FICTION

Adventure and Mystery

Amazon (Worst Case Scenario Ultimate Adventure series)
by David Borgenicht and Hena Khan, with Ed Stafford (Amazon consultant), illustrated by Yancey Labat (Chronicle, $12.99) 978-1-4521-0795-0
Teens join a six month trek along the Amazon River from its source to its mouth, with multiple choices that spell disaster or survival. Bold black-and-white illustrations. (9-14)

The Bell Bandit (The Lemonade War series)
by Jacqueline Davies, illustrated by Cara Llewellyn (Houghton Mifflin/HMH, $15.99) 978-0-547-56737-2
When the New Year’s bell goes missing, Jessie enlists her new friend, Maxwell to use his unusual skills to solve the mystery. Black-and-white pen and ink illustrations. (9-12)

Charlie Collier: Snoop for Hire: The Homemade Stuffing Caper
by John V. Madormo (Philomel/Penguin, $15.99) 978-0-399-25543-4
Twelve-year-old Charlie, who loves solving mysteries and brain teasers, opens a detective agency in his garage. (9-12)

Deadly Seas (Worst Case Scenario Ultimate Adventure series)
by David Borgenicht and Alexander Lurie, with Mike Perham (sailing consultant), illustrated by Yancey Labat (Chronicle, $12.99) 978-1-4521-0917-6
Six teens sail around the world. Extensive notes in the back challenge the reader to decide if the group survives. Bold black-and-white illustrations. (9-14)

*The Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict (The Mysterious Benedict Society series)
by Trenton Lee Stewart, illustrated by Diana Sudyka (Little, Brown/Hachette, $17.99) 978-0-316-17619-4
Nicholas, a young orphan with exceptional powers of memory and observation, attempts to outwit bullies, make friends, and solve a mystery that will decide his future. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

The Humming Room
by Ellen Potter (Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-0-312-64438-3
Twelve-year-old orphan Roo discovers a new family and a secret garden in her mysterious uncle’s remote island mansion. (9-12)

Ice Island
by Sherry Shahan (Delacorte/Random House, $15.99) 978-0-385-74154-5
In Alaska, thirteen-year-old Tatum dreams of participating in the Iditarod, but instead finds herself in a battle to survive. (10-13)

*Iron Hearted Violet
by Kelly Barnhill, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno (Little, Brown/Hachette, $16.99) 978-0-316-05673-1
An unorthodox princess—plain and clever—goes on a mission to save her family and her kingdom. Detailed black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

*Kepler’s Dream
by Juliet Bell (G.P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin , $16.99) 978-0-399-25645-5
Eleven-year-old Ella has an unexpectedly good summer with her forbidding grandmother as she makes a friend while learning about stars and solving a mystery. (9-13)
Adventure and Mystery, continued

**Madhattan Mystery**
by John J. Bonk
(Walker/Bloomsbury, $16.99) 978-0-8027-2349-9
Suburbanites twelve-year-old Lexi and her brother Kevin team up with Kim Ling Levine to solve the mystery of the theft of Cleopatra’s jewels from the Metropolitan Museum. (8-11)

**The Mastermind Plot**
by Angie Frazier
(Scholastic, $16.99) 978-0-545-20864-2
In 1904 eleven-year-old Suzanna investigates a case of art theft and arson and uncovers her own family’s secrets. Sequel to *The Midnight Tunnel*. (9-12)

**Neil Flambé and the Aztec Abduction**
written and illustrated by Kevin Sylvester
(Simon & Schuster, $12.99) 978-1-4424-4607-6
In Mexico City, kidnapping threats interfere with a young chef’s quest to win the prize as best chef in the Aztec Cocina. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

**Neil Flambé and the Crusader’s Curse**
written and illustrated by Kevin Sylvester
(Simon & Schuster, $12.99) 978-1-4424-4286-3
A series of harrowing events compel a teen champion chef and his friends to discover the source of a medieval curse on his family. Black-and-white illustrations. (8-12)

**Neil Flambé and the Marco Polo Murders**
written and illustrated by Kevin Sylvester
(Simon & Schuster, $12.99) 978-1-4424-4604-5
A teen superchef uses his extraordinary sense of smell to solve a string of murders. Good, tasty fun. Black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)

**Penelope Crumb**
by Shawn K. Stout, illustrated by Valeria Docampo
(Philomel/Penguin, $14.99) 978-0-399-25728-5
The discovery that she has her grandfather’s large nose leads imaginative, quirky fourth grader, Penelope, to search for him. An unusual, humorous mystery. Black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)

**Riley Mack and the Other Known Troublemakers**
by Chris Grabenstein
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-202620-0
Twelve-year-old Riley and his friends defeat the school bully and help capture dognappers and bank robbers. (9-12)

**The Secret Journeys of Jack London: Book Two—The Sea Wolves**
by Christopher Golden and Tim Lebbon, illustrated by Greg Ruth
Young Jack is abducted aboard a pirate ship with a captain and crew of werewolves. He manages to be the victor with the help of a strange woman. Expressive black-and-white illustrations. (10-14)

**Secrets of Shakespeare’s Grave**
by Deron R. Hicks, illustrated by Mark Edward Geyer
(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, $16.99) 978-0-547-84034-5
Teenage siblings Colophon and Case Letterford put aside their rivalries and work together to save the family’s 400-year-old publishing business. Black-and-white pen and ink line drawings. (9-12)

**Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of Black Peter**
by the stories of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, adapted by Murray Shaw and M. J. Cosson, illustrated by Sophie Rohrbach and J. T. Morrow
(Graphic Universe, $27.93) 978-0-7613-7092-5
The famous detective lets you in on his deductive reasoning as he discovers who murdered a nasty seaman. Dynamic graphics enliven the mystery. Bibliography and background information. (8-12)
**Adventure and Mystery, continued**

**Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Cardboard Box**
based on the stories of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, adapted by Murray Shaw and M. J. Cosson, illustrated by Sophie Rohrbach and J. T. Morrow (Graphic Universe, $27.93)  978-0-7613-7090-1
Join the master sleuth who solves a double murder and explains his brilliant reasoning. Graphic art in a muted palette adds to the suspense. Bibliography and background information. (8-12)

**The Spindlers**
by Lauren Oliver, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno (Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99)  978-0-06-197808-1
When Liza’s little brother goes missing, she knows she needs to save him by going Below; facing fears and uncertainty, she is a heroine to be admired. Elegant black-and-white illustrations. (8-12)

**Spy School**
by Stuart Gibbs
(Simon & Schuster, $15.99)  978-1-4424-2182-0
Can a kid become a superstar secret agent? Twelve-year-old Ben leaves his public school to attend the CIA’s secret Espionage Academy (9-14)

**Summer at Forsaken Lake**
Learning to sail and solving a family mystery create an unforgettable summer for twelve-year-old Nicholas, his ten-year-old twin sisters, and his new friend, Charlie. Subtly shaded black-and-white illustrations. (8-12)

**Tua and the Elephant**
by R. P. Harris, illustrated by Taeun Yoo (Chronicle, $16.99)  978-0-8118-7781-7
Tua, a young Thai girl, releases an abused elephant from its chains. Can she find a safe place for the elephant without being caught herself? Colorful illustrations rendered in charcoal, linoleum block print, and Photoshop. (8-11)

**Vanishing Acts**
by Leslie Margolis
(Bloomsbury, $15.99)  978-1-5990-536-5
Who’s egging dogs in Prospect Park and where is the young star of a film being shot there? Can Maggie Brooklyn solve these two mysteries? (9-12)

**The Voyage of Lucy P. Simmons**
by Barbara Mariconda
(Katherine Tegen/HarperCollins, $16.99)  978-0-06-211979-7
After Lucy’s parents drown, a mysterious woman comes to her defense against a greedy uncle’s bid for her grand house and family fortune. (9-12)

**Zip**
by Ellie Rollins
(Razorbill/Penguin, $16.99)  978-1-59514-570-3
Thirteen-year-old Lyssa sets off on her scooter to save her deceased mother’s house and encounters many obstacles as she journeys across half the country and discovers more about herself. (10-13)

**Animals (Fiction)**

**Malcolm at Midnight**
by W. H. Beck, illustrated by Brian Lies
(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, $16.99)  978-0-547-68100-9
A small rat, posing as a classroom pet mouse, proves himself to be a “critter of valor and merit.” This exciting, satisfying animal mystery deserves a sequel. Black-and-white pencil and powdered graphite illustrations. (8-11)
Animals (Fiction), continued

On the Road to Mr. Mineo’s
by Barbara O’Connor
(Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-0-374-38002-1
Stella is determined to catch a one-legged pigeon she calls Harvey, but it seems that everyone else in her South Carolina town is too. (8-11)

*The One and Only Ivan
by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Patricia Casteleo
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-199225-4
Ivan, a silverback gorilla, must entertain customers in the tacky Big Top Mall. Can Ivan’s artistic talents save a baby elephant from the same fate? Soulful half-tone illustrations add dimension to the animal characters. (8-11)

One Dog and His Boy
by Eva Ibbotson
(Scholastic, $16.99) 978-0-545-35196-6
Hal, a pampered ten-year-old, wants one thing—a dog. But the dog is rented and goes home after the weekend. What can Hal do? (8-12)

Coming of Age

The Art of Miss Chew
written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco
(Putnam/Penguin, $17.99) 978-0-399-25703-2
A long-term substitute teacher sees only her reading difficulty, but Trisha’s talent is nurtured when Mr. Donovan sends her to Miss Chew’s special art class. Colorful representational paintings. (8-11)

Buddy
by M. H. Herlong
(Viking/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-670-01403-3
Twelve-year-old Li’l T, his three-legged dog, Buddy, and a close-knit family face the hardship brought on by Hurricane Katrina and learn about survival and letting go. (10-13)

Caddy’s World
by Hilary McKay
(McElderry/S&S, $16.99) 978-1-4424-4105-7
Friends and family define twelve-year-old Cadmium “Caddy” Casson’s world, but now everything is changing. Stand-alone prequel to the Casson family series. (10-13)

Chained
by Lynne Kelly
(Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-0-374-31237-4
A poor ten-year-old South Indian boy, Hastin, becomes an elephant keeper to help his sister afford necessary medical care. Fascinating elephant lore. (9-14)

Child of the Mountains
by Marilyn Sue Shank
(Delacorte/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-385-74079-1
In 1953 twelve-year-old Lydia confronts poverty, family deaths, and secrets in the Appalachian Mountains of West Virginia. (9-13)

Crush: The Theory, Practice and Destructive Properties of Love
by Gary Paulsen
(Wendy Lamb/Random House, $12.99) 978-0-385-74230-6
In this zany romp, eighth grader Kevin collects data on romance, using his friends as subjects to approach his great love successfully. (10–13)

The Dogs of Winter
by Bobbie Pyron
(Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic, $16.99) 978-0-545-39930-2
Five-year-old Ivan finds himself on the streets of Moscow alone. A pack of dogs accepts him as their own through the harsh winter and beyond. (9-13)
Coming of Age, continued

Don’t Feed the Boy
by Irene Latham, illustrated by Stephanie Graegin
(Roaring Brook/Macmillan, $15.99) 978-1-59643-755-5
A lonely eleven-year-old, tutored and living in the Alabama zoo his parents run, acquires a friend and learns about life outside the zoo. Black and white drawings. (9-12)

Eva of the Farm
by Dia Calhoun, illustrated by Kate Slater
(Atheneum/S&S, $16.99) 978-1-4424-1700-7
Life on an apple farm in eastern Washington is inspiring to a young poet but challenging for the family during hard economic times. Written in blank verse. Collagelike illustrations. (11-13)

The Island Horse
by Susan Hughes, illustrated by Alicia Quist
(Kids Can Press, $16.95) 978-1-55453-592-7
Because of her father’s work, Ellie relocates to a lonely, windy Canadian island where wild horses roam. Who will be her new friends? Detailed, finely drawn black-and-white illustrations. (8-12)

Jake and Lily
by Jerry Spinelli
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $15.99) 978-0-06-028135-9
Lily and Jake tell their stories, exploring their bond as twins. As they grow, each develops an individual life. (8-12)

Justin Case: Shells, Smells, and the Horrible Flip-Flops of Doom
by Rachel Vail, illustrated by Matthew Cordell
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-1-250-00081-1
Justin is an excellent worrier. But having survived third grade, he thinks he should try going to day camp, despite his parents’ misgivings. Can he do it? Humorous black-and-white illustrations add to the fun. (8-10)

Keeping Safe the Stars
by Sheila O’Connor
(Putnam/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-399-25459-8
In 1974 in the Midwest, after their grandfather becomes ill, Pride attempts to keep her family together and avoid a return to foster care. (10-13)

Kizzy Ann Stamps
by Jeri Watts
(Candlewick, $15.99) 978-0-7636-5895-3
In the first year of integration in her Virginia school, Kizzy Ann faces many challenges. Shag, a Border Collie, gives her loving support and the chance to develop skills. (9-12)

Letters to Leo
by Amy Hest, illustrated by Julia Denos
(Candlewick, $14.99) 978-0-7636-3695-1
Annie writes letters to her new dog, revealing the inner life of a New York City fourth grader who has lost her mother. Engaging sketches. (8-12)

*Liar & Spy
by Rebecca Stead
(Wendy Lamb/Random House, $15.99) 978-0-385-73743-2
When his dad loses his job and the family must move to an apartment, Georges meets Safer, who involves him in spying on another neighbor, Mr. X. (10-13)

Love, Amalia
by Alma Flor Ada and Gabriel M. Zubizarreta
(Atheneum/S&S, $15.99) 978-1-4424-2402-9
A sixth-grade girl deals with the loss of her beloved grandmother through the discovery of her rich Hispanic cultural heritage. (8-11)

Minnie McClary Speaks Her Mind
by Valerie Hobbs
(Francis Foster Books/FSG/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-0-374-32496-4
A new teacher inspires quiet sixth grader Minnie and her friend Amira to ask questions, think critically, and stand up for justice. (9-13)
Coming of Age, continued

The Moon over High Street
by Natalie Babbitt
(Michael di Capua/Scholastic, $15.95) 978-0-545-37636-5
Mr. Boulderwall, a millionaire, has big plans for orphan Joe’s future, but Joe has dreams of his own. (9-12)

My Mixed-Up Berry Blue Summer
by Jennifer Gennari
(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, $15.99) 978-0-547-57739-5
Twelve-year-old June really wants to win the Pie Competition, but coming to terms with her mother’s civil union to Eva is the real challenge. (8-12)

Nikki & Deja: Wedding Drama
by Karen English, illustrated by Laura Freeman
(Clarion/HMH, $14.99) 978-0-61564-6
When Ms. Shelby gets married, she invites two representatives from her elementary school class to the festivities. Wedding fever infects the group and affects two dear friends. Textured black-and-white illustrations. (8–12)

The Normal Kid
by Elizabeth Holmes
(Carolrhoda/Lerner, $17.95) 978-0-7613-8085-6
Fifth grader Sylvan, adjusting to his parents’ break-up, just wants to be normal. Charity and Brian help him see that life is complicated. (10-13)

One for the Murphys
by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-399-25615-8
Twelve-year-old Carley is placed in foster care after her stepfather badly beats her and her mother. Can kind Mrs. Murphy and her happy family break through Carley’s defenses? (9-12)

One White Dolphin
by Gill Lewis, illustrated by Raquel Aparicio
(Atheneum/S&S, $15.99) 978-1-4424-1447-1
In a failing English fishing village, twelve-year-old Kara and Felix join forces to save a baby dolphin and discover ways to heal themselves. (10-13)

One Year in Coal Harbor
by Polly Horvath
(Schwartz & Wade/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-375-86970-9
Twelve-year-old Primrose tries to resolve what she sees as problems in her small fishing town, but sometimes she is misunderstood! Companion to Everything on a Waffle. (9-12)

Outcasts of River Falls
by Jacqueline Guest
(Coteau, P $9.95) 978-1-55050-480-4
When Kathryn, now orphaned, is sent to live with Aunt Belle in Western Canada, she learns that she is one of the Métis, a mixed-race people who have no rights. She fights for justice. (8-12)

Pie in the Sky
by Jane Smiley, illustrated by Elaine Clayton
(Knopf/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-375-86968-6
Abby has great empathy for her horse’s feelings. As she enters high school, she learns to care about another girl’s feelings as well. Finely detailed black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

Seeing Cinderella
by Jenny Lundquist
(Aladdin/S&S, $15.99) 978-1-4424-4550-5
Callie’s new glasses see more than what’s before her. Insight into her friends’ thinking deepens this middle-schooler’s vision. (9-13)
**Coming of Age, continued**

*Summer of the Gypsy Moths*
by Sara Pennypacker
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $15.99)  
978-0-06-196420-6
When Great-Aunt Louise dies unexpectedly, her eleven-year-olds wards, grandniece Stella and a foster child, Angel, must find a way to survive in unimaginable circumstances. (9-12)

**Ten Good and Bad Things about My Life (So Far)**
by Ann M. Martin
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, $16.99)  
978-0-312-64299-0
A canceled vacation trip and a fight with her best friend are among the many things fifth grader Pearl has to deal with after her father loses his job. (8-10)

**True Colors**
by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock
(Knopf/Random House, $15.99)  
978-0-375-86099-7
The Korean War is raging, England is preparing for Elizabeth II’s coronation, and Blue Spooner, an orphan abandoned as an infant, is searching for her mother. (9-12)

**The Whole Story of Half a Girl**
by Veera Hiranandani
(Delacorte/Random House, $16.99)  
978-0-385-74128-6
No one at the public school looks like Sonia—half South Indian, half Jewish. She uses her talents to try to make friends and find herself. (8-11)

**Fantasy**

**Always October**
by Bruce Coville
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99)  
978-0-06-089095-7
After the baby found on twelve-year-old Jake’s doorstep turns into a monster, he and best friend Lily go to the land of Always October to find out why. (9-12)

**Beauty and the Beast: The Only One Who Didn’t Run Away**
by Wendy Mass
(Scholastic, $16.99)  
978-0-545-31018-5
Beauty, an adventurous heroine, and Beast, a former prince with a scientific mind, come together to break a witch’s curse. Adapted from the classic tale. (9-12)

**Bewitching**
by Alex Flinn
(HarperTeen/HarperCollins, $17.99)  
978-0-06-202414-5
Kendra, a delightful but not totally successful witch, tells of her youth during the 1666 plague. Modern and ancient experiences weave together via the warp of magic and the weft of historical events. (10-14)

**The Book of Wonders**
by Jasmine Richards
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99)  
978-0-06-201007-0
To defeat an evil sultan, thirteen-year-old friends Zardi and Rhidan must cope with pirates, djinns, magic, and snakes. (8-12)

**The Brixen Witch**
by Stacy DeKeyser, illustrated by John Nickle
(McElderry/ ReadOnly, $15.99)  
978-1-4424-3328-1
Rudi confronts a witch and her wicked servant, and partakes in adventures set in motion by his discovery of a golden coin. Digitally rendered illustrations. (9-12)

**The Cabinet of Earths**
by Anne Nesbet
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99)  
978-0-06-196313-1
A Cabinet of Earth holds some terrible secrets. Twelve-year-old Maya’s year in Paris transforms into a true adventure when she becomes its keeper. (9-12)
Fantasy, continued

Cardboard
written and illustrated by Doug TenNapel
(Graphix/Scholastic, $24.99) 978-0-545-41872-0
An empty box at first seems like the Worst Birthday Present Ever— but it contains astonishing surprises. Dramatic, expressive digital illustrations. (10-13)

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Flies Again
by Frank Cottrell Boyce, illustrated by Joe Berger
(Candlewick, $15.99) 978-0-7636-5957-8
The magical car returns, still with a mind of its own, moving through the air, in the desert, and under water. Black-and-white illustrations. Approved by the Ian Fleming Estate. (8-11)

The City of Ember: The Graphic Novel
by Jeanne DuPrau, adapted by Dallas Middaugh, illustrated by Niklas Asker
(Random House, $18.99) 978-0-375-86821-4
Will Lina and Doon decipher the mysterious instructions and save the people of Ember from the darkness? Adapted from the original novel. Expressive illustrations in muted colors. (8-12)

Clover Twig and the Perilous Path
by Kaye Umansky, illustrated by Johanna Wright
(Roaring Brook/Macmillan, $16.99)
978-1-59643-754-8
When Clover’s brother disappears, she embarks on a perilous journey to the place where witches, trolls, and strange events create obstacles. Humorous black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

The Cup and the Crown
by Diane Stanley
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-196321-6
Molly’s search for a loving cup brings her closer to her mysterious past and catapults her toward her future. (10-13)

Curse of the Thirteenth Fey: The True Tale of Sleeping Beauty
by Jane Yolen
(Philomel/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-399-25664-6
A “magick” trap, an encounter with a self-centered prince, and other mishaps befall Gorse on her way to bestow a gift on the newborn royal princess. Accident or fate? (10-13)

Deadweather and Sunrise: The Chronicles of Egg #1
by Geoff Rodkey
(Putnam/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-399-25785-8
To discover why his family was “accidentally” lost at sea and to save his family’s island plantation, a thirteen-year-old battles pirates and the powerful Mr. Pembroke. (9-12)

Earwig and the Witch
by Diana Wynne Jones, illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky
(HarperCollins, $15.99) 978-0-06-207511-6
After leaving the orphanage where she was able to control everyone, Earwig faces different circumstances when she lives with a witch and a devil. Black-and-white drawings. (8-10)

Eye of the Storm
by Kate Messner
(Walker, $16.99) 978-0-8027-2313-0
In 2053, when storms run amok, Jaden reconnects with her scientist father at an elite camp where she attempts to solve the puzzle of tornado dissipation. (9-12)

Goblin Secrets
by William Alexander
(McElderry/S&S, $16.99) 978-1-4424-2726-6
In a scary but beautifully told tale, Rownie escapes his witch-grandmother, Graba, and joins a Goblin actor’s group. (9-12)
Fantasy, continued

Graveyard Shift
by Chris Westwood
(Scholastic, $17.99) 978-0-545-39919-7
Friendless Ben becomes the protegé of strange Mr. October in the Ministry of Pandemonium, guiding lost souls to the afterlife and guarding them from evil forces. (10-14)

The Great Unexpected
by Sharon Creech
When Finn falls from a tree and into her life, things begin to change for the orphan Naomi and her new friend Lizzie. (8-12)

Heart of Stone
by M. L. Welsh
(David Fickling/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-385-75243-5
Verity and her friends confront the evil Earth Witch, who is trying to erase all stories with happy endings. (Sequel to Mistress of the Storm.) (9-12)

The High-Skies Adventures of Blue Jay the Pirate
written and illustrated by Scott Nash
(Candlewick, $17.99) 978-0-7636-3264-9
Blue Jay’s mixed crew of bird pirates support the sparrow’s against the villainous Teach and his thieving gang of crows. Artfully crafted in tinted crow quill and ink. (8-12)

*In a Glass Grimmly
by Adam Gidwitz
(Dutton/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-525-42581-6
With great storytelling ability, the author combines fairy tales and nursery rhymes into a scary and humorous narrative. (9–13)

The Last Dragonslayer
by Jasper Fforde
(Harcourt/HMH, $16.99) 978-0-547-73847-5
Rumors predicting the death of the last dragon are flying, and those hoping to profit are gathering. A reluctant dragon slayer joins the fray. (9-13)

Last of the Gullivers
by Carter Crocker
(Philomel/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-399-24231-1
Twelve-year-old Michael discovers his own abilities when he uncovers the Lilliputians and guides them to respect the rights of all their members. (9-14)

Pegasus: The Flame of Olympus
by Kate O’Hearn
(Aladdin/S&S, $16.99) 978-1-4424-4409-6
Is it mere coincidence when Pegasus, the winged horse, falls through time to the top of Emily’s New York City apartment building? Adventure ensues. (8-12)

The Prince Who Fell from the Sky
by John Claude Bemis
(Random House, $16.99) 978-0-375-86752-1
A motherly bear, a clever rat, and a dog join forces to protect a young human survivor in a dangerous postapocalyptic world. (9–12)

*The Seven Tales of Trinket
by Shelley Moore Thomas
(Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-0-374-36745-9
After her mother’s death, Trinket leaves home on a quest to find her father and to win the right to call herself a storyteller. (9-12)

*Splendors and Glooms
by Laura Amy Schlitz
(Candlewick, $17.99) 978-0-7636-5380-4
After a master puppeteer performs at her twelfth birthday party, Clara disappears. Has she been kidnapped or did she run away? (9-12)
Fantasy, continued

*Summer of the Mariposas*
by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
(Tu/Lee & Low, $19.95) 978-1-60060-900-8
When five sisters discover a body in a Texan river, they embark on adventures that rekindle their sense of family and connection to their Aztec heritage. (9-14)

*The Vengekeep Prophecies*
by Brian Farrey
Clumsy Jaxter Grimjinx may have the solution to the prophecy set with seemingly impenetrable fateskein. (8-12)

Folklore and Fairy Tales

The Magician’s Apprentice
by Kate Banks, illustrated by Peter Sís
(Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-0-374-34716-1
Sixteen-year-old Baz becomes apprenticed to a powerful but kind magician and learns to look at the world anew as they travel together. Black-and-white line drawings. (11-14)

The Odyssey
by Homer, retold by Gillian Cross, illustrated by Neil Packer
(Candlewick, $19.99) 978-0-7636-4791-9
In this wondrously retold and illustrated ancient story, Odysseus and his men struggle for ten adventure-filled years to reach Ithaca. Bold, colorful, detailed illustrations. (9-13)

Princess of the Wild Swans
by Diane Zahler
To rescue her brothers, who are caught in a terrible enchantment, Princess Meriel must complete a daunting task. (8-12)

Historical Fiction

Behind the Masks: The Diary of Angeline Reddy
(Dear America series)
by Susan Patron
(Scholastic, $12.99) 978-0-545-3043-5
Angeline knows her father has not been murdered, but finding his empty casket only leads her into more mystery and adventure in a California mining town in 1880. (8-12)

Best Shot in the West: The Adventures of Nat Love
by Patricia C. McKissack and Frederick L. McKissack, illustrated by Randy Duburke
(Chronicle, $19.99) 978-0-8118-5749-9
Experience the exploits of Nate Love, an African American cowboy whose expert roping and cattle-driving skills were admired by his fellow buckaroos. Lively illustrations. (9-12)

The Case of the Deadly Desperados
by Caroline Lawrence
(Putnam/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-399-25633-2
Twelve-year-old P. K. Pinkerton could become the richest person in a Wild West silver-mining town, but a vicious outlaw is in pursuit. (9-12)

Catla and the Vikings
by Mary Elizabeth Nelson
(Orca, P $9.95) 978-1-4598-0057-1
Twelve-year-old Catla witnesses Vikings invading her village and capturing the population. Can she reach a nearby settlement before the enemy does? (10–12)

Chickadee
by Louise Erdrich
Ojibwe twins Chickadee and Makoons are inseparable until Chickadee is kidnapped. Will they be reunited? (8-12)
Historical Fiction, continued

A Diamond in the Desert
by Kathryn Fitzmaurice
(Viking/Penguin, $16.99)  978-0-670-01292-3
During the relocation of Japanese Americans to internment camps during World War II, thirteen-year-old Tetsu uses baseball to combat the harshness of camp life. (10-13)

Glory Be
by Augusta Scattergood
(Scholastic, $16.99)  978-0-545-33180-7
In Mississippi in 1964, eleven-year-old Glory must learn some hard lessons about civil rights, friendship, and growing up. (9-12)

The Lions of Little Rock
by Kristin Levine
(Putnam/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-399-25644-8
Twelve-year-old Marlee finds friendship and courage when combating racism in the schools in 1958 Arkansas. (9-14)

May B.: A Novel
by Caroline Starr Rose
(Schwartz & Wade/Random House, $15.99)  978-1-58246-393-3
Hired servant May Betterly faces the ravages of a prairie winter when she finds herself abruptly alone and abandoned. Written in blank verse. (8-12)

Michael at the Invasion of France, 1943
by Laurie Calkhoven
(Dial/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-8037-3724-2
With France occupied by the Nazis, thirteen-year-old Michael joins the Resistance to help Jewish families hide and leads downed Allied pilots to safety. (9-12)

Precious Bones
by Mika Ashley-Hollinger
(Delacorte/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-385-74219-1
In a small Florida community sixty years ago, Bones and her best friend Little Man explore the surrounding swamp which is teeming with wildlife. (9-12)

Sailing to Freedom
by Martha Bennett Stiles
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $16.99)  978-0-8050-9238-7
In 1852 twelve-year-old Ray sets sail on his uncle’s ship and discovers he is part of the Underground Railroad. (9-12)

Sophia’s War: A Tale of the Revolution
by Avi
(Beach Lane/S&S, $16.99)  978-1-4424-1441-9
In British-occupied New York, Sophia vows to revenge her Patriot brother’s death by foiling the plot of a dashing officer and an infamous American traitor. (8-12)

A Thunderous Whisper
by Christina Diaz Gonzalez
(Knopf/Random House, $16.99)  978-0-375-86929-7
In Guernica during the Spanish Civil War, Ani and Mathias form a special friendship as they become spies against the Franco regime. (10-14)

Tracks
by Diane Lee Wilson
(McElderry/S&S, $16.99)  978-1-4424-2013-7
Despite mistrust and prejudice, an Irish boy and a Chinese boy become friends while working on the Transcontinental Railroad in 1866. (10-13)

Unspoken: A Story from the Underground Railroad
written and illustrated by Henry Cole
(Scholastic Press, $16.99)  978-0-545-39997-5
Pencil drawings on charcoal paper depict the dramatic story of a girl who discovers a runaway slave on the family farm and helps him escape. A wordless book with an afterward by the artist. (8-11)
Historical Fiction, continued

A Voice for Kanzas
by Debra McArthur
(Kane/Miller/EDC, $15.99) 978-1-61067-044-9
In 1855 when an antislavery family moves to Kansas to support a free state, thirteen-year-old Lucy must make courageous choices. (9-12)

The Wild Book
by Margarita Engle
(Harcourt/HMH, $16.99) 978-0-547-58131-6
Growing up in postrevolutionary Cuba, dyslexic Fefa learns to read—and is able to save her family—through writing words in a notebook. Written in blank verse. (9-13)

Humor

Alex and the Amazing Time Machine
by Rich Cohen, illustrated by Kelly Murphy
(Christy Ottoviano/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, $15.99) 978-0-8050-9418-3
Brilliant Alex invents a machine that will warp time, but when his brother is kidnapped, he must use the “dingus” to save his family. Textured black-and-white illustrations. (8–12)

Applewhites at Wit’s End
by Stephanie S. Tolan
(Harper/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-057938-8
Great changes occur when the creative, eccentric Applewhite family opens a summer camp for gifted children. (9-12)

Charlie Joe Jackson’s Guide to Extra Credit
by Tommy Greenwald, illustrated by J. P. Coovert
(Roaring Brook/Macmillan, $14.99) 978-1-59643-692-3
To avoid a summer away from his friends, Charlie Joe undertakes extra credit to boost his grades and learns many lessons in the process. Black-and-white cartoonlike illustrations. (9–12)

Cheesie Mack Is Cool in a Duel
by Steve Cotler, illustrated by Adam McCauley
(Random House, $15.99) 978-0-375-86438-4
Although not everything goes as planned for eleven-year-old “Cheesie” Mack at camp, it turns out to be the terrific summer he’d looked forward to after all. Lively black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)

Chomp
by Carl Hiaasen
(Knopf/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-375-86842-9
Thirteen-year-old Wahoo Cray and his friend Tuna join a dangerous romp in the Everglades and try to extricate the adults from the difficult situation they have caused. (9-12)

Fangbone! Third-Grade Barbarian
written and illustrated by Michael Rex
(Putnam/Penguin, P $5.99) 978-0-399-25521-2
Fangbone, a young warrior from Skullbania, must enter third grade in order to save his world from an evil villain. Black, brown, and tan illustrations. (6-10)

The Hero’s Guide to Saving Your Kingdom
by Christopher Healy, illustrated by Todd Harris
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-211743-4
The four Princes Charming are rivals. The kings are greedy, the princesses are selfish, and the dwarfs are rude. These artful stories will forever change your view of fairy tale heroes. Black-and-white illustrations. (10-12)

Revenge of the Loser (The Loser List series)
by H. N. Kowitt
(Scholastic, $9.99) 978-0-545-39926-5
Wise-cracking Danny Shire can draw really well, but his reputation is at middle school’s bottom rung. Will his clever new schemes all go awry? Cartoon illustrations. (10–12)
Humor, continued

Secret Diary
written and illustrated by Julien Neel
(Graphic Universe/Lerner, P $8.95)
978-0-7613-8868-5
Boys and men (and grandma) complicate Lou’s and her mom’s life in these upbeat full-color graphic novels. (8-12)

Summertime Blues
written and illustrated by Julien Neel
(Graphic Universe/Lerner, P $8.95)
978-0-7613-8869-2
See: Secret Diary (8-12)

The Templeton Twins Have an Idea: Book One
by Ellis Weiner, illustrated by Jeremy Holmes
(Chronicle, $16.99) 978-0-8118-6679-8
The resourceful Templeton twins rescue their inventor father from a vengeful former student. A cranky narrator, humorous quizzes, and enticing blue illustrations add to the fun. (8-11)

*Three Times Lucky
by Sheila Turnage
(Dial/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-8037-3670-2
In a small town, eleven-year-old Mo LoBeau tries every creative escapade imaginable to solve a murder and protect the only family she has ever known. (9-12)

Ungifted
by Gordon Korman
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, $16.99)
978-0-06-174266-8
When prankster Donovan Curtis lands in a school for the gifted, he knows he is misplaced, but unexpectedly makes his mark. (9-12)

“Who Could That Be at This Hour?”
by Lemony Snicket, illustrated by Seth
(Little, Brown/Hachette, $15.99) 978-0-316-12308-2
Thirteen-year-old Lemony Snicket survives an attempt on his life, an inept mentor, a pointless crime, and a backstabbing friend. Woodcut illustrations. (9-11)

Science Fiction

Brother from a Box
by Evan Kuhlman, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno
(Atheneum/S&S, $16.99) 978-1-4424-2658-0
Having a prototype robot child in the family turns out to be even more of an adventure than sixth grader Matt bargained for. Black-and-white illustrations. (9-12)

What Came from the Stars
by Gary D. Schmidt
(Clarion/HMH, $16.99) 978-0-547-61213-3
When a mysterious necklace falls into his possession, sixth grader Tommy Pepper doesn’t know what hit him. Will he rise to the challenge? (10-14)

You Can’t Have My Planet, but Take My Brother, Please
by James Mihaley
(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, $16.99) 978-0-312-61891-9
When an alien force threatens to take over Earth, Giles and his friends battle to save it. (9-12)

Sports (Fiction)

Breakaway
by Trevor Kew
(Lorimer, P $9.95) 978-1-55277-862-3
Ice hockey or soccer? Adam has to make the hard choice between being on a team in his new school and his Dad’s aspirations for him. (8-12)
Sports (Fiction), continued

The Final Four
by Paul Volponi
(Viking/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-670-01264-0
Everyone wants to win—Malcolm who thinks only he is important, Roko from Croatia who is trying to fit in, Crispin who makes a large mistake, and M. J. who is trying to live up to his name. (10-13)

Guys Read: The Sports Pages
edited by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Dan Santat
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $16.99) 978-0-06-196378-0
Competitiveness, striving, friendship, and abuse both on and off various sports fields are depicted in fiction and nonfiction accounts by different authors. Detailed black-and-white illustrations. (8-12)

King of the Mound: My Summer with Satchel Paige
by Wes Tooke
(Simon & Schuster, $15.99) 978-1-4424-3346-5
Love of baseball and the guidance of the great Satchel Paige help twelve-year-old Nick through his recovery from polio. (8-12)

Mason Dixon: Basketball Disasters
by Claudia Mills, illustrated by Guy Francis
(Knopf/Random House, $12.99) 978-0-375-86875-7
Although not great athletes, Mason and his friend Brody reluctantly agree to join a ragtag fifth-grade basketball team coached by Mason’s father. Black-and-white illustrations. (8-11)

Plunked
by Michael Northrop
(Scholastic, $16.99) 978-0-545-29714-1
Little League sixth grader Jack must learn not to be afraid of being beaned if he is to continue playing. (9-12)

Today

Almost Home
by Joan Bauer
(Viking/Penguin, $16.99) 978-0-670-0289-3
Sugar loses her sense of security when her house is foreclosed. She survives by her writing and contact with a former teacher. (9-12)

The Amazing Adventures of John Smith, Jr. AKA Houdini
by Peter Johnson
Inspired by the classroom visit of a writer, a thirteen-year-old learns to be observant and writes a novel about his friends and enemies and their families, including a brother in Iraq. (9-12)

*Drama
written and illustrated by Raina Telgemeier
(Graphix/Scholastic, $23.99) 978-0-545-32698-8
Seventh grader Callie loves everything about the theater, but when her school puts on a play, there’s also lots of real-life drama with a diverse cast of characters. Simple illustrations in warm colors. (9-12)

*Flying the Dragon
by Natalie Dias Lorenzi
(Charlesbridge, $16.95) 978-1-58089-434-0
Japanese Hiroshi and his Japanese American cousin, Skye, struggle to become friends and bond around rokkaku kite flying as they come to terms with their grandfather’s illness. (10-14)

Forever Four (series)
Forever Four
Leading Ladies
by Elizabeth Cody Kimmel
(Grosset & Dunlap/Penguin, P $6.99) 978-0-448-45548-8; 978-0-448-45549-5
Four middle school girls with very different interests and personalities are grouped to create a magazine for a school competition with amazing results. (9-12)
Today, continued

**Freaky Fast Frankie Joe**
by Lutricia Clifton
(Holiday House, $16.95) 978-0-8234-2367-5
When his mother ends up in jail, eleven-year-old Frankie Joe must leave his trailer park friends in Texas and move in with the father he has never known. (9-12)

**Olivia Bean: Trivia Queen**
by Donna Gephart
(Delacorte/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-385-74052-4
Twelve-year-old Olivia achieves her greatest wish, becoming a contestant on “Jeopardy! Kids Week.” The support of family and best friend Tucker help her deal with the pressure. (9-12)

**Pinch Hit**
by Tim Green
When Sam and Trevor switch places, each is exposed to a different kind of life and learns to accept the good in his own. (9-13)

**Prairie Evers**
by Ellen Airgood
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, $15.99) 978-0-399-25691-2
Ten-year-old Prairie, homeschooled by her wise grandmother, faces many changes—moving, attending school for the first time, and making friends. (9-12)

**Same Sun Here**
by Silas House and Neela Vaswani
(Candlewick, $15.99) 978-0-7636-5684-3
Sharing a love of mountains, an Indian immigrant girl in Chinatown and a Kentucky coal miner’s son become unlikely pen pals. (9-12)

**The Universe of Fair**
by Leslie Bulion, illustrated by Frank W. Dormer
(Peachtree, $15.95) 978-1-56145-634-5
Eleven-year-old Miller desperately wants to join his friend and have fun at the annual fair but finds more obstacles than his scientific mind could have imagined. Cartoonlike illustrations. (8-11)

**What the Dog Said**
by Randi Reisfeld with HB Gilmour
(Bloomsbury, $16.99) 978-1-59990-702-4
Grace, mourning her father’s death, is helped by training a rescue dog for her older sister’s senior project. (9-12)

**The White Zone**
by Carolyn Marsden
(Carolrhoda/Lerner, $17.95) 978-0-7613-7383-4
in 2007 two cousins, one Shiite and one half Sunni, struggle to live a normal life in war-torn Baghdad. Soldiers and civilians are caught up in fighting, and families are torn apart. (9-14)

**Wonder**
by R. J. Palacio
(Knopf/Random House, $15.99) 978-0-375-86902-0
Auggie’s fifth-grade classmates—and the rest of his school—grow to appreciate the bright, witty boy masked by a frighteningly disfigured face. (9-11)

**POETRY**

**Dare to Dream...Change the World**
edited by Jill Corcoran, illustrated by J. Beth Jepson
(Kane/Miller/EDC, $15.99) 978-1-61067-065-4
This collection of poetry celebrates people who have changed the world and inspired others. Written by thirty poets who have also inspired change. Vibrant folk-art-style illustrations. (9-12)
POETRY, continued

*I Lay My Stitches Down: Poems of American Slavery
by Cynthia Grady, illustrated by Michele Wood
(Eerdmans, $17.00) 978-0-8028-5386-8
The extraordinary meshing of quiltmaking and poetry patterns evokes the emotions and ordeals of American slaves. Bold, powerful illustrations. Well referenced. (9-14)

*I've Lost My Hippopotamus
by Jack Prelutsky, illustrated by Jackie Urbanovic
(Greenwillow/HarperCollins, $18.99) 978-0-06-201457-3
Real and imaginary animals depicted in clever, humorous verse and silly pictures provide wonderful, challenging word play. A treat as a Read Aloud. (8-12)

INFORMATION BOOKS

Animals (Nonfiction)

Dogs on Duty: Soldiers’ Best Friends on the Battlefield and Beyond
by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent
(Walker, $16.99) 978-0-8027-2845-6
Learn how military working dogs are trained and meet these canine heroes. Photographs. (8-12)

No Shelter Here: Making the World a Kinder Place for Dogs
by Rob Laidlaw
(Pajama Press, $21.95) 978-0-9869495-5-5
Learn all about shelter dogs, homeless dogs, and puppy mills. The kids who advocate for better conditions for dogs point out what you can do too. (9-14)

Architecture

Earth-Friendly Buildings, Bridges and More: The Eco-Journal of Corry Lapont
by Etta Kaner, illustrated by Stephen MacEachern
(Kids Can Press, $18.95) 978-1-55453-570-5
Photographs, drawings, diagrams, and simple experiments explain earth friendly constructions. Cleverly presented by an enthusiastic student narrator. (8-12)

Biography

Albert Einstein and Relativity for Kids: His Life and Ideas with 21 Activities and Thought Experiments
by Jerome Pohlen
(Chicago Review Press, $16.95) 978-1-61374-028-6
Learn about Einstein’s theories and his fascinating life. Archival photographs. (9-14)

The Amazing Harry Kellar: Great American Magician
by Gail Jarrow
(Calkins Creek/Boyds Mills, $17.95)
978-1-59078-865-3
Before Houdini there was Kellar, a master illusionist who set the standard for magicians everywhere. Time line, sources, notes, bibliographies, and resources. (9-12)

Barack Obama: Our 44th President
by Beatrice Gormley
(Aladdin/S&S, P $5.99) 978-1-4424-5452-1
Learn how a young Obama embraced multiculturalism, focused on education and family, and figured out how he could best improve the lives of all Americans. (9-12)
Biography, continued

*Bill the Boy Wonder: The Secret Co-Creator of Batman*
by Marc Tyler Nobleman, illustrated by Ty Templeton
(Charlesbridge, $17.95) 978-1-58089-289-6
Bill Finger was the unknown, uncredited talent behind Bob Kane, Batman’s first creator. Ink and color illustrations in comic book style. (9-12)

*Bon Appétit!: The Delicious Life of Julia Child*
written and illustrated by Jessie Hartland
(Schwartz & Wade/Random House, $17.99) 978-0-375-86944-0
Learn how Julia Child became a world famous French chef and cookbook author. Recipes and whimsical gouache illustrations. (9-12)

*Dear Mr. Longfellow: Letters to and from the Children’s Poet*
by Sydelle Pearl
(Prometheus Books, P $18.00) 978-1-61614-638-2
Children’s letters to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow are used to tell the story of the famous nineteenth-century poet. Archival illustrations. (9-12)

*Electric Ben: The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin*
by Robert Byrd
(Dial/Penguin, $17.99) 978-0-8037-3749-5
Printer, writer, inventor, statesman, and founding father—beloved, bespectacled Ben Franklin helped shape our country. Stylized watercolor illustrations. (8-12)

*The Fairy Ring: Or Elsie and Frances Fool the World*
by Mary Losure
(Candlewick, $16.99) 978-0-7673-5670-6
A girl with a vivid imagination and a girl with masterful artistic skills lead the world to believe in the existence of fairies. (8-12)

*George Bellows: Painter with a Punch*
by Robert Burleigh
(Abrams, $18.95) 978-1-4197-0166-5
Born in 1882, the American Ashcan School artist George Bellows painted painful scenes including a lonely tenement and a bloody boxing match. Reprints of Bellows’s paintings included. (10-14)

*I, Galileo*
by Bonnie Christensen
(Knopf/Random House, $17.99) 978-0-375-86753-8
Accessible text and elegant illustrations depict Galileo’s life. Maps and diagrams enhance understanding of his world. (9-12)

*It Jes’Happened : When Bill Traylor Started to Draw*
by Don Tate, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
(Lee & Low, $17.95) 978-1-60060-260-3
Considered an important folk artist, former slave Bill Traylor began to draw in 1939 at the age of 85. Colorful illustrations in Traylor’s style. (9-12)

*Jean Laffite: The Pirate Who Saved America*
by Susan Goldman Rubin, illustrated by Jeff Himmelman
(Abrams, $18.95) 978-0-8109-9733-2
Share in the adventures of the Jewish privateer who helped the United States defeat the English in the War of 1812. Bold digital illustrations. (9-12)

*Last Airlift: A Vietnamese Orphan’s Rescue from War*
by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch
(Pajama Press, $17.95) 978-0-9869495-4-8
When Tuyet is airlifted from a burning Saigon and adopted in Toronto, Canada, the courageous girl meets kind foster parents. A true story. (8-10)
Biography, continued

**Paiute Princess: The Story of Sarah Winnemucca**
written and illustrated by Deborah Kogan Ray
(Farrah Straus Giroux/Macmillan, $17.99) 978-0-374-39897-2
Sarah Winnemucca straddled two worlds: the traditional life of the Paiute tribe of Nevada and the culture of the white settlers who invaded them. She went on to become a spokesperson for her people. Informative, vibrant illustrations. (8-12)

**Silent Star: The Story of Deaf Major Leaguer William Hoy**
by Bill Wise, illustrated by Adam Gustavson
(Lee & Low, $18.95) 978-1-60060-411-9
Although he couldn’t hear his teammates calling plays, William Hoy became one of baseball’s greatest outfielders. Realistic muted oils. (8-10)

**Spirit Seeker: John Coltrane’s Musical Journey**
by Gary Golio, illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez
(Clarion/HMH, $17.99) 978-0-547-23994-1
Told through vibrant acrylic and mixed-media illustrations and engaging text, this famous jazz musician’s life story comes alive. You can almost hear the music. (9-12)

***Steve Jobs: Thinking Differently**
by Patricia Lakin
(Aladdin/S&S, $15.99) 978-1-4424-5394-4
During his lifetime, the unique Steve Jobs was driven to create many wonderful devices that alter our lives in profound ways. A compelling read. (8-12)

***Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World**
by Sy Montgomery, foreword by Temple Grandin
(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, $17.99) 978-0-547-44315-7
Overcoming enormous obstacles, Grandin became a pioneer in engineering systems for the humane treatment of animals and changed our understanding of what people with autism can achieve. (9-14)

**Touch the Sky: Alice Coachman, Olympic High Jumper**
by Ann Malaspina, illustrated by Eric Velasquez
(Arthure Whitman, $16.95) 978-0-8075-8035-6
Lyrical poetry and expressive oil paintings contribute to this life of the athlete who, in 1948, was the first African American woman to win an Olympic medal. Bibliography, photographs. (8-11)

**Health**

**Fat No More: A Teenager’s Victory over Obesity**
by Alberto Hidalgo-Robert
(Piñata/Arte Público, P $16.95) 978-1-55885-745-2
Alberto ate and watched television. It wasn’t until he was nearly diabetic that he changed his life with the help of professionals and family. (9-12)

**Mimi’s Village: And How Basic Health Care Transformed It**
by Katie Smith Milway, illustrated by Eugenie Fernandes
(Kids Can Press, $18.95) 978-1-55453-722-8
When her little sister becomes sick from drinking dirty water, Mimi suggests that her village build its own health clinic. Lush acrylic illustrations. (8-11)

**History**

**The Boston Tea Party**
by Russell Freedman, illustrated by Peter Malone
(Holiday House, $17.95) 978-0-8234-2266-1
A thoroughly engaging account of the Tea Party is meticulously researched. Bibliography, time line, source notes. Watercolor illustrations. (8-12)

**The Giant and How He Humbugged America**
by Jim Murphy
(Scholastic, $19.99) 978-0-439-69184-0
In 1869 in New York State, a petrified giant figure is discovered. Who was he? Was he real? Archival illustrations and photographs. (8-11)
History, continued

*Hand in Hand: Ten Black Men Who Changed America
by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Brian Pinkney
(Jump at the Sun/Disney-Hyperion, $19.99) 978-1-4231-4257-7
From Benjamin Banneker to Barack Obama, these men effected profoundly important changes. Dynamic full-color portraits. (10-12)

Ice!: The Amazing History of the Ice Business
by Laurence Pringle
(Calkins Creek/Boyds Mills, $17.95) 978-1-59078-801-1
Before electrical refrigeration, it kept our perishables fresh. Learn how ice was cut and delivered for a hundred years. Archival illustrations and photographs. (9-12)

Iceberg, Right Ahead!: The Tragedy of the Titanic
by Stephanie Sammartino McPherson
(Twenty-First Century Books, $33.26) 978-0-7613-6756-7
Captivating personal stories and archival photographs create a detailed, nuanced account of the famous shipwreck. (9-12)

Kids of Kabul: Living Bravely through a Never-Ending War
by Deborah Ellis
(Groundwood/House of Anansi Press, $15.95) 978-1-55498-181-6
The impact of the ongoing war in Afghanistan before and after the fall of the Taliban is explored by children and teens. Black-and-white photographs courtesy of author. (9-12)

The Plant Hunters: True Stories of Their Daring Adventures to the Far Corners of the Earth
by Anita Silvey
(Farrar Straus Girouz /Macmillan, $19.99) 978-0-374-30908-4
Adventurous plant hunters risked their lives in uncharted places as they collected new, unusual plant specimens for science and profitable agriculture. (9-12)

The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and Her Tribute to Veterans
by Barbara Elizabeth Walsh, illustrated by Layne Johnson
(Calkins Creek/Boyds Mills, $16.95) 978-1-59078-754-0
Learn about the school teacher from Georgia who helped make the poppy a symbol of the sacrifice of fallen soldiers. Rich oil paintings. (8-11)

White House Kids: The Perks, Pleasures, Problems, and Pratfalls of the Presidents’ Children
by Joe Rhatigan, illustrated by Jay Shin
(Imagine/Charlesbridge, $14.95) 978-1-936140-80-0 Stories, photos, and illustrations about the children of presidents, from John Adams to Barack Obama, depict what it’s like to grow up in the White House. (9-12)

Memoir

Little White Duck: A Childhood in China
by Na Liu and Andres Vera Martinez, illustrated by Andres Vera Martinez
(Graphic Universe/Lerner, $29.27/9.95) 978-0-7613-6587-7/ 978-0-7613-8115-0
Na Liu remembers her childhood in a changing China in this richly illustrated graphic novel which blends history, tradition, and family life. (9-12)
Reference

**My Pop-Up World Atlas**
by Anita Ganeri, illustrated by Stephen Waterhouse
(Templar/Candlewick, $18.99) 978-0-7636-6094-9
The world is explored through colorful pop-ups, grouped by continents. (8-12)

**So, You Want to Be a Writer?: How To Write, Get Published and Maybe Even Make It Big!**
by Vicki Hambleton and Cathleen Greenwood
(Aladdin/S&S, $18.99) 978-1-58270-359-6
The authors provide inspiration and concrete tips on the entire writing process. Includes a list of places accepting childrens’ work. (9-12)

Religion

**Faith: Five Religions and What They Share**
written and photographed by Dr. Richard Steckel and Michele Steckel
(Kids Can Press, $17.95) 978-1-55453-750-1
The commonality and contrasts among Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism are depicted in clear text and helpful photographs. (8-12)

**Growing Up Muslim: Understanding the Beliefs and Practices of Islam**
by Sumbul Ali-Karamali
(Delacorte/Random House, $16.99) 978-0-385-74095-1
Learn about the teachings of the Qur’an, Ramadan, the hajj, and more. The author also explains Islam’s similarities to Christianity and Judaism and the differences between them. (10-14)

Science

**Hades: Lord of the Dead (Olympians series)**
written and illustrated by George O'Connor
(First Second/Macmillan, P $9.99) 978-1-59643-434-9
When the Greek god who rules the underworld decides to take a wife, the chosen one’s life changes dramatically—and so does the entire world. Vivid detailed graphic art. (10-13)

**Alex the Parrot: No Ordinary Bird: A True Story**
by Stephanie Spinner, illustrated by Meilo So
(Knopf/Random House, $17.99) 978-0-375-86846-7
A scientist trains a gray parrot to talk and comprehend. Colorful watercolor and gouache illustrations. (8-10)

*A Black Hole Is Not a Hole*
by Carolyn Cinami DeCristofano, illustrated by Michael Carroll
(Charlesbridge, $18.95) 978-1-57091-783-7
Clear explanations, dramatic images and photographs, and helpful diagrams introduce these “spaces with a powerful pull.” Time line, glossary, literary resources, and websites. (9-13)

*The Case of the Vanishing Golden Frogs: A Scientific Mystery*
by Sandra Markle
(Millbrook, $29.27) 2011 978-0-7613-5108-5
The story of an endangered amphibian is told as a page-turning mystery. Clear language explains scientific facts, while exquisite photographs support this important tale. (9-14)
Science, continued

*Citizen Scientists: Be a Part of Scientific Discovery from Your Own Backyard
by Loree Griffin Burns, photographed by Ellen Harasimowicz
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, $19.99; P$12.99) 978-0-8050-9062-8; 978-0-8050-9517-3
Fall butterflying, winter birding, spring frogging, summer ladybugging—learn about the techniques and equipment needed to enjoy contributing to the advance of knowledge of the natural world. Glossary, resources, bibliography. (8-14)

City Critters: Wildlife in the Urban Jungle
by Nicholas Read
(Orca, $19.95) 978-155469-394-8
Learn about the surprising animals that share our cities and the mixed blessings they bring. Colorful photographs. (9-12)

The Elements: The Building Blocks of the Universe (Scholastic Discover More series)
by Dan Green
(Scholastic, P $15.99) 978-0-545-33019-0
Learn about the properties and uses of the basic substances—from hydrogen to ununhexium—that everything on Earth is made of. Clear diagrams and photographs. (9-12)

Get the Scoop on Animal Poop!
by Dawn Cusick
(Imagine/Charlesbridge, $14.95) 978-1-936140-42-8
All animals need to eliminate waste from their bodies, and they do it in many different ways. Accessible facts presented with humor. Detailed photographs. (8-12)

Invincible Microbe: Tuberculosis and the Never-Ending Search For a Cure
by Jim Murphy and Alison Blank
(Clarion/HMH, $18.99) 978-0-618-53574-3
The social and medical history of the ravages of tuberculosis and search for a cure is presented in clear, accessible language. Archival photographs and drawings. (10-14)

Matter Matters!
by Tom Adams, illustrated by Thomas Flintham
(Templar/Candlewick, $18.99) 978-0-7636-6096-3
Atoms, elements, solids, liquids, gases, and more are explained simply and depicted with colorful pop-ups. (8-12)

The Mighty Mars Rovers: The Incredible Adventures of Spirit and Opportunity
by Elizabeth Rusch
(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, $18.99) 978-0-547-47881-4
Join the rovers’ mission to explore Mars along with Steven Squyres, lead scientist, and his team. Illustrated with photos by Rover and of the scientists and engineers. (9-14)

Night Sky (Scholastic Discover More series)
by Giles Sparrow
(Scholastic, P $15.99) 978-0-545-38374-5
Explore the stars, planets, and galaxies. Colorful photographs. (9-12)

Penguins (Scholastic Discover More series)
by Penelope Arlon and Tory Gordon-Harris
(Scholastic, P $12.99) 978-545-33024-4
Want to know about penguins? Find out where they live, what they eat, how they sleep, and other interesting facts, including how to protect them. (8–11)
Science, continued

Planets: An Incredible Journey through Our Solar System (Scholastic Discover More series)
by Penelope Arlon and Tory Gordon-Harris
(Scholastic, P $12.99)  978-0-545-33028-2
Learn about planets, galaxies, rockets, space shuttles, astronauts, and the International Space Station. Illuminating diagrams and photographs. (8-12)

The Skull in the Rock: How a Scientist, a Boy, and Google Earth Opened a New Window on Human Origins
by Lee R. Berger and Marc Aronson
(National Geographic, $18.95)  978-1-4263-1010-2
After nine-year-old Matthew finds a fossil, his father discovers new ways of looking at human evolution. (8-12)

*Unusual Creatures: A Mostly Accurate Account of Some of Earth’s Strangest Animals
by Michael Hearst, illustrated by Arjen Noordeman, Christie Wright, and Jelmer Noordeman
(Chronicle, $16.99)  978-1-4521-0467-6
The blobfish is the Jell-O of the sea, the Jesus Christ Lizard appears to walk on water, and the hagfish secretes gross slime—learn more about these and other extraordinary animals. (9-14)

Sports (Nonfiction)

Guys Read: The Sports Pages
edited by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Dan Santat
(Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, $16.99)  978-0-06-196378-0
Competitiveness, striving, friendship, and abuse both on and off various sports fields are depicted in fiction and nonfiction accounts by different authors. (8-12)

A Passion for Victory: The Story of the Olympics in Ancient and Early Modern Times
by Benson Bobrick
(Knopf/Random House, $19.99)  978-0-375-86869-6
The history of the Olympic Games is traced from their beginnings in Ancient Greece to their revival on the international stage. Archival photographs and art. (10-14)

Technology

Technology (Scholastic Discover More series)
by Clive Gifford
(Scholastic, P $15.99)  978-0-545-38373-8
Everything from space vehicles, cell phones and roller coasters can be explained. Young techies will love this information, photographs, and timelines. (9-14)

World

Buried Alive!: How 33 Miners Survived 69 Days Deep under the Chilean Desert
by Elaine Scott
(Clarion/HMH, $17.99)  978-0-547-70778-5
The miners’ lives, mining operations, and the rescue process are explored in this account of the dramatic disaster. Photographs, extensive background information, and bibliography. (10-12)

Hands around the Library: Protecting Egypt’s Treasured Books
by Susan L. Roth and Karen Leggett Abouraya, illustrated by Susan L. Roth
(Dial/Penguin, $16.99)  978-0-8037-3748-1
As demonstrators headed toward the Library of Alexandria in Egypt during the Arab Spring, some joined hands around the building to protect it from destruction. Mixed-media collages. (8-10)
World, continued

The Story of Silk: From Worm Spit to Woven Scarves
by Richard Sobol
(Candlewick, $17.99) 978-0-7636-4165-8
Chinese legends, mulberries, worms, spit, and poop unite to make beautiful silk clothing, providing Thai women girls with a viable trade and a proud heritage. Photo essay. (8-10)