Outstanding Books Reviewed in This Issue

The war within these walls, by Aline Sax; illustrated by Caryl Strzelecki; translated by Laura Watkinson.

Journey, by Aaron Becker.

The streak: how Joe DiMaggio became America’s hero, by Barb Rosenstock.

P.S. Be eleven, by Rita Williams-Garcia.
Dear CLJ Readers:

There are so many reasons to love the Fall season—and they will vary depending on the part of the country that you call home. As for me, I love how the autumn sunlight slants across the earth and how the air smells of anticipation. There is something about the changing season that makes me want to cozy up with a good book.

If you share my last sentiment, then I trust you will find lots of ideas for your reading list in this issue of CLJ. We also have a special feature for those who work with younger readers (or who reading enjoy children’s and teen’s books, as I do). In the first section of this issue, we present reviews of a selection of this year’s award-winning titles (published in 2013). Please take a look at the introduction to this section, where we share some thoughts about how to approach these titles.

As always, thank you for your support. If you enjoy CLJ, please visit the CLJ website and subscribe to our blog as well so that you can receive daily book reviews and occasional special features.

In Him,
Angela Walsh
Co-Publisher and Editor
The purpose of the *Christian Library Journal* is to provide reviews from a Christian point of view, of both Christian and secular titles for the Christian reader. Materials reviewed may reflect a broad range of Christian doctrinal positions and do not necessarily reflect the views of *Christian Library Journal*.

The Core Collection, under construction, is a help for parents, teachers, librarians, and others in choosing the best books for the children and teens in their care. And when finished, for new schools, will be a major reference source for building a new library.

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Shawn Estes

*The War Within These Walls*, by Aline Sax. Published by Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2013. Used with permission.
Review Rating System

*5 Outstanding — a book which impacts someone’s life or thinking
5 Excellent — well written, among the best
4 Very good — definitely worth reading
3 Good — may be a good source for relaxation or to meet needs for information
2 Fair — poor writing or editing; read only if very interested
1 Poor — not much going for this title.

Recommended with caution (may be used with any of the above ratings) – Note reservations within the review.
Not recommended (may be used with any of the above ratings) – Note problems within the review.

Value of the book:
With fiction, the rating includes the quality of plot development/pacing, characterization, sense of time and place, mood, and atmosphere, dialogue, depth of perception, sensitivity of writing, use of humor. Be aware that some books are character driven, so character development is extremely important. Others are plot driven, so character development isn’t as critical; plot is.
With nonfiction, the rating includes quality of the information, accuracy, up to date, stimulates further inquiry, adds to the understanding of the topic, illustrations which are informative and appropriate.
With picture books, first be aware that these are written today for various age groups, so don’t assume little children. The rating includes those above for fiction and nonfiction, and also emphasizes the illustrations.

Commonly used abbreviations in CLJ reviews

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Journey by Aaron Becker is a wordless picture book about a young city girl who, with the help of Candlewick a red crayon and a vivid imagination, sets out on a fantastic adventure. The young protagonist soon tires of playing with her scooter, kite, and ball. After unsuccessful attempts to persuade her busy family to play with her, she slumps into her bedroom. When she discovers a bright red crayon among papers scattered across her bedroom floor, she draws a door on the wall. She opens the door and enters a lantern-filled forest. She follows a path to a stream, draws a boat, and sails away to a magnificent castle. She rescues a purple bird from an evil emperor in a dirigible, falls into his clutches, and loses her magic crayon. Now all she needs to escape is a flying carpet, a starry night, a palm tree with a purple door, and the help of a special friend.

Journey, a 2014 Caldecott Honor Book, is author-illustrator Becker's first book. While pen and ink illustrations express the control the young girl gains with her crayon, watercolor shading inserts the free-flow of life circumstances. Red and purple radiate from a sepia-softened background. Contrast emotes drama similar in style to My Father's Arms Are a Boat by Stein Erik Lunde and Oyvind Torseter and The Dot by...
Peter H. Reynolds. Becker draws on his experience as a film industry concept designer, as well as his travels ranging from San Francisco to the South Pacific, East Africa to Sweden, and finally resting to raise a family in Massachusetts.

Kim Harris, CLJ

Award: Caldecott Honor 2014

Maria had a little llama / Angela Dominguez = Maria tenia una llamita / Angela Dominguez.

Henry Holt; 2013.
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 cm.  Toddler-Grade 1  E  Rating: 5

Maria Had a Little Llama (Maria Tenia Una Llamita) sets the familiar nursery rhyme in the Peruvian countryside. In this bilingual version from Angela Dominguez, the girl’s name is Maria, and her pet is a fleecy white llama.

A Pura Belpre Honor Book for its illustrations, Maria Had a Little Llama is an adorable adaptation of the classic poem. Angela Dominguez’s Maria is joyful and a little bit mischievous. Her determined walk from the farm where she lives, through the town square, and into the schoolhouse is colorfully portrayed in gouache and ink. There is a wonderful blend of scenes, including an aerial view of the town across two wordless pages. Peruvian culture is captured in the landscape, clothing, buildings, and even musical instruments. Other clues to the book’s setting cleverly include Maria strolling across a map of the Andes Mountains, the Inca Trail, and Machu Picchu.

The text is minimal and includes both English and Spanish, with simplicity just right for a young audience of either language. Few children or adults are used to the full version of the original rhyme. Maria Had a Little Llama includes the final stanza, in which the teacher explains that the llama loves Maria because Maria loves the llama. This whole sweet book with its happy and uncomplicated ending evokes a ride on “It’s a Small World” and will likewise leave readers smiling and returning for more.

Nina Ditmar, CLJ

Award: Pura Belpre Illustrator Honor 2014

My father's arms are a boat / Stein Erik Lunde ; [illustrated by] Oyvind Torseter ; translated from the Norwegian by Kari Dickson.

LCCN 2012022767 ISBN 9781592701247, hardcover, $15.95.
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 25 cm.  Grades PS-2  E  Rating: 5

In My Father’s Arms Are a Boat by Stein Erik Lunde, a young boy watches his father mourn his mother’s recent death and seeks solace from his own confusion and loss. Unable to sleep, he locates his father and climbs safely into his arms. He worries the fox will eat the bread crumbs they left for the red birds. He tells Dad that Granny calls red birds dead people. He asks if the animals are asleep, like Mom, and if Mom will wake up, like the animals. They dress warmly, then go outside to view the night sky. The moon reminds the boy of his father’s arms. They wish on a shooting star, then go back inside to sit by the fire. When Dad reassures him that everything will be all right, he falls asleep in
his father's arms.

*My Father's Arms Are a Boat* is written as a first person narrative from the young boy's perspective. Lunde's books have been translated into several languages; however, this is his first book translated into English. His experience as a lyricist and children’s writer is evident in this gently haunting tale. Although characters are sparsely illustrated, they are approachable and realistic. Oyvind Torseter’s cut-out illustrations are stark, sparingly placed, and often seemingly adrift at odd angles, emphasizing the emotional displacement that accompanies the death of a parent. Icy winter tones mingle with warm fiery hues to symbolize hope for recovery.

*Kim Harris, CLJ*

**Award:** Mildred L. Batchelder Honor 2014

**Mr. Wuffles / David Wiesner.**

**Clarion Books, 2013.**


1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 24 x 29 cm. Grades K-3

E Rating: 4

Award-winning author/illustrator David Wiesner presents a nearly wordless picture book about a black-and-white cat named Mr. Wuffles.

In *Mr. Wuffles* (2014 Caldecott Honor Book), the reader meets Mr. Wuffles, a black-and-white cat modeled after Mr. Wiesner's own cat. Mr. Wuffles is not your typical cat—he doesn't care for fancy cat toys. In fact, the title page shows him ignoring several with their price tags still attached. Then he strolls past a small spaceship without a price tag like the others. There is something different about this toy, for it is not a cat toy.

Unbeknownst to Mr. Wuffles, it is a real spaceship filled with aliens. As Mr. Wuffles plays with the spaceship, the aliens deal with their damaged equipment and recognize they must leave the ship to find supplies to fix their broken equipment. They barely escape the spaceship to find safety with the insects hiding behind the radiator where they find cave-like paintings showing the interactions between Mr. Wuffles and the insects.

The communication among the aliens, and between the insects and aliens are drawn in speech bubbles using symbols like those found in hieroglyphics. The comic-book panels and full-page spreads move the story along without using any English text except when Mr. Wuffle's owner talks to Mr. Wuffles.

Weisner uses ink and watercolor paintings to tell the story of the aliens, the insects, and their battles with Mr. Wuffles. It is interesting to note that the other 2014 Caldecott Honor Books are wordless books, and it is no surprise that *Mr. Wuffles* is included in this group, as Weisner presents a delightful story using little more than his engaging pictures.

Recommended for public libraries and school libraries.

*Carol R. Gehringer, CLJ*

**Award:** Caldecott Honor 2014

**Primary Nonfiction**

*Parrots over Puerto Rico / by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore ; collages by*
Parrots over Puerto Rico by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore is a nonfiction book about the rare Puerto Rican parrot, overlain with a brief history of Puerto Rico. According to the authors, the parrots’ history extends as far back as 5000 BCE when people from South America arrived in Puerto Rico and were amazed by its loud, sharp cry and brilliant blue and green coloring. Christopher Columbus and Juan Ponce de Leon were among the first to break ground for settlements on an island with resources that drew the attention of the Spanish, French, British, and Dutch. Accompanying the influx of people were predators like the pearly-eyed thrasher, rats, and honeybees that invaded the parrots’ nesting places and, ultimately, threatened their very existence. Inclement weather conditions contributed to an alarming decrease in the parrot population, so that by 1967, only 24 of the wild parrots remained. Concerned scientists embarked on a mission to save and grow the parrot population, but feared they were too late.

In Parrots over Puerto Rico, richly textured, brightly colored collages invite the reader to experience the wildly beautiful landscapes of Puerto Rico. Pictures, composed of brilliant fluorescent papers layered over muted nubby cardboards and ethereal netting sweeping over feathers, enhance the reader’s experience. Layers depict environment, man, and predators chipping away at a species, until there is little left to save. Pronunciations for words that may be unfamiliar to young readers—like “iguaca,” “Tainos,” and “Boriquen”—are provided throughout the book. Additional enhancements include a fairly extensive timeline, author’s sources section, and afterword that combines pictures of real scientists working with the birds and informational excerpts.

Kim Harris, CLJ
Award: Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal 2014


Author Jen Bryant and Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator Melissa Sweet drove the back roads of Eastern Pennsylvania together to research self-taught American artist Horace Pippin. Their multi-award-winning book, A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin, recounts the story of how the Pennsylvania-born grandson of a slave discovered his natural talent for drawing and painting and successfully pursued it despite economic and physical obstacles.

The book follows Pippin’s journey as an artist from happy young childhood through the trials of abandonment by his father and a debilitating war injury to his eventual success. The consistent theme of the book is pursuing one’s dreams and talents despite life’s trials. The values of helping others and living from the heart are also highlighted.

Near the back of the book is a Historical Note page that includes many interesting details
about Horace Pippin, his life experiences, and his art. There are also Author’s and Illustrator’s Notes, as well as a reference page listing websites and books for further reading, and a list of sources for quotes used in the book. On the last page is a map showing the cities across the country where Pippin’s works are displayed.

Bryant tells the story of Horace Pippin in a straightforward and interesting way, and includes repeating phrases and meaningful quotes. Sweet’s watercolor, gouache, and collage illustrations use the same color schemes Pippin used in his paintings. She letters some of his quotes within the illustrations, highlighting his simple and heartfelt approach to making art.

Children will be intrigued and inspired by this story of pursuing a talent and realizing a lifetime dream. The colorful illustrations will capture their attention and have them opening the book again and again.

Valorie Cooper, CLJ

**Awards:** Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Honor 2014, Schneider Family Book Award 2014

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LCCN 2012025492  ISBN 9780061783760, library binding, $18.89.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 32 cm.  Grades 2-6  B  Rating: *5

With the death of his father, 9-year-old Nelson Mandela leaves a playful boyhood to further his schooling away from home. The bright South African boy learns the history of his elders, studies to become a lawyer, and later emerges as a leader against the apartheid rules imposed by his government. Arrested and jailed for his resistance campaigns, Mandela is imprisoned for 27 years, during which he continues to educate himself and other inmates. The end of apartheid brings Mandela’s freedom, and he is elected the first black president of South Africa. A Coretta Scott King Honor Book, Kadir Nelson’s *Nelson Mandela* is a picture book biography of this contemporary political figure and his lifelong work toward equality.

Stunningly presented, *Nelson Mandela* is not so much a story as an immersion experience. The prose and artwork are exceptional, aptly labeled as the “words and paintings” of author/illustrator Kadir Nelson. The subject’s face boldly fills the entire front cover of the oversized book, with the author and title relegated to the back. The pages within are a mosaic of scenes—tender, raw, powerful, and uplifting. The text passages are short but effective, inviting young readers to linger and give thought to Mandela’s vision and the harsh emotional events of his life.

There is much for middle grade students to learn and discuss. The concept of apartheid and reasons for Mandela’s incarceration are well explained. Names of places and tribes and several words in the South African language are effectively interspersed, and the cultural importance of ancestry is evident. (Mandela’s father is described as having “joined the ancestors in the sky” and the freed Mandela looks to the sky in thankfulness.) End notes clarify the timeline, provide additional details, and share a portion of Mandela’s presidential
address. A short bibliography is included.

Nina Ditmar, CLJ

Award: Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor 2014

Intermediate Fiction


231 p. : ill. ; 22 cm. Grades 3-6
Fic Rating: 5

At the beginning of her tenth summer, Flora Belle Buckman signed a contract with her mother: she would stop reading comic books and start reading “true literature.” The problem is that Flora thinks like a comic book, sees life as a comic book, and considers herself a cynic.

When her neighbor gives his wife a vacuum cleaner for her birthday, it vacuums up a poor “unassuming” squirrel and transforms him into Ulysses, a superhero who flies and types poetry. Flora’s mother is intent on killing the “dangerous” squirrel for Flora’s own good, of course. Flora gets enlists her neighbor’s strange nephew and her absent father to help defeat Ulysses’s “arch-nemesis.” In the process, Flora and Ulysses form a firm bond. Holy bagumba!

Kate DiCamillo’s Flora & Ulysses is a hilarious, joyful book about family and friends as seen through the lens of a comic book. The characters are extremely funny because they are all caricatures of real people. Events occur very quickly—in fact, the whole book covers the events of a few days. The love between Ulysses and Flora is strong and endures real testing. Flora’s parents are somewhat crazy, but so is every other character from Flora’s viewpoint. Smoking is mentioned as a bad habit.

K.G. Campbell’s whimsical illustrations—especially the comic book-style pages—help to capture important moments in the story. Flora & Ulysses received the 2014 Newberry Medal.

Carol Baker, CLJ

Award: Newbery Medal 2014

The year of Billy Miller / Kevin Henkes. Greenwillow, 2013.

229 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 3-6
Fic Rating: 5

In his Newbery Honor Book, The Year of Billy Miller, multi-award-winning author Kevin Henkes shares a warm and uplifting story about growing up, the importance of family, and the sometimes awkward road to confidence and a positive sense of self.

On the first day of second grade, Billy Miller is worried. He had a spectacular accident during his family’s end-of-summer vacation two weeks prior that left a lump on his head—a lump Billy was proud to show off, until he heard his mother, a high school English teacher, say: “I worry that down the line...he’ll be confused at school.”

But, when Billy confesses he fears he won’t be smart enough for second grade, his artist Papa—who is still waiting on his breakthrough—declares with utmost
confidence: “...I know—and I know everything—that this is the year of Billy Miller.”

Billy’s teacher, Ms. Silver, wears red chopsticks in her hair and has a little bronze gong on her desk. She is kind, and she says Billy is smart. But new classmate Emma Sparks (aka “Emster”) is a pain, and sometimes so is his little sister, Sal. Emma says Billy is dumb.

Billy does have a lot to figure out. But as the school year progresses, Billy—with help from Papa and Mama and Ms. Silver—successfully faces the challenges of second grade. Eating some homemade cookies and macaroni and cheese doesn’t hurt. Eventually, Billy comes up with a great idea for his dad, and he even learns to appreciate Sal.

This book will resonate with anyone who has ever been an uncertain kid. Themes of family values and the importance of positive self-esteem are found throughout.  

Valorie Cooper, CLJ

Award: Newbery Honor 2014


1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 31 cm. Grades K-5
385 Rating: 5

Brian Floca follows up his success with Lightship and Moonshot (both Sibert Honor Books), with another award-winning nonfiction picture book, this one on trains. Winner of the 2014 Caldecott Medal and a 2014 Sibert Honor Book, Locomotive follows one family as they travel from Omaha, Nebraska to San Francisco, California in 1869.

The beginning pages of Locomotive focus on the building of the Transcontinental Railroad. Then a family waits to board the train in Omaha. Next, the train’s crew and some of their equipment are introduced. Now the family’s journey begins, crossing the Platte River Valley, continuing through the day and night. The train bypasses Sherman, Wyoming, over Dale Creek Bridge past Castle Rock. Finally it arrives at the Promontory Summit (Utah Territory) where passengers will change trains for the remainder of the journey through the mountains to California.

On the endpapers, Floca displays railroad timetables from 1869 and describes the creation of the Transcontinental Railroad in the 1860s. The book’s illustrations are in ink, watercolor, acrylic, and gouache on weathered yellow pages. The text is simple: “Here is a road made for crossing the country, a new road of rails made for people to ride” (pg.1). Set in various font sizes and styles to emphasize the sounds (“clang-clang” in small font, then larger fonts as the train gets closer), the book has full-page spreads as well as smaller vignettes.

Locomotive includes an author’s note on the history of the locomotive and a thorough discussion of the sources, as well as a detailed diagram explaining how steam power works. Although geared for readers ages 4-10, it will be a welcome addition to libraries with older readers interested in railroads.

Carol R. Gehringer, CLJ

Awards: Caldecott Medal 2014, Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Honor 2014
Middle School Fiction

Handbook for dragon slayers / Merrie Haskell.
324 p.; 22 cm. Grades 5-8
Fic Rating: 5

“Whosoever steals this book shall burn in the fiery conflagration of a dragon's breath and will also lose their nose to putrefaction” (p. 75). According to Princess Matilda in the Handbook for Dragon Slayers by Merrie Haskell, a good book needs a good curse to keep it from being stolen.

In this fairytale fiction novel, thirteen-year-old Princess Matilda of Alder Brook is burdened with a lame foot. She uses writing to help her face the physical and social challenges of having a disability in medieval times. Unfortunately, writing materials are costly and her family is broke. Fearing that her infirmity will bring the evil eye upon them, the villagers shy away from her and the children portray her as a fiend in their games. Her only friends are her handmaiden, Judith, and Parz, a disgraced squire. When her cousin Ivo kidnaps and imprisons her so that he can overtake Alder Brook, Matilda decides she likes the freedom from constantly defending the very villagers who reject her. She, Judith, and Parz embark on an epic adventure to slay a dragon, and live to write about it.

The 2014 Schneider Family Book Award winner in the middle school category, Handbook for Dragon Slayers is Merrie Haskell’s second novel. Font, spacing, and chapter lengths are easy on the eyes and attention span. Characters are both likable and believable, as they strive to overcome both internal and external monsters. The protagonist clearly struggles with her disability, yet demonstrates compassion for others, as she heroically joins with her friends to defend against a mythological demon, wild stallions, and dragons. Haskell’s book dedication message about “RESILIENCE and TRANSFORMATION and LOVE” is demonstrated throughout this thoughtful tale.

Kim Harris, CLJ
Award: Schneider Family Book Award 2014

257 p.; 22 cm. Grades 5-9
Fic Rating: 4

Author of several books, Amy Timberlake presents a middle school book that is part mystery, part coming-of-age story, and part historical fiction. One Came Home tells of one girl’s disappearance during the time of the passenger pigeon migration in 1871, and her younger sister’s refusal to believe the worst even when others do.

One Came Home introduces the reader to Georgie Burkhardt, a young girl with sharpshooter skills and a penchant for speaking her mind. When Georgie reveals something about her sister Agatha that Georgie wasn’t supposed to see, she starts a chain of events spinning out of control. Agatha runs off with a pack of “pigeoners” (people trailing the passenger pigeon migration).

When the sheriff returns with an unidentifiable body wearing Agatha’s ball gown, everyone assumes the worst—except Georgie. Even as the town buries her, Georgie refuses to believe it is Agatha. With the help of Agatha’s friend, she skips town to track down the clues and unravel the whereabouts of her sister. Her tenacity leads her down an unanticipated trail, and her journey to the discovery of the truth changes her in ways she doesn't expect.

Recommended for public and school libraries.

*Carol R. Gehringer, CLJ*

**Award:** Newbery Honor 2014

**Navigating Early / Clare Vanderpool.** Delacorte, 2013.


306 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8

Fic Rating: 4

*Navigating Early*, a Michael L. Printz Honor book, relates the story of two boys navigating life after being set adrift by tragic circumstances. Jack Baker arrives at Morton Hill Academy in Maine as a grieving boy from Kansas struggling to fit into his new environment. Since Morton Hill prizes rowing, Jack needs to learn how to row almost as much as he needs a friend. He meets Early Auden, who knows how to row and offers his friendship in his own eccentric way. Early’s brother left for WWII and never returned, although his dog tags came home. The two boys bond as Early helps Jack prepare for the regatta. When neither Jack nor Early has a place to go for fall break, they end up on a quest for a black bear. Throughout, Early relates the story he sees in the digits of pi, which loosely correlate to his own story. As they take a canoe up the river, many adventures and dangers lurk ahead, just around the bend.

Clare Vanderpool’s engaging writing delivers a story packed with unique characters and adventure, as well as insight into life as a boy in the 40’s. Jack’s friendship with Early stretches him as he comes to appreciate Early’s strange genius, and Early helps him find his way out of the fog of grief. Many side characters are introduced as the boys travel up the river. They are as adrift as Early and Jack. The plot unfolds fast enough to keep the story moving, yet a mystery lingers, and the writing doesn’t feel rushed. The setting, from a boys’ school in Maine to a river leading into the woods in northern Maine, provides the perfect backdrop for this tale of navigating life.

Many nuggets of truth are dropped as Jack remembers various wise sayings his mother told him. The main theme of the story is summed up by Jack: “My mom was right. Our stories are all intertwined. It’s just a matter of connecting the dots. ... There are no coincidences. Just miracles by the boatload” (p. 294).

*Kristina Wolcott, CLJ*

**Award:** Michael L. Printz Honor 2014

**Paperboy / Vince Vawter.** Delacorte, 2013.


224 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 6-8

Fic Rating: 5

In his Newbery Honor Book, *Paperboy*, retired newspaper publisher and debut author Vince Vawter shares a moving, Southern coming-of-age story that is “more memoir than fiction” (p.224).

In July, 1959, 11-year-old Victor Vollmer—known to some as “Little Man”—agrees to take over his friend’s paper route for a month. Being a star baseball player, he knows he will enjoy the
throwing part of the job, but the other part—collecting the money each Friday—has him worried. Little Man stutters. And that makes him feel awkward and insecure. To deal with his difficulties, he types the words that have given him the most trouble. Putting words on paper helps him figure things out.

His best friend in all the world is Mam, who lives above his parent’s garage and takes good care of him and the house. She makes him fried chicken and fried pies and encourages and protects him. His father is a steady source of encouragement and support as well. His mother mixes up her words and fills the house with so many mothballs that “a moth would be committing suicide if it came near our house” (pg. 89).

The paper route introduces several new people to Little Man, most notably Mr. Spiro, a Merchant Marine who owns as many books as a library, and Mrs. Worthington, the prettiest and saddest lady he’s ever seen.

As the month progresses, Little Man’s world expands. He sees and comes to understand more about both the good and the bad in people. Unbeknownst to his parents, he experiences a violent encounter, and through it all he develops confidence and a strong sense of self. He comes to understand that “it’s more important what I say than how …I say it,” and his “soul doesn’t …stutter” (pg. 220).

Set in a segregated Memphis, this novel touches on racial themes and explores the importance of enduring love and friendship. Anyone who stutters will find this book especially meaningful.

Valorie Cooper, CLJ

Award: Newbery Honor 2014

P.S. Be eleven / by Rita Williams-Garcia. (Sequel to One crazy summer) Amistad, 2013.

LCCN 2013021814 ISBN 9780061938634, library binding, $17.89.
274 p.; 22 cm. Grades 4-7
Fic    Rating: *5

Eleven-year-old Delphine has always had to look out for her little sisters, nine-year-old Vonetta and seven-year-old Fern. As the story opens in One Crazy Summer, the three sisters are on their way from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, where they will spend the summer of 1968 with their mother who abandoned them seven years earlier. With their grandmother’s caution in mind not to make “a grand Negro spectacle” of themselves, Delphine has her work cut out for her—especially when they find that their mother Cecile really does not want them there and evidently plans to let them spend the summer at a camp-type program run by the Black Panthers.

Left to their own devices, the sisters make friends, learn to say “Power to the People!,” have at least one memorable, fun excursion (thanks to Delphine’s careful planning and initiative)—and look for a way to finally connect with their mother. By the end of the summer, each girl has gained new knowledge, self-confidence, and faith in family bonds.

P.S. Be Eleven picks up right where One Crazy Summer leaves off, with the sisters’ return to Brooklyn. They shock their grandmother with their newfound attitudes, but the girls also find changes at home. Their Pa is wearing new clothes
and cologne because he has a girlfriend. Their Uncle Darnell returns from the Vietnam War—and isn’t quite his old self. Delphine starts sixth grade and dreads the thought of being a wallflower at the upcoming school dance. The sisters go crazy over the Jackson Five and decide to do chores and save every penny in order to go see the group in concert. Throughout these growing-up pains, their mother Cecile is present through her letters. Cecile, a poet, has a unique voice, and it is her recurring advice to Delphine that gives the book its title.

Both books are multiple-award winners. Through Delphine’s eyes, author Rita Williams-Garcia affords the reader a fascinating glimpse into life as a young African-American girl during the turbulent 1960s. The sisters’ grandmother, who simply wishes to look respectable and to placate white folks, contrasts with Cecile’s pride and the militant stance of the Black Panthers, demonstrating a wide variety of attitudes and differences in culture among African-Americans during that time period. The girls’ Oakland experience reveals that the Black Panthers did positive things for the community by taking care of the needy and young. But historical insights aside, these books are enjoyable because Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern are a finely-drawn portrayal of sisterhood, and their stories are inspiring and simply fun.

Angela Walsh, CLJ

One Crazy Summer Awards: ALA Notable Children’s Books 2011, Coretta Scott King Author Award 2011, Newbery Honor 2011

P.S. Be Eleven Award: Coretta Scott King Author Award 2014


176 p.: ill. (some col.) ; 28 cm. Grades 5-8

940.53 Rating: 5

Imprisoned: The Betrayal of Japanese Americans during World War II tells the story of the United States’ internment of Japanese immigrants and American citizens with Japanese heritage during World War II. Author Martin W. Sandler combines well-documented narrative with personal remembrances to shed light on this difficult time in American history. Sandler begins with the initial immigration of the Japanese people in the 1800s and concludes in November 2011 when medals were presented to members of the former Nisei military units.

Photographs by well-known photographers such as Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams and original artwork by the internees give readers a first-hand look at the experiences of the inhabitants of the assembly and relocation centers. The chapters are interspersed with vignettes of Japanese Americans who served in combat, as well as nurses, translators, interpreters, teachers and others. The writing is age-appropriate, with information provided in an easy-to-read format. Adults may also appreciate Imprisoned, as it adds depth to any collection of World War II materials.

At the end of the book there are extensive resources listed for further study, such as museums and historic sites to visit, books, websites, and government reports.

Linda Matchett, CLJ

Award: YALSA for Excellence in Nonfiction for YA

Middle School Nonfiction
Finalists - 2014

High School Fiction

311 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 9-12
Fic Rating: 3

Shy Espinoza is a Mexican-American teenager from a struggling, single-parent home. Needing to work to help his family, he gets a summer job on a luxury cruise ship. While his job seems ideal at first—good money, posh surroundings, time to party with good-looking girls—Shy's experience takes a chilling turn when he is seen talking to a man minutes before the man commits suicide. Still getting over the incident, Shy is on a Hawaii-bound cruise when he finds himself targeted by a stranger who seems to think that Shy knows something he shouldn't. This suspense plot is layered with a medical thriller and a survival story, as a mysterious virus starts spreading on the West Coast of the United States (touching Shy's family), and then an earthquake strikes, followed by tsunamis that sink Shy's cruise ship. There is romance as well, as Shy gets to know Carmen, a beautiful co-worker, and is stranded with Addie, a wealthy teenager who treats Shy with disdain at first but whose feelings shift as they fight for survival. The stakes become even higher when Shy unearths a corporate conspiracy that may threaten his entire world.

Matt de la Peña is an excellent storyteller and delivers a gritty, fast-paced tale that raises race and class issues. All of the young adult characters casually use vulgarities, and there are multiple situations involving under-age drinking and descriptions of female figures and sexual attraction. There are also graphic descriptions of violence and injuries. At one point, Shy has the thought that "no God" can avert the natural disaster about to happen; in several scenes, he thinks about how small and meaningless his life is in the universal scheme. On the positive side, Shy is devoted to his family and friends and exhibits courage and selflessness as he helps others and makes difficult choices in the wake of the disasters and his discovery of the conspiracy. Aside from the noted issues, The Living is good escapist fiction. The story line is unresolved and leaves room for a sequel.

Angela Walsh, CLJ
Award: Pura Belpre Author Honor 2014

182 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 7-12
Fic Rating: *5

The Lightning Dreamer: Cuba’s Greatest Abolitionist by Margarita Engle is a story-poem about Tula, a young Cuban girl living in early 17th-century Cuba who wants more from life than to marry wealthy, raise a family, and own slaves. She longs to read and learn—forbidden fruit for young girls. When Tula is allowed access to the convent library, she discovers a hidden stack of banned books written by Jose Maria Heredia, a poet labeled an abolitionist and exiled for advocating independence. Tula utilizes metaphors from nature and common daily occurrences to protest racism and social injustice. Her poetry incorporates the voices of her greedy, embittered mother; her secretly supportive younger brother;
the family cook, a freed slave afraid to claim her freedom; the nuns, whose marriage to the church allows them educational freedom; and the orphans she befriends, abandoned due to racial impurity.

In a country that supported censorship with severe repercussions for infringement, poets were the most outspoken, carefully hiding their protests in metaphors. Tula’s character is derived from Gertrudis Gomez de Avellaneda, a poet-writer who risked everything to speak out against slavery. Margarita Engle has received multiple awards for her written reflections on life in Cuba. *The Lightning Dreamer* received the 2014 Pura Belpre Honor Medal for its excellent narratives and is similar in style and target audience to *Yellow Star* by Jennifer Roy (about a young girl who survives the Holocaust in Lodz ghetto, Poland) and *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse (about a young girl who survives the Dust Bowl during the Great Depression). Included are historical notes for both Gertrudis Gomez de Avellaneda (1814-1873) and Jose Maria Heredia (1803 – 1839), examples of original writings, and references.

*Kim Harris, CLJ*

**Award:** Pura Belpre Author Honor 2014

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279 p. : ill. ; 21 cm. Grades 9-12

Fic Rating: 5

In *Maggot Moon*, Sally Gardner presents a dystopian, alternate history set in a cruel, totalitarian society suggestive of an alternate England conquered by Nazi Germany. Unable to read or write due to an unspecified learning disability (probably dyslexia, as the author herself is dyslexic and a spokesperson for dyslexia), 15-year-old Standish Treadwell is nonetheless an articulate—even poetic—narrator. He struggles to survive daily challenges as he dreams of a “land of Croca-Colas” and plans an imaginary mission to planet “Juniper” with his best friend Hector. Hector’s abrupt disappearance starts a chain of events leading Standish to discover a giant conspiracy, landing him and those he loves in peril.

While this book’s literary value earned it several awards, including being named a 2014 Michael L. Printz Honor Book, it is not recommended (except for those particularly interested in alternate histories or dyslexic characters) due to the pervasive violence and use of vulgar language. These elements no doubt serve to underscore the grim ugliness of the characters’ world, yet much of the vulgarity seems gratuitous and the violence needlessly graphic (for instance, there are graphic descriptions of torture and of a boy being beaten to death). There is also one scene suggestive of homosexual attraction. On the positive side, the book does depict friendship, loyalty, heroism and self-sacrifice.

*Angela Walsh, CLJ*

**Award:** Michael L. Printz Honor 2014

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250 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 8-11

Fic Rating: 4

Piedad “Piddy” Sanchez is a Latin-American teenage girl with a few problems. Her best friend moved away, and now her mom wants to move to...
a nicer apartment in a Queens, New York neighborhood—which means a new school. Soon after she starts at her new school, she learns that another Latina teen—Yacqui Delgado—wants to beat her up. Piddy doesn’t even know Yacqui and her tough crowd, let alone how she became the subject of their animosity. Threats eventually escalate to physical harm, and Piddy, an honors student, finds her grades and outlook gradually taking a downward spiral as she grapples with the appropriate response. The situation at school is further complicated by issues in Piddy’s personal life—her ongoing quest to discover the truth about her absent father, a budding romance, and her need for friendship.

While Meg Medina’s *Yacqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass* is a story about bullying and its effects on the victim, the book also provides unique insights into Latino culture, race issues, and the problems rampant in socioeconomically-challenged neighborhoods. While negative issues such as alcohol misuse and domestic violence are portrayed, there are also positive things, like the beautiful music of Piddy’s culture, the caring women in her life who teach her how to be strong, and the adults who are willing and able to help her deal with the bullying.

There are scenes depicting sexual temptation and use of profanity and crude language. Winner of the 2014 Pura Belpré Author Award, this book is worth reading for those interested in the issues mentioned, but with discussion and guidance.

*Angela Walsh, CLJ*

**Award:** Pura Belpré Author Award 2014

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**Darius & Twig / Walter Dean Myers. Amistad, 2013.**


201 p.; 19 cm.  Grades 9-12  
Fic  Rating: 5

Walter Dean Myers’ *Darius and Twig* centers on two Harlem teenagers who dream of getting out of “the hood.”

Darius, the first-person narrator of the story, is an aspiring writer who wants to go to college. However, between his parents’ separation and his mom’s struggles with depression, Darius has had to look out for his mom and little brother, and his grades have declined. His only hope for college is that a story he is writing might be published and garner him a college scholarship.

His best friend Twig is a budding track star who similarly hopes that his talent might land him a college scholarship. But Twig has to contend with bullies and family members who want him to give up his aspirations and support his family by working.

These two young men find that their friendship and mutual support might be what makes the difference between despair and triumph.

*Darius and Twig* explores how the odds are stacked against inner-city youth who desire to achieve success and escape from challenging socioeconomic environments. Myers realistically depicts the broken families, drug issues, and gang violence that pervade their world. But the book is also inspiring in its portrayal of hope—symbolized by the soaring falcon in Darius’s short story—and of the immeasurable value of a supportive friend.

Myers does include profanity in the realistic depiction of life in Harlem. Read with guidance, his book will provide valuable insight into—and hopefully empathy for—the struggles all too prevalent among urban youth.

Myers received a 2014 Coretta Scott King Author Honor for this work.

*Angela Walsh, CLJ*
Award: Coretta Scott King Author Honor 2014

The war within these walls / written by Aline Sax ; illustrated by Caryl Strzelecki ; translated by Laura Watkinson. Eerdmans, 2013.
175 p. : ill. ; 23 cm. Grades 9-12
Fic Rating: 5

The War Within These Walls is based on accounts of the Warsaw ghetto uprising that took place in April, 1943. Caryl Strzelecki’s black and white illustrations effectively complement author Aline Sax’s sparse prose to make the book a powerful, fictionalized memoir. Originally published in Dutch, the book was translated into English in 2013 by Laura Watkinson.

After the Nazis invade Poland in September, 1939, the Jewish citizens are rounded up and either sent to concentration camps or restricted to fenced-in sections of the cities called ghettos. In Warsaw, teenager Misha and his family are chosen to remain in the ghetto where they suffer overcrowded living quarters, severe food shortages, disease, and brutality by the guards.

Through a series of events, Misha meets a group of young people, including twenty-three-year old Mordechai Anielewicz, the real-life leader of the resistance forces who decide to take a stand against their captors. Although the outcome of the uprising is inevitable, the story of these brave Jews inspired others in Europe to resist the Nazis.

As indicative of the topic, there are episodes of violence throughout the book. While the writing is age-appropriate, The War Within These Walls might be best read with discussion in mind.

Linda Matchett, CLJ

Award: Mildred L. Batchelder Honor 2014

High School Nonfiction

LCCN 2013032394 ISBN 9780761172192, hardcover, $17.95.
150 p. : ill. (chiefly color) ; 28 cm. Grades 8-12
740 Rating: 5

It is thrilling to see a work about the basics of graphic design geared for youth. Go: A Kidd's Guide to Graphic Design by Chip Kidd powerfully describes and illustrates many basic design concepts that the layperson often takes for granted. Various components of graphic design, such as scale, focus and juxtaposition, repetition and pattern, color, and abstract and literal, as well as the legal aspects of copyright are simply defined and illustrated for both young and novice adult readers.

Loaded with graphics yet organized with an entertaining bent, the book’s use of short, simple chapters that build on each other will play well with today’s web-savvy readers who may be short on attention span. Readers will gain a much better understanding of what was involved in developing their favorite poster or book cover, as well as the importance of choosing design elements to fulfill a stated goal.

Another positive is the inclusion of ten design projects that capitalize on the “lessons” in previous chapters to help readers develop their designer “eye.” Project #7 wonderfully illustrates the designer’s thought process.

The book uses examples from secular culture
(e.g., use of the covers of secular books; illustrations using Buddha, Superman, Batman, and Rolling Stone; use of the term “OMG”; and references using “old earth” dates).

Too many Christians nowadays think that they are not creative. *Go: A Kidd’s Guide to Graphic Design* may help readers see the wonderful elements of design in our Lord’s Creation and appreciate His handiwork.

*Martha Jo Dendinger, CLJ*

**Award:** YALSA for Excellence in Nonfiction for YA Finalists - 2014
Primary Fiction

32 p. : col. ill. ; 26 cm. Grades 1-4
E Rating: 4

When Hallie’s family drives a covered wagon to Oregon, they leave her grandmother behind. Hallie misses her grandmother but finds courage in her words, whispered to Hallie before their parting. After Hallie witnesses a wild buffalo stampede, she is no longer afraid of storms, and she finds courage for her new life in Oregon.

The strength of this book is in the beauty of its language. Although not in rhyme, the rich descriptions have a lyrical quality. For older children, the text contains many examples of imagery, similes, active verbs, and other writing enhancers. For younger children, this book can provide an expanded vocabulary and an introduction to more advanced literature.

Ormerod’s watercolor and pastel illustrations match the mood of the text well. The pages depicting Grandma are soft and warm. The pages leading up to the buffalo stampede gradually darken. The brightest spread in the book appears when the family finally reaches Oregon and builds a new home and Papa says, “Hope grows here” (pg. 30).

Setting also plays an important role in this story. Perhaps even more important than the characters are the unique historical time of the Oregon Trail and the unique place of the unsettled West. Yet the themes of dealing with fear and parting from loved ones make The Buffalo Storm a timeless story at its core.

LCCN 2013009559 ISBN 9780823429417, hardcover, $14.95.
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 27 cm. Grades PS-1
E Rating: 4

Emily Arnold McCully is well-known to the picture book crowd, having written such memorable stories such as the Caldecott winner Mirette on the High Wire and the delightful, mousey Picnic. In her latest story, Little Ducks Go, McCully provides an engaging tale of one worried mama duck and her little ducks who have quite the adventure when they decide to go for a simple walk one day.

One of McCully’s most beguiling illustrative styles is the expressiveness of each character within the story. The soft pen/ink and watercolor drawings provide an easy-going, captivating atmosphere, which helps readers follow the storyline. In Little Ducks Go, the words are few, yet the action is plenty. Mama steps lively with her line of six ducklings down the street when each of her ducklings gets washed down the street grate. The surprise of each little duckling is rendered well, and readers will truly hold their breath anticipating the outcome as the frantic mama tries to rescue her babies. Young readers will appreciate the ease of reading the simple text while enjoying the dynamic illustrations. For those looking to complement their I Can Read books, this is a definite consideration.

Pam Webb, CLJ
Primary Nonfiction


32 p. : col. ill. ; 24 cm. Grades PS-K
E Rating: 4

*Tugboat* is a picture book presentation of the many jobs a little tugboat can do. From pulling a barge to pushing an ocean liner, the small but mighty "Hudson" works at all hours of the day and in any weather condition to get the job done.

Author/illustrator Michael Garland combines simple text with glorious graphite pencil and digital color artwork to show the important work of the tug and its crew. Most of the pictures are two-page spreads that place the reader boldly in the midst of the action: at the dock at sunrise, guiding tall ships past the Statue of Liberty, pulling a fireworks barge on the Fourth of July. A related afterward and a smartly illustrated glossary expand the age appeal of *Tugboat*. Young children may enjoy using the table of contents, unusual in a picture book, to revisit their favorite scenes.

*Nina Ditmar, CLJ*

**Plants Feed Me / by Lizzy Rockwell. Holiday House, 2014.**

LCCN 2012007674 ISBN 9780823425266, hardcover, $16.95.
29 p. : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades PS-K
E Rating: 4

*Plants Feed Me* is a picture book story about the various plants that people grow and eat.

A young boy proclaims, “I am a plant eater,” as he describes the roots, leaves, bulbs, fruits, flowers, stems, and seeds that “feed the world.” Author/illustrator Lizzy Rockwell pairs short simple sentences with lively colored pencil and gauche drawings that will engage and teach young readers. Bright scenes depict multi-ethnic children at a dinner table, garden, orchard, and farm; some pages show enlarged examples of different types of edible plants.

*Plants Feed Me* would be an enjoyable vocabulary-builder for toddlers and preschoolers. The enticing salads and vegetable platters are a great starting point for introducing healthy foods and very basic information about how they are grown and harvested.

*Nina Ditmar, CLJ*

**Clara and Davie / Patricia Polacco. Scholastic, 2014.**

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 21 x 26 cm. Grades K-3
B Rating: 4

It was big brother Davie who gave Clarissa Barton the nickname “Clara” and was her constant childhood companion growing up in rural Massachusetts during the 1800s. Very shy and speaking with lisp, Clara was educated at home where her knack for tending animals became a lifelong passion for healing. *Clara and Davie: The True Story of Young Clara Barton* is a picture book account of Clara’s early years and the special bond with her brother that foretold her later success.

A relative of Clara Barton, author/illustrator Patricia Polacco lends a particularly active voice to *Clara and Davie*. Drawing on her own family’s narrative history, she is able to introduce one of the most famous women of the 19th century through descriptive details and dialogue that will engage young readers. The story shares Clara’s
girlhood interests, feelings, and ambitions as she faces many challenges. There are good messages about perseverance and caring for others. The pencil and acrylic drawings have a light sketchbook tone with the winter scenery especially well captured.

Clara’s later accomplishments as a nurse, champion for human rights, founder of the American Red Cross, and Civil War “Angel of the Battlefield” are summarized in an informative author’s note along with several photographs. This is an enjoyable and interesting youth biography that would be especially timely for classroom reading during Women’s History Month.

*Nina Ditmar, CLJ*

### Intermediate Nonfiction

**Triangles / by David A. Adler ; illustrated by Edward Miller. Holiday House, 2014.**

LCCN 2012037371 ISBN 9780823423781, hardcover, $17.95.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 26 cm. Grades 3-5
516 Rating: 3

*Triangles* features a boy, a girl, and a robot demonstrating the attributes and characteristics of different types of triangles while creating another robot.

Author David A. Adler uses conversational text to introduce the mathematical concepts and properties of triangles. Brightly illustrated by Edward Miller, the pages are busy and loud, filled with colorful clocks, dots, shapes, and lines. Even the clothing on the children is eye-popping.

With its clever motif and packed with facts, definitions, and examples, *Triangles* may work well in a home school or classroom setting as a fun way to supplement conventional instruction on a challenging topic. While the book is noted to meet Common Core Standards for fifth grade math, the characters and picture book format seem more fitting to younger readers.

*Nina Ditmar, CLJ*

**Mysterious patterns : finding fractals in nature / Sarah C. Campbell ; photographs by Sarah C. Campbell and Richard P. Campbell. Boyds Mills Press, 2014.**

LCCN 2013951286 ISBN 9781620916278, hardcover, $16.95.

30 p. : ill. (chiefly color) ; 23 x 29 cm. Grades 3-6
516 Rating: 4

In 1975 the mathematician Benoît Mandelbrot used the term “fractal” to name the repeating shapes found in the natural world. *Mysterious Patterns: Finding Fractals in Nature* is an introduction to this type of pattern, found all around us in rivers, plants, mountains, lightning, and even within the human body.

This non-fiction work opens with a very basic discussion of common shapes, followed by the more complex question of how to categorize seemingly irregular objects. Fractals are defined as a shape with “smaller parts that look like the whole shape,” such as the way each broccoli floret resembles the whole head. Illustrating the concept are vivid photographs by author Sarah C. Campbell, her husband Richard P. Campbell, and several contributors.

The author briefly introduces geometric (non-natural) fractals and instructions for drawing a Sierpinski triangle. An afterward by Michael Frame summarizes the life and work of Benoît Mandelbrot and illuminates the practical
Mysterious Patterns offers an interesting focus on a topic not typically-or easily-covered in a juvenile picture book. Grade school readers and above will find the selected photos useful in visualizing and understanding the characteristics of fractals.

Nina Ditmar, CLJ


LCCN 2013947717 ISBN 9781590789926, hardcover, $16.95.

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 x 25 cm. Grades 2-5

B Rating: *5

Yankee centerfielder Joe DiMaggio captivates the country during the summer of 1941 with a 56-game hitting streak. Neither the distraction of World War II nor the theft of his trusty bat Betsy Ann can stand in his way. The Streak: How Joe DiMaggio Became America's Hero tells how the hardworking son of immigrants becomes a sports icon during “the most perfect summer in baseball.”

Author Barb Rosenstock captures the sense of excitement, anticipation, and patriotism with descriptive storytelling that practically evokes being at the game. Between the covers of this thoroughly enjoyable book, the tension and impact of Joe’s streak and its historical framework build with an affecting nostalgia. Quotations, newspaper headlines, and red text highlighting add to the drama. Terry Widener’s wonderful double page acrylics have an impressionist look that is visually appealing and perfectly suited to the genre.

The Streak acquaints a new generation with a positive and inspiring sports figure. An afterword, author’s note, chart of statistics, source notes, and suggested bibliography and websites extend the book’s reach. Though suggested for intermediate readers, the story with its comprehensive details and enduring significance would also be a quick, interesting read for middle schoolers and above.

Nina Ditmar, CLJ
Middle School Fiction

*Wake up missing* / Kate Messner. Walker Books for Young Readers, 2013.


264 p.; 22 cm. Grades 5-8

Fic Rating: 3

Four kids, four head injuries and the top neurology center in the country, perhaps in the world, sounds like a recipe for success—that is, unless all is not as it seems at I-CAN, the International Center for Advanced Neurology.

Cat, Quentin, Sarah, and Ben have little in common except their frontal lobe injuries and the headaches and other symptoms they have suffered since these injuries occurred. There are three stages of treatment, the third involving their own DNA being reproduced and reintroduced into their brains. As the time approaches for this final stage, Cat and Sarah discover another patient, Trent, whose entire personality has changed since enduring the DNA treatment. What does this mean? What have Drs. Ames and Gunther done to him and what does this bode for Cat and Sarah and their friends? Kate Messner's *Wake Up Missing* takes the reader along on their investigation and page-turning suspense as they discover just what is going on at I-CAN.

Cat, the main character, mentions several times that she misses her parents and “Aunt Beth and Kathleen”–the latter being an oblique reference to a same-sex couple.

Exhilarating describes this futuristic science adventure of *Wake Up Missing*, a book that will be a hit with intermediate and middle school readers.

*Ceil Carey, CLJ*

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High School Fiction


359 p.; 22 cm. Grades 9-12

Fic Rating: 4

*If I Ever Get Out of Here* by Eric Gansworth is the story of a poor Native American boy, Lewis Blake, who lives with his mother and Uncle Albert on an Indian reservation. He doesn't like going to the "white kids’" school because he knows he doesn't fit in. He is teased because he is the only Indian at the school and he's teased by his Indian friends for not going to the reservation school. But Lewis loves the Beatles, and he discovers that this love is shared by the new kid at school, George Haddonfield, whose father is in the military. George doesn't care that Lewis is Indian. He invites Lewis to his house all the time and keeps asking to go to Lewis's house. However, Lewis offers nonstop excuses to keep George from coming to his home because he doesn't want his new friend to see how poor his family is. Through a series of adventures and challenges, Lewis experiences true friendship and acceptance.

Even through the negativity of bullying and prejudice in this story, there is still a positive note. Two boys from two very different walks of life find each other and become the best of friends. This friendship has a ripple effect and brings multiple people together despite their differences. The author paints a clear picture of life in this Native American community and offers insight into some of their traditions. There is some use of vulgar language, a few references to teen sexuality, and mention of posters of nude women on the wall of the bedroom that Lewis
shares with his uncle.
Trina Chase, CLJ

**Hostage three / by Nick Lake.**
*Bloomsbury, 2013.*

369 p. : ill. ; 21 cm.  Grades 10-12
Fic  Rating: 3

*Hostage Three* is told through the eyes of 17-year-old Amy Fields. Amy and her family are sailing around the world when they are hijacked by Somali pirates and held for ransom. Amy is in a rebellious stage of her life, and family difficulties are only adding to her stress. She is struggling to cope with her mother's suicide, hurt that her father is so seemingly indifferent to her, and resentful of her stepmother.

Captivity and a growing friendship and romance with one of the pirates (who was forced into a life of piracy due to truly horrible circumstances) lead to Amy's personal growth. She slowly gains a better understanding of life from an adult perspective.

The book is written with some stylistic quirks. For example, quotation marks are not used to enclose dialogue. Instead, there is a dash at the beginning of each new speaker.

Profanity is used throughout the book. Theistic beliefs for dealing with life's heartaches are questioned, and Amy comes to the conclusions that emotional healing comes from within oneself and that she can see her mother in the stars since people are made of "stardust."

Nick Lake has written a story that illustrates the reality of struggles with adolescence and survival.

*Dianne Woodman, CLJ*

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**The monster in the hollows / Andrew Peterson.** (*The wingfeather saga; 3*)
*Rabbit Room Press, 2011.*

348 p. : ill, maps ; 23 cm.  Grades 9-12
Fic  Rating: 4

**The warden and the wolf king / Andrew Peterson.** (*The wingfeather saga; 4*)
*Rabbit Room Press, 2014.*

519 p. : ill, map ; 24 cm.  Grades 9-12
Fic  Rating: 4

Andrew Peterson began the fantasy series, *The Wingfeather Saga*, with *On the Edge of the Sea of Darkness* (Book 1) and *North or be Eaten* (Book 2), both published by Waterbrook (see: Christian Library Journal, August 2010). He concludes this series with *The Monster in the Hollows* (Book 3) and *The Warden and the Wolf King* (Book 4), published through Peterson's own efforts (he is a founder of Rabbit Room Press).

In the first two books, the Igiby siblings—Janner, Kalmar, and Leeli—flee their home in search of the Lost Jewels of Anniera, discover their true identity, and are pursued by the Fangs in Gnag’s army, who want the Jewels for their own evil purposes.

In *The Monster in the Hollows*, the siblings seek refuge in Green Hollows, unaware they will face more danger there. Janner is charged with protecting his little brother Kalmar. There is one small problem—Kalmar is changing into a wolf-like Fang. To the inhabitants of the Green Hollows, he is a monster in their midst, but is he?

In the final book, *The Warden and the Wolf King*, the people of the Green Hollows prepare to follow Kalmar, Janner, and Leeli Wingfeather into a war against Gnag the Nameless. But the Fangs of Dang strike first, and the children are separated. While
Leeli and their mother Nia fight to save the Green Hollows, Kalmar and Janner join forces to venture into the Deeps of Throg. The Wingfeather children face sea dragons, Bat Fangs, cloven, and more, as they face their final battle.

Andrew Peterson is an expert storyteller, creating flawed characters the reader can relate to and cheer for, as well as a world filled with fantastic creatures. Original songs and poems, hand-drawn maps, imaginative footnotes, and short chapters make this series fun and appealing. Not unlike The Chronicles of Narnia by C. S. Lewis, this series is loaded with Christian themes. North! or Be Eaten won the 2010 Christy Award (Young Adult); On the Edge of the Dark Sea of Darkness was nominated for the 2009 Christy Award (Young Adult).

Told from multiple points of view and including numerous plot twists, The Warden and the Wolf King is well worth the wait. While the epilogue leaves the door open to another adventure, The Warden and the Wolf King ties up the loose ends from the first three books in a very satisfying manner.

Carol R. Gehringer, worthy2read.wordpress.com
Adult Fiction

For such a time / Kate Breslin. Bethany House, 2014.

430 p.; 22 cm. Adult

Set in 1944 at the transit camp of Theresienstadt in Czechoslovakia, For Such a Time is a retelling of the biblical story of Esther. Hadassah Benjamin is saved from the firing squad to be secretary to the camp’s new commandant, Aric von Schmidt. Her Aryan-like looks allow Hadassah to hide behind the false identity of Stella Muller as she appeals to Aric on behalf of those at camp. Convinced God has put her at the camp to save her people, she risks discovery with each attempt to help the prisoners.

The harshness of life at the camp is made apparent through vivid description and realistic dialogue. The characters are highly believable with even minor players having distinct personalities and voices. Readers are quickly pulled through the story as the tension builds between Hadassah and Aric, who both struggle with feelings of guilt, doubt, and despair. An excellent portrayal of redemption, For Such a Time is well written, and readers will be impacted long after the last page.

Indicative of the situation, there are periodic episodes of brutality. Despite the violence, For Such a Time has value as a fictionalized yet true-to-history account of World War II. Teens may enjoy the novel as well, but it might be best read with discussion in mind.

Linda Matchett, CLJ

Nowhere to turn / Lynette Eason. (Hidden identity; 2) Revell, 2014.

315 p.; 22 cm. Adult

Lynette Easton continues her contemporary romantic suspense series with Nowhere to Turn, where a wife finds out that her abusive husband has created a plan to abuse her even after his death.

In Nowhere to Turn, Danielle Harding takes her eleven-year-old son with her as she tries to escape from her husband, a crooked FBI agent. When her husband Kurt is killed that same day, she believes her worries are over. But Kurt’s brother, Stuart, also a crooked FBI agent, begins harassing her. He is just as obsessive about her as was his brother. Little do they know that Kurt created a plan to keep Stuart from Danielle, a plan that puts them both in danger.

Meanwhile, Kurt had something that someone else wants back. With him dead, they now believe Danielle has it and will do anything to get it back. After a few attempts on her life, Danielle is afraid to ask the FBI for assistance, especially since she suspects Stuart could be behind the attempts. She turns to Adam Buchanan and goes into hiding. But it seems that someone is able to follow their movements. Will they be able to uncover the truth before it is too late?
Eason is an excellent storyteller, weaving plot twists and character development. Just when the reader thinks the story is over, there is another plot twist, a knot to untangle. Violence in the story is appropriate but not graphic; the faith element is light and not overpowering. Eason’s books will be of interest to fans of DiAnn Mills and Irene Hannon. Her next book, *No Place to Hide*, is forthcoming in the summer of 2015.

Recommended for adult collections in public libraries.

*Carol R. Gehringer, worthy2read.wordpress.com*


xvi, 348 p. : maps ; 24 cm. Adult

Fic Rating: 4

The inhumane conditions of Andersonville Prison, located in Georgia, caused the deaths of 13,000 Union soldiers in only fourteen months near the end of the Civil War. Tracy Groot’s *The Sentinels of Andersonville* is a work of fiction that envisions what happens when local residents and three young Confederates in particular face the atrocities and realize the need for compassion, even to their enemies. As the reader might well imagine, this does not sit well with many of the citizens, their hearts seared due to the loss of family members in the war. In fact, treason and traitor are the words used by many for those that wish to change the horrible conditions and show benevolence.

Sentry Dance Pickett has watched for five months the agony and pain the prisoners are experiencing. When Southern belle Violet Stiles hears of the prison conditions, she cannot believe that the good people of the town of Americus would not want to make changes and show common kindness to these men. The third member of the trio is Emery Jones. As he escorts a Confederate soldier to Andersonville, he does not expect to find camaraderie and friendship with someone on the other side, but that is exactly what happens. These three form a bond and take action, making plans that could result in an accusation of treason and hanging!

The plot line is occasionally hard to follow, in part due to the dialogue and use of vernacular. But the story itself inspires even today to show compassion and be humane in a world that is often cruel and self-serving.

*Ceil Carey, CLJ*


360 p.; 22 cm. Adult

Fic Rating: *5

*Angels Walking*, the first book in Karen Kingsbury’s new series about angels working in the lives of people, focuses on three main characters: Tyler Ames, a 24-year-old baseball phenomenon, Samantha Dawson, the girl he loved when he was in high school, and Virginia Hutcheson, a 90-year-old woman with Alzheimer’s living in a nursing home. These three seem to have no connection but
become intertwined through the work of angels sent from Heaven on a special mission to save the life of a yet unborn child. The result is a compelling, hard-to-put-down story.

Kingsbury's characters become real to the reader as she uses dialogue, heartbreak, and suspense to pull the reader into the story. She weaves her storytelling magic with heartfelt emotion when one of the characters is seriously injured, then finds healing through helping another. There are a number of events that seem unbelievable, yet are portrayed as how God works through people. The book culminates with an unexpected turn of events—an wonderful surprise that provides a much-needed miracle.

This is book one in the Angels Walking series. Judging from the epilogue, the next book will be another enthralling tale.

Juanita Wier Nobles, CLJ


329 p.; 23 cm. Adult (HS)
Fic Rating: 4

Beth Thatcher is a privileged young woman, yet one who has grown up in a loving, Christian home. She has a passion to teach and is on her way to the rugged foothills of western Canada to fulfill a year's commitment. Inspired by her schoolteacher aunt, Elizabeth (featured in Oke's earlier When Calls the Heart), Beth is encouraged by her father but cautioned by her mother because of her health issues. Nevertheless, Beth is trusting God for this challenge. The conditions she finds in Coal Valley are primitive at best—no electricity or running water, not even a proper schoolhouse. What will her mother say when she finds that Beth is teaching in a saloon!

The year that Beth spends in Coal Valley changes her life in many ways. The relationships with her students and their parents encourage her heart and confirm that the Lord has blessed her time with them. Although the time spent in the West is not easy in many ways, time and time again God confirms for her that this is exactly where He wants her to be.

Where Courage Calls is well-written and historically factual. Janette Oke and daughter Laurel Oke Logan bring the characters and the God they serve alive for the reader, but never in a preachy way. The Gospel is clearly presented, and there is even a little romance in the mix. Fans of Oke may be first in line to read this historical novel, but readers who have never been introduced to her will also find this book a delightful, gentle read.

Ceil Carey, CLJ


ix, 389 p.; 21 cm. Adult
Fic Rating: 4

The Outcast, a contemporary retelling of The
Scarlet Letter, is set in an Old Order Mennonite community in Tennessee. Both stories revolve around a young woman who has a baby because of an adulterous affair.

The Outcast is told through the eyes of Rachel Stoltzfus, a young woman being shunned by the community for her transgression, and of Amos King, a deceased bishop who is watching events unfold from Heaven. Tobias King, the newly appointed bishop and son of Amos, bans Rachel from the community. This act leaves Rachel struggling to provide for herself and her baby, while she is also trying to cope with the remorse she feels for her sinful act. When her baby falls ill, she wonders if God is punishing her.

Jolina Petersheim has valuable insight into Mennonite ways because of her heritage. She has written a compelling story about embracing God’s forgiveness and the importance of forgiving oneself and others in order not to drown in bitterness. The list of discussion questions is useful for individual and group study. The use of Pennsylvania Dutch words throughout the book without translation or explanation is somewhat distracting.

Dianne Woodman, CLJ

In perfect time : a novel / Sarah Sundin. (Wings of the nightingale ; 3) Revell, 2014.


410 p.; 22 cm. Adult
Fic Rating: 5

In Perfect Time, third in Sarah Sundin's series featuring flight nurses during World War II, is set during the last years of the war. Kay Jobson, a proficient and capable Army nurse in 1942, carries a lot of baggage from her life with her family. Roger Cooper, ace pilot and able drummer, also carries hurt from his growing-up years. Kay wants nothing to do with God, and she has a boyfriend in every airfield across Europe. Roger is a committed Christian who doesn’t date and wants nothing to do with women. When he gives Kay his Bible before a very dangerous flight, he awakens an interest in her that is hard for her to understand, even though she grew up in a preacher’s home. Despite their intelligence, leadership skills, and help from friends, Kay and Roger find it difficult to overcome the emotional turmoil in their hearts. This novel shows how God comes into the protagonists' hearts to change them, even as they fly across Europe delivering supplies and evacuating wounded soldiers to hospitals.

Army life is depicted accurately and in an exciting way. Flight missions, as well as operational rules and regulations, are shown in detail. Sundin uses great dialogue to introduce people and to develop characters throughout the book. References to songs and the way people behaved in the 1940’s make the book authentic. Exciting missions and interactions with civilians in Europe keep the reader turning the pages. The plot flows well and is easy to follow despite a few references to things that happened in the previous books in the series.

In Perfect Time is a very good read and is particularly recommended for readers who want to learn about World War II and the
people who served during that time.

*Juanita Wier Nobles, CLJ*

**When I fall in love / Susan May Warren. (Christiansen family; 3) Tyndale House, 2014.**


xiv, 378 p.; 22 cm. Adult Fic Rating: 4

Susan May Warren continues her new contemporary romance series set in Deep Haven, Minnesota, featuring six adult children in the Christiansen family and their relationships.

In *When I Fall in Love*, Grace Christiansen’s dream is to attend culinary school and open her own business. She caters her brother Darek’s wedding, and he surprises her at his reception with tickets to Hawaii from their family.

So homebody Grace—who hates leaving Deep Haven and her family—finds herself in Hawaii at a cooking retreat. Meanwhile, Max Sharpe, pro hockey player and amateur chef, is also in Hawaii for his usual three-week culinary vacation. They team up for a local cooking competition. That’s when things begin to heat up. Both wrestle with personal demons as their relationship develops. But can they set their secret fears aside to embrace a future together?

Warren writes a contemporary series that can be read in any order. Her books are more character-driven than plot-driven. Warren is a skilled storyteller, drawing the reader in and making them care about the characters. Each book is a stand-alone novel, centered on a different Christiansen sibling. Each opens with a letter from their mother. More than just contemporary romances, they are stories of flawed individuals and how God woos them back into relationship.

*When I Fall in Love* talks of letting God give one the courage to face fears and to live life to the fullest. Warren’s book titles tend to evoke a tender romance, but the real romance is between God and the Christiansen sibling. The fourth book, *Always on My Mind*, is forthcoming in February 2015.

Recommended for public libraries and church libraries.

*Carol R. Gehringer, CLJ*

**Wildwood Creek / Lisa Wingate. Bethany House, 2014.**


375 p.; 22 cm. Adult Fic Rating: 4

Lisa Wingate’s fourth book in her Moses Lake series, *Wildwood Creek*, is primarily a standalone, although it does manage a nod to the Moses Lake area and characters from the earlier books. With a dual plot, Wingate provides a compelling historical backstory to complement the contemporary story of a young woman who is trying to break into the fickle film business.

The protagonist, Allie Kirkland, is still mourning the passing of her father and grandmother and does not quite fit into her
mother’s new family. Rejecting her mother and stepfather’s plan for her to work in the latter’s law office, Allie instead pursues her dream to follow in her father’s footsteps in his chosen business of the film industry. When the opportunity arrives to become an assistant in the filming of a historical recreation of Wildwood, a town once located near Moses Lake, Allie jumps in and doesn’t look back. However, as events develop it appears she should have thought twice before making such a serious commitment.

The overlay story concerns Bonnie Rose O’Brien, an Irish immigrant, who is left to raise her younger sister Maggie May when their parents are killed. In the 1860s, young women had few choices in how to support themselves, which is why Bonnie Rose signs on to become a schoolteacher at the newly established town of Wildwood. While the opportunity initially holds promise, it soon becomes clear that the town holds a sinister grip upon its people. As town residents begin disappearing, Bonnie Rose wonders if she will be facing another tragedy in her young life.

Wingate knows how to build suspense, and the escalating tension as she weaves together Allie’s and Bonnie Rose’s stories makes it difficult to set the book down. However, character development at times seems sacrificed to building tension and suspense. Overall, Wingate provides a welcome addition to the Moses Lake series and will not disappoint her readers.

Pam Webb, CLJ
CORE COLLECTION
FOR CHRISTIAN READERS

Being developed by librarians:
Donna W. Bowling: Fiction
Nancy L. Hesch: Nonfiction

Goal: to develop a list of highly recommended books for Christian readers, Christian school libraries, and church libraries.
Primary Fiction

Fic

Bunting, Eve

Washday

LCCN 2012040347. ISBN 9780823428687, hardcover, $16.95.
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades K-3.
Fic Rating: 5
Laundry--Fiction.
Grandmothers--Fiction.

Fox, Mem

Good night, sleep tight

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 23 cm. Grades PS-1.
E Rating: 5
Nursery rhymes.
Babysitters--Fiction.

Moore, Eva

Lucky ducklings

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 25 x 30 cm. Grades K-3.
E Rating: *5
Rescues--Fiction.
Ducks--Fiction.

Primary Nonfiction

222

Tutu, Desmond

Let there be light

1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 24 x 29 cm. Grades PS-3.
222 Rating: 5
Creation.
Bible stories.

782.42

Lullabies : an illustrated songbook

LCCN 98704828. ISBN 9780152017286, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
96 p. of music : col. ill. ; 24 cm. Grades K-3.
782.42 Rating: *5
Lullabies.
Children's songs.

782.42

Sweet sleep : a collection of lullabies, poems, and cradle songs

LCCN 88026898. ISBN 9780517578209, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
88 p. of music : ill. (some col.) ; 17 x 25 cm. Babies, PS.
782.42 Rating: 5
Lullabies.
Children's songs.
811.54
Muth, Jon J.
Hi, Koo! : a year of seasons
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 23 x 25 cm. Grades PS-3.
811.54 Rating: 5
Seasons--Juvenile poetry.
Haiku, American.

Fic
Hansen, Joyce
Captive
LCCN 93083134. ISBN 9780590416252, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
195 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 4-7.
Fic Rating: 5
Slave trade--Fiction
Slavery--Fiction.

B
Walker, Sally M.
Freedom song : the story of Henry "Box" Brown
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 27 x 28 cm. .
B Rating: *5
Slavery Fiction.
Underground Railroad Fiction.

Intermediate Fiction

Fic
Cutler, Jane
Susan Marcus bends the rules
LCCN 2013023665. ISBN 9780823430475, hardcover, $16.95.
Fic Rating: 5
Friendship--Fiction.
Prejudices--Fiction.

Fic
O'Neill, Alexis
The kite that bridged two nations : Homan Walsh and the first Niagara suspension bridge
Honesdale, PA : Calkins Creek, 2013.
LCCN 2012955629. ISBN 9781590789384, hardcover, $16.95.
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades 3-6.
Fic Rating: 5
Suspension bridges--Fiction.
Niagara Falls (N.Y. and Ont.)--Fiction.
Intermediate Nonfiction

551.21
Rusch, Elizabeth
Volcano rising
1 v. (unpaged) : col. ill. ; 29 cm. Grades 3-6.
551.21 Rating: 5
Volcanoes.

624.1
Price, Jane
Underworld : exploring the secret world beneath your feet
LCCN 2013432120. ISBN 9781894786898, hardcover, $18.95.
96 p. : col. ill. ; 27 cm. Grades 3-6.
624.1 Rating: 5
Underground construction--Juvenile literature.
Underground ecology--Juvenile literature.

782.28
The Usborne book of Christmas carols
LCCN 2006560299. ISBN 9780794506001, paperback, $OP; buy used.
31 p. of music : ill. ; 30 cm. Grades 3-6.
782.28 Rating: *5
Carols, English--Juvenile.
Christmas music--Juvenile.

782.42
Go in and out the window : an illustrated songbook for young peoples
LCCN 87752208. ISBN 9780060270360, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
144 p. of music : ill. ; 25 cm. Grades 3-6.
782.42 Rating: *5
Children's songs.
Songs.

782.42
The Laura Ingalls Wilder songbook : favorite songs from the Little House books
New York : HarperCollins, 0.
LCCN 9700299. ISBN 9780060270360, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
160 p. of music : ill. ; 27 cm. Grades 3-6.
782.42 Rating: 5
Children's songs.

919.89
Seiple, Samantha
Byrd & Igloo : a polar adventure
Explorers--United States--Biography--Juvenile literature.
Middle School Fiction

Fic
Burg, Ann E.

Serafina's promise : a novel in verse
299 p. ; 21 cm. Grades 5-8.
Fic Rating: 5
Haiti Earthquake, Haiti, 2010--Juvenile fiction.
Families--Haiti--Juvenile fiction.

Fic
Hamilton, Mary L.

Hear no evil (Rustic Knoll Bible Camp; 1)
119 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.
Fic Rating: 5
Summer camps--Fiction.

Fic
La Valley, Josanne

The vine basket
252 p. ; 22 cm. Grades 5-8.
Fic Rating: *5
Basket making--Fiction.
Uighur (Turkic people)--Fiction.

Middle School Nonfiction

323.1196
Levinson, Cynthia

We've got a job : the 1963 Birmingham Children's March
176 p. : ill. ; 25 x 24 cm. Grades 7-12.
323.1196 Rating: 5

323.1196
Rubin, Susan Goldman

Freedom summer : the 1964 struggle for civil rights in Mississippi
LCCN 2013020208. ISBN 9780823429202, hardcover, $18.95.
vii, 120 p. : ill. ; 27 cm. Grades 5-8.
323.1196 Rating: *5
Civil rights movements--Mississippi--History--20th century--Juvenile literature.

363.34
Rusch, Elizabeth

Eruption! : volcanoes and the science of saving lives (Scientists in the field)
76 p. : col. ill. ; 24 x 29 cm. Grades 5-9.
363.34 Rating: 5
Volcanic eruptions--Juvenile literature.
971.91
Meissner, David
Call of the Klondike: a true gold rush adventure
Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek, 2013.
LCCN 2013931060. ISBN 9781590788233, hardcover, $16.95.
167 p.: ill., maps; 24 cm. Grades 5-8.
971.91 Rating: 5
Gold mines and mining--Yukon--Juvenile literature.
Alaska--History--1867-1959.

High School Fiction

Fic
Klavan, Andrew
The last thing I remember (The homelander; 1)
346 p.; 22 cm. Grades 9-12 (6-8).
Fic Rating: 5
Amnesia--Fiction.
Terrorism--Fiction.

Fic
Klavan, Andrew
Crazy dangerous
330 p.; 22 cm. Grades 9-12.
Fic Rating: 5
Schizophrenia--Fiction

242
Hurnard, Hannah
Hinds' feet on high places
LCCN 94182597. ISBN 9781560431114, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
115 p.; 23 cm. Grades 10-Adult.
242 Rating: *5
Christian life.
Allegory.

616.89
Balter, Marie
Nobody's child
LCCN 90045537. ISBN 9780201570731, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
616.89 Rating: *5
Balter, Marie, 1940--Mental health.
Psychoses--Patients--United States--Biography.

B
Irwin, Bill
Blind courage
LCCN 92060012. ISBN 9780941539869, hardcover, $OP; buy used.
B Rating: *5
Irwin, Bill, 1940- Blind--Hiking--Appalachian Trail.

Prophecies--Fiction
Byzantine Empire--History--527-1081--Fiction.

High School Nonfiction
Adult Fiction

Fic
Cushman, Kathryn
Chasing hope : a novel
Bloomington, IL : Bethany House, 2013.
314 p.; 22 cm. Adult (HS).
Fic Rating: 5
Athletes--Fiction.
Mentoring--Fiction.

Fic
Green, Jocelyn
Yankee in Atlanta (Heroines behind the lines, Civil War; 3)
411 pages ; 22 cm. Adult.
Fic Rating: 5
United States--History--Civil War, 1862-1865--Fiction.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Women--Fiction.

Fic
Hannon, Irene
Trapped (Private justice; 2)
Grand Rapids, MI : Revell, 2013.
393 p.; 22 cm. Adult.
Fic Rating: 5
Women journalists--Fiction.
Private investigators--Fiction.

Fic
Mentink, Dana
Jungle fire
284 p.; 22 cm. Adult.
Fic Rating: 5
Missionaries--Guatemala--Fiction.
Drug traffic--Guatemala--Fiction.

Adult Nonfiction

239
Wallace, J. Warner
Cold case Christianity : a homicide detective investigates the claims of the gospels
LCCN 88752289. ISBN 9780152435882, library ed., $OP; buy used.
32 p. of music: ill.; 23 x 29 cm. Babies, PS.
784.6 Rating: *5
Children's songs.
Games with music.
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