

26th Annual Garden State Teen Book Awards Grades 6-8 Fiction Nominee Annotations



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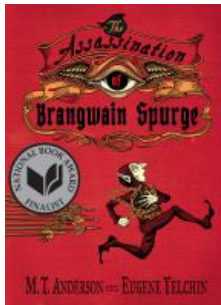
Amal Unbound
Author: Saeed, Aisha,
ISBN: 9780399544682

In Pakistan, Amal holds onto her dream of being a teacher even after becoming an indentured servant to pay off her family's debt to the wealthy and corrupt Khan family.



Aru Shah and the End of Time
Author: Chokshi, Roshani,
ISBN: 9781368012355

Twelve-year-old Aru stretches the truth to fit in at her private school, but when she is dared to prove an ancient lamp is cursed, she inadvertently frees an ancient demon.



The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge
Author: Anderson, M. T.,
ISBN: 9780763698225

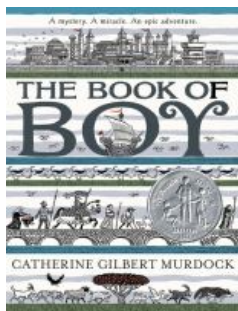
Elf historian Brangwain Spurge is sent to goblin country to deliver a peace offering to their dark lord and spy on the goblin kingdom, but he and his goblin host commit a series of blunders that might bring their nations to war.



Blended
Author: Draper, Sharon M. (Sharon Mills),
ISBN: 9781442495005

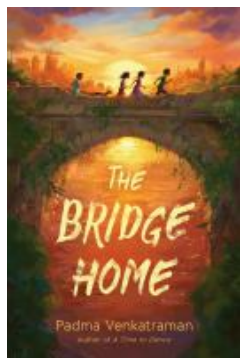
Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police.

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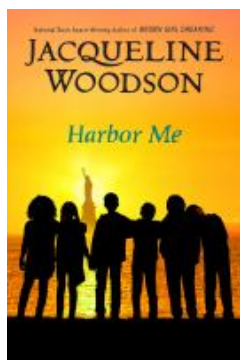
The Book of Boy
Author: Murdock, Catherine Gilbert,
ISBN: 9780062686206

In 1350, a boy with a large hump on his back becomes the servant of a shadowy pilgrim on his way to Rome, who pulls the boy into a dangerous expedition across Europe to gather the seven precious relics of Saint Peter.



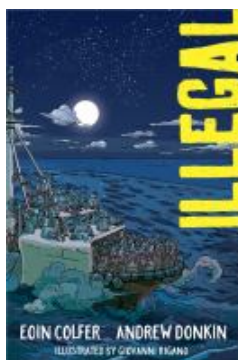
The Bridge Home
Author: Venkatraman, Padma,
ISBN: 9781524738112

Four determined homeless children make a life for themselves in Chennai, India.



Harbor Me
Author: Woodson, Jacqueline,
ISBN: 9780399252525

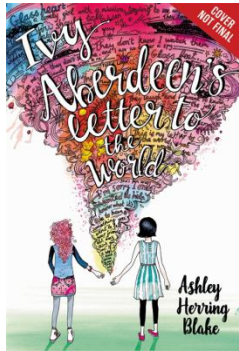
"When six students are chosen to participate in a weekly talk with no adults allowed, they discover that when they're together, it's safe to share the hopes and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world"-- Provided by publisher.



Illegal
Author: Colfer, Eoin,
ISBN: 9781492662143

Setting out to join his brother and sister in Europe, Ebo leaves Ghana, traveling through the Sahara Desert and dangerous streets of Tripoli before braving the merciless sea.

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Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World
Author: Blake, Ashley Herring,
ISBN: 9780316515467

"Twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado, and in the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for another girl at school"-- Provided by publisher.



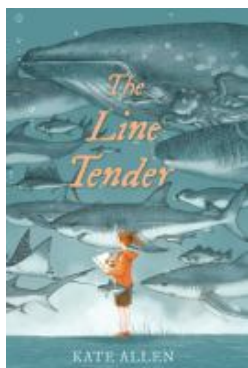
Last Pick. 1
Author: Walz, Jason,
ISBN: 9781626728912

In a world where aliens have taken over Earth, abducted every human they deemed useful, and abandoned the rest, twins Sam and Wyatt struggle to start a revolution of the unwanted.



New Kid
Author: Craft, Jerry,
ISBN: 9780062691200

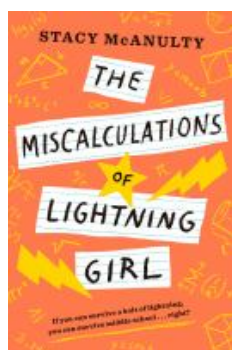
After his parents send him to a prestigious private school known for its academics, Jordan Banks finds himself torn between two worlds.



The Line Tender
Author: Allen, Kate, 1977-
ISBN: 9780735231603

"Following a tragedy that further alters the course of her life, twelve-year-old Lucy Everhart decides to continue the shark research her marine biologist mother left unfinished when she died years earlier"-- Provided by publisher.

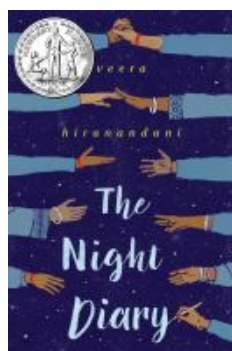
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The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl

Author: McAnulty, Stacy,
ISBN: 9781524767570

A lightning strike made Lucy, twelve, a math genius but, after years of homeschooling, her grandmother enrolls her in middle school and she learns that life is more than numbers.



The Night Diary

Author: Hiranandani, Veera,
ISBN: 9780735228511

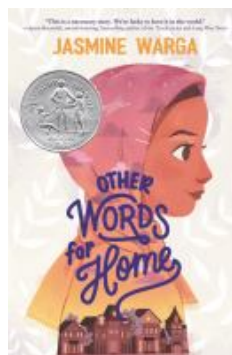
Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.



Nowhere Boy

Author: Marsh, Katherine,
ISBN: 9781250307576

"Fourteen-year-old Ahmed, a Syrian refugee, and thirteen-year-old Max, an American boy, are bound by a secret that sets them on the adventure of a lifetime"-- Provided by publisher.



Other Words for Home

Author: Warga, Jasmine,
ISBN: 9780062747808

Sent with her mother to the safety of a relative's home in Cincinnati when her Syrian hometown is overshadowed by violence, Jude

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worries for the family members who were left behind as she adjusts to a new life with unexpected surprises.



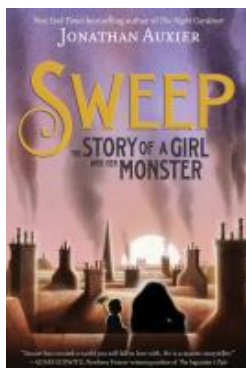
Queen of the Sea
Author: Meconis, Dylan,
ISBN: 9781536204988

After Queen Eleanor is exiled by her sister to a convent on a remote island, she meets a young orphan, Margaret, but when Margaret befriends Eleanor, she learns the truth about her own past and she is faced with either helping Eleanor or protecting herself.



The Serpent's Secret
Author: DasGupta, Sayantani,
ISBN: 9781338185706

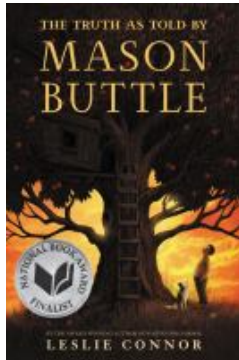
Up until her twelfth birthday, Kiranmala considered herself an ordinary sixth-grader in Parsippany, New Jersey, but then her parents disappear and a drooling rakkhosh demon shows up in her kitchen, and soon she is swept into another dimension, full of magic, winged horses, talking birds (very annoying), and cute princes--and somehow Kiranmala needs to sort it all out, find her parents, and basically save the world.



Sweep : The Story of a Girl and Her Monster
Author: Auxier, Jonathan,
ISBN: 9781419731402

In nineteenth-century England, after her father's disappearance Nan Sparrow, ten, works as a "climbing boy," aiding chimney sweeps, but when her most treasured possessions end up in a fireplace, she unwittingly creates a golem.

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The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle

Author: Connor, Leslie,

ISBN: 9780062491435

As he grieves his best friend Benny's death, Mason and his friend Calvin, who are targeted by the neighborhood bullies, create an underground haven for themselves, but when Calvin goes missing Mason finds himself in trouble.

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