

NINE TO TWELVE

ADVENTURE



THE ELSEWHERE CHRONICLES:

Book One: The Shadow Door

Book Two: The Shadow Spies

Book Three: The Master of Shadows

by Nykko, illustrated by Bannister (Graphic Universe, P\$6.95) 978-0-7613-3963-2, 978-0-7613-3964-9, 978-0-7613-4744-6

After finding a mysterious passageway into Elsewhere, will these friends survive long enough to find their way out? Thought balloons and art are easy to follow. (9-14)

Highway Robbery

by Kate Thompson, illustrated by Jonny Duddle and Robert Dress
(HarperCollins, \$15.99) 978-0-06-173034-4

A small street boy tells how he came to have a famous highwayman's horse in eighteenth-century London. (8-10)

The Last Leopard

by Lauren St. John
(Dial, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3342-8

The Eleven-year-old Martine uses her special powers over animals to save the last leopard of Zimbabwe. (9-12)

The Last Newspaper Boy in America

by Sue Corbett
(Dutton, \$16.99) 978-0-525-42205-1

When he reaches age twelve and becomes his town's newspaper boy, Wil must fight to save his job and his town. (9-12)

***Malice**

by Chris Wooding, illustrated by Dan Chernett
(Scholastic, \$14.99) 978-0-545-16043-8

Is it possible for a real kid to be trapped in a comic book? A terrifying original adventure. (9-12)

KEY	
★	Outstanding merit
	Read-aloud
•	SERIES TITLE
	(series books follow)
(4-6)	Age range
	Graphic novel
P	Paperback

Ottoline goes to School

written and illustrated by Chris Riddell
(HarperCollins, \$10.99) 978-0-06-144900-0

Ottoline and her dog, Mr. Monroe, come up with a clever plan to deal with a haunted school in this partly graphic novel. (8-11)

The Outlandish Adventures of Liberty Aimes

by Kelly Easton
(Wendy Lamb, \$15.99) 978-0-375-83771-5

With the aid of her evil father's potions, Liberty seeks her destiny in a wacky world of talking animals, scoundrels, and enablers. (8-12)

Scat

by Carl Hiaasen
(Knopf, \$16.99) 978-0-375-83486-8

Mean Mrs. Starch, science teacher, disappeared on the swamp field trip. Marta and Nick solve the mystery and gain respect for their teacher. (9-11)

The Seven Keys of Balabad

by Paul Haven, illustrated by Mark Zug
(Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-375-83350-2

Twelve-year-old Oliver and his friend Zee locate an ancient Middle Eastern treasure and restore it to its rightful owner. (9-12)

Skeleton Key: The Graphic Novel

by Anthony Horowitz, adapted by Antony Johnston, illustrated by Kanako Damerum and Yuzuru Takasaki
(Philomel, P\$14.99) 978-0-399-25418-5

In action-packed graphic panels, the fourteen-year-old super spy saves the world from destruction. (9-12)

***Tumtum and Nutmeg**

Adventures Beyond Nutmouse Hall

by Emily Bearn, illustrated by Nick Price
(Little, Brown, \$16.99) 978-0-316-02703-8

Living in a neglected cottages's closet, the Nuthouses find themselves caught up in unexpected adventures. (7-10)

Wicked Will:

A Mystery of Young William Shakespeare

by Bailey MacDonald
(Aladdin, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-8660-7

Tom Pryne protects a secret of his own as he tries to solve a local murder with the high-spirited, young Will Shakespeare of Stratford. (9-12)

Wild River

by P.J. Petersen
(Delacorte, \$14.99) 978-0-385-73724-1

Unathletic, twelve-year-old Ryan is determined to save his older brother when a kayaking trip turns dangerous. (9-12)

ANIMALS

The Cats of Roxville Station

by Jean Craighead George, illustrated by Tom Pohrt
(Dutton, \$16.99) 978-0-525-42140-5

A once-domestic cat, helped by humans, learns to survive among feral cats. (8-11)

Mr. Wellington

by David Rabe, illustrated by Robert Andrew Parker

(Roaring Brook, \$16.95) 978-1-59643-328-1

A small squirrel falls from his nest and is rescued by a boy willing to learn about wild animals. (8-11)

COMING OF AGE

11 Birthdays

by Wendy Mass

(Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-545-05239-9

Can eleven-year-olds Amanda and Leo mend their friendship and escape the bizarre time-loop they're caught in? (9-12)

Blue Mountain Trouble

by Martin Mordecai

(Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-545-04156-0

In a small Jamaican village, eleven-year-old twins Pollyread and Jackson deal with difficult changes--some of them quite unexpected. (11-13)

Confetti Girl

by Diana López

(Little, Brown, \$15.99) 978-0-316-02955-1

Two contemporary Mexican-American girls in Texas try to get their parents together. Spanish sayings are scattered throughout. (9-12)

Cursing Columbus

by Eve Tal

(Cinco Puntos, \$16.95) 978-1-933693-59-0

Raizel expects joy and fulfillment as Mama, her brother, and sister finally emigrate to America, but her courage is further tested. (9-12)

Dancing Through the Snow

by Jean Little

(Kane/Miller, \$15.99) 978-1-935279-15-0

Abandoned when she was little and having experienced four foster homes, eleven-year-old Min is wary and surprised at the turn her life has taken. (9-12)

***The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate**

by Jacqueline Kelly

(Henry Holt, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-8841-0

In 1899 Texas, the only girl in a large family is torn between her scientific aspirations and traditional family roles. (9-12)

***Extra Credit**

by Andrew Clements

(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-4929-9

Abby in Illinois and Sadeed in Afghanistan connect as pen pals and confront the misconceptions and hostility of two very different cultures. (10-14)

Faith, Hope, and Ivy June

by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

(Delacorte, \$16.99) 978-0-385-73615-2

What can two Kentucky girls of very different backgrounds learn about city and rural life as they participate in a seventh-grade exchange program? (9-12)

The Georges and the Jewels

by Jane Smiley, illus. Elaine Clayton
(Knopf, \$16.99) 978-0-375-86227-4

In 1960s California, seventh-grader Abby works on her family's horse farm while coping with her strict father and school problems. (10-14)

Here's How I See It - Here's How It Is

by Heather Henson
(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-4901-5

Twelve-year-old aspiring actress Junebug tries to make her theatrical family's life look more like her dreams. (9-12)

***Love, Aubrey**

by Suzanne LaFleur
(Wendy Lamb, \$15.99) 978-0-385-73774-6

An eleven-year-old girl struggles to rebuild her life after a car accident kills her father and sister. (10-12)

Lucky Breaks

by Susan Patron, illustrated by Matt Phelan
(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-3998-6

Lucky's intrepidness and jealousy get her into trouble, but friends help get her out again. (10-12)

Markus and the Girls

by Klaus Hagerup
(Front Street, \$17.95) 978-1-59078-520-1

Young teen Markus is growing up in today's Norway and finds that his relationships with girls are always changing. (11-13)

***The Mealworm Diaries**

by Anna Kerz
(Orca, P\$9.95) 978-1-55143-982-2

After a terrible accident, Jeremy faces many challenges, including adjusting to a new school and having the class's social outcast as his science partner. (10-13)

My Life in Pink and Green

by Lisa Greenwald
(Amulet, \$16.95) 978-0-8109-8352-6

Can twelve-year-old Lucy save her family's pharmacy? (9-13)

Notes from the Dog

by Gary Paulsen
(Wendy Lamb, \$15.99) 978-0-385-73845-3

During a summer vacation that he had planned to spend alone, fourteen-year-old Finn finds his outlook on life changed by a new neighbor. (10-14)

Pieces of Me

by Charlotte Gingras, trans. by Susan Ouriou
(Kids Can, \$17.95) 978-1-55453-242-1

A lonely teen discovers her own strength after she comes face to face with boys, parents, teachers, diet, dreams, and art. (11-13)

Road to Tater Hill

by Edith M. Hemingway
(Delacorte, \$16.99) 978-0-385-73677-0

One day is just not long enough for a baby sister to live. Annie's longed for mountain summer is not working out. (9-12)

Runaway Twin

by Peg Kehret

(Dutton, \$16.99) 978-0-525-42177-1

After a difficult journey to unite with her twin, Sunny realizes that home is where there is love and caring. (10-14)

Secrets, Lies and My Sister Kate

by Belinda Hollyer

(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2179-4

Mini's big sister Kate has been acting odd lately. Is there a family secret? Does Mini really want to know? (9-11)

Solving Zoe

by Barbara Dee

(McElderry, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-6128-4

Sixth-grader Zoe learns about her family, skills, and friendships when she discovers her talent for cryptography. (9-12)

Standing for Socks

by Elissa Brent Weissman

(Atheneum, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-4801-8

Sixth-grader Fara finds that individuality and conformity are not nearly as different as they seem, but ultimately succeeds in true expression. (10-12)

***Tofu Quilt**

by Ching Yeung Russell

(Lee & Low, \$16.95) 978-1-60060-423-2

The life and dreams of a young girl growing up in Hong Kong in the 1950s vividly unfolds in blank verse. (8-11)

Wild Girl

by Patricia Reilly Giff

(Wendy Lamb, \$15.99) 978-0-375-83890-3

Twelve-year-old Lidie arrives in New York from Brazil, and a young foal leaves its mare. Their parallel journeys are marked by growth in new environments. (9-11)

***Wild Things**

by Clay Carmichael

(Front Street, \$18.95) 978-1-59078-627-7

After 11-year-old Zoe leaves her miserable former existence, she and a stray cat share a yearning to trust and love near the enchanting Carolina woods. (9-12)

The Year the Swallows Came Early

by Kathryn Fitzmaurice

(HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-162497-1

"Groovy" Robinson is furious with her father who has gambled away her inheritance. Can she forgive him as she becomes more self-reliant? (9-12)

FANTASY

Archipelago

by David Ward

(Fitzhenry & Whiteside, P\$12.95) 978-0-88995-400-7

Twelve-year-old Jonah accompanies his science-photographer mother to remote Canadian islands where he experiences an exciting time shift. (10-12)

The Blue Shoe

by Roderick Townley, illustrated by Mary GrandPré

(Knopf, \$16.99) 978-0-375-85600-6

Greed and villainy put thirteen-year-olds Hap and Sophie through very hard times, but good triumphs. (9-12)

The Books of UMBER:

Happenstance Found

by P.W. Catanese

(Aladdin, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-7519-9

When twelve-year-old Happenstance wakes, he has no idea who he is. Lord UMBER protects him in this story of other times and places. (8-12)

The Dragon of Trelan

by Michelle Knudsen

(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-3455-1

A mage-in-training, a resourceful princess, and a young dragon just coming into his powers team up to save the kingdom of Trelan. (9-12)

The Farwalker's Quest

by Joni Sensel

(Bloomsbury, \$16.99) 978-1-59990-272-2

Twelve-year-olds Ariel and Zeke uncover special talents that bring hope to a war torn land. (9-13)

The Giant-Slayer

by Iain Lawrence

(Delacorte, \$16.99) 978-0-385-73376-2

Laurie's magical stories of dragons, gnomes, and a fearless young hero allow children confined to iron-lung machines to travel beyond the confines of the polio ward. (10-13)

Jake Ransom and the Skull King's Shadow

by James Rollins

(HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-147379-1

Jake and sister Kady time-travel to ancient Mayan Belize to unravel the mystery of an artifact found by their missing archaeologist parents. (10-14)

***The Magician's Elephant**

by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Yoko Tanaka

(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4410-9

Peter, a ten-year-old orphan, meets a fortune teller, setting off a remarkable chain of events and a search for his sister, once presumed dead. (11-14)

The Museum of Mary Child

by Cassandra Golds

(Kane/Miller, \$16.99) 978-1-935279-13-6

There is neither beauty nor love in Heloise's life, but, with a little magic, she finds both in a haunting fairy tale. (10-12)

Odd and the Frost Giants

by Neil Gaiman, illustrated by Brett Helquist

(HarperCollins, \$14.99) 978-0-06-167173-9

Odd undertakes a quest to save Asgard, home of the gods, in a wonderfully cadenced story based on Norse mythology. (9-12)

Princess of the Midnight Ball

by Jessica Day George

(Bloomsbury, \$16.99) 978-1-59990-322-4

The twelve dancing princesses are saved from their debilitating curse by a clever and courageous young gardener in this refreshing retelling. (9-11)

Sea of the Dead

by Julia Durango

(S&S, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-5778-2

When the Fallen King kidnaps the son of the Warrior Prince, he learns surprising truths about his empire and his family. (8-12)

The Troll's Eyes View:

A Book of Villainous Tales

edited by Ellen Datlow, and Terri Windling

(Viking, \$16.99) 978-0-670-06141-9

With tales that range from funny to creepy, well-known authors rewrite classic fairy stories from the villain's point of view. (10-13)

The Unfinished Angel

by Sharon Creech

(HarperCollins, \$15.99) 978-0-06-143095-4

When an angel encounters Zola, a colorful young American girl with a mission, life in a small Swiss mountain village turns upside-down. (10-12)

***When You Reach Me**

by Rebecca Stead

(Wendy Lamb, \$15.99) 978-0-385-73742-5

Is time travel possible? Who is sending mysterious notes to a sixth grader in 1970s New York City? (11-13)

***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**

written and illustrated by Grace Lin

(Little, Brown, \$16.99) 978-0-316-11427-1

Enchanted by her father's stories, Minli sets off on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon and her family's fortune. Inspired by many Chinese folk tales and enriched with jewel-like illustrations. (8-12)

FOLK

***The Beautiful Stories of Life:**

Six Greek Myths, Retold

by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Carson Ellis

(Harcourt, \$16.00) 978-0-15-206184-5

Tales of Pandora, Psyche, and four other characters of Greek mythology are retold with elegance and clarity and complemented by delicate black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

Clay Man:

The Golem of Prague

retold by Irene N. Watts, illustrated by Kathryn E. Shoemaker

(Tundra, \$19.95) 978-0-88776-880-4

In a sixteenth-century ghetto, a young boy watches his rabbi father mold a huge figure out of clay hoping he'll protect the Jewish people during dangerous times. (9-12)

Persephone

by Sally Pomme Clayton, illustrated by Virginia Lee

(Eerdmans, \$18.00) 978-0-8028-5349-3

Lyrical text and richly detailed illustrations tell the Greek myth that explains why there is winter. (7-9)

HISTORICAL FICTION

Al Capone Shines My Shoes

by Gennifer Choldenko

(Dial, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-3460-9

Living on Alcatraz with his prison-guard father, Moose asked Al Capone for help. Funny, exciting sequel to *Al Capone Does My Shirts*. (9-12)

***Bloodline**

by Katy Moran

(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4083-5

In Anglo-Saxon Britain, two boys from warring tribes form an unusual bond. (9-12)

Born to Fly

by Michael Ferrari

(Delacorte, \$15.99) 978-0-385-73715-9

Eleven-year-old Bird McGill realizes her dream in an unexpected adventure set in World War II Rhode Island where anti-Japanese feeling is high. (9-11)

Chasing Lincoln's Killer

by James L. Swanson

(Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-439-90354-7

The plot to assassinate our sixteenth president, followed by the search for his killer, is related as a thrilling mystery. (10-12)

A Faraway Island

by Annika Thor

(Delacorte, \$16.99) 978-0-385-73617-6

Stephanie and Nellie are sent to foster families in Sweden to avoid the horrors of persecution in Vienna. (9-12)

Guardian Angel House:

A Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers

by Kathy Clark

(Second Story Press, P\$14.95) 978-1-897187-58-6

Twelve-year-old Susan and her six-year-old sister Vera are among 120 Jewish girls hidden from the Nazis in a Budapest convent. Based on a true story. (9-11)

Gwen

by Carolyn Pogue

(Sumach Press, P\$12.95) 978-1-894549-80-6

Gwen, orphaned in London at a young age, is sent to Canada to earn her living as a maid. Based on the life of the author's grandmother at the end of the nineteenth century. (9-11)

***January's Sparrow**

written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco

(Philomel, \$22.99) 978-0-399-25077-4

Sadie and her family flee North, after her "adopted brother" is whipped to death on a Kentucky plantation. Strong marker and pencil illustrations. (10-13)

***Leo and the Lesser Lion**

by Sandra Forrester

(Knopf, \$16.99) 978-0-375-85616-7

In 1932 in rural Alabama, Bayliss learns that she is not the only family member trying to deal with the accidental death of her older brother. (9-12)

Mind Your Manners, Alice Roosevelt!

by Leslie Kimmelman, illustrated by Adam Gustavson

(Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-492-1

Alice is a vivacious, almost uncontrollable challenge to her father, Teddy Roosevelt, in a new look at the White House. Funny, detailed oil paintings. (8-10)

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg

by Rodman Philbrick

(Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-439-66818-7

Eleven-year-old Homer searches for his older brother in the Union Army and encounters a confederate spy, a noble preacher, a balloonist, and even the Battle of Gettysburg. (10-12)

My Brother Abe

by Harry Mazer

(S&S, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-3884-2

Abe Lincoln's older sister, Sally, was teacher, friend, and sometimes mother, enduring with him the difficult life of a frontier family. (8-11)

Newsgirl

by Liza Ketchum

(Viking, \$17.99) 978-0-670-01119-3

Arriving with her family in California in 1851, Amelia confronts adversity--because she is a girl--in her attempt to earn money by selling newspapers. (9-13)

Pippo the Fool

by Tracey E. Fern, illustrated by Pau Estrada

(Charlesbridge, \$15.95) 978-1-57091-655-7

In fifteenth-century Florence, a clever man creates a magnificent dome for the town's cathedral, one that may still be seen today. Based on a true story. (8-11)



Road to Revolution!

by Susan Champlin, written and illustrated by Stan Mack

(Bloomsbury, P\$10.99) 978-1-59990-371-2

Two teenagers become involved in the American Revolution in this portrayal of the events leading up to the war. An epilogue indicates the differences between fact and fiction. (9-12)

The Rock and the River

by Kekla Magoon

(Aladdin, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-7582-3

Though his father preaches non-violence, Sam's older brother gets involved with the Black Panthers. Which one will Sam follow? (9-14)

***Roman Diary:**

The Journal of Iliona of Mytilini, Who Was Captured and Sold as a Slave in Rome, A.D. 107

by Richard Platt, illustrated by David Parkins

(Candlewick, \$18.99) 978-0-7636-3480-3

In this fictional diary, a wealthy Greek girl who has become a Roman slave reveals the differences between Greek and Roman culture. Detailed watercolors. (9-12)

Secrets of Greymoor

by Clara Gillow Clark

(Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-3249-6

Eleven-year-old Hattie needs friends and lies about her circumstances to gain them. A secret code leads her to important truths. (9-12)

***T4:**

A Novel in Verse

by Ann Clare LeZotte

(HMH, \$14.00) 978-0-547-04684-6

A deaf girl living in Nazi Germany must go into hiding to be safe from Hitler's death decree against disabled people. (10-12)

***When the Whistle Blows**

by Fran Cannon Slayton

(Philomel, \$16.99) 978-0-399-25189-4

Life in a small West Virginia train town in the 1940s is depicted in a series of Halloween vignettes. (10-12)

HUMOR

100% Wolf

by Jayne Lyons, illustrated by Victor Rivas

(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-7474-1

When Freddy turns into a poodle instead of a werewolf, his heroic adventures begin. (9-11)

Abigail Iris:

The One and Only

by Lisa Glatt and Suzanne Greenberg, illustrated by Joy Allen

(Walker, \$14.99) 978-0-8027-9782-7

Abigail goes on vacation with her best friend and experiences San Francisco and a very different kind of family. (7-9)

***Alvin Ho:**

Allergic to Camping, Hiking, and Other Natural Disasters

by Lenore Look, illustrated by LeUyen Pham

(S&W, \$15.99) 978-0-375-85705-8

With the help of his dad and the support of his uncle, Alvin conquers his fears. Both text and black-and-white illustrations are delightfully humorous. (8-11)

The Christmas Genie

by Dan Gutman, illustrated by Dan Santat

(S&S, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-9001-7

A genie raises the possibility that a class can agree on one wish. (9-11)

David Mortimore Baxter:

Famous!

by Karen Tayleur

(Stone Arch Books, \$25.32) 978-1-4342-1196-5

Hilarity ensues when David Baxter's family agrees to be in a reality TV program. (8-10)

***Diary of a Wimpy Kid:**

The Last Straw

written and illustrated by Jeff Kinney

(Amulet, \$12.95) 978-0-8109-7068-7

Greg's antics and fast-paced adventures to avoid being toughened up by his father are presented with deadpan humor and clever cartoons. (8-12)

Dying to Meet You:

43 Old Cemetery Road: Book One

by Kate Klise, illustrated by M. Sarah Klise

(Harcourt, \$15.00) 978-0-15-205727-5

Two unexpected residents of his rented house aggravate, then aid, author I. B. Grumpy. Told through letters and other primary source documents. Entertaining ink sketches. (8-11)

THE GECKO & STICKY:

The Greatest Power

Villain's Lair

by Wendelin Van Draanen, illustrated by Stephen Gilpin

(Knopf, \$12.99) 978-0-375-84377-8, 978-0-375-84376-1

In these energetic romps, thirteen-year-old Dave and his sidekick Sticky engage in battles. Humorous black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)

Melonhead

by Katy Kelly, illustrated by Gillian Johnson

(Delacorte, \$12.99) 978-0-385-73409-7

Third-grader Melonhead's ideas often get him into trouble--and zany adventures. (8-10)

Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Practicing the Piano:

(But She Does Love Being in Recitals)

by Peggy Gifford, photos by Valorie Fisher

(S&W, \$12.99) 978-0-375-84488-1

Another visit to the amusing Maxwell household finds Moxy preparing in her unique way for a piano recital. Funny but realistic. (7-10)

The Problem with the Puddles

by Kate Feiffer, illustrated by Tricia Tusa

(S&S, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-4961-9

A most exasperating family deals with their beloved lost dogs. Line drawings. (8-12)

SCIENCE FICTION

Alien Expedition

by Pamela F. Service, illustrated by Mike Gorman

(Carolrhoda, \$16.95) 978-0-8225-8870-2

Zack, a young alien, is sent to Mongolia to ensure that a Targizian expedition doesn't disrupt interplanetary relations. Dynamic black-and-white illustrations. (10-12)

Herbert's Wormhole:

A Novel in Cartoons

by Peter Nelson and Rohitash Rao

(HarperCollins, \$12.99) 978-0-06-168868-3

A play date with a brilliant young inventor results in hilarious, wacky adventures in the future. Lively black-and-white illustrations. (10-12)

SPORTS

***The Girl Who Threw Butterflies**

by Mick Cochrane

(Knopf, \$15.99) 978-0-375-85682-2

Molly keeps the memory of her dead father vivid by using his favorite knuckleball which wins her a place on the baseball team. (10-14)

Million-Dollar Throw

by Mike Lupica

(Philomel, \$17.99) 978-0-399-24626-5

Eighth-grade quarterback Nate deals courageously with family problems, his best friend's impending blindness, and his chance to win a million dollars. (9-13)

Top of the Order

by John Coy

(Feiwel, \$16.99) 978-0-312-37329-0

Can a Little League team adjust to having a girl play second base for them? (8-10)

TODAY

Also Known as Harper

by Ann Haywood Leal

(Henry Holt, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-8881-6

Fifth-grader Harper loves poetry--especially her own. When family circumstances preclude her appearing in the poetry contest, Harper finds a way. (10-12)

City Boy

by Jan Michael

(Clarion, \$16.00) 978-0-547223-10-0

When Sam's mother dies of AIDS, he must move from Malawi's capital to a small village to live with his aunt's family. (10-12)

The Dog Days of Charlotte Hayes

by Marlane Kennedy

(Greenwillow, \$15.99) 978-0-06-145241-3

Although not thrilled about caring for her family's drooling Saint Bernard, Charlotte is concerned about his fate. (8-11)

***The Enemy:**

A Book about Peace

by Davide Cali, illustrated by Serge Bloch

(S&W, \$15.99) 978-0-375-84500-0

Two enemy soldiers have been taught to believe the worst about each other and wonder if war is necessary. Spare but effective line drawings. (8-10)

Just Grace Goes Green

by Charise Mericle Harper

(HMH, \$16.00) 978-0-618-95957-0

Grace and her classmates avidly engage in reducing, reusing, and recycling projects. Amusing black-and-white illustrations. (8-10)

The Kind of Friends We Used to Be

by Frances O’Roark Dowell

(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-5031-8

Twelve-year-old friends since preschool grow apart as their interests become more and more diverse. A wise and appealing depiction of middle school crises. (10-12)

Neil Armstrong is My Uncle & Other Lies Muscle Man McGinty Told Me

by Nan Marino

(Roaring Brook, \$16.95) 978-1-59643-499-8

In this humorous first-person narrative set on Long Island in 1969, ten-year-old Tammy finds herself bullying the new kid on the block when he wants to become her friend. (8-11)

***Peace, Locomotion**

by Jacqueline Woodson

(Putnam, \$15.99) 978-0-399-24655-5

Brother and sister Lonnie and Lili live in different foster families, but letters, visits, and supportive caregivers nurture hope and memories of family. (9-12)

Special Edward

by Eric Walters

(Orca, \$9.95) 978-1-55469-092-3

To make school easier and get the privileges of special education students, Ed pretends he has a series of learning difficulties--and discovers he really does. (10-12)

Sunny Holiday

by Coleen Murtagh Paratore

(Scholastic, \$15.99) 978-0-545-07579-4

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