

May 6, 2026

Good evening Quade, Vimala, and the Robie Harris Award committee!

I wanted to reach out to first off, personally thank each of you, and to also extend my gratitude to the full committee that chose my book for the Robie Harris Youth Choice Award.

Writing for teens, helping teens feel seen, and creating windows and mirrors for youth is something I'm very passionate about. To know that my book had such an impact means the entire world to me. For my book to be recognized in other spheres (ie. by adults) is one thing; for it to be recognized by the audience I wrote it for is entirely another.

Your letter was beautifully put together, clearly well thought out, and genuinely one of the kindest things I've received. Thank you. :)

You're all so remarkably accomplished for your ages and doing so much work to have a positive impact on the world. It gives me so much hope for the future to know that young people like all of you are striving to promote literacy, empathy, and greater inclusion through all that you do.

Please, continue to be as great as you all are. I don't think I need to tell you that you're capable of greatness, because you're all well on your way, but I'll remind you anyway: you're all so worthy, you're all so deserving, you're all more than capable—you'll make a difference.

I'll be thinking of this for a long time.

Wishing all of you the very best in your every endeavor!

Flowers,
D

PS. So glad to see my book being shared within the autistic community especially. I hope Riya's cousin loves it!



DEANDRA
DAVIS