FICTION

Adventure and Mystery

📚 The Clackity (Blight Harbor series)
by Lora Senf, illustrated by Alfredo Cáceres
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-66590-267-0
When her aunt disappears, Evie knows she has to go after her. When the dreadful creature Clackity offers her a “fair deal,” Evie can’t refuse it. Ghostly black-and-white illustrations. (10-12)

📚 Leon the Extraordinary (Leon series)
written and illustrated by Jamar Nicholas, color by Bonaia Rosado
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-338-74416-3
Pen and ink comic drawings with bright vibrant color depict Leon’s heroic journey to self-acceptance as he figures out the right reason for helping others. (9-12)

📚 Team Chu and the Battle of the Blackwood Arena
(Team Chu series)
by Julie C. Dao, illustrated by Chi Ngo
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-0-374-38875-1
Vietnamese American siblings Sadie and Clip are fiercely competitive in laser tag. When a virtual-reality-enhanced game becomes dangerous, can they bury their rivalry to escape? Animated black-and-white illustrations. (11-13)

📚 Violet & Jobie in the Wild
written and illustrated by Lynn Rae Perkins
(Greenwillow/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-249969-1
House mice get trapped and released to a wild they’ve never experienced. Can they learn to survive without humans, upon whom they’ve come to rely? Detailed black-and-white illustrations. (8-10)

📚 Wreck at Ada’s Reef (The Swallowtail Legacy series)
by Michael D. Beil, illustrated by Torborg Davern
(Pixel + Ink, $17.99) 978-1-64595-048-6
Hired for the summer by her mother’s best friend, 12-year-old Lark works on solving the mystery of a 75-year-old boating accident. Black-and-white illustrations. Maps. (9-12)

Animals

📚 Odder
by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Charles Santoso
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-1-250-14742-4
A rescued otter pup encounters both joy and peril when reintroduced to the wild. Based on actual Monterey Bay Aquarium cases. Free verse. Soft black-and-white illustrations. Glossary, bibliography, resources. (8-11)

Contemporary Issues

📚 Berani
by Michelle Kadarusman
(Pajama Press, $18.95) 978-1-77278-260-8
Privileged Canadian Indonesian Malia and Indonesian Ari, a boy struggling to get an education, work together to save endangered orangutans. Alternating viewpoints with interludes by Berani, an orangutan. Back matter. (10-13)

📚 In the Key of Us
by Mariama J. Lockington
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-0-374-31410-1
Sent to a predominately white summer music camp, 13-year-old Andi, Black, struggles in her relationship with her family and friends, while grieving the loss of her mother. (10-12) Mature content
Saving the Butterfly
by Helen Cooper, illustrated by Gill Smith
(Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, $17.99)
978-1-5362-2055-1
A brother and sister, refugees, have different memories of their difficult journey to a new land. The poignant, poetic text describes how a butterfly helps them heal. Expressive mixed-media illustrations. (8-11)

Detour Ahead
by Pamela Ehrenberg and Tracy López, illustrated by Laila Ekboir
(PJ Publishing/PJ Library, $14.99) 978-1-7365573-5-8
A friendship helps 12-year-old, neurodiverse Gilah prepare for her bat mitzvah and 13-year-old Salvadoran American Guillermo enter a poetry contest to win money to fix his broken bicycle. Alternating prose and free verse. Detailed black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)

Thirst
by Varsha Bajaj
(Nancy Paulsen Books/PRH, $17.99)
978-0-593-35439-1
While studying for final exams, Minni, 12, discovers a theft ring depriving her poor Mumbai neighborhood of needed water. Despite growing family responsibilities, she combats the injustice. (10-13)

Falling Short
by Ernesto Cisneros
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-28817-4
Two dissimilar but dear friends, Isaac Castillo and Marco Honeyman, help each other to become the middle grade students they want to be. (9-12)

Family/School/Community

All Four Quarters of the Moon
by Shirley Marr
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $17.99)
978-1-5344-8886-1
When Ba Ba’s job requires a move from Singapore to Australia, Peijing, 11, helps her mother, grandmother, and irrepressible little sister navigate their new world. (9-12)

Aviva vs. the Dybbuk
by Mari Lowe
(Levine Querido, $17.99) 978-1-64614-125-8
Aviva’s dybbuk always gets her in trouble in her Orthodox Jewish community. Is the mischievous spirit a friend or an enemy? Hebrew and Yiddish glossary. (10-12)

Honey and Me
by Meira Drazin
(Scholastic Press, $17.99) 978-1-338-15543-3
Milla and her best friend, Honey, from Modern Orthodox Jewish families, encounter challenges to their friendship amid growing independence as they enter sixth grade. Hebrew and Yiddish glossary. Back matter. (10-13)

The Hope of Elephants
by Awanda Rawson Hill
(Charlesbridge, $17.99) 978-1-62354259-7
Cass, 12, whose life now centers on her father’s medical care, struggles to maintain family traditions while facing the possibility of having inherited his rare disorder. Free verse. (10-12)
IF YOU READ THIS

**If You Read This**
by Kereen Getten
(Delacorte Press/Random House Children's Books/PRH, $16.99) 978-0-593-17400-5
Brie's 12th birthday present includes three letters, written before her mother’s death, that lead her across Jamaica on an adventure involving her father, grandfather, family, and friends. (10-12)

**Jennifer Chan Is Not Alone**
by Tae Keller
(Random House Children's Books/PRH, $17.99) 978-0-593-31052-6
Did new seventh grader Jennifer Chan run away because of aliens or because of “the Incident” with her so-called friends? (9-12)

**Just Right Jillian**
by Nicole D. Collier
(Versify/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-358-43461-0
Fifth grader Jillian must overcome her shyness and lack of confidence to show her true self and honor the memory of her grandmother. (9-11)

**Maizy Chen’s Last Chance**
by Lisa Lee, illustrated by Rebecca Shieh
(Random House Children's Books/PRH, $16.99) 978-1-9848-3025-8
With her grandfather’s health failing, Maizy, 11, spends the summer in Minnesota helping out at the family’s Chinese restaurant and learning about her heritage. Warm, moving, and multilayered. Greyscale spot art. (9-12)

**A Million Views**
by Aaron Starmer
(Penguin Workshop/PRH, $17.99) 978-0-593-38693-4
Sixth grader Brewster makes videos by himself, but when classmates challenge him to make a movie trailer, he makes new friends and realizes all families are unique. (9-12)

**Miss Quinces**
written and illustrated by Kat Fajardo
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-338-53558-7
Sue has big plans for the summer, but her family has made other arrangements. A dramatic turn of events changes everything. Whimsical graphic art. (8-11)

**Our Own Little Paradise**
by Marianne Kaurin, translated from the Norwegian by Olivia Lasky
(Arctis Books, $15.00) 978-1-64690-018-3
In Norway, on the last day of school, an impoverished and humiliated sixth grader blurts falsely that she’ll vacation in “the tropics.” A new classmate discovers her lie. (9-12)

**Shine On, Luz Véliz!**
by Rebecca Balcárcel
(Chronicle Books, $17.99) 978-1-79720-967-8
After an injury on the soccer field, sixth grader Luz feels lost until she discovers a knack for coding. And then a new Guatemalan half sister arrives! Author’s note. (9-12)

**Tumble**
by Celia C. Pérez
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-593-32517-9
Adela, 12, has never met her biological father. After learning he is a member of a professional wrestling family, she finds a way to meet him, and new relationships evolve. (10-13)

**Twin Cities**
written and illustrated by Jose Pimienta
(RH Graphic/Random House Children’s Books/PRH, $20.99) 978-0-593-18063-1
Twin Mexican 12-year-olds going to middle school on opposite sides of the Mexican-U.S. border grow apart. Can they find one another again? Colorful graphics of Mexicali and Calexico. Back matter. (10-12)

**When the World Turned Upside Down**
by K. Ibura
(Scholastic Press, $17.99) 978-1-338-74626-6
Four friends, living in the same apartment building during the COVID pandemic, discover that taking action assisting neighbors and participating in social justice protests helps them to endure turbulent times. (9-12)

**Wildoak**
by C. C. Harrington, illustrated by Diana Sudyka
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-338-80386-0
To combat Maggie’s stuttering, her parents send her to her grandfather’s in the country. There, her mission to save a wounded snow leopard liberates her own voice. Black-and-white spot illustrations. Back matter. (9-12)
Fantasy

🌟 Always, Clementine
by Carlie Sorosiak
(Walker Books/Candlewick, $17.99)
978-1-5362-2884-7
A genetically engineered genius mouse escapes the research lab but longs for her chimpanzee friend. Serious themes with humorous touches. (8-11)

🌟 The Aquanaut
written and illustrated by Dan Santat, color by Mike Boldt
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-0-545-49760-2
After the research vessel Miette sinks in a storm, a crew of courageous marine animals walk out of the ocean at San Diego. Expressive, action-packed art. (9-12)

🌟 Cress Watercress
by Gregory Maguire, illustrated by David Litchfield
(Candlewick Press, $19.99) 978-1-5362-1100-9
After mother bunny moves Cress and baby Kip to the basement of the Broken Arms, Cress experiences danger, adventure, and a colorful group of residents. Richly luminous digital art. (8-11)

🌟 Duet
by Elise Broach, illustrated by Ziyue Chen
(Christy Ottaviano Books/Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-31135-9
A musically gifted goldfinch befriends a boy practicing to play in a Chopin competition. An engaging mystery, with bird and music facts. Black-and-white spot art. (9-11)

🌟 Freddie vs. the Family Curse
by Tracy Badua
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-358-61289-6
Freddie Ruiz, 12, has 13 days to break the curse of the amulet in which his ancestor is trapped—or Freddie will die! Based on a Filipino legend. (9-12)

🌟 Ghostcloud
by Michael Mann
(Peachtree Publishing, $17.99) 978-1-68263-518-6
Luke Smith-Sharma is enslaved with other children in a dystopian London. When he rescues a girl who turns out to be a ghost, escape and friendship suddenly become possibilities. (8-11)

🌟 The Haunting (Secret of Glendunny series)
by Kathryn Lasky
After an earthquake disrupts life in Glendunny, a deep forest in Scotland, the beavers help ghost siblings find their way, while tackling discrimination in the community. (8-11)

🌟 The Last Mapmaker
by Christina Soontornvat
(Candlewick Press, $17.99) 978-1-5362-0495-7
In an imagined old Siam, the daughter of a con man apprentices herself to an elderly mapmaker, leading to the ocean adventure of a lifetime. (9-12)

🌟 Leave It to Plum!
written and illustrated by Matt Phelan
(Greenwillow/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-307916-8
Peppy peacock Plum loves that peacocks run free at the zoo as ambassadors. But jealous Itch, a ningbing, causes havoc. Humorous greyscale drawings. (8-10)

🌟 Lily and the Night Creatures
by Nick Lake, illustrated by Emily Gravett
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, $17.99) 978-1-5344-9461-9
Doppelgängers of her parents have invaded Lily’s home. Even though she’s battling an illness, it’s up to her to save her family. Mysterious black-and-white spot illustrations. (8-11)

🌟 The Marvellers
by Dhonielle Clayton, illustrated by Khadijah Khatib
(Henry Holt and Company/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-1-250-17494-9
When Conjuror Ella Durand, 11, enters the Arcanum Training Institute, not everyone welcomes her. When her mentor disappears and a Marvellian escapes prison, fingers point at Ella. Black-and-white illustrations. (10-13)

🌟 The Problem with Prophecies (Celia Cleary series)
by Scott Reintgen
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, $17.99)
978-1-6659-0357-8
On her 4,444th day, Celia’s magic starts up. She learns to manage the complications of seventh grade and her increased engagement with mortality that comes with her gift. (10-13)
The Sheep, the Rooster, and the Duck
written and illustrated by Matt Phelan
(Greenwillow/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-291100-1
The famous 1783 Versailles hot-air balloon trio uncover an evil plot to steal Benjamin Franklin’s inventions and enthrone a king in America. Graphic-novel-style illustrations. Author’s note. (9-11)

Solimar: The Sword of the Monarchs
by Pam Muñoz Ryan
(Disney-Hyperion, $17.99) 978-1-4847-2835-2
With the help of a magical rebozo, a young royal protects her kingdom and its natural resources from invading forces. (9-11)

Storm
by Nicola Skinner
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-307168-1
Frankie’s ghost is angrily stuck in her family’s home, now a tourist attraction. Her newfound ability to hurl objects attracts attention from a nefarious source. (10-12)

Valentina Salazar Is Not a Monster Hunter
by Zoraida Córdova
(Scholastic Press, $17.99) 978-1-338-71271-1
Even though an Orü puma killed their father, three siblings rescue an Orü egg that is in danger of being destroyed by monster hunters. (9-12)

The Witch, the Sword, and the Cursed Knights
by Alexandria Rogers
(Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette, $16.99)
978-0-7595-5458-0
A misunderstood, underappreciated witch and a boy from Wisconsin, mourning his friend’s death, are recruited to break the curse that felled the legendary kingdom of Camelot. (9-12)

Witchlings (Witchlings series)
by Claribel A. Ortega, illustrated by Lissy Marlin
(Scholastic Press, $17.99) 978-1-338-74552-8
Can three 12-year-old Spare Witchlings, unlikely companions, avoid being turned to toads forever by working together to defeat the dreaded Nightbeast and completing the impossible task? Black-and-white spot illustrations. (8-11)

Folklore and Fairy Tales

Kapaemahu
by Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, Dean Hamer, and Joe Wilson, illustrated by Daniel Sousa
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, $17.99)
978-0-593-53006-1
The buried sacred stones of the mahu—dual female/male spirit individuals who brought healing to Hawaii—have been recovered, but the erasure of their history continues. Somber, striking illustrations. Bilingual in Olelo Niihau and English. (10-13)

One & Everything
written and illustrated by Sam Winston
(Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, $19.99)
978-1-5362-1566-3
One story claims to be the only story after absorbing all others, until they demand to be heard too. Watercolor and typographic illustrations. Map. Back matter includes descriptions of the language systems used. (8-11)

Windswept
by Margi Preus, illustrated by Armando Veve
(Amulet Books/Abrams, $17.99) 978-1-4197-5824-9
Despite her parents’ objections, Tag is determined to find her sisters, who have been swept away in a storm. A modern tale based on ancient Norwegian folklore. Finely detailed black-and-white spot illustrations. (10-13)

The Wolf Suit
written and illustrated by Sid Sharp
(Annick Press, $19.99) 978-1-77321-720-8
Looking for a way to move freely in the forest, a sheep crafts and dons a wolf costume. Colorful, emotive illustrations. (9-11)

Yellow Dog Blues
by Alice Faye Duncan, illustrated by Chris Raschka
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $18.99)
978-0-8028-5553-4
Historical Fiction

**Coming Up Cuban**
by Sonia Manzano
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-338-06515-2
Four children representing different intersections of race and class detail their experiences during Castro's rise to power in 1959–1961. Back matter, time line, and resources. Also available in Spanish. (10-13)

**Different: A Story of the Spanish Civil War**
by Mónica Montañés, illustrated by Eva Sánchez Gómez, translated from the Spanish by Lawrence Schimel
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, $17.99)
978-0-8028-5598-5
Two siblings experience difficulties when their father must flee because of his political beliefs. Expressive charcoal, pastel, and colored pencil illustrations. Comprehensive back matter. (9-11)

**Dog Star**
by Megan Shepherd
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-0-374-31458-3
Laika, a stray dog in the Soviet Union, is sent into outer space. Ethical and political considerations are explored within the context of a girl’s friendship with the heroic dog. Archival photos. Back matter. (9-12)

**Freewater**
by Amina Luqman-Dawson
(JIMMY Patterson Books/Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette, $16.99)
978-0-316-05661-8
After escaping the Southerland plantation, Homer and Ada join Freewater, a swampland community of formerly enslaved people. But can they ever return and free their mother? Brief historical note. (10-13)

**Isla to Island**
written and illustrated by Alexis Castellanos
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $21.99)
978-1-5377-6924-2
After escaping Cuba in 1961, Marisol, 11, struggles to adapt to her foster family and life in Brooklyn. Spanish dialogue. Vibrant Cuban pictures and wordless monotone panels. Back matter. (10-13)

**The Lucky Ones**
by Linda Williams Jackson
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-2255-5
Ellis Earl lives in poverty, but his teacher gives him hope for the future, inviting him to church programs and even to a meeting with Senator Robert Kennedy. (9-12)

**The Moon from Dehradun: A Story of Partition**
by Shirin Shamsi, illustrated by Tarun Lak
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, $18.99)
978-1-66590-679-1
In 1947 during the Partition of India, a family hurriedly flees their home in fear. Back matter includes maps. Digital illustrations. (8-11)

**My Own Lightning**
by Lauren Wolk
(Dutton Children's Books/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-525-55559-9
In 1944, after Annabelle is struck by lightning and acquires the ability to understand animal emotions, she meets Nora, who secretly nurtures injured and maltreated animals. Sequel to Wolf Hollow. (10-13)

**The Puffin Keeper**
by Michael Morpurgo, illustrated by Benji Davies
(Puffin Canada/Penguin Random House Canada, $17.99) 978-0-7352-7180-7
A lifelong friendship starts when a boy, who will grow up to found Penguin Books, is rescued from a shipwreck by a lighthouse keeper on Puffin Island. Painterly illustrations. (8-11)

**Red Scare**
written and illustrated by Liam Francis Walsh
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-3381-6709-2
In 1953, when townsfolk see communists everywhere, Peggy, who has polio, fights villains and her own emotional shortcomings. Comic noir drawings. (10-13)

**Sashiko**
by Barbara Ciletti, illustrated by Maria Cristina Pritelli
(Creative Editions, $18.99) 978-1-56846-370-4
Sumptuous watercolors accompany a fictionalized account of the origins of a type of Edo-period Japanese embroidery, originally used for repair, now an art form. (8-10)
A Seed in the Sun
by Aida Salazar
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, $17.99)
978-0-593-40660-1
After Mama falls ill due to toxic working conditions, Lula and her family decide to fight for the rights of farmworkers alongside Dolores Huerta. (10-12) Mature content

Singing with Elephants
by Margarita Engle
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $16.99)
978-0-593-20669-0
In 1947 Cuban immigrant Oriol learns to write poetry from Gabriela Mistral, famous poet and diplomat, who assists her campaign to reunite an elephant with its family. In verse. Back matter. (9-12)

The Tattooed Torah
by Marvell Ginsburg, illustrated by Martin Lemelman
(Cottage Door Press, $19.99) 978-1-64638-551-5
A small, beloved, sacred Jewish scroll that survives the Holocaust makes a perilous journey. Vividly realized with dramatic illustrations. Updated for a new generation. Back matter. (8-10)

Three Strike Summer
by Skyler Schrempp
978-1-5344-9914-0
In 1936 Gloria’s family abandons their failed Oklahoma farm to work in California. Gloria is determined to play baseball at the migrant workers’ camp, despite the “no girls” code. Back matter. (9-12)

We Were the Fire: Birmingham 1963
by Sheila P. Moses
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-0-593-40748-6
Although only 11, Rufus is determined to participate in the demonstrations being held in his city during the spring of 1963. Author’s note. (9-12)

Yonder
by Ali Standish
In 1943, after his abused friend Jack disappears, Danny Timmons, 13, tries to figure out where he went, using the only clue he has—a place called Yonder. (10-13)
Science Fiction

🌟 A Rover’s Story
by Jasmine Warga, illustrated by Matt Rockefeller
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $19.99)
978-0-06-311392-3
Res, a rover built to explore Mars, narrates his experience from assembly to final location. Designed to be rational, Res wrestles with human emotions. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

🌟 Ruby Finley vs. the Interstellar Invasion
by K. Tempest Bradford
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-0-374-38879-9
Ruby, 11, is a gifted Black student who loves bugs. Her curiosity unleashes a chain reaction, filled with G-men, aliens, brave friends, supportive parents, and her own courage. (8-10)

🌟 The Unforgettable Logan Foster (Unforgettable Logan Foster series)
by Shawn Peters, illustrated by Pétur Antonsson
After six failed foster placements, amazingly intelligent neurodivergent Logan, 12, may finally be adopted by a new set of prospective parents, Gil and Margie—but evil awaits. Dramatic black-and-white art. (10-12)

Sports

🌟 Swim Team
written and illustrated by Johnnie Christmas
(HarperAlley/HarperCollins, $24.99)
978-0-06-305677-0
Bree, a whiz at math, but afraid of swimming, joins the team and learns why Black people were discouraged from swimming and competing. Warm graphic art. (9-12)

POETRY

Behold Our Magical Garden:
Poems Fresh from a School Garden
by Allan Wolf, illustrated by Daniel Duncan
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-0455-1
The many wonders of a garden, flora and fauna, are depicted in playful varied verse forms and whimsical colorful illustrations. Back matter activity for each poem. (8-11)

INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

Anthologies and Collections

🌟 Step
by Deborah Ellis
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, $15.99)
978-1-77306-594-6
Ten stories feature young people in many different settings, from refugee detention centers to comfortable middle class homes, who need to make personal choices. (9-12)

Arts

🌟 Action!:
How Movies Began
written and illustrated by Meghan McCarthy
A comprehensive introduction to the evolution of movie-making and its creators. Lively black-and-white and acrylic cartoon images. Extensive back matter. (8-11)
Curtain Up!:
Behind the Scenes at the Royal Opera House
by the Royal Opera House, illustrated by Lauren O’Hara
(Thames & Hudson, $18.95) 978-0-500-65251-0
Figaro, the resident cat at the Royal Opera House, takes
us on a tour behind the production of the Nutcracker.
Legendary performances come alive through the
sumptuous, detailed illustrations. (8-10)

The Snail
written and illustrated by Emily Hughes
(Chronicle Books, $18.99) 978-1-7972-0467-3
There was no place on Earth that famed Japanese
American artist Isamu Noguchi felt accepted, except in
his own creation, made in the shape of a snail. Subdued
illustrations. Author's note. Bibliography. (10-13)

Biography and Memoir

Arthur Who Wrote Sherlock
by Linda Bailey, illustrated by Isabelle Follath
(Tundra Books/Tundra Book Group/Penguin Random
House of Canada, $18.99) 978-0-7352-6925-5
When Arthur Conan Doyle, doctor, adventurer,
and humanitarian, created his legendary detective
character in 1887, it changed the course of his life.
Evocative watercolor and pencil illustrations. Back
matter. (8-11)

Blips on a Screen:
How Ralph Baer Invented TV Video Gaming and
Launched a Worldwide Obsession
by Kate Hannigan, illustrated by Zachariah OHora
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH,
$17.99) 978-0-593-30671-0
Bored watching TV, a Jewish refugee attempted to
make the experience more interesting, using skills he
had acquired as a radio operator in the U.S. Army during
World War II. Colorful, cheerful illustrations. Back
matter. (8-10)

Cloaked in Courage:
Uncovering Deborah Sampson, Patriot Soldier
by Beth Anderson, illustrated by Anne Lambelet
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House,
$18.99) 978-1-63592-610-1
A brave young woman disguised herself as a man to
fight in the Continental Army during the American
Revolution. Photoshopped period-style pencil
drawings. Extensive back matter. (8-11)

The Flying Man:
Otto Lilienthal, the World's First Pilot
by Mike Downs, illustrated by David Hohn
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House,
$17.99) 978-0-63592-550-0
After years of experimenting, in 1891 Lilienthal took
his first airborne ride in a glider he had constructed.
Back matter describes his trial-and-error path to flight.
Mixed-media color illustrations. (8-10)

Gaudí:
Architect of Imagination
by Susan B. Katz, illustrated by Linda Schwalbe
(NorthSouth Books/NordSüd Verlag, $18.95)
978-0-7358-4487-2
The many life challenges faced by the Catalan artist
resulted in a fascination “with the crooked line.” Most
of the buildings he designed in Barcelona reflect that
entrancement. Colorful acrylic illustrations. (8-10)

Going Places:
Victor Hugo Green and his Glorious Book
by Tonya Bolden, illustrated by Eric Velasquez
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, $17.99)
978-0-06-296740-4
Because traveling around America was dangerous for
Black people in the 1930s, Green, a Black postman,
created a book with information about places that
welcomed people of color. Richly detailed illustrations.
(9-12)

Hilde on the Record:
Memoir of a Kid Crime Reporter
by Hilde Lysiak
(Chicago Review Press, $17.99) 978-1-64160-581-6
The author recounts the triumphs and struggles that
stemmed from breaking a news story of a local murder
when she was nine. Family photos. (10-13)

Hope Is an Arrow:
The Story of Lebanese American Poet Kahlil Gibran
by Cory McCarthy, illustrated by Ekua Holmes
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-0032-4
As a child, Gibran found solace in art and poetry, helping
him meld his Lebanese and new American identities
together. Glorious collage and acrylic illustrations. (8-11)
Just a Girl: A True Story of World War II
by Lia Levi, illustrated by Jess Mason, translated from the Italian by Sylvia Notini
(Harper/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-306508-6
In Italy during Mussolini’s fascist regime, Lia and her siblings survived by hiding their Jewish identity in a Catholic boarding school. Black-and-white illustrations. Photos. (9-11)

Maya’s Song
by Renee Watson, illustrated by Bryan Collier
This free-verse tribute to Maya Angelou, Black writer and activist, conveys her courage following the painful childhood experience that silenced her voice for five years. Glorious watercolor and collage illustrations. (8-11)

Not Done Yet: Shirley Chisholm’s Fight for Change
by Tamika Fryer Brown, illustrated by Nina Crews
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $20.99) 978-1-72842-008-0
Chisholm, a teacher from Brooklyn, became the first Black woman in Congress and ran for president in 1972. Free verse. Evocative digital collage illustrations. Time line, bibliography. (8-10)

Once I Was You
by Maria Hinojosa
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, $17.99) 978-1-6659-0280-9
Born in Mexico City and raised in Chicago, Hinojosa chronicles her journey from being an immigrant with big dreams to becoming an award-winning journalist. Also available in Spanish. Young reader’s edition. (10-13)

Only the Best: The Exceptional Life and Fashion of Ann Lowe
by Kate Messner and Margaret E. Powell, illustrated by Erin K. Robinson
(Chronicle Books, $18.99) 978-1-4521-6160-0
Gorgeous, collage-like illustrations amplify this story of the brilliant Black clothing designer who succeeded despite personal hardship and racial discrimination. Archival photos. Back matter. (9-12)

Out of the Shadows: How Lotte Reiniger Made the First Animated Fairytale Movie
written and illustrated by Fiona Robinson
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, $18.99) 978-1-4197-4085-5
Reiniger’s innovative techniques made her a pioneering animator. Dramatically illustrated with silhouettes, cut paper designs, and silent movie intertitles, reminiscent of her films. Extensive back matter. (8-11)

Parks for the People: How Frederick Law Olmsted Designed America
by Elizabeth Partridge, illustrated by Becca Stadtlander
(Viking/Penguin Random House, $17.99) 978-1-984-83515-4
A 19th-century visionary thinker led the creation of beautiful public spaces throughout the United States. Detailed, realistic watercolor and gouache illustrations. Extensive back matter. (8-11)

Sandor Katz and the Tiny Wild (Food Heroes series)
by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and June Jo Lee, illustrated by Julie Wilson
(Readers to Eaters, $19.95) 978-0-9980477-1-3
A lover of fermented foods travels from New York to Tennessee to open a school for like-minded cooks. Humorous, detailed mixed-media illustrations. Recipe. (9-11)

The Tower of Life: How Yaffa Eliach Rebuilt Her Town in Stories and Photographs
by Chana Stiefel, illustrated by Susan Gal
(Scholastic Press, $18.99) 978-1-3382-2589-1
A Holocaust survivor collected thousands of photographs of the Jews of Eishyshok who perished during World War II and of their descendants to create a permanent exhibit at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Evocative watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (8-10)

Troublemakers in Trousers: Women and What They Wore to Get Things Done
by Sarah Albee, illustrated by Kaja Kajfež
(Charlesbridge, $18.99) 978-1-62354-095-1
Joan of Arc, Khutulun, and 19 other women from different countries, eras, and races who wore men’s clothing, defying laws and customs, are depicted through informal text and full-page cartoonish portraits. Archival photographs. Extensive sources. (9-11)
The Tryout
by Christina Soontornvat, illustrated by Joanna Cacao
(Graphix /Scholastic, $24.99) 978-1-338-74130-8
Christina, from a multiracial Thai American family, tries out for her Texas middle school cheerleading squad. A warm, honest look at racism and friendship. Expressive graphic panels. (9-12)

Unlawful Orders: A Portrait of Dr. James B. Williams, Tuskegee Airman, Surgeon, and Activist
by Barbara Binns
(Scholastic Focus/Scholastic, $19.99) 978-1-338-75426-1
Refusing to accept the Air Force’s segregation policy, Williams participated in the Freeman Field mutiny and later became a leading civil rights activist. Archival photos and images. Back matter. (10-13)

Ecology

Antarctica: The Melting Continent
by Karen Romano Young, illustrated by Angela Hsieh
(What on Earth Books, $24.00) 978-1-913750-53-4
A thorough overview emphasizing the impact of global warming on the world’s “coldest and driest place.” Clear illustrations with many sidebars. Glossary, bibliography, and index. (9-12)

A River’s Gifts: The Mighty Elwha River Reborn
by Patricia Newman, illustrated by Natasha Donovan
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $31.99) 978-1-5415-9870-6
A Washington state river, central to the life of the Lower Elwha Klallam tribe, is restored after being dramatically altered by damming over 100 years ago. Bold, colorful illustrations. (8-11)

History

Bandoola: The Great Elephant Rescue
written and illustrated by William Grill
(Flying Eye Books/Nobrow, $19.99) 978-1-83874-023-8
An Asian elephant, his keeper Po Toke, and “Elephant Bill” Williams brought elephants and refugees to safety during World War II. Detailed colored pencil illustrations. Back matter. (9-11)
Holidays and Religion

- **D ✔ Seeking Freedom:** The Untold Story of Fortress Monroe and the Ending of Slavery in America
  by Selene Castrovilla, illustrated by E. B. Lewis
  (Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-63592-582-1
  In 1861 George Scott, an enslaved person seeking freedom and safety, worked with the Union commander of Fortress Monroe in Virginia to save the fort. Expressive watercolors. Extensive back matter. (8-10)

- **D ✔ A Song for the Cosmos:** Blind Willie Johnson and Voyager’s Golden Record
  by Jan Lower, illustrated by Gary Kelley
  (Creative Editions, $18.99) 978-1-56846-362-9
  Graphic art in a dark somber palette complements the text to tell the story of Blind Willie Johnson and the Golden Record sent on NASA’s 1977 Voyager spacecrafts. Back matter. (8-10)

- **D ✔ A Song for the Unsung:** Bayard Rustin, the Man behind the 1963 March on Washington
  by Carole Boston Weatherford and Rob Sanders, illustrated by Byron McCray
  (Henry Holt and Company/Macmillan, $19.99) 978-1-250-77950-2
  Despite marginalization as a gay man, Rustin organized and motivated the nonviolent protest movement, mentoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Extensive back matter. Mixed-media illustrations. (8-10)

- **D ✔ We the People! (Big Ideas that Changed the World series)**
  written and illustrated by Don Brown
  (Amulet Books/Abrams, $14.99) 978-1-4197-5738-9
  Ideas from ancient times through the present and from nations and cultures throughout the world have contributed to the development of democracy in the United States, through steps and missteps. Engaging cartoon illustrations. Notes. (9-11)

Language

- **D ✔ The Hanmoji Handbook:** Your Guide to the Chinese Language through Emoji
  by Jason Li, An Xiao Mina, and Jennifer 8. Lee, illustrated by Jason Li
  Interesting parallels between emojis and Chinese characters, or hanzi, both of which use images to convey meaning, are illuminated. Playful illustrations. Bibliography, index. (9-12)

Law and Justice

- **D ✔ Evicted!:** The Struggle for the Right to Vote
  by Alice Faye Duncan, illustrated by Charly Palmer
  (Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $18.99) 978-1-68437-979-8
  An important event in Civil Rights history, the 1950s Fayette County Tent City movement in Tennessee, comes alive. Vivid, impressionistic acrylic paintings. Back matter. (9-12)

Reference

- **D ✔ Killer Underwear Invasion!: How to Spot Fake News, Disinformation & Conspiracy Theories**
  written and illustrated by Elise Gravel
  (Chronicle Books, $14.99) 978-1-7972-1491-7
  Cartoon-like illustrations introduce and explore the concepts and etiology of various methods of sowing doubt about the truth of news reports. A very appealing and kid-friendly approach to media literacy. (8-10)
STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

 Crimson

The Adventures of Dr. Sloth:
Rebecca Cliffe and Her Quest to Protect Sloths
written and photographed by Suzi Eszterhas
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $30.65) 978-1-5415-8939-1
Two women, a zoologist and a wildlife photographer, present emerging research about the elusive, arboreal Central and South American mammal. Full-color photographs and links to videos. Back matter. (8-11)

* Copycat:
Nature-Inspired Design around the World
written and illustrated by Christy Hale
(Lee & Low Books, $20.95) 978-1-64379-230-9
Space-saving cars, robotic arms, and apartments that stack like honeycombs are just a few inventions inspired by nature. Digital art paired with photos. Extensive back matter and source notes. (8-11)

* Infinity:
Figuring Out Forever
by Sarah C. Campbell, photographed by Sarah C. Campbell and Richard P. Campbell
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, $17.99) 978-1-62979-875-2
The mathematical concept of something that is endless is presented simply and accessibly, illuminated with clear color photographs. Back matter includes glossary and information about different infinite sets. (9-12)

Mammoth Math:
Everything You Need to Know about Numbers
written and illustrated by David Macaulay
Hundreds of math concepts, from number systems to shapes to probability, are presented with colorful diagrams and cartoon mammoths. Includes glossary, index, multiplication and squares grids, units of measurement, and more. (8-11)

Operation Pangolin:
Saving the World’s Only Scaled Mammal
written and photographed by Suzi Eszterhas
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $30.65) 978-1-7284-4295-2
In Vietnam, Thai Nguyen is among the rescuers and researchers working to save a rare, endangered creature. Maps, diagrams, and photographs. (8-10)

Secrets of the Lost City:
A Scientific Adventure in the Honduran Rain Forest
by Sandra Markle
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, $31.99) 978-1-7284-3659-3
Travel deep into the Honduran rain forest with scientists as they uncover an ancient civilization while experiencing the unique challenges of this virgin space. Photographs. Back matter. (9-12)

* Swoop and Soar:
How Science Rescued Two Osprey Orphans and Found Them a New Family in the Wild
by Deborah Lee Rose and Jane Veltkamp
(Persnickety Press/WunderMill, $16.95) 978-1943978564
A raptor biologist rescues and cares for two young osprey chicks until they can be adopted by adult birds. Beautiful color photographs. (8-11)

World

A Kunwinjku Counting Book
by Gabriel Maralngurra and Felicity Wright, illustrated by Gabriel Maralngurra
(Enchanted Lion Books, $19.95) 978-1-59270-356-2
Sophisticated illustrations inspired by ancient west Australian rock art enhance information about native animals and Aboriginal culture. Back matter includes a pronunciation guide. (9-12)

The Waiting Place:
When Home Is Lost and a New One Not Yet Found
by Dina Nayeri, photographed by Anna Bosch Miralpeix
(Candlewick Press, $18.99) 978-1-5362-1362-1
Ten refugees from Afghanistan and Iran, ages 5-13, wait at a Greek refugee camp to be granted asylum. Engrossing full-color photos. Extensive back matter. (10-13)