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)
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, $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, $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  
(Down, $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 Trelian**
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 Trelian. (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
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
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 Shoes*. (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 Ferrara  
(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, $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 Taybeur
(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 Tirgizian 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
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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)

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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)

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