudez's bio and her other titles.



RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader™

A PERFECT BLANK

By: Rye Duran

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382868

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383438

Pbk ed.: \$19.35 / \$16.45 • 9781538382851

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 3.9 • ©2020

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

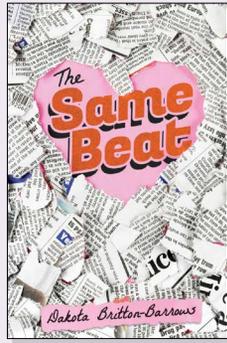
Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"For the collection looking to build its LGBT titles, this is a book that praises every life as remarkable and worthy."

—School Library Journal

Visit West44books.com for Rye Duran's bio.



THE SAME BEAT

By: Dakota Britton-Barrows

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595682

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595620

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595606

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2022

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Visit West44books.com for Dakota Britton-Barrows's bio.



THE VANISHING PLACE

By: Theresa Emminizer

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385098

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385104

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538385081

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2020

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"An adventure story for reluctant readers driven by high winds of melodrama." —Kirkus

Visit West44books.com for Theresa Emminizer's bio.



THINGS THAT BURN

By: A.M. Rogers

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596092

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596115

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596108

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2023

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"Emotional turmoil and environmental threats are skillfully handled in this accessible novel in verse."

—Kirkus

A.M. Rogers is a writer and actress who lives on the shores of Lake Erie. She is passionate about creating community through storytelling and literature, and she believes we need to do something yesterday about climate change. She loves libraries and cats—and (you guessed it) library cats.



TO BE MAYA

By: Claudia Recinos Seldeen

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596184

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978596207

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978596191

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2023

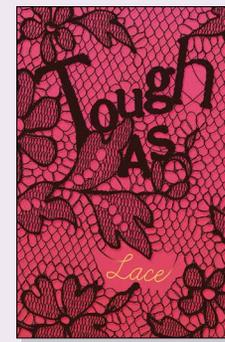
5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"A strong voice and lyrical prose center the experiences of a Guatemalan American teen."

—Kirkus

See page 81 for Claudia Recinos Seldeen's bio.



Reading Guide Available

TOUGH AS LACE

By: Lexi Bruce

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595651

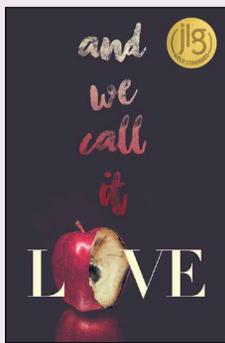
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781978595538

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781978595514

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2022

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Lexi Bruce is the author of *More Than Anger*. She received a degree in English and creative writing from Canisius College in Buffalo, NY. She currently resides in the U.S. Virgin Islands. As a high school student, she struggled with anxiety and wished she could be a star lacrosse player. Now she lives happily (and occasionally anxiously) as a writer/bookseller/grocer.



RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader™

AND WE CALL IT LOVE

By: Amanda Vink

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382769

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383384

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382752

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 3.3 • ©2019

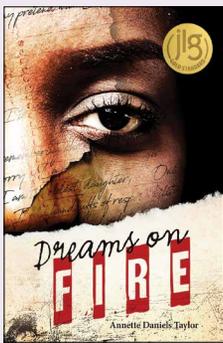
5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"Best friends combat relationship strain caused by parental interference, secrets, and a new abusive boyfriend in this novel in verse. . . . Holds strong appeal for reluctant readers, exploring different types of love, social class, and dating violence." —Kirkus

Visit West44books.com for Amanda Vink's bio.



DREAMS ON FIRE

By: Annette Daniels Taylor

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382486

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383247

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382479

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
In the Margins Book Award Winner

"America's systemic race and class problems are viscerally rendered in this evocative account. A haunting and honest depiction of adversity and triumph that reveals America's continuing struggle to give equal opportunities to all." —Kirkus

See page 94 for Annette Daniels Taylor's bio.



EVERY LITTLE BAD IDEA

By: Caitie McKay

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382660

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383339

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382653

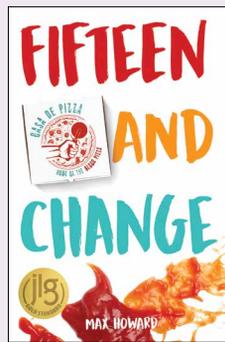
GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"The author uses poetic verse to draw the reader into Skyler's head, creating an immediacy and intimacy that make this short novel compelling and resonant. The ensuing heartbreak is mirrored by the novel's verse, providing a clever presentation of a familiar topic. An appealing choice." —Kirkus

Visit West44books.com for Caitie McKay's bio.



RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader™

FIFTEEN AND CHANGE

By: Max Howard

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382608

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383308

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382592

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 3.1 • ©2019

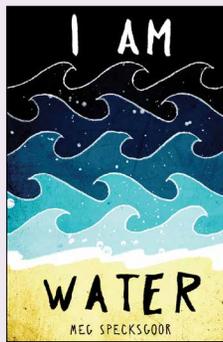
5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"This novel in verse has a sense of urgency. Short poems provide readers with snapshots of life in poverty, loneliness in high school, and the unfair treatment of fast food employees by management." —School Library Journal

See page 88 for Max Howard's bio.



I AM WATER

By: Meg Specksgoor

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382806

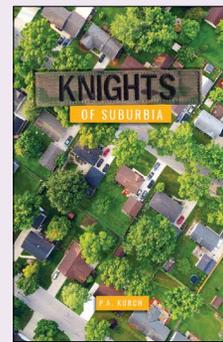
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383407

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382790

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2020

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Meg Specksgoor is a poet and river-rafting guide in northern New Mexico. She graduated from Houghton College with a degree in English and writing with minors in art and intercultural studies. She likes campfires, breakfast, adventuring, and people who tell her interesting stories in combination with any of those activities.



KNIGHTS OF SUBURBIA

By: P. A. Kurch

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382745

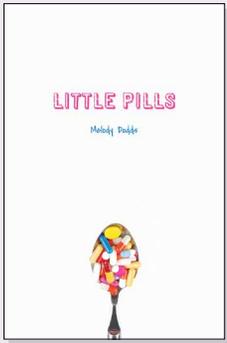
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383377

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382738

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

P. A. Kurch first began *Knights of Suburbia* as a comic strip in his college newspaper that was largely based on his own experiences of his older brother's deployment in Iraq and Afghanistan. He is excited to finally be able to share this story with readers as his first officially published work. When he is not writing or drawing, P. A. Kurch gets to be the biggest kid-at-heart every day as a teacher.



LITTLE PILLS

By: Melody Dodds

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382820

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383414

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382813

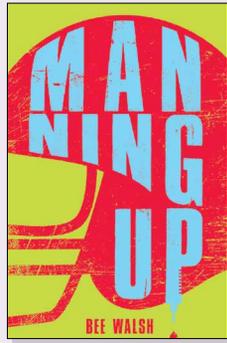
GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"Dodds presents a genuine, complicated, and struggling teenage protagonist in Charlotte. . . . An engrossing, lyrical debut with strong appeal for reluctant readers that confronts the realities of addiction through an absorbing first-person narrative." —*Kirkus*

See page 92 for Melody Dodds's bio.



MANNING UP

By: Bee Walsh

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382684

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383346

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382677

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 4.6 • ©2020

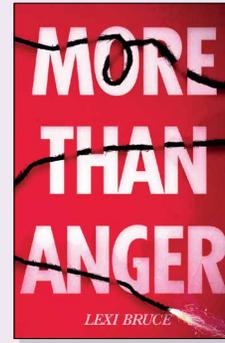
5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

2021 Lone Star Reading List
YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers

"A short but impactful read about a topic teens face more often than is widely known and which is not typically seen in YA fiction." —*YALSA*

Visit West44books.com for Bee Walsh's bio.



MORE THAN ANGER

By: Lexi Bruce

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382646

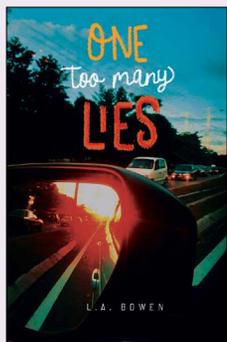
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383322

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382639

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2020

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

See page 95 for Lexi Bruce's bio.



ONE TOO MANY LIES

By: L. A. Bowen

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382509

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383254

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382493

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"Debut author Bowen ultimately offers a glimmer of redemption. Without judgment, she uses Paige's first-person narrative to show the dangers of alcohol and drugs by constructing a linear path of poems that will haunt the reader. Engaging novel." —*Kirkus*

"Give this coming-of-age work to fans of YA verse novels and reluctant readers." —*School Library Journal*

Visit West44books.com for L. A. Bowen's bio.



SANCTUARY SOMEWHERE

By: Brenna Dimmig

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382844

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383421

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382837

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 4.1 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

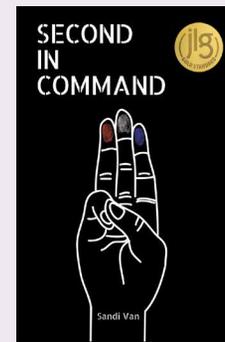
Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"Debut author Dimmig produces a deep and meaningful story in verse for reluctant readers about a young man who is shocked to discover that he is undocumented. . . . The narrative is powerful, informative, and insightful. . . .

An undeniably moving read recommended for absolutely everyone, Dreamer or not." —*Kirkus*

Visit West44books.com for Brenna Dimmig's bio.



SECOND IN COMMAND

By: Sandi Van

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382622

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383315

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382615

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

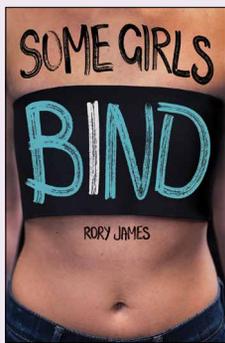
Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"Teens overwhelmed by a parent called up for active duty will connect with this quick read that depicts young people confronting life without the benefit of a consistent parental presence. VERDICT: This novel in verse is recommended for reluctant readers, especially in areas where there is a large military population."

—*School Library Journal*

See page 79 for Sandi Van's bio.



SOME GIRLS BIND

By: **Rory James**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382547

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383278

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382530

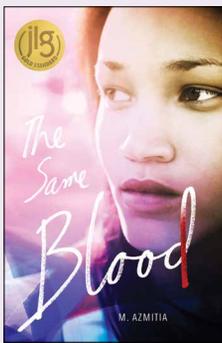
GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

★ "James proves the power of the novel in verse as a vehicle to convey rich characterization, complex themes, and a reading experience that levels the field between struggling and skilled readers. James's verse is fluid, and each chapter is a complete scene that builds Jamie's story with compelling insight and empathy. VERDICT: Highly recommended for school and public libraries." —*School Library Journal*, STARRED REVIEW

Visit West44books.com for Rory James's bio.



THE SAME BLOOD

By: **M. Azmitia**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382523

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383261

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382516

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 4.2 • ©2019

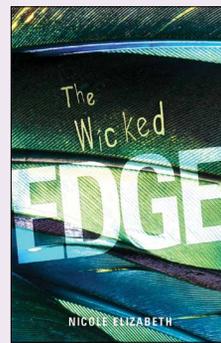
5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
In the Margins Book Award Winner

"Evocative poems, all narrated from Elena's perspective, connect readers to her overwhelming guilt and shame. . . . An examination of Latinx identity, family bonds, mental health, suicide, grief, and guilt that will hopefully spark much-needed dialogue. Necessary." —*Kirkus*

See page 94 for M. Azmitia's bio.



THE WICKED EDGE

By: **Nicole Elizabeth**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382561

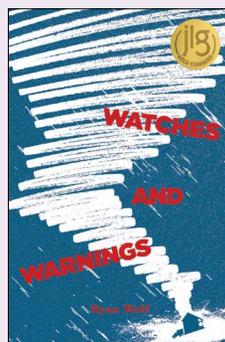
eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383285

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382554

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2020

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Nicole Elizabeth grew up in Central New York and received a bachelor's degree in English and creative writing. She served as an AmeriCorps volunteer through Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest at Paschal Sherman Indian School in Omak, Washington, on the Colville Indian Reservation. There she fostered significant relationships with the kids, community members, and fellow volunteers while teaching and tutoring in reading.



WATCHES AND WARNINGS

By: **Ryan Wolf**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382721

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383360

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382714

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ATOS: 3.7 • ©2020

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"Philip's voice feels authentic to the teen experience, alternately conflicted, profound, and critical. Intense, emotionally charged realism for reluctant readers." —*Kirkus*

See page 76 for Ryan Wolf's bio.



WHAT IF?

By: **Anna Russell**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382585

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383292

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382578

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2019

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"While the poetic style of writing might seem choppy, it represents Josh's thoughts as he deals with his illness. Told in first person, the novel clearly creates a deep connection with the protagonists and readers. VERDICT: This is a quick read for large collections." —*School Library Journal*

"This is a captivating story that will capture teens' imaginations. Written in verse, this slim, rhythmic novel for reluctant readers vividly evokes a teen boy's struggle with obsessive-compulsive disorder." —*Kirkus*

See page 94 for Anna Russell's bio.



YOU AND ME AND MISERY

By: **Rayel Louis-Charles**

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538382783

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538383391

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538382776

GRL: N • DEWEY: 811'.60 • ©2020

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 200 pp. • Further Information Section, Written in Verse, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

Reviews/Awards:

"VERDICT: Recommended where novels in verse are popular." —*School Library Journal*

Visit West44books.com for Rayel Louis-Charles's bio.

FEATURED AUTHOR



Kymbali Craig is a writer, actor, musician, spoken word performance artist, visual artist, and educator. She is a native of Chicago, Illinois, and Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and now resides in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York. Kymbali was the artist-in-residence at Paul Robeson High School in Brooklyn and the creative director of Bailey's Cafe, a Brooklyn-based nonprofit. Through her years of experience working with urban youth as an artist and educator, Kymbali has cultivated meaningful relationships with her students, who affectionately call her Miss Kymbali or Miss K. *Justice* is her first novel.



AND THE MOON FOLLOWS

By: Cyn Bermudez

HC ed.: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385302

eBook: \$25.80 / \$19.40 • 9781538385319

Pbk ed.: \$16.35 / \$14.20 • 9781538385296

GRL: N • DEWEY: [Fic] • ©2021

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" • 96 pp. • Excerpts from other Books within this Series, About the Author Section, High/Low Content

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BITTER AND SWEET

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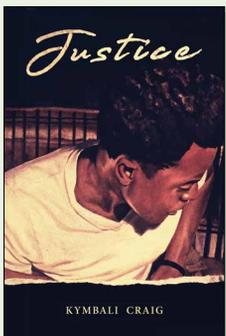
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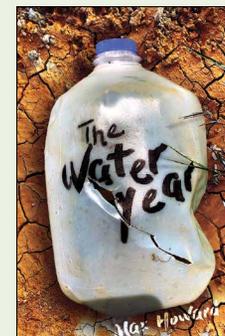
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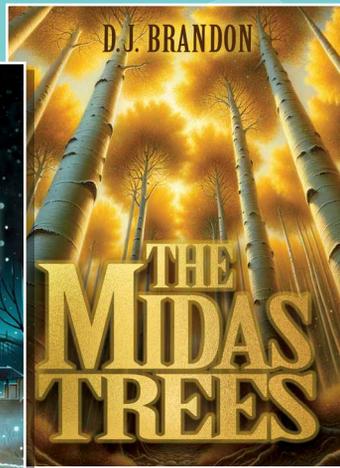
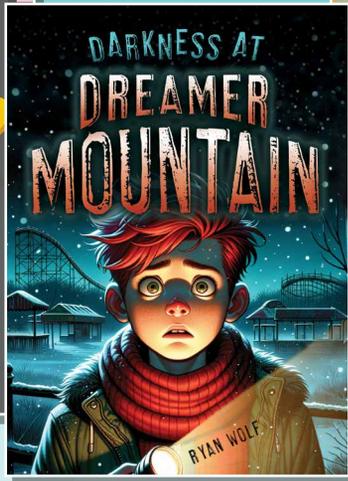
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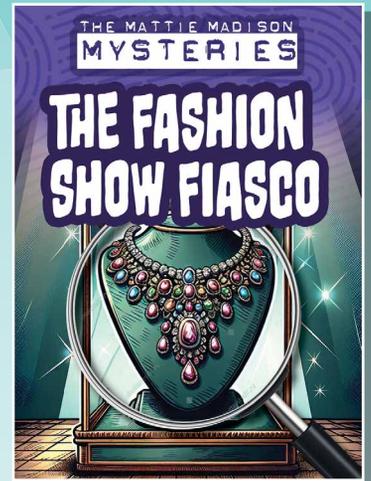
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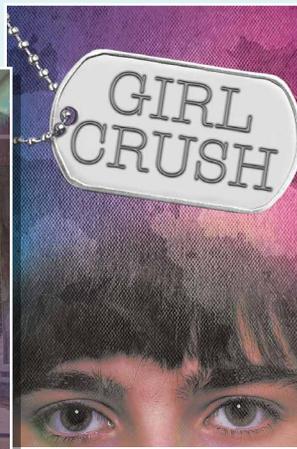
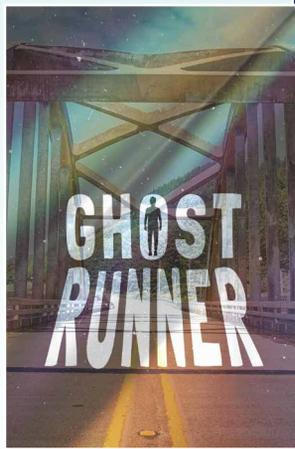
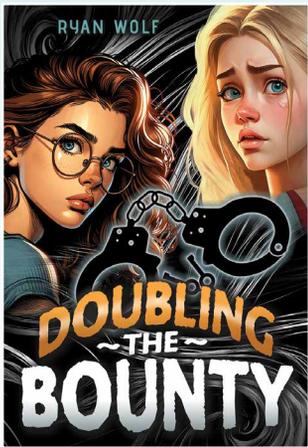
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