

Our Favorite Children's Books of 2024

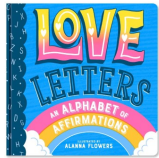
Board Books



Hello, Face!

by Aya Khalil

From laughing to cooing, sneezing to yawning, join baby in discovering what expressive eyes, noses, and mouths can do.



Love Letters

by Alanna Flowers

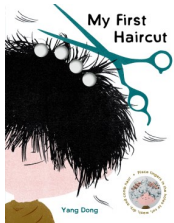
This empowering title uses the alphabet to remind kids that they are deserving of good things.



My Feet Go

by Ammi-Joan Paquette

Celebrating bodies everywhere, this toddler book encourages young readers to discover all the amazing things their feet can do.



My First Haircut

by Yang Dong

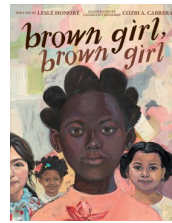
This interactive book featuring die cuts for fingers to wash, cut, and comb hair that will amuse toddlers in need of their first haircut.



On Powwow Day

by Traci Sorell

On powwow day, there's so much to see, count, and hear!



Brown Girl, Brown Girl

by Leslé Honore

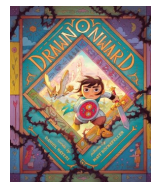
A journey through the past, present and future of brown and Black girls is a celebration of community, creativity and joy. This is a story based on a viral poem inspired by the election of Vice President Kamala Harris.



Bunny Loves Beans

by Jane Whittingham

Young readers explore the wonderfully colorful foods they enjoy, and the animals who love them, too.



Drawn Onward

by Daniel Nayeri

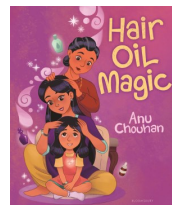
A grieving young boy braves the dark forest to ask, "Mom, were you glad you were mom?" This extraordinary palindrome book guides readers through an epic adventure that explores grief, discovery, and connections to lost loved ones.



Exactly as Planned

by Tao Nyeu

In a reversible book told in two perspectives, Fox and Moose get together for a picnic. But things go awry when the brownies Fox made and a scarf Moose knit go missing.



Hair Oil Magic

by Anu Chouhan

Meenu decides to mix the hair oils herself for Magic Hair Day. She realizes that magic just isn't there until Mom comes joins in the fun.



Home in a Lunchbox

by Cherry Mo

In this wordless book, readers meet Jun who moved from Hong Kong to America. She finds her new school frightening. When she opens her lunchbox to find her favorite meals, she realizes home isn't so far away after all.

Picture Books

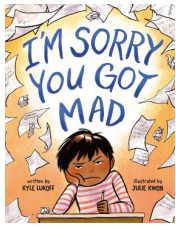


Being Home

by Traci Sorell

Moving back to their ancestral land, a joy-filled Cherokee girl draws the changing landscape as they travel along, looking forward to the end of

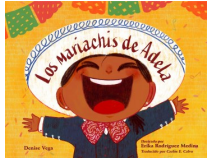
the journey where she'll be with family and settle into the new rhythm of home.



I'm Sorry You Got Mad

by Kyle Lukoff

After he hurts his friend Zoe's feelings, Jack discovers there's more to an apology than just saying "I'm sorry" in this engaging exploration of how an apology goes deeper than just words.

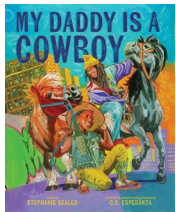


Los Mariachis de Adela/ Adela's Mariachi Band

by Denise Vega

Adela loves everything about her family's mariachi band, and wants to

be in it. She tries many instruments but nothing seems right, so she has to find a different way to become part of the band.



My Daddy is a Cowboy

by Stephanie Seales

While taking a horseback ride with her father around their city, a young girl is regaled with cowboy stories filled with community, discovery, and feeling seen in a new way. Soon, she discovers that she is a cowboy too.



Prunella

by Beth Ferry

Born with a purple thumb instead of a green one, Prunella cultivates a poisonous garden to keep people away. When a curious weed of a different sort pops up, she must decide

between uprooting this new friendship or allowing it to blossom.



Spider in the Well

by Jess Hannigan

Breaking News: Wishing Well Broken! The townspeople are up in arms. With their beloved well busted, none of their generous wishes are coming true! Time to send that Newsboy to investigate, and discover sometimes justice isn't an easy answer.



Thank You

by Jarvis

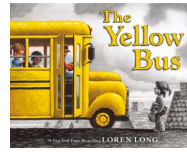
Warm and inviting collage artwork ponders endless possibilities for giving thanks and moments of everyday gratitude.



The Ofrenda That We Built

by Jolene Gutiérrez

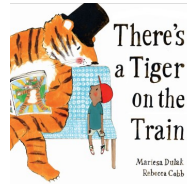
This title celebrates traditions and the memory of loved ones, inviting readers to help build a colorful ofrenda, one special element at a time.



The Yellow Bus

by Loren Long

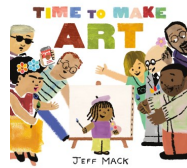
A gorgeously illustrated story about a forgotten school bus that finds happiness and purpose in the most unexpected places, and its the journey along the way.



There's a Tiger on the Train

by Mariesa Dulak

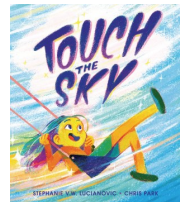
Taking a train ride to the sea, a young boy is delighted when a host of animals turn an ordinary journey into an extraordinary one. But will his dad ever look up from his phone?



Time to Make Art

by Jeff Mack

A little girl asks meaningful questions about creating art. Her questions are answered by real artists across an array of styles backgrounds and time periods.



Touch the Sky

by Stephanie V. W. Lucianovic

Captures the unforgettable moment when a child learns how to pump on a swing.



Two Together

by Brendan Wenzel

While following the simple route home, Cat and Dog find their journey turns into an unexpected adventure told in Wenzel's distinct immersive illustration.



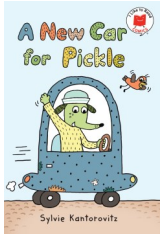
We are Definitely Human

by X. Fang

When mysterious visitors from "Europe" crash in Mr. Li's field, he does what any host would: he invites them back to his house and offers to help fix up their "car." As the townsfolk also come to help, the gathering turns into an out of this world party.

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Early Reader



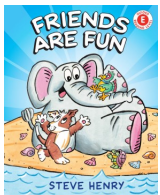
A New Car for Pickle

by Sylvie Kantorovitz
Pickle thinks he needs a new car, and tries many that not for him. Coco the mechanic shows Pickle that his car already works just fine.



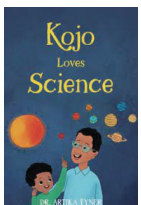
Ali the Great and the Market Mishap

by Saadia Faruqi
Second-grader Ali, his grandfather, and brother Fateh head to the market to buy some snacks, but Ali loses Fateh and has to find him among busy aisles.



Friends are Fun

by Steve Henry
Pete the bird likes living alone on his island. When various animals join him, Pete realizes its fun to work together. With silly text and speech bubbles this book is a great first step toward longer graphic novels.



Kojo Loves Science

by Dr. Artika Tyner
Kojo and his scientist Dad explore a new science topic each day. Beginning readers will learn how cooking, gardening and coding are all related to science.



Market Day

by Miranda Harmon
Mama Cat is selling her desserts at the market. Can siblings Nutmeg, Cinnamon, and Ginger find the perfect treat for their Mama? Time to explore in this colorful introduction to graphic novels.



The Missing Dot

by Kallie George
Spots the Dog has a problem. His snack has a hole in it. But could it be whole with a hole? Dot the Ladybug is on the case in this "My First I Can Read" story.



Troll Trouble

by Joe McGee
It's time to cook but one key ingredient is missing! Vampyra and the Junior Monsters Scouts set out to find the tricky ingredient.



The Inside Scouts: Help the Kind Lion

by Mitali Banerjee Ruths
Inside Scouts Viv and Sanjay can shrink themselves down to a tiny size, helping them rescue a lion with a leaky heart. Readers will learn science topics and compassion in this Acorn series.



The New Trim

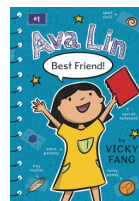
by Clare Helen Welsh
When Miss Clip, the groomer, decides to take a nap, Jasper takes over and gives all his friends new looks. This is one of many fun decodable stories in Lerner's Early Bird series.



Vacation

by Ame Dyckman and Mark Teague
Bat, Cat, and Rat decide they need a vacation, but conflicts and some well-meaning pranks make trip-planning almost impossible.

Transitional Chapter Books



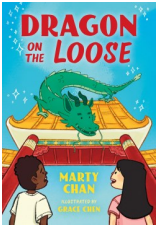
Best Friend

by Vicky Fang
Excited for the first day of school, first grader, Ava Lin, is determined to find a best friend and must navigate some confusing social rules with unintended results.



Bunny and Clyde

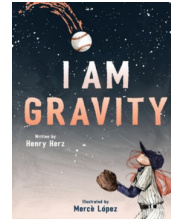
by Megan McDonald
Tired of being good, Bunny and Clyde, set out to be baddies, but their best attempts at bad deeds go hilariously wrong.



Dragon on the Loose

by Marty Chan

In this illustrated early chapter book, two friends bring a friendly dragon statue to life and must find a way to help her get home.



I am Gravity

by Henry Herz

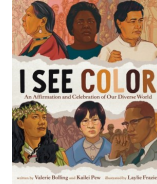
Told as a lyrical, riddling first-person narrative, Gravity boasts of its essential role in life as we know it.



Reeya Rai and the Ivory Peacock

by Anita Nahta Amin

Reeya Rai and her friend, Finlay, discover a priceless artifact in a cave near site her parents are studying. Reeya works with Finlay and her parents to recover a special hard to reach item.



I See Color

by Valerie Bolling

This nonfiction book affirms people of color by celebrating their achievements and contributions. Highlighting people such as Basemah Atweh and Dr. Martin

Luther King Jr. uplifts us all to join in seeing and celebrating every amazing shade.



Wildfire Rescue

by Rekha S. Rajan

Jaden and his sister Leela travel the country responding to disasters, helping people and rescuing animals. This exciting Branches series is written by a Chicagoland author.



If I Were a Fungus

by Gaia Stella

If you were a fungus, what would you do? Would you live in the mountains or the city? Discover more in this colorful introduction to the amazing workings of fungi.

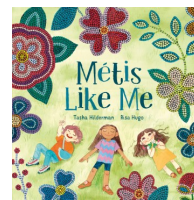
Picture Book Nonfiction



A Treasure of Measures

by Mike Downs

This rhyming nonfiction story introduces readers to different units of measurement, then invites them to imagine the many ways of using math.



Métis Like Me

by Tasha Hilderman

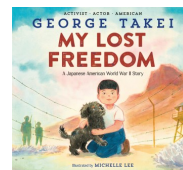
A group of Indigenous children help one child reconnect with their history, showing them it's never too late to learn, celebrate, or become part of an often-overlooked culture.



All the Rocks We Love

by Lisa Varchol Perron

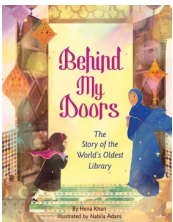
Speaking to all little hands, this nonfiction book appreciates the versatility and appeal of rocks, from being collected, painted, and shared.



My Lost Freedom

by George Takei

George Takei shares his empowering and moving story about growing up in Japanese American incarceration camps during WWII.



Behind My Doors

by Hena Khan

Readers will visit Al-Warawlyyin Library, the oldest library in the world. Travel through time to see how this magical place came to be.



Pau

by Tony Piedra

With illustrations drenched in tropical color, this lyrical love song to the Kauai'o'o bird shows how this species evolved, declined, and became extinct,

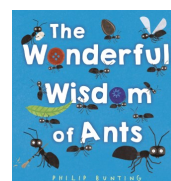
empowering young naturalists to protect and defend our planet's biodiversity.



Best in Show

by David Elliott

With clever poems, this ode to our canine companions introduces all kinds of dogs, brought to life by an array of beloved illustrators. A pawsome read-aloud for all.



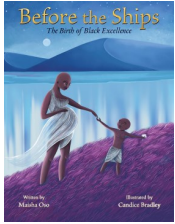
The Wonderful Wisdom of Ants

by Philip Bunting

Delivering facts, humor, and heart, this nonfiction book takes readers into the world of ants.

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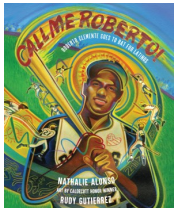
Middle Grade Nonfiction



Before the Ships: the Birth of Black Excellence

by Maisha Oso

This moving book is a powerful and poetic celebration of the early roots of Black history.



Call Me Roberto!

by Nathalie Alonso

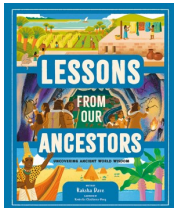
This true story of the Major League Baseball player traces the emotional highs and lows of his career as he fought racism to become one of the greatest baseball players of all time.



Inside the Compost Bin

by Melody Sumaoang Plan

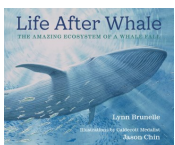
Exploring the physical, biological, and chemical processes involved in composting, readers will learn how to start their own composting bin.



Lessons From Our Ancestors

by Raksha Dave

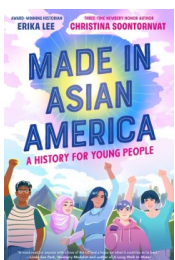
Using objects unearthed during archaeological digs, an archeologist explores ancient cultures that built sustainable cities, supported gender equality and more, offering a fresh perspective on our past.



Life After Whale

by Lynn Brunelle

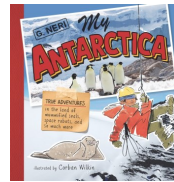
This breathtakingly illustrated book follows a whale as she closes her eyes for the last time and sinks to the bottom of the ocean. There, her enormous body sets the stage for new ecosystems to flourish.



Made in Asian America

by Erika Lee

This narrative nonfiction shines a light on the generations of Asian Americans who have transformed the U.S., telling a powerful story of race, bravery, and hope.



My Antarctica

by Greg Neri

In this enthralling travel memoir, a Coretta Scott King Honor-winning author takes readers to Antarctica, a place of stark beauty, history, and endless scientific research. There, he explores this land through the curiosity and wonder of his inner child.



Spooky Lakes

by Geo Rutherford

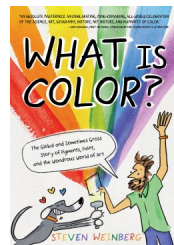
With eerie and eye-popping watercolor illustrations, this nonfiction book takes readers under the surface of 25 strange and mysterious lakes around the world. Learn about the science of hydrology as well as why understanding the natural world is crucial to protecting it.



The Great Lakes

by Barb Rosenstock

Centering around the Great Lakes-Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie and Superior, - this beautiful picture book explores how they formed, the importance of their abundant freshwater, and what we can do to preserve these national treasures.

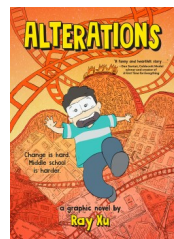


What is Color?

by Steven Weinberg

In this zany and vibrantly illustrated nonfiction guide to all things color, the origins of today's pigments come alive across continents and history, with oodles of art and tons of science.

Graphic Novels



Alterations

by Ray Xu

A semi-autobiographical middle grade graphic novel about a Canadian-Chinese boy who feels invisible at home and in school but longs to stand out.

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Ant story

by Jay Hosler

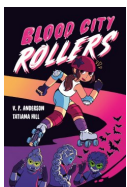
Meet Rubi, a tiny ant with a big personality and an even bigger love for stories. Who knew the small world of her colony could be full of unexpected friendships and epic adventures?



Beware the Dragon and the Nozzlewok

by Vikram Madan

Readers meet oozing dinosaurs, the Nozzelwok who vacuums verses and more memorable heroes in a poetry collection told in a colorful graphic novel format.



Blood City Rollers

by V. P. Anderson

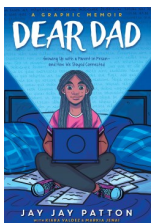
Mina is recruited by vampires at her skating competition. The squad need a human player to complete their roller derby team. Mina strives to help her new friends survive the season.



Buns Gone Bad

by Anna Humphrey

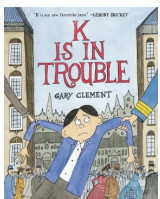
The bunnies, Flop, Biggie and Boingie, are left without their mom. They learn some hard truths about life and with quick thinking, ingenuity, and a bit of raccoon manipulation, these buns will be rulers of the park.



Dear Dad

by Jay Jay Patton

The author shares about her life growing up with a dad in prison. After his release, they bond through their love of coding and create Photo Patch, a life-changing app that connects children to incarcerated parents.



K is in Trouble

by Gary Clement

K tries to get through his days, but is beset by talking fish, absurd adults, flocks of crows, and detention. Fans of Roald Dahl will devour this compilation of outrageous tales.



Lunar boy

by Jessica Wibowo

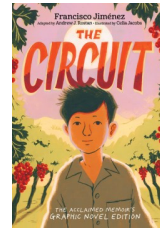
Indu and his Mom leave the Moon to live on Earth with their new blended family. Indu begs the Moon to take him back and the Moon agrees to. But as the day gets closer Indu realizes home is more than a place.



Plain Jane and the mermaid

by Vera Brosgol

Jane is incredibly plain, according to everyone around her. When her last shot at happiness is kidnapped by an evil mermaid, Jane ventures underwater to rescue her maybe-fiancé.



The Circuit

by Andrew Rostan

This memoir is an honest account of a family's journey from Mexico to California as seen through the eyes of a boy who longs for education and the right to call one place home.



The Night Librarian

by Christopher Lincoln

Page and Turner bring their Dad's rare book to the library and discover what magic comes out of books, literally! They join the Night Librarian and a motley cast of characters in an epic battle to save the library.



Uprooted

by Ruth Chan

Moving to Hong Kong, where her family fits in but she doesn't, Ruth feels lonely by the language barrier. Then, her father tells her stories about her family that help her to put down roots of her own.



We Are Big Time

by Hena Khan

After moving and starting a new school, Aliya joins the basketball team. Ailya works hard, discovering it takes teamwork and self-confidence to be great. This fictional take on a real basketball team is sure to hook sports lovers!



Weirdo

by Tony Jr. Weaver

Tony loves all things geeky and is bullied and labeled a weirdo. When Tony enrolls in a new school that fosters creativity, he grows into the hero he's always aspired to be.

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Middle Grade Fiction



Benji Zeb is a Ravenous Werewolf

by Deke Moulton

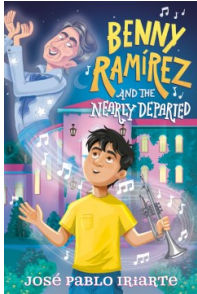
As Benji and his family work to hide their true identities as werewolves. Caleb, the school bully, reveals he's a werewolf, too, and needs Benji's help controlling his shifting, a situation that forces Benji to deal with his growing feelings for Caleb.



Deer Run Home

by Ann Clare LeZotte

Moving into her father's trailer after an incident at her mom's house, Effie, who is deaf, gets tired of him stomping, pointing, and making thoughtless jokes to communicate with her. Effie wonders if telling the terrible secret she carries is the only way out.



Benny Ramirez and the Nearly Departed

by José Pablo Iriarte

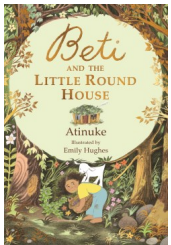
When he moves into his late grandfather's Miami mansion, Benny discovers the ghost of his famous trumpet-playing abuelo is still there! After being barred from the afterlife, Benny agrees to help him earn his wings.



Drawing Deena

by Hena Khan

When Pakistani American artist Deena promotes her mom's home-based business, it takes off and makes her anxiety unmanageable. She and her mother learn the importance of asking for help and that, with the right support, she can create something truly beautiful.



Beti and the Little Round House

by Atinuke

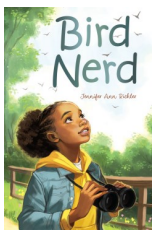
With themes of endurance, friendship and the power of self-belief, this enchanting collection of stories follows the adventures of Beti, Mam, Tad, baby Jac, and her very own tiny goat named Naughty.



Felix Powell, Boy Dog

by Erin Entrada Kelly

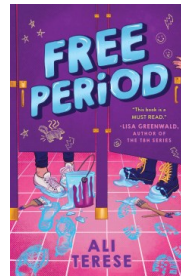
This funny, illustrated middle grade novel about celebrates friendship, family, and dogs. Felix Powell is magically transformed from a boy into a dog, a perfect story for pet lovers!



Bird Nerd

by Jennifer Ann Richter

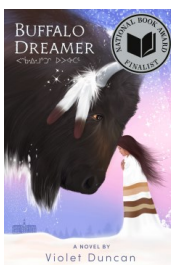
Eleven-year-old bird enthusiast Nyla sets out to win her city school's birding tournament against tough competition from the suburbs, while learning to balance old friends with new ones.



Free Period

by Ali Terese

Troublemaking best friends Helen and Gracie are forced to join the school's Community Action Club. They take over the club's campaign and fight for period products in all school bathrooms. Soon, they find themselves closer to change and deeper in trouble than ever before.



Buffalo Dreamer

by Violet Duncan

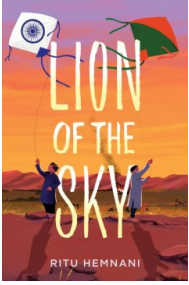
Summer visits her family on a reservation in Canada. She begins experiencing dreams of running away from a residential school, like the one her grandfather attended as a child. She looks to seek answers about her community's painful past.



Just Shy of Ordinary

by A. J. Sass

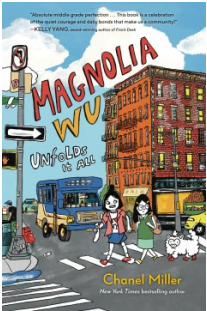
Shai, a thirteen-year-old nonbinary homeschooler, attempts to find a "new normal" post-pandemic as they start public school, meet new friends, and learn about their Jewish identity.



Lion of the Sky

by Ritu Hemnani

In this historical novel-in-verse, 12-year-old Raj and his family are forced to flee their home after the British Partition of India. After suffering devastating losses, Raj must summon the courage to survive the brutal upheaval of both his country and his heart.



Magnolia Wu Unfolds It All

by Chanel Miller

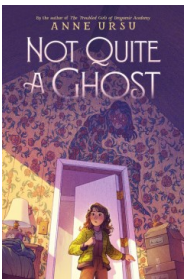
Magnolia Wu is a self-proclaimed sock detective. She lives in New York City with her parents who run a laundromat. Magnolia meets a new friend, Iris, and they set off across the city to solve the mystery of each missing sock, meeting people and uncovering the unimaginable along the way.



Max in the House of Spies

by Adam Gidwitz

To find his way back home to his family in Germany during WWII, Max Bretzfeld, with a kobold named Berg on one shoulder, and a dybbuk named Stein on the other, sets out to do the impossible: become a British spy.



Not Quite a Ghost

by Anne Ursu

For Violet everything seems to be changing at once. After her baby brother is born, her blended family needs to move to a bigger house. Violet's room is the attic of the new house and she is creeped out by the wallpaper in her room. As days

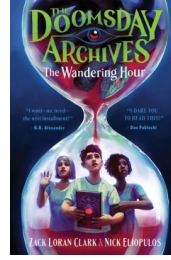
turn into weeks without any improvement Violet is stuck at home in her room where she might not be alone in the room at all.



Slugfest

by Gordon Korman

Yash is forced to take Physical Education Equivalency, aka "Slugfest," in summer school so he can maintain his star spot on the JV football team. Yash recruits his fellow PE rejects to train with him and pass this course, an endeavor that turns into a summer he'll never forget.



The Wandering Hour

by Zack Loran Clark

Emrys records his town's urban legends and cryptid sightings in a Wiki, along with his friends. One day, they stumble upon the Doomsday Archives, a collection of relics with dangerous consequences. The trio must band

together to stop the horrors plaguing their town. Because after all this time hunting monsters, the kids have realized the monsters are now hunting them back.



The Glorious Race of Magical Beasts

by Alex Bell

Eli only has his Grandmother, and his pet tortoise. After his grandmother fails ill, he risks it all by joining a fantastical race to win the prize money for her treatment. This annual race is filled

with many dangers. Most racers seek out big creatures to help them on their conquest. But, Eli, embarks on this journey with his pet, a moon tortoise. Will they reach the finish line in time?



The Last Dragon on Mars

by Scott Reintgen

The first in a sci-fi and fantasy series, Lunar, a boy living on Mars, unexpectedly becomes a dragon rider. Lunar and his newly formed team seek to end the curse that doomed their planet.



The Wrong Way Home

by Kate O'Shaughnessy

When her mom sneaks them away from the Ranch, saying its leader is dangerous, Fern refuses to believe it. She devises a plan to return to the off-the-grid, sustainable community in New York until she makes a discovery that

causes her to question everything.



Westfallen

by Ann Brashares

Henry, Frances, and Lukas are neighbors, and they used to be friends. When they come together again, the three ex-friends make a mind-blowing discovery: a radio that allows them to talk to group of kids in

1944. Their conversations lead to altering history in the biggest way possible and it's up to them to change it back.