ABC Best Books for Children
Because books make everything better.

Recommendations by independent children's booksellers from across the nation
Find out more at www.abfc.com
Dear Parents, Teachers, and Lovers of Children’s Books

Machiavelli once said “God creates men, but they choose each other.”

We prove him right in the thousands of little choices we make in our lives every day. Where we choose to live, where we work, who we talk to, where we raise our kids, and how we support our friends and neighbors—those little choices add up to something big: our community.

When it comes right down to it, nobody cares for you, your children, and your community like your local independent retailer. Large chains and corporations rise and fall with the winds of Wall Street, but your local indie is here to stay. Just as you have chosen, they have chosen.

When you spend your dollars in a local independent business, you are doing so much more than buying something. You are investing in your community. More than 60% of that dollar you spend stays in your community and keeps it healthy. Every dollar and every choice counts.

That reminds me of another piece of wisdom from Margaret Mead. “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Raise your children to be readers and teach them to love their communities, and there is no limit to the change we can make.

Best wishes to you and yours for a happy year full of great reading!

Kristen McLean
Executive Director, ABC, www.abfc.com
Amazing Baby: A First Guide to Baby Signing
Katie Mayne
As early as six months old, babies realize that objects have names but can’t yet speak. This book teaches parents how to understand their little ones using simple sign language. Filled with easy-to-follow steps, bold photos, and a tabbed index, this book is the perfect introduction to this useful tool. (Parenting)
Silver Dolphin (Spiral) $14.95

Alphabet
Matthew Van Fleet
100 creatures and plants hilariously demonstrate action words, synonyms, opposites, and more. Young explorers are challenged to spot four plants or animals that begin with each letter of the alphabet, and textures, flaps, tabs, and scratch-and-sniff add interactive surprises on every page. (2-6)
Simon & Schuster (HC) $19.99

Charley Harper’s ABC’s
Charley Harper
Charlie Harper, the beloved modernist illustrator, was known for his delightful and often humorous illustrations of nature, animals, and insects. Some of his most wonderful animal illustrations appear in this stylish alphabet board book, perfect for the youngest design and nature lovers. (2-5)
Ammo (BB) $14.95

Fifteen Animals!
Sandra Boynton
15 Bobs in one book? Actually, that’s 14 Bobs, and one Simon James Alexander Ragdale the Third (he’s a turtle). Count the Bobs, count the pets, count the bunnies, count the fish—what does it add up to? One fantastic counting book! Bonus song available online. (2-5)
Workman (BB) $6.95

How to Build an A
Sara Midda
It’s a book, a puzzle, and a fun way to learn the ABCs! It comes with 11 fully safety-tested EVA (ethylene vinyl acetate) pieces that can be pushed together to build all the letters of the alphabet, and the charming book full of industrious tiny people shows children the way. (4-8)
Artisan (Novelty) $17.95

If Animals Kissed Good Night
Ann Whitford Paul, illustrated by David Walker
At bedtime, a young girl wonders how animal families might say good night. Would Wolf and his pup kiss and then HOWL? Would Bear and her cub kiss and then GROWL? With its whimsical art and playful verse, this affectionate picture book will become a bedtime favorite. (4-8) ● PW
Farrar, Straus, Giroux (HC) $16.95

Let’s Dance, Little Pookie
Sandra Boynton
Pookie’s Mom wants to dance. Pookie, being Pookie, is somewhat hesitant to try something new. But little by little, Pookie is drawn into the dance—hopping, marching, shimmying, singing. A wonderful celebration for toddlers and their caregivers. (0-3)
Random House (BB) $5.99

Mommy, Carry Me Please!
Jane Cabrera
Mommy pigeon carries her baby on her feet to keep it warm. Mommy hippo carries her baby on her back to keep it dry. How does your mommy carry you? Toddlers and their parents will adore this tender and endearing tribute to the love shared between mothers and their babies. (2-5)
Holiday House (BB) $6.95

Smash! Crash!
Jon Scieszka, illustrated by David Shannon, Loren Long and David Gordon
Welcome to Trucktown, where all the characters are trucks, and no one’s afraid to get dirty or be LOUD! Best friends Jack and Dan are working, smashing, and crashing until they notice a strange shadow is following them around…Who is this new addition to Trucktown and what does she want? (2-6)
Simon & Schuster (HC) $16.99

Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes
Mem Fox, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury
A celebration of baby fingers, baby toes, and the joy they—and the babies they belong to—bring to everyone, everywhere, all over the world! With rhythmic, rhyming text, and luminous watercolors, this gorgeous picture book will delight parents and toddlers alike! (3-5)
Harcourt (HC) $16.00

DON’T SEE A BOOK YOU WANT? ASK US TO ORDER IT FOR YOU!
A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever
Marla Frazee

When James and Eamon go to nature camp and stay at Eamon’s grandparents’ house, it turns out that free time they spend inside eating waffles, and playing video games is way more interesting than nature. A hilarious celebration of boys, friendships, and the power of the imagination. (6-9) ● Kirkus, PW, SLJ

Harcourt (HC) $16.00

A Kitten Tale
Eric Rohmann

Once there were four kittens who’d never seen snow. Three of them are wary—snow is cold, it’s wet, it covers everything. Worry, worry, worry. But the fourth kitten gets excited. Snow will cover everything! A gentle lesson in living life to the fullest. (4-8) ● PW

Random House (HC) $15.99

Adèle & Simon in America
Barbara McClintock

Adèle & Simon return in a cross-continental adventure! They have just arrived in New York to visit their Aunt Cécile and prepare for a grand train trip around America. Adèle wants her brother not to lose anything, but how can Simon remember when there are so many astounding sights to take in? (4-8) ● PW

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.95

Agate: What Good is a Moose?
Joy Morgan Dey, illustrated by Nikki Johnson

Agate has low self-esteem. He is convinced that he is ordinary unlike his beautiful friends who are named after gemstones. But Agate learns to see and appreciate his inner beauty. Stunning watercolors and an elegant design make this book a gem indeed! (4-8)

Lake Superior Port Cities (HC) $17.95

Bandit
Karen Rostoker-Gruber, illustrated by Vincent Nguyen

Poor Bandit! His couch is being moved. His basket, mouse, blanket, and bed are gone. So is his litter box, food bowl, and tuna. Is he going to the vet, or on vacation, or...something else? A clever take on moving day. (4-8) ● SLJ

Marshall Cavendish (HC) $15.99

Baseball Hour
Carol Nevius, illustrated by Bill Thomson

It’s time for baseball practice. The players throw, catch, jog, run, and swing the bat to hit the ball. Then they divide up into two teams and begin to play. Amazingly photorealistic illustrations and a positive team message make this the perfect book for young players dreaming of summer. (4-8)

Marshall Cavendish (HC) $16.99

Bats at the Library
Brian Lies

The bats are back! Join the secret free-for-all fun at the public library with these night-loving critters. Cast shadows, frolic in the fountain, and roam the halls until it’s time to settle down for batty story time. You’ll never look at the library in the same way again. (4-8) ● PW

Houghton (HC) $16

Be Gentle with the Dog, Dear!
Matthew J. Boek

Baby Elisa loves Tag. She loves to squeeze him, pull his tail, and tackle him. Especially when she’s sleeping. Elisa’s parents tell her, “You must be gentle with the dog, dear.” But this is easier said than done. What’s a good dog to do? Laugh-out-loud funny. (4-8)

Penguin (HC) $14.99

Chester’s Back!
Melanie Watt

In this uproarious sequel, the battle of the picture-book makers continues. After his last book, Chester believes he’s the star of the show. With heavy paw and red marker, he’s got some ideas and he doesn’t hold back, much to the author’s dismay. Who will come out on top is anybody’s guess! (4-8)

Kids Can Press (HC) $18.95

Dinosaur vs. Bedtime
Bob Shea

“Roaaar! Roaar! Nothing can stop me! Not talkinggrownups, spaghetti, or even bath time.” But what happens when little dinosaur faces the biggest challenge of all...bedtime? With spare text and irresistible noise, little dinosaurs will be begging for this book to be read again and again. (4-8)

Hyperion (HC) $15.99

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Marshall Cavendish (HC) $16.99

Dog and Bear: Two’s Company
Laura Vaccaro Seeger

In three new stories, the two dearest of friends celebrate Bear’s birthday, have their first falling out, and take care of each other when Dog is under the weather. True friends, no matter what. “Dog and Bear are likely to join the rarefied ranks of [the beloved] Frog and Toad…”—PW (4-8) ● ALA, Horn, Kirkus, PW, SLJ

Roaring Brook (HC) $12.95

Don’t Worry Bear
Greg Foley

When Caterpillar tells Bear that he is making a cocoon, Bear is worried. Will Caterpillar be safe? Will he be warm? Caterpillar reassures him that all is fine, but the day comes when Caterpillar’s cocoon is empty. Then Bear gets a surprise. Simple and lovely. (4-8) ● SLJ

Penguin (HC) $19.99

Enigma: A Magical Mystery
Graeme Base

Bertie Badger loves to visit the Retirement Home for Elderly Magicians and watch his grandpa perform. But one day all the props go missing. Can Bertie solve the mystery in time to save the show? Readers help by using a decoder included with the book. Another great puzzle from the creator of Animalia. (5-10) ● PW

Abrams/Amulet (HC) $19.95

Fancy Nancy’s Favorite Fancy Words: From Accessories to Zany
Jane O’Connor, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser

Everyone’s favorite fancy girl has an alphabetical guide to enhancing vocabulary. Why say beautiful when there are words like gorgeous and glamorous? Instead of hello, try bonjour, which is French and so much fancier. A treat for fancy girls everywhere. Ooh, la, la! (4-8) ● PW

HarperCollins (HC) $12.99

Fanny
Holly Hobbie

When Fanny’s mom says no to a Connie doll, she decides to make one herself. With some scissors, glue, and her craft box she makes Annabelle: a little lopsided, a little unkempt, or the perfect companion for Fanny. A charming ode to doing-it-yourself from the author of Toot and Puddle. (4-8)

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $16.99
It's bedtime in the cold gray tomb with a black lagoon, and two slimy claws, and a couple of jaws, and a skull and a shoe and a pot full of goo. But as little werewolf goes to sleep, Goon has other worries take the shape of Jibberwillies, creatures who fly through her bedroom after dark. Luckily, Katie's mom knows just what to do. An empowering book for any child who has ever had nighttime fears. (4-8) • PW

God's Dream
Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Carton Abrams, illustrated by LeUyen Pham
Archbishop Desmond Tutu has a vision to share with the youngest of listeners. It involves people who reach out and hold hands. It's a wish that everyone will see they are brothers and sisters, no matter their size or the shade of their skin. Inspirational and timely. (4-8) • PW

Goodnight Goon
Michael Rex
It's bedtime in the cold gray tomb with a black lagoon, and two slimy claws, and a couple of jaws, and a skull and a shoe and a pot full of goo. But as little werewolf goes to sleep, Goon has other ideas in this funny parody of everyone's favorite bedtime book. (5-9)

Harcourt (HC) $16.00

George and Martha: The Complete Stories of Two Best Friends, Collector's Edition
James Marshall
If you have never met George and Martha, you are in for a delight! These hippos do everything together—go to the movies, play at the beach, and just hang around. Through it all—including some very silly situations—they show us the true meaning of friendship. (7-10)

Houghton (HC) $25.00

Frankenstein Takes the Cake
Adam Rex
No one ever said it was easy being a monster. Frankenstein just wants to marry his undead bride, but his best man, Dracula, is freaking out about the garlic bread. Funny rhymes, spooky illustrations, and plenty of your favorite movie monsters make this a wicked (silly) treat for the whole family. (4+) • PW

Sourcebooks (HC w/CD) $19.99

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Candlewick (HC) $16.99

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Penguin (HC) $14.99

Here a Face, There a Face
Ariene Alda
A delightful rhyming safari in search of faces in unusual places. These faces are found on buildings, in trees, mailboxes, and fountains. Coy, funny, grumpy, comical, or sad, they are almost anywhere a child's imagination wants to go. A visual adventure in seeing things differently. (4-8)

Tundra (HC) $14.95

It's Not Fair!
Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
Why'd I get the smaller half? Why don't you yell at her? Why does my team always lose? Why can't I have a pet giraffe? Because that's life, and it doesn't always go the way we want. A witty book about one of the most common complaints in family life. (4-8)

HarperCollins (HC) $16.99

Jibberwillies at Night
Rachel Vail, illustrated by Yumi Hye
Sometimes at night Katie is afraid. Her fears and worries take the shape of Jibberwillies, creatures who fly through her bedroom after dark. Luckily, Katie's mom knows just what to do. An empowering book for any child who has ever had nighttime fears. (4-8) • PW

Scholastic (HC) $16.99

Hip Hop Speaks to Children
Nikki Giovanni
With more than 50 poems and songs by artists and writers including Queen Latifah, Gwendolyn Brooks, Langston Hughes, A Tribe Called Quest, Maya Angelou, Dr. Martin Luther King and so much more, this remarkable book and CD collection is a fantastic way to get kids moving, grooving, and loving poetry! (4-8) • ALA, PW, SLJ

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.95

How I Learned Geography
Uri Shulevitz
Because they are war refugees in a strange country, food is scarce. When his father brings home a map instead of bread, the boy is furious. But he soon discovers the map feeds him in a way that bread never could. “A masterpiece.” —The New York Times (4-8) • ALA, PW, SLJ

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Scholastic (HC) $16.99

Lazy Little Loafers
Susan Orlean, illustrated by G. Brian Karas
A world-weary older sister ponders the question, “Why don’t more babies work?” Her hilariously droll answers offer up a wickedly accurate picture of just how great babies have it. A laugh-out-loud book that’s perfect for anyone with a bad case of stroller envy. (4-8) • PW

Abrams/Amulet (HC) $16.95

Little Hoot
Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by Jen Corace
A lighthearted twist on a familiar story. Little Owl just wants to go to bed, but Mama and Papa say he has to stay up late and play. So Little Owl does what he’s told, but he’s hooting mad about it! From the award-winning team behind Little Pea. (4-8) • PW

Chronicle (HC) $12.99

Madeline and the Cats of Rome
John Bemelmans Marciano
The Paris skies are gray, so Miss Clavel and the orphans head to Rome with its wonderful sights and delicious things to eat. Of course Madeline also finds an adventure involving a thief, a chase, and lots of cats. An original by the grandson of Madeline’s creator. (4-8)

Penguin (HC) $17.99

Monkey See, Monkey Do
Donough O’Malley
It’s the day of the big rocket launch, but the professor can’t decide who should go:

Patrick the monkey or Q-bert the robot.
When Q-bert wins a series of clever tests, Patrick hatches a bold plan. He’s sure he’s the best monkey for the job. (4-8)

Frances Lincoln (HC) $16.95

Don’t see a book you want? Ask us to order it for you!
Two new stories from an author who really understands kids!

Mail Harry to the Moon!  
Robie Harris, Illustrated by Michael Emberley

This big brother is fed up. It’s time to mail his new little brother to the moon so life can go back to the way it was: no more spit-up, grabbing, or wailing. He soon learns that with every bad change comes a good one, maybe Harry can stay after all. (4-8) ● PW, SLJ

The Day Leo Said I Hate You!  
Robie Harris, Illustrated by Molly Bang

Leo’s mom has said nothing but “No, no, NO!” all day long, and he finally blows his top. A gentle and honest family book about what it feels like to say—and hear—those other three words, and how to make it better. (4-8) ● PW

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $16.99

Old Bear  
Kevin Henkes

Old Bear dreams of younger days during his winter hibernation. He dreams about being a cub again, and about everything he loves in the forest. In the end he awakes to a new spring. A gentle take on the cycles of life by a beloved Caldecott-winning artist. (4-8) ● PW

Greenwillow (HC) $17.99

One  
Kathryn Otoshi

Our favorite small-press book of the year! BLUE is a quiet color. RED is a bully. The other colors don’t like it, but what can they do? When no one speaks up, ONE comes along and shows them how to stand up and count. An important message, beautifully delivered. (5+)

KO Kids Books (HC) $16.95

One Hen—How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference  
Katie Smith Milway, Illustrated by Eugenie Fernandes

An amazing book about how a little help can have a huge impact. Forced to quit school after his father dies, Kojo receives a small loan to buy a hen. Soon he has 25 hens, returns to school, and his farm becomes the largest around. Based on a true story. (4-8) ● SLJ

Kids Can Press (HC) $18.95

Patrick the Somnambulist  
Sarah Ackerley

Patrick is not your ordinary penguin. Sometimes he wakes up at night in a not-so-normal situation—like under an umbrella, in the mailbox, or wearing a plunger on his head. His parents are a little worried, but Patrick soon finds that being unusual has its own rewards. (4-8)

Blooming Tree Press (HC) $14.95

Ping Pong Pig  
Caroline Jayne Church

Ping Pong Pig loves to leap, jump, and bounce all over Apple Tree Farm. He is far too busy having fun to help with chores. Soon he lands into a big mess, and he’s up to his ears in trouble. Will he learn to help his friends before pigs fly? (4-8)

Holiday House (HC) $16.95

Round Like a Ball!  
Lisa Campbell Ernst

What is it? As the round hole in the pages of this book keeps growing, readers will come closer and closer to guessing the identity of the object that’s round like a ball, hot and cold, every color, always moving, and home to us all. (3-7)

Blue Apple (HC) $15.95

Scardey Squirrel at the Beach  
Melanie Watt

Our favorite worry is back! Scardey does not want to go to the beach. Instead, he builds his own safe getaway under his nut tree, complete with germ-free inflatable pool and plastic flamingo. Still, the lure of the genuine beach is strong—but will his #65 sunscreen be enough? Hysterically funny. (4-8)

Kids Can Press (HC) $15.95

Snow Party  
Harriet Ziefert, Illustrated by Mark Jones

If the first snow falls on the first day of winter the snow folk come out to celebrate. With plenty of food, dancing, and surprises! Luminous illustrations make this the perfect lap book for a snowy day...or to inspire frosty wishes. (4-8)

Blue Apple (HC) $16.95

Splat the Cat  
Rob Scotton

It’s Splat’s first day of school and he’s worried. What if he doesn’t make any new friends? When Splat decides to smudge his pet mouse in his lunchbox, mayhem ensues. Splat sure has plenty to worry about now, but his teacher finally steps in with a very important lesson. (4-8) ● PW

HarperCollins (HC) $16.99

Take It to the Queen  
Josephine Nobisso, Illustrated by Katalin Szegedi

A beautiful Christian allegory wrapped in a fairytale. Villagers of a once-favored town now reduced to desolation by the king seek help from the queen who is one of their own. “A tale for all generations, with a moral that also transcends time and faiths.” —AV (4-8)

Gingerbread House (HC) $17.95

Bill Martin Jr. Big Book of Poetry  
Bill Martin Jr.

This full-color treasury contains nearly two hundred poems, all of them hand-picked by one of our favorite authors. Traditional and contemporary poems are presented together, and the collection features original illustrations by award-winning artists like Lois Ehlert, Chris Raschka, Dan Yaccarino, and Nancy Tafuri. The perfect family gift! (all ages)

Simon & Schuster (HC) $21.00

The Black Book of Colors  
Menena Cottin, Illustrated by Rosana Faria, and translated by Elsa Amado

In this extraordinary book, readers are invited to imagine living without sight through innovative black-on-black illustrations and descriptions of colors based on texture and imagery. Braille letters accompany the illustrations and a full braille alphabet offers sighted readers help reading along with their fingers. Profound and imaginative! (4-8) ● ALA, Kirkus, PW, SLJ

Groundwood (HC) $17.95

The Dog Who Belonged to No One  
Amy Hest, Illustrated by Amy Bates

No one takes notice of a small dog with crooked ears who doesn’t have a home. He explores the streets every day, while across town a little girl named Lia pedals on her bicycle delivering breads and cakes. Both dream of finding a friend until fate brings them together. (4-8)

Abrams/Amulet (HC) $15.95
The House in the Night
Susan Marie Swanson, illustrated by Beth Krommes

A wondrous progressive journey down through the pages of a book and up to the stars. Full of beautiful and comforting imagery that’s just perfect for dreamy sleepyheads. “This bedtime gem shines its light clearly on things that matter—a home filled with books, art, music and ever-present love.” (4-8) ● ALA, PW, SLJ

Houghton (HC) $17.00

The Winter Book
Rob Raitot, Susanne Berner

This heartwarming collection celebrates the coldest season—from the late days of fall and Halloween to the earliest days of spring and Groundhog Day. It includes stories, seasonal and holiday songs, and information on international celebrations like Chinese New Year, Kwanzaa, Diwali, and Día de los Reyes. A treasure. (Family)

Groundwood (HC) $25.00

Thump, Quack, Moo: A Whacky Adventure
Doreen Cronin, illustrated by Betsy Lewin

Our favorite duck is back! It’s time for the annual Corn Maze Festival, and the farm is bustling with activity. As Farmer Brown designs the maze for the fair, Duck does some designing of his own. Another hysterical adventure from the team behind Click, Clack Moo, Cows That Type. (4-8) ● PW

Simon & Schuster (HC) $16.99

Too Many Toys
David Shannon

Spencer has too many toys! His father trips over them, his mother falls over them, and the house is overflowing with junk. Now its time to give some away. It’s hard, but in the end he fills a box, and decides there is one toy he just can’t part with. (4-8)

Scholastic (HC) $16.99

Traction Man Meets Turbo Dog
Mini Grey

Our favorite CAN-DO action toy is back. When Traction Man’s trusty pet Scrubbing Brush is thrown away and replaced with the farinferior TurboDog, Traction Man undertakes a dangerous trash mission to save him, and the Battle of the Bin is on! Rip-snorting funny, and perfect for reading aloud. (4-8) ● ALA, Hom, Kirkus, PW, SLJ

Random House (HC) $16.99

‘Twas the Day Before Zoo Day
Catherine Ipcizade, illustrated by Ben Hodson

Preparations are under way for Zoo Day, but things aren’t going according to plan. The llamas keep spitting, the giraffes are drooling, the zebras aren’t happy with their stripes—it’s all going wrong! What will the keepers do? Fun rhyming text, and plenty of great animal information. (4-8)

Sylvan Dell (HC) $16.95

Twenty Heartbeats
Dennis Hoosey, illustrated by Ed Young

When a wealthy Chinese man seeks out a famous painter and commissions a painting of his favorite horse, he does not realize it will take years of work to produce the perfect image. An elegant tableau about the nature of patience, artistry, and creating a work that transcends time. (4-8) ● PW

Roaring Brook (HC) $16.95

Walt Disney’s Alice in Wonderland
Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Mary Blair

The fantastical tale of a young girl chasing her white rabbit has delighted children since Lewis Carroll wrote it generations ago. Here his Wonderland shines anew, retold by The incomparable Jon Scieszka, and with the gorgeous original concept art from Mary Blair, one of the great 20th century illustrators. (4-8)

Disney Press (HC) $16.99

Wave
Suzi Lee

The evocative wordless story of a little girl’s day at the beach. Full of small pleasures like seagulls, chasing waves, finding shells, and running barefoot, this book perfectly captures the feeling that comes from a carefree day by the sea. An ABC favorite! (4-8) ● PW, SLJ

Chronicle (HC) $15.99

Willow
Denise Brennan-Nelson & Rosemarie Brennan, illustrated by Cyd Moore

Miss Hawthorne’s room is neat with not a pencil or paintbrush out of place, and she likes trees that are green and apples that are red. When Willow comes along with her pink trees and blue apples, Mrs. Hawthorne will never be the same! A great story about the power of creativity. (4-8)

Sleeping Bear Press (HC) $16.95

Wonder Bear
Tao Nyeu

When two kids plant some mysterious seeds, they get a vine with a remarkable flower and an even more remarkable white bear inside. So begins an imaginative visual adventure that will leave the children (both inside and outside of the book) wide-eyed with wonder. Wordless and totally amazing! (4-8) ● ALA

Penguin (HC) $17.99
A Bear Called Paddington 50th Anniversary Edition
Michael Bond, illustrated by Peggy Fortnum

In 1958, the story of a little bear found in London’s Paddington Station wearing the sign “Please look after this bear” was first published and has been beloved by children around the world ever since. This deluxe 50th anniversary edition includes full-color art throughout by the original artist. (5-10)

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $20.00

Lawn Boy
Gary Paulsen

An entrepreneurial tale about a boy, an old lawn mower, and a wacky stock trader whose smart advice turns this small-town boy into an overnight lawn care impresario. As his business grows, he starts wishing for a less hectic—and financially rewarding—summer. Laugh-out-loud funny. (9-12) • ALA

Random House (HC) $12.99

Sharks!
Anne Schreiber

He’s quick. He’s silent. He has five rows of deadly teeth. Meet one of our favorite non-fiction stars, the shark—who ruled the deep before dinosaurs roamed the earth. Cool photos bring kids into the shark’s world, and fun facts go deep into the shark’s scary science. (4-8)

National Geographic (PA) $3.99

Volcanoes!
Anne Schreiber

What’s hot and cool at the same time? Volcanoes! Super-heated liquid rock forces its way up through cracks in the Earth’s crust, exploding with spectacular fury. In this eye-popping introduction readers get a little of the science, a little of the history, and a lot of the action. (4-8)

National Geographic (PA) $3.99

Choose Your Own Adventure
Moon Quest
R. A. Montgomery

This classic interactive series is now in print for a whole new generation! The reader lives on the moon beneath a glass dome in a settlement called Tycho Colony. Every exploration beyond the dome means unknown danger; the reader’s decisions affect the outcome of the story. (7-12)

ChooseCo (PA) $6.99

Roscoe Riley Rules #1: Never Glue your Friends to Chairs
Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Brian Biggs

If the kids can’t sit still for the class performance, Roscoe’s teacher could be in big trouble. Fortunately Roscoe has a plan to save her—a super, mega, gonzo plan! What could go wrong? Meet Roscoe Riley—he’s not looking for trouble, but trouble comes anyway. (5-8)

HarperCollins (PA) $3.99

Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things
Lenore Look, illustrated by LeUyen Pham

Alvin Ho, an Asian American 2nd grader, is afraid of everything—elevators, tunnels, girls, and, most of all, school. He’s so afraid of school that he never, ever, says a word. But at home his alter ego Firecracker Man appears. A funny book about a truly unforgettable character. (6-10) • PW

Random House (HC) $16.99

The Mystery of Merlin and the Gruesome Ghost
Note Evans & Paul Hindman, illustrated by Vince Evans

All kids have to go to school, even detectives’ sidekicks, but Rat really doesn’t want to. That is, until he finds out that he might be King Arthur reborn. But before anything can happen, Humphry and his team must banish the resident school ghosts before they get scrambled themselves. (7-10)

Sourcebooks (PA) $4.99

Explore the world with these great new books from NatGeo!

Introducing Toon Books—the first collection to offer newly-emerging readers comics they can read themselves!

Developed with educators, written by veteran children’s book authors, and drawn by renowned cartoonists, these books are the perfect introduction to the magic of reading! (5-8) • ALA, PW

Toon Books (HC) $12.95

Benny and Penny in Just Pretend
Geoffrey Hayes

How can Benny pretend to be a brave pirate when his pesky little sister, Penny, wants to tag along and is always asking for a hug? He tries to lose her, but Penny proves her bravery and saves Benny from a bug.

Silly Lilly And the Four Seasons
Agnes Rosenstiehl

Lilly is a spunky little girl who delights in the unexpected pleasures of each season, peering inside shells in the summer and tasting different kinds of apples in the fall. Through a whole year, Lilly is full of wonder at what the seasons bring.

Stinky
Eleanor Davis

Stinky is a monster who loves pickles and possums—but is terrified of people! When a new kid enters his swamp, this adorable little monster comes up with all sorts of crazy plans to scare him away, with hysterical results.

Toy Dance Party
Emily Jenkins, illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky

The trio from Toys Go Out are back! Lumphy, Stingray, and Plastic find that their little girl has left for winter vacation and taken a box of dominoes, a stegosaurus puzzle, and two Barbie dolls—but not them. Could she have forgotten them? It’s the secret life of very sweet toys. (9-12) • Kirkus

Random House (HC) $15.99

The Case of the Fiendish Flapjack Flop
Note Evans & Paul Hindman, illustrated by Vince Evans

Humphry Dumpty Jr. has always gotten the bad guy. Always. Except once, when the case got too personal. You know that case. The one about his Dad….And now, a frantic call for help tells him that someone is making it personal again. (7-10)

Sourcebooks (PA) $4.99
Did you know? Children often read 1 to 2 grade levels higher when looking at comics. The visual information helps them read better.

Otto’s Orange Day
Frank Cammuso & Jay Lynch
When Otto the cat meets a magical genie, he knows just what to wish for: that the whole world be orange! At first it seems like a lot of fun, but when his mom serves orange spinach, Otto has second thoughts.

Mo and Jo: Fighting Together Forever
Dean Haspiel & Jay Lynch
Mona and Joey bicker about everything, especially who loves their favorite superhero more. When Mighty Mojo’s costume is ripped in half, can they overcome their differences and save the day, or will they let Saw-Jaw ruin the parade?

Babymouse #9: Monster Mash
Jennifer & Matt Holm
Our favorite mouse is back! This year, Babymouse is determined to have the best Halloween costume and party ever. Will Babymouse be the monster of her dreams? Will Felicia Furrypaws come to the party? And is that really the creature from the black lagoon living in Babymouse’s locker? (6+)

Random House (PA) $5.99

Johnny Boo: The Best Little Ghost in the World
James Kochalka
Johnny Boo is the best little ghost in the world because he’s got Boo Power. His pet ghost, Squiggle, has Squiggle Power. Together they have the world’s greatest ghost adventures until the giant pink and yellow Ice Cream Monster comes along. A sweet, funny new series. (6+)

Top Shelf (HC) $9.95

Amelia Rules: Funny Stories 1
Jimmy Gownley
If you’ve never met Amelia McBride, this is the perfect laugh-out-loud introduction. Forced out of Manhattan and into small-town life after her parents’ divorce, the 11 1/2-year-old Amelia struggles to keep her sanity among her new friends. “[P]eppered with wit and a healthy dollop of melodrama.”—Booklist (7+)

Renaissance Press (PA) $4.99

Korgi 2: The Cosmic Collector
Christian Slade
One of our favorite series! Things are not going too well in Korgi Hollow. While a mysterious hunter has trapped and clipped the wings of many mollies, Ivy and Sprout search for answers in the surrounding woods, but they may be facing something totally out of this world! (7+)

Top Shelf (PA) $10.00

Little Vampire
Joann Sfar
When Michael finds his homework mysteriously done every morning, he knows that something supernatural must be up. Investigating, he finds that the kid doing homework isn’t a person at all, but a vampire! So begins a wonderful graphic novel filled with friendship and exciting nightly adventures. (8+)

First Second (PA) $13.95

Alison Dare, Little Miss Adventures
J. Torres & J. Bone
Alison Dare is not your typical 12-year-old. The daughter of an archeologist/adventurer and the masked hero known as the Blue Scarab, a craving for danger is in her blood. Unfortunately, her parents have locked her away at private school but Alison and her friends find adventure to spare. Smart and funny. (9+)

Oni Press (PA) $8.95

Kaput and Zosky
Lewis Trondheim
Would-be world conquerors Kaput and Zosky are at the pinnacle of their careers. So why does victory always slip from their grasp? Each planet brings a new set of problems for these would-be blood-thirsty aliens. Mayhem and hilarity abound in these thirteen eye-catching stories. (9+)

First Second (PA) $13.95

Rapunzel’s Revenge
Shannon & Dean Hale, Illustrated by Nathan Hale
Rapunzel channels Annie Oakley in this rootin’ tootin’ lasso-whippin’ twist on a classic. Our hair-oine teams up with Jack (of beanstalk fame) to gallop around the wild and western landscape, changing lives, rights wrongs, and bringing joy to every soul they encounter. Oh yeah, they defeat the bad guys too! (9+)

Bloomsbury (HC) $18.99

Laugh your way through the whole Wimpy Kid collection!
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules
Jeff Kinney
The Wimpy Kid adventures continue. Don’t ask Greg Heffley how he spent his summer because he definitely doesn’t want to talk about it. He’s eager to put the past three months behind him—especially one event. But secrets have a way of getting out when a diary is involved. (9-12)

Abrams/Amulet (HC) $12.95
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (HC) $12.95
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Do-It-Yourself Book (HC) $10.95

Daniel X: Alien Hunter
James Patterson, Illustrated by Leopoldo Gout
After his parents’ brutal murder, Daniel inherited the coveted List of Alien Outlaws and assumed his father’s role as Alien Hunter. With his supreme abilities, like being able to shape-shift and conjure up long-dead family members out of thin air, Daniel is ready to take on the scum of the universe. (14+)

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (PA) $9.99

Comics to Go: 19 Stories for You to Finish
Mike Herrod
Aspiring comics, it’s your chance! Here are the beginnings of 19 stories. It’s up to the reader to complete them. Once all the stories have endings kids can make up their own comics using the blank pages at the end of the book. (4-8)

Blue Apple (HC) $12.95

Doodle All Year
Taro Gomi
The newest from our favorite creative guru! Playful drawings of spring, summer, fall, and winter scenes plus fun-to-follow instructions will have kids of all ages doodling, drawing, and stretching their imaginations all year long. Fantastic inspiration for the whole family. (all ages)

Chronicle (PA) $16.95
Middle Grades

**A Giant Problem (Beyond Spiderwick)**  
*Holly Black, Illustrated by Tony DiTerlizzi*

Another enjoyable episode for *Spiderwick* fans. Tony’s got a problem. He’d rather be hanging out and playing video games, but it seems it’s his fate to join his step-sister Laurie and fight the Giants that are waking up all around. So much for a nice, relaxing summer vacation. (9-12)  
**Simon & Schuster (HC) $10.99**

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**Airman**  
*Eoin Colfer*

Conor Broekhart was born to fly. He spends his days on his small island studying the science of flight and exploring the castle with the princess, but his life changes forever when he discovers a deadly conspiracy against the king. A great new adventure from the author of *Artemis Fowl*. (9-12)  
**PW, SLJ**

**Hyperion (HC) $17.99**  
**Listening Library (AUD) $44.00**

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**Brooklyn Bridge**  
*Karen Hesse*

It’s summer 1903, and Joseph Michtemchitch just wants is to see the new Coney Island amusement park. But even since his immigrant parents invented the teddy bear five months ago, all Joseph does is work. A fantastic coming of age novel set in one of New York’s most exciting times. (9-12)  
**PW, Kkus**

**Felwell and Friends (HC) $17.95**

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**Dodger and Me**  
*Jordan Sonnenblick*

What would you do if your best friend was: 1. Imaginary? 2. An oversize blue chimp in surfer shorts, who says he’s going to solve your problems? 3. Driving you crazy??!! Now you have an idea of what Willie Ryan’s life is like. A funny new series from one of our favorite authors. (9-12)  
**Felwell and Friends (HC) $16.95**

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**Double or Die: A James Bond Adventure**  
*Charlie Higson*

In a north London cemetery, a professor is kidnapped at gunpoint. Then a suspicious letter arrived with cryptic clues arrives at Eton. To decipher the deadly mystery, James Bond must take a series of dangerous gambles. This is no ordinary weekend, but then, James Bond is no ordinary boy. (10-14)  
**Hyperion (HC) $16.99**  
**Listening Library (AUD) $37.00**

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**Feathers**  
*Jacqueline Woodson*

The poem Frannie is reading says “Hope is the thing with feathers.” She hasn’t thought much about hope lately. There are so many other things to think about. Her brother’s death, her mother’s fear, the class bully’s anger, and her best friend’s faith. But maybe she wants hope most of all. (9-12)  
**Newbury Honor**

**Penguin (HC) $15.99**

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**Gone**  
*Michael Grant*

In the blink of an eye everyone disappears. GONE. Except for those under 14. No teachers, no cops, no doctors, no parents, no phones, no internet, no television. No way to get help. And no way to figure out what’s happened. In this terrifying new world, who will lead them? (10-14)  
**HarperCollins (HC) $17.99**

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**Heck: Where the Bad Kids Go**  
*Dale E. Basye*

When Milton and Marlo Fauster die in a marshmallow bear explosion, they get sent straight to Heck, an otherworldly reform school. Will Milton and Marlo find a way to escape? Or are they stuck here for all eternity—or until they turn 18, whichever comes first? A funny debut novel. (9-12)  
**PW**

**Random House (HC) $16.99**

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**Ignatius MacFarland: Frenquenaut!**  
*Paul Felg*

After being teased one too many times, Ignatius MacFarland decides to build a rocket. Maybe extraterrestrials are nicer than his classmates! But when his rocket takes an explosive wrong turn, Ignatius ends up in another reality run by former English-teacher-turned-dictator. Part comedy, part sci-fi, and totally funny. (9-12)  
**Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $16.99**

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**Inkdeath**  
*Cornelia Funke*

The Adderhead has ordered his henchmen to plunder the villages. The peasants’ only defense is a band of outlaws led by the Bluejay. To capture the renegade Bluejay, Adderhead kidnaps all the children in the kingdom, dooming them to slavery unless Mo surrenders. Another great story for Inkheart lovers! (9-12)  
**Scholastic (HC) $24.99**  
**Listening Library (AUD) $67.00**

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**Keeping Score**  
*Linda Sue Park*

Maggie doesn’t play baseball but she loves the Brooklyn Dodgers. After a fellow fan teaches her the art of scoring a game, he is drafted and sent to the Korean War. Maggie does her best to support her team and her friend in a difficult time. A lovely novel about hope, patience, and making a difference. (9-12)  
**PW**

**Clarion (HC) $16.00**

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**Masterpiece**  
*Elise Broach*

Marvin is a sensitive beetle who lives in James’ New York apartment. After James gets a pen-and-ink set for his birthday, Marvin surprises him by creating an elaborate miniature drawing. This sets off a fast-paced adventure involving stolen artwork and the Metropolitan museum. An instant classic and one of our favorites! (9-12)  
**PW**

**Henry Holt (HC) $16.95**

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**My One Hundred Adventures**  
*Polly Horvat*

Jane is 12. She is ready to move beyond the world of her family and their house by the sea and step into the “know-not what.” Adventures seem to find Jane, as she learns that it’s not what happens, but what you learn about yourself that matters. Remarkably lyrical. (9-12)  
**PW, ALA, Kkus, SLJ**

**Random House (HC) $16.99**  
**Listening Library (AUD) $30.00**

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RAISE READERS THE INDEPENDENT WAY
The Battle of the Labyrinth (Percy Jackson and the Olympians 4)
Rick Riordan
Percy isn’t expecting freshman orientation to be any fun, but when a mysterious mortal acquaintance appears on campus followed by demon cheerleaders, things quickly move from bad to worse. To stop the invasion, Percy and his demigod friends must set out on a quest through the Labyrinth—with stunning surprises at every turn! (9-12) • PW

Hyperion (HC) $17.99
Listening Library (AUD) $34.00

Savvy
Ingrid Law
On their 13th birthday, everyone in Mibbs’ family gets a “savvy.” She wonders if she will attract electricity or capture songs in jars like other family members. After her father is in a crash, she thinks her savvy will save him, so she sets off on a wild road trip into the unexpected. Offbeat, and completely wonderful. (9-12) • ALA, PW
Penguin/Walden Media (HC) $16.99

Science Fair
Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson
Grodnik the Strong, president of Krpishkan, is plotting to take over the American government by infiltrating the science fair at Hubble Middle School. Standing in his way is one very honest, very clever kid named Toby. What transpires is a hilarious adventure filled with mystery, suspense, and levitating frogs. (9-12)
Disney Editions (HC) $18.99
Brilliance Audio (AUD) $29.99

Simon Bloom, the Gravity Keeper
Michael Reisman
Simon Bloom can’t believe his luck when he finds a book that enables him to control the laws of physics. He can cancel gravity, decrease friction, and generally goof off in any number of ways. But when two things come after him, Simon must use the formulas to save the book—and the world. (9-12) • PW
Penguin (HC) $15.99
Listening Library (AUD) $34.00

The 13 Clocks
James Thurber, illustrated by Marc Simont
This beautiful new edition of James Thurber’s hilarious fairytale has it all: a princess, an evil duke, plenty of mayhem, and a wicked sense of humor. “It’s one of the great kids’ books of the last century... it’s certainly the most fun that anybody can have reading anything aloud.” – Neil Gaiman (9-12)
New York Review Children’s Collection (HC) $14.95

The 13th Reality: The Journal of Curious Letters
James Dashner
A boy, a mysterious letter, 12 clues, a girl, a dad, and two very odd strangers are the ingredients in this story about a pretty average kid who receives a missive with a choice: save the world by solving a puzzle, or burn it and walk away. What would you do? (9-12)
Shadow Mountain (HC) $17.95

The Magic Thief
Sarah Prineas
Conn should have dropped dead the day he tried to steal wizard Nevvy’s focus magicalis stone. Intrigued, Nevvy makes Conn his apprentice, but he has no time to study. It’s clear something is stealing the city’s magic, and Conn must figure out what before they are all destroyed. (9-12) • ALA
HarperCollins (HC) $16.99

The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey
Trenton Lee Stewart
The fabulously foursome are on another adventure! After reuniting for a celebratory scavenger hunt, Reynie, Kate, Sticky, and Constance are forced to go on an unexpected search—to find Mr. Benedict. It seems he stepped right into a trap orchestrated by his evil twin Mr. Curtain. Can they find him in time? (9-12) • ALA, PW, SJ
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $16.99

The Penderwicks on Gardam Street
Jeanne Birdsall
The Penderwick sisters are at home and ready for adventure. However, their aunt has decided that Mr. Penderwick needs a wife, and so must begin dating. The girls know that this can mean only one thing—disaster—and so they launch the Save-Daddy-Plan with predictably hysterical results. A terrific family read. (12+) • ALA, PW, SJ
Random House (HC) $15.99
Listening Library (AUD) $39.00

The Underneath
Kathi Appelt, illustrated by David Small
A deceptively deep tale about a dog, a cat, and her kittens who bond and take shelter under the porch of a house owned by a violent man. When one of the kittens ventures from the “Underneath,” she sets into motion an explosive chain of events. An epic tale of betrayal, revenge and love. (9-12)
Simon & Schuster (HC) $16.99

The Willoughbys
Lois Lowry
Taking a page from Lemony Snicket, this two-time Newbery winner has crafted a hilariously gothic parody. Tim, the twins, (Barnaby A and Barnaby B), and their sister Jane would love a happy ending after all they’ve been through, but it’s not until they discover an abandoned baby on their step that they get their wish. (9-12) • ALA, PW
Houghton (HC) $6.00
Listening Library (AUD March 09) $25.00
42 Miles
Tracy Vaughn Zimmer
JoEllen’s parents divorced when she was young, so she was used to splitting her time. But when her dad moves to the old family farm, her life is suddenly divided. Now on weekdays she’s a hip city girl, Ellen, and on weekends she’s a laid-back country girl, Joey. Who is the real JoEllen? (9-14)
Clarion (HC) $16.00
Afrika
Colleen Craig
A critically acclaimed novel about a young girl’s remarkable journey to post-Apartheid South Africa. Against the backdrop of the Truth and Reconciliation hearings, she learns more than one life-changing family secret. She comes to understand that her history is intimately bound with that of the country. Powerful and thought-provoking. (12+) • SLJ
Tundra (PA) $9.95
After Tupac and D Foster
Jacqueline Woodson
The day D Foster enters the other girls’ lives, the world opens up for them helping them see loss, foster families, and surprising freedom. Tupac’s music touches them all, but D is the one who truly understands. When D leaves, Tupac is gone, too. “[A] slender, note-perfect novel.” —The Washington Post (12+) • PW, SLJ
Penguin (HC) $15.99
Breaking Dawn
Stephanie Meyer
The long-awaited conclusion to the Twilight Saga. Torn between vampire Edward, and werewolf Jacob, a tumultuous year of temptation, loss, and strife have led Bella to the ultimate turning point. She must join the dark but seductive world of immortals or pursue a fully human life. The fates of two tribes hang on a slender thread. (14+)
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $21.99
Chalice
Robin McKinley
As the new Chalice, Mirasol must bind the land and people with their new Master. But he is a Priest of Fire, only drawn back into the world by the death of his brother. Mirasol wants him to have his chance, but how can she succeed when his hand can burn flesh to the bone? Masterful and engaging. (14+) • PW
Penguin (HC) $18.99
Climbing the Stairs
Padma Venkatraman
India, 1941. After Vidya’s father is beaten by British police during a protest, she is forced to join her grandfather’s oppressive family. Her only refuge is in the house’s library. There she meets Raman who appreciates her curiosity. As events outside and inside escalate, Vidya must find her place in a rapidly changing world. (12+) • PW
Penguin (HC) $16.99
Confessions of a Triple Shot Betty
Jody Gehman
Geena is psyched to be working at the Triple Shot Betty coffee shop with her two best friends—Amber and her cousin Hero—but the moment her friends meet they hate each other. All is not what it seems in this hilarious story of mistaken identities, crazy summer high jinks, madcap romance, and double lattes. (14+) • SLJ
Penguin (HC) $16.99
Creepers
Joanne Dahme
Being new is hard, but Courtney isn’t staying dead. Termed "differently biotic" kid to do? When Phoebe falls for their offering helpful tips, and teaching girls how to find what works for them personally, this is a great way to help young women navigate this life-changing event. Includes book, calendar, stickers, and ripper supplies case. (12+) • SLJ
Running Press (HC) $15.95
Generation Dead
Daniel Waters
Some teenagers who die aren’t staying dead. Termed “living impaired”, they are doing their best to blend in, but the kids at Oakvale High don’t want them. What’s a “differently biotic” kid to do? When Phoebe falls for their leader, Oakvale High will never be the same. (14+)
Hyperion (HC) $16.99
Ghostgirl
Tonya Hurley
Charlotte Usher feels practically invisible at school, and then one day she really is invisible—she’s dead. And all because she chucked a gummy bear. But being dead doesn’t stop Charlotte from wanting to be popular; it just makes her more creative about achieving her goal. (12+) •ALA, KtHS, PW
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $17.99
Gotcha Covered: Everything You Need to Know About Your Period
Lisa McGuinness & Chris Boral
The big sister or friend-in-the-know that every girl needs. By answering questions, offering helpful tips, and teaching girls how to find what works for them personally, this is a great way to help young women navigate this life-changing event. Includes book, calendar, stickers, and ripper supplies case. (12+) • SLJ
Chronicle (Kit) $14.99
How I Saved My Father’s Life (and Ruined Everything Else)
Ann Hood
Twelve-year-old Madeline believes she can perform miracles. She saved her father from an avalanche. But, unimpressively, he soon divorces Madeline’s mother, to seek fame and fortune. Madeline is left with her frazzled mother, her hypochondriac little brother, a house that is falling apart, and no clue how to fix it all. Funny and very honest. (12+) • PW
Scholastic (HC) $16.99
How to Build a House
Dana Reinhardt
To escape a painful divorce, Harper joins a summer program to build a house for a needy family. Soon she’s living in a funky motel and working long days with a group of kids. When romance blossoms, Harper finds that learning to trust will help her find her way back home. (14+) • PW, SLJ
Random House (HC) $15.99
Listening Library Audio (AUD) $35.00
How to Raise Your Parents: A Teen Girl’s Survival Guide
Sarah O’Leary Burningham, illustrated by Bella Pilar
In a voice teens will relate to and parents will appreciate, this book deals with raising parents and parenting parents. Perfect for helping teens and their parents navigate those sometimes challenging years between training bras and keys to the family car. (13-17)
Chronicle (HC) $12.99

Living Dead Girl
Elizabeth Scott
When Alice was 10, Ray kidnapped her. She learned to give up all power and wait for the nightmare to be over. Now Alice is fifteen and he speaks more and more of her death. He does not know it is what she longs for. She does not know he has something more terrifying in mind.
Disturbing but fascinating. (14+) ● PW
Simon & Schuster (HC) $16.99

Lock and Key
Sarah Dessen
For the past few month, Ruby’s been on her own, knowing that her mother will probably never return. When she’s turned in, she goes to live with her sister and gets all the material wealth she could dream of. So why is Ruby such a reluctant Cinderella? And what’s up with the mysterious boy next door? (12+) ● PW
Penguin (HC) $18.99

Impossible
Nancy Werlin
The women in Lucy’s family are cursed, forced to attempt three impossible tasks or to go mad upon their child’s birth. Newly pregnant, Lucy has nine months to break the curse. She has her foster parents and the father of her baby to help her, but do they have love and strength enough to overcome an ancient evil? (14+) ● PW
Simon & Schuster (HC) $17.99
Irregular
Brilliance Audio (AUD) $29.95

In a voice teens will relate to and parents will appreciate, this book deals with raising parents and parenting parents. Perfect for helping teens and their parents navigate those sometimes challenging years between training bras and keys to the family car. (13-17)
Chronicle (HC) $12.99

Outsiders
Stephenie Meyer
Although the “Outsiders” of the title are the Jarrett twins, the focus of this novel is the Jarrett family, which consists of a mother and an extended family of aunts, uncles, and cousins. The title applies to Cass and her twin sister, Maia, just as it applies to the rest of the family.
A coming-of-age novel about a girl who wants to be normal.
(12+) ● PW
Penguin (HC) $16.99

Once Upon a Time in the North
Philip Pullman
In this fantastic prequel to The Golden Compass, Texan aeronaut Lee Scoresby has just won a hot-air balloon in a poker game. After floating to the windswept Arctic, he and his daemon are tangled in a deadly plot, and he joins with an armored bear (guess who?) for a gun-twirling classic western shoot out. (12+) ● ALA
Random House (HC) $12.99
Listening Library (AUD) $25.00

Pretty Monsters
Kelly Link, Illustrated by Sean Tan
A remarkable collection of atmospheric short stories. From the teen who tries to recover a poem from his dead girlfriend’s grave, to the mellow surfer waiting for the aliens, these stories grab and don’t let go. “Brilliant language renders…ghosts, magic, and monsters sublime—at times even funny. Readers will relish…these savory, strange stories.”—SLJ (14+)
Penguin (HC) $19.99

Inside Beauty
Cynthia Kadohata
Shelby and her sisters have different fathers. Their beautiful Japanese-American mother collects men like jewelry. She’s not your typical mom, but she’s feisty and she loves them. When she’s in a car crash, the sisters go to live with their fathers, but with one in trouble, these girls will do what it takes to get back together. (14+) ● PW
Simon & Schuster (HC) $16.99

Princess Ben
Catherine Gilbert Murdock
Benevolence is not your typical princess and this is not your typical fairy tale. With her parents lost and under the thumb of the conniving Queen Sophia, Ben stumbles upon an enchanted room. So begins her secret education in magic. But can Princess Ben save her kingdom and herself? Full of humor and spirit. (14+) ● SLJ
Houghton (HC) $16
Brilliance Audio (AUD) $29.99

Disturbing but fascinating. (14+) ● PW
Simon & Schuster (HC) $16.99

Madapple
Christina Meldrum
Aslaug is an unusual young woman. Her mother has brought her up in near isolation, teaching her about plants, but not about life—especially her own origin. When her mother dies unexpectedly, Aslaug is a suspect, and questions unfold about divine miracles and the darkest corners of the human soul. Shocking and thought-provoking.
(14+) ● ALA, Kirkus, PW, SLJ
Random House (HC) $16.99
Listening Library (AUD) $55.00

Maximum Ride: The Final Warning
James Patterson
Maximum Ride and his “Flock” are just like ordinary kids—only they have wings and can fly. The government wants to keep the Flock under observation, but they have grown to love freedom. After escaping the FEDs, they are tangled in a deadly plot, and he joins with an armored bear (guess who?) for a gun-twirling classic western shoot out.
Penguin (HC) $16.99

Pretty Monsters
Kelly Link, Illustrated by Sean Tan
A remarkable collection of atmospheric short stories. From the teen who tries to recover a poem from his dead girlfriend’s grave, to the mellow surfer waiting for the aliens, these stories grab and don’t let go. “Brilliant language renders…ghosts, magic, and monsters sublime—at times even funny. Readers will relish…these savory, strange stories.”—SLJ (14+)
Penguin (HC) $19.99

Little Brother
Cory Doctorow
In this techno-thriller, Marcus, a.k.a “w1n5t0n,” is arrested by the Department of Homeland Security after he hacks his school’s security system. There is a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, and he is mercilessly interrogated before being released. His city now a police state, he knows the only solution is to take the DHS down.
(14+) ● ALA, PW, SLJ
Tor (HC) $17.95

My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, and Fenway Park
Steve Kluger
Three high schoolers, two boys and one girl, look back on their 9th grade year for a school report. Told in alternating essays, plus notes, letters, IMs, newspaper clippings, diary entries, and other ephemera, this is a laugh-out-loud story that’s full of honesty, great characters, and plenty of heart.
(14+) ● Kirkus, SLJ
Penguin (HC) $16.99

Princess Ben
Catherine Gilbert Murdock
Benevolence is not your typical princess and this is not your typical fairy tale. With her parents lost and under the thumb of the conniving Queen Sophia, Ben stumbles upon an enchanted room. So begins her secret education in magic. But can Princess Ben save her kingdom and herself? Full of humor and spirit. (14+) ● SLJ
Houghton (HC) $16
Brilliance Audio (AUD) $29.99
both confronted with memories of their difficult situations. When Cameron disappears, now in Troy Summer on Broadway, she becomes a popular girl. When Cameron transforms into Jenna, a high school student, Jennifer has her school's only friend. Then the Other Side of the Island tells the story of how she got that way. (14+)

Sovay
Celia Rees
England, 1783. When the rich and beautiful Sovay isn’t sitting for portraits, she’s donning a man’s cloak and robbing travelers—in broad daylight. When Sovay lifts the wallet of one of England’s most powerful men, she’s in for trouble. Roles of thieves and gentriness, good and bad, shift quickly in this great Robin-Hood tale. (14+) ● PW

Hyperion (HC) $16.99
Blissound Audio (AUD) $29.95

Sweethearts
Sara Zarr
As children, Jennifer Harris and Cameron Quick were both social outcasts, and each other’s only friend. Then Cameron disappears. Now in high school, Jennifer has transformed into Jenna, a popular girl. When Cameron suddenly reappears, they are both confronted with memories of their difficult shared past. Powerful. (14+) ● ALA, PW, VOA

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $16.99

The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks
E. Lockhart
Frankie Landau-Banks, age 14: A mildly geeky girl attending boarding school. At age 15: No longer taking “no” for an answer, especially when “no” means exclusion from her boyfriend’s all-male secret society. At age 16: Possibly a criminal mastermind. This is the story of how she got that way. (14+) ● ALA, Ktks, PW, SLJ

Walker (HC) $16.95

The Possibilities of Sainthood
Donna Freitas
Meet Antonia Lucia. She has plenty of teen angst, and her way of dealing is to pray to the saints. When her petition for a first kiss doesn’t quite work out, Antonia decides there needs to be a special saint for that, and she should be it. Why not? Original and laugh-out-loud funny. (14+) ● PW

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.95
Blissound Audio (AUD) $29.95

The Hunger Games
Suzanne Collins
One of our favorite books of the year! American Idol meets Gladiator, as smart, athletic Katniss must fight to the death in the Hunger Games, a televised competition among children representing the 12 conquered districts of future North America. If she wins—it’s fame and fortune, if she loses—it’s her life. (14+)

Scholastic (HC) $17.99

The Joys of Love
Madeleine L’Engle
This moving and romantic coming-of-age story was written during the 1940s, although it feels timeless. Elizabeth, a recent college graduate, goes against the wishes of her guardian and pursues her dream of becoming an actress in a summer-stock company. In the last week of the summer, she discovers what love really is. (14+)

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.95

The Summoning
Kelley Armstrong
Chloe Saunders’ life will never be the same again. She just wanted to make friends, meet boys, and keep on being ordinary. But that all ended on the day she saw her first ghost—and the ghost saw her. Now there are ghosts everywhere and they won’t leave her alone. A great supernatural mystery. (14+)

HarperCollins (HC) $17.99

The Year We Disappeared
Cylin and John Busby
When Cylin Busby was nine, her police-officer father was brutally shot on his way to work. Overnight, the Busbys went from being the “family next door” to one under 24-hour armed guard. With few choices remaining for a secure future, the Busby family left everything and simply disappeared. A true story. (14+)

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.95

Trouble
Gary D. Schmidt
When his brother dies following a car accident, Henry sets the goal to climb Katahdin, the highest mountain in Maine. Along with his dog, his best friend, and—surprisingly—the boy whose car was involved in the accident, Henry experiences a journey that is physically daunting and spiritually exhilarating. Funnny and poignant. (12-15) ● SLJ

Clarion (HC) $16.00

Vibes
Amy Kathleen Ryan
Nothing is beyond Kristi Carmichael’s disdain—her hippie high school, her friend Jacob, or her workaholic mom. As a mind-reader, she knows what they’re all thinking, especially her crush—Gusty Peterson. But after a series of bombshells with Gusty, her best friend, and her father, she suddenly doubts she can read people at all. (14+)

Houghton (HC) $16.00
Blissound Audio (AUD) $29.95

Saving Juliet
Suzanne Selfors
Mimi has the life that most girls dream of—playing Juliet opposite hottie Troy Summer on Broadway. Unfortunately, she doesn’t want to act, something her mother just doesn’t get. But when she and Troy are magically thrust into Shakespeare’s Verona, Mimi realizes she and Juliet have more in common than she thought. (14+) ● PW

Walker (HC) $16.95

The Other Side of the Island
Allegra Goodman
A post-apocalyptic novel about love, loss, and the power of choice. Honor and her parents have been reassigned to live on Island 365 in the Tranquil Sea. The weather is controlled by a corporation, and everyone fits into their predictable place—except Honor. She doesn’t fit in at all. (14+)

Penguin (HC) $16.99

The Magician
Michael Scott
In this sequel to The Alchemyst, Nicholas, Sophie, Josh, and Scylla emerge in Paris, Nicholas’ home, but this homecoming is anything but sweet. Paris is teeming with enemies. In order to save Nicholas and Pereneill, Sophie must learn the second elemental magic: Fire Magic, and time is running out! Totally action-packed. (12+) ● Ktks

Random House (HC) $16.99

The Adoration of Jenna Fox
Mary Pearson
Who is Jenna Fox? She doesn’t know. She’s just woken up from a coma they say has lasted more than a year. But what happened before that? She begins to watch videos of her childhood, and picks up the story her parents are telling her until a darker truth emerges. A real nail-biter. (14+) ● ALA, PW, SLJ

Henry Holt (HC) $16.95

The Diamond of Drury Lane
Julia Golding
She’s Cat Royal—four foot four, with long red hair, green eyes and not a penny to call her own. But she does know a secret—where a treasure is hidden in the theater that is her home. The problem is, she’s not the only one looking for it. (14+) ● Ktks, SLJ

Roaring Brook (HC) $16.95

The Possibilities of Sainthood
Donna Freitas
Meet Antonia Lucia. She has plenty of teen angst, and her way of dealing is to pray to the saints. When her petition for a first kiss doesn’t quite work out, Antonia decides there needs to be a special saint for that, and she should be it. Why not? Original and laugh-out-loud funny. (14+) ● PW

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Houghton (HC) $16.00
Blissound Audio (AUD) $29.95
Dr. Frankenstein’s Human Body Book
Richard Walker
Join Dr. Frankenstein on an eye-popping tour-de-force as he assembles a human step-by-step. From atoms and the skeletal system, to tissues and organs, the senses, brain, and more, readers will be engaged (sorry!) in this anatomical wonderland that combines gothic artwork with state-of-the-art information. (9-12) ● PW
DK (HC) $24.99

Fairies and Magical Creatures
Matthew Reinhart and Robert Sabuda
An entrancing look inside the fairy realm from the masters of pop-up. Trees become faces, flowers become fairies, and a crystalline elfin castle rises into the clouds in this breathtaking 3-D tour off all things magical and spellbinding. This book will hold humans of all ages in its spell. (9-12)
Candlewick (Pop-up) $27.99

The Scrambled States of America Talent Show
Laurie Keller
The 50 states have come together for a spectacular talent show. Who knew that they were such a bunch of hams? But when one state gets stage fright will the show go on? Full of wacky puns, fantastical facts, and plenty of silliness, learning geography has never been this fun! (9-12) ● PW
Henry Holt (HC) $16.95

Those Amazing Musical Instruments!
Genevieve Helby
Take a trip with a world class conductor in this fantastic introduction to the orchestra. Young musicians can learn about instrument families, see the parts of the violin working together, or hear the different sounds of the tuba and more on the included CD-ROM. It’s a magical musical adventure. (9-12) ● SL
Sourcebooks (HC w/ CD) $19.95

Do Not Open: An Encyclopedia of the World’s Best-Kept Secrets
John Farrndon
Here’s an irresistible book about all the things THEY don’t want you to know about. From the Mona Lisa’s hidden past to the history of Area 51, Do Not Open explores lost worlds, unravel secret codes, and lets readers step through the looking glass to see if they can handle the truth! (9-12) ● PW, ● VOYA Nonfiction Honor
DK (HC) $24.99

Cool Stuff Exploded
Chris Woodford
This super cool technology book visually explains everyday objects to show how they work. A piece-by-piece breakdown of cell phones, computers, cars, and more. Includes interactive CD-ROM with animations of all the “exploded” views. Perfect for all the techies in your family! (9+)
DK (HC) $24.99

Swords: An Artist’s Devotion
Ben Foons
A celebration of swords and swordsmen from ancient warriors to medieval knights, stealthy ninja and samurai, the legendary maidens of war and beyond. Illustrated with breathtaking intricacy and loving detail, this armory-in-a-book is perfect for any weapon lover who dreams of fantastical adventure. (9+)
Candlewick (HC) $24.99

Everyone from the smallest readers to the most sophisticated adults fall in love with David Carter’s abstract pop-up books.

Yellow Square
David Carter
In this book, readers search for the hidden yellow square on each page of this intricately engineered paper wonder. (9+)
Simon & Schuster (Pop up) $19.99

600 Black Spots
David Carter
It is a rare book that is at-home on the coffee table and on the children’s bookshelf. Readers can spend hours searching for black spots throughout the pages—but be careful! Tricks and surprises abound in this endlessly entertaining, award-winning pop-up. (9+) ● NYT Best Illustrated Book
Simon & Schuster (Pop up) $19.99

Magic: The Complete Course in Becoming a Magician
Joshua Jay
At last, a serious and accessible magic book for teens and adults! Written by a young award-winning professional magician, it combines expertise, photographs, step-by-step directions for 100 tricks, and a DVD that demonstrates 75 of them. A great gift for the serious magic lover. (12+)
Workman (PA w/CD) $19.95
The Way We Work
David Macaulay
Discover just how remarkable the human body really is. From cells, bones, and organs, to unique cross-sections and perspectives of the body, and even a little humor along the way, this is a comprehensive visual tour-de-force from a master illustrator. You will never look at yourself in the same way again! (9+) © Hom, SJ
Houghton (HC) $35.00

Non-Fiction

Biology
Dan Green, Illustrated by Simon Bashen
Nature’s building blocks have never been more sociable! Adorable manga-style illustrations and quirky first person descriptions provide an entertaining, smart look at the basics of biology—from cells and plants, to animals and humans. Includes a poster of the body’s systems. (9-12)
Kingfisher (PA) $8.95

What the World Eats
Faith D’Aluisio, Illustrated by Peter Menzel
Ever wonder what families in China eat? How about Chad? This fantastic book visits 25 families in 21 countries, each family is photographed surrounded by a week’s worth of food and groceries. Includes plenty of thought-provoking information, like how much it costs families to eat in different places. (4-8) © SJ
Tricycle (HC) $22.99

Join Hands
Pat Mora, Illustrated by George Ancona
Nothing is more universal than friends coming together to sing, dance, and play in this tribute to community. Pat Mora weaves the repeating lines of a pantoum, a Malaysian poetic form, into a joyful celebration while energetic photos capture the ways we enjoy good times with others. (4-8)
Charlesbridge (HC) $15.95 / (PA) $6.95

Life on Earth—and Beyond
Pamela Turner
Ever wonder what an astrobiologist does? For the past 30 years, NASA astrobiologist Dr. Chris McKay has searched extreme environments all over the globe looking for microbial life. By studying environments that mirror those on Mars and other planets, he hopes to find out if life can exist beyond earth. (9-12) © PW, SJ
Charlesbridge (HC) $19.95 / (PA) $11.95

Dinomummy: The Life, Death and Discovery of Dakota, a Dinosaur from Hell Creek
Phillip Lars Manning
North Dakota, 2000. Teenage dino-hunter Tyler Lyson stumbles across something never seen before—a three-dimensional mummified dinosaur—a dino-mummy! He and a paleontologist from the University of Manchester in England, Dr. Phil Manning, lead an excavation destined to change the way we think about dinosaurs. (9-12) © PW
Kingfisher (HC) $18.95

Animals—A Visual Encyclopedia
DK Publishing
A wild guide to the animal kingdom for young readers—everything from aardvarks to zebras with up-close photography and special features on the biggest, fastest, strongest, and strangest animals out there. A treat for young zoologists! (4-10)
DK (HC) $29.99

Face to Face with Lions
Derek Joubert, Illustrated by Beverly Joubert
You look straight ahead. You try to breathe normally. You smell the huge cat that is staring back. You are a cameraman. He is the king of beasts. Your only thought is “I hope he has already eaten today.” Join these NatGeo Explorers for a walk on the (really) wild side. (9-12)
National Geographic (HC) $16.95

How Many Ways Can You Catch a Fly
Robin Page, Illustrated by Steve Jenkins
Flies are fast! They can hover, walk upside down, and use their lightning-quick reflexes to escape predators. But rainbow trout, slender lorises, chimney swifts, and assassin bugs can catch them. How do such different animals manage to do it? An eye-popping introduction to adaptation. (4-8)
Houghton (HC) $16.00

River of Words: Young Poets and Artists on the Nature of Things
Pamela Michael & Robert Hass
More than 250 poems from children all over the world about their personal relationship with water. This remarkable collection was compiled by the River of Words Project through an international writing contest to get kids more attuned to their environment. (9-12) © PW
Milkweed (PA) $18

Show and Tell: Exploring the Fine Art of Children’s Book Illustration
Dlys Evans
A treat for children’s book lovers! Written by an industry pioneer, this book teaches the reader how to look for the perfect marriage of art and text. It examines the work of some of today’s top artists including David Wiesner, Lane Smith, David Shannon, Betsy Lewin and many more! (14+) © SJ
Chronicle (HC) $24.99

Earth Matters
David de Rothchild
Divided into sections corresponding to the earth’s regions, packed with spectacular color photographs, and a wide variety of information about ecology, animals, and geography, this book is a celebration of our fragile earth, a warning to protect it, and an inspiring source of ideas for positive change. (8-12)
DK (HC) $24.99
February 12, 2009 is the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln, our 16th President

Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek: A Tall Thin Tale
Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by John Hendrix
A tall tale of two boys who get themselves into big trouble during the year 1816. Abe and Austin decide to journey down to fast running Knob Creek. Although neither knows how to swim, they try to traverse it. If Austin hadn’t been there would our country be the same? (4-8)
Random House (HC) $16.99

Abe’s Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln
Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by Kadir Nelson
A remarkable biography of Lincoln’s life that pairs lyrical prose and incredible artwork with Lincoln’s own words to build a portrait of the man who became our 16th President. From backwoods boyhood, to his first view of slavery in New Orleans, the Illinois legislature, and the Civil War. (8-12)
Hyperion (HC) $16.99

Lincoln Shot: A President’s Life Remembered
Barry Denenberg, illustrated by Christopher Bing
Formatted like a first anniversary edition of a newspaper after Lincoln’s death, containing three sections: a moment-by-moment report of Lincoln’s last day, the log cabin where Lincoln’s life unfolds; and a year-by-year account of the Civil War thru Lincoln’s eyes. Meticulously researched and exquisitely designed. (9-12)
Feiwel and Friends (HC) $24.95

Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out
National Children’s Book and Literary Alliance
A superlative collection of essays, personal accounts, historical fiction, poetry, and original art from more than 100 writers and artists. An amazing look at the White House across time and an inspiring reminder that the story of the White House is the story of America. “A blue-ribbon choice for family sharing during an election year.”—PW (9-12)
Hyperion (HC) $16.99

Ain’t Nothing But a Man: My Quest to Find the Real John Henry
Scott Reynolds Nelson with Marc Aronson
Who was the real John Henry? In this quest for the man behind the myth, Nelson presents the famous folk song as a mystery to be unraveled. Clues within the lyrics uncover many surprising truths. A fascinating piece of historical detective work. (9-12)
ALA, Kliys, PW, SLJ
National Geographic (HC) $18.95

Students on Strike: Jim Crow, Civil Rights, Brown, and Me
John A Stokes with Lois Wolfe and Herman Viola
The inspiring story of a group of African-American high school students in Prince Edward County, VA, who went on strike in 1951 to protest the substandard conditions in their segregated school. They eventually became plaintiffs in Brown-v-Board of Education. Told by one of the original strikers who helped change history. (9-12)
SLJ
National Geographic (HC) $15.95

A Thousand Never Evers
Shana Burg
An up-close look at the racism and violence endured in an African-American community in rural Mississippi in 1963. Addie Ann Pickett knows how she’s expected to behave, but when she is swept up in larger events, she must decide where she stands. By turns funny, poignant, and totally heart-wrenching. (14+) PW
Random House (HC) $15.99

President Pennybaker
Kate Feiffer
Sick of all the work he has to do, Luke Pennybaker devises a plan to run for president and make life fair for kids once and for all. When his “Pennies for Pennybaker” campaign takes off, is being president of the United States all a kid could hope for? (4-8)
Random House (HC) $15.99

Our American History

DON’T SEE A BOOK YOU WANT? ASK US TO ORDER IT FOR YOU!
The Gift of Nothing
Patrick McDonnell

Mooch the cat desperately wants to find a gift for his friend Earl the dog, but Earl already has everything. "What do you give a guy who has everything?" Mooch wonders. The answer, of course, is nothing! A delightful reminder that there are things more important than stuff. (3+)  

Hug Time
Patrick McDonnell

Jules the kitten is so filled with love he wanted to give the whole world a hug! And so he goes down the stairs to hug his friends, then the birds in the park—and then everyone he meets! As Jules learns, a hug is the purest gift we can give. (3+)  

First the Egg
Laura Vaccaro Seeger

Seed becomes flower, paint becomes picture, word becomes story—and the commonplace becomes extraordinary as children look through and turn the pages in this Caldecott Honor book. “Another perfectlypitched triumph from an emerging master of the concept book...” —Kirkus Reviews (2-5)  

Global Babies

Seventeen cultures, seventeen gorgeous babies. Beautiful color photographs depict diverse traditions and showcase clothing worn by babies from around the world. A simple narrative demonstrates that no matter how different babies appear, they are all very much alike—nurtured and loved by those who care for them. (2-5)  

Notable Books

The Name of This Book is Secret
Pseudonymous Bosch

Two friendless 11-year-olds come together to solve the mystery surrounding a dead magician and the clues he left behind. With a mysterious case containing vials of liquid, encoded messages, incredible danger, and two evil-doers hot on their heels, will they succeed? This book is packed with old-fashioned adventure! (9-12)  

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (PA) $16.99

The Wild Girls
Pat Murphy

It’s 1972. Twelve-year-old Joan expects to be miserable when her family moves, but then she meets Fox, a most unusual girl. The two girls start writing their own stories together, and when one wins first place in a contest, they learn that coming of age means finding your own answers. (9-12)  

Penguin (PA) $7.99

Three Little Words
Ashley Rhodes-Courter

Ashley Rhodes-Courter spent nine years of her life in 14 different foster homes after her mother could no longer care for her. Painful memories of separation are quickly consumed by real-life horrors, but ultimately she finds safety, hope and the courage to succeed. An honest and totally inspiring memoir. (12+)  

Simon & Schuster (HC) $17.99

My Letter to the World and Other Poems
Emily Dickinson, Illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault

In this beautiful addition to the Visions in Poetry series, Isabelle Arsenault’s subtle and haunting imagery brings Dickinson’s classic poetry to a modern audience. Includes six poems and extensive notes on the poet’s life and work. (12+)  

Kids Can Press (PA) $9.95

Your Own, Sylvia
Stephanie Hemphill

On a bleak February day in 1963, a young American poet died by her own hand and passed into a myth in the hearts and minds of millions. She was Sylvia Plath and this is a portrait of her life, told in poems. A great introduction for newcomers, and an unflinching valentine for the devoted. (14+)  

Random House (HC) $15.99

RAISE READERS THE INDEPENDENT WAY
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian  
Sherman Alexie  
Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written. Based on the author’s own experiences, it chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live. A masterpiece by a talented contemporary voice. (12+) ○ National Book Award Winner, Horn Book Award  
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (HC) $16.99

Life as We Knew It  
Susan Beth Pfeffer  
A normal teenager, living a normal life, Miranda’s world is turned upside down when a meteor knocks the moon closer to the earth. As summer turns to arctic winter, Miranda and her family struggle to figure out how to survive and hold on to hope in an increasingly desperate and unfamiliar world. (14+) ○ ALA Harcourt (PA) $6.95  
Listening Library Audio (AUD) $45.00

The Theorem of Underlying Katherine  
Miles Halter is fascinated by famous last words and tired of his boarding school to seek what the dying poet Francois Rabelais called in the middle of the night—dressed like a ninja and plotting an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows her. When day breaks she has vanished. Always an enigma, Mango has now become a mystery. But there are clues. And they are for Q. (14+) ○ Penguin (HC) $17.99  
Brilliance Audio (AUD) $29.99

Looking for Alaska  
John Green  
Miles Halter is fascinated by famous last words and tired of his boarding school to seek what the dying poet Francois Rabelais called in the middle of the night—dressed like a ninja and plotting an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows her. When day breaks she has vanished. Always an enigma, Mango has now become a mystery. But there are clues. And they are for Q. (14+) ○ Penguin (PA) $7.99

Paper Towns  
John Green  
When Margo Roth Spiegelman beckons Quentin Jacobsen in the middle of the night—dressed like a ninja and plotting an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows her. When day breaks she has vanished. Always an enigma, Mango has now become a mystery. But there are clues. And they are for Q. (14+) ○ Penguin (HC) $16.99  
Brilliance Audio (AUD) $29.99

The Dead and the Gone  
Susan Beth Pfeffer  
A harrowing companion novel that examines the same events as they unfold in New York City. When Alex’s Morales’ parents disappear in the aftermath of tidal waves, he must care for his two younger sisters, and suddenly learn the startling truth: even as Manhattan becomes a deadly wasteland, and food and aid dwindle. Haunting and powerful. (14+) ○ PW Harcourt (HC) $17.00

Twisted  
Laurie Halse Anderson  
Tyler Miller used to be the kind of guy who faded into the background. But since he got busted for doing graffiti on the school, he stands out like you wouldn’t believe. His newfound fame is attracting attention and has Tyler questioning his place in the school, his family, and the world. (14+) ○ LA Printz Honor

The Warrior Heir  
Cinda Williams Chima  
Except for his medicine and the thick scar above his heart, Jack lives an unremarkable life in Trinity, Ohio. Then one day Jack skips his medicine, and suddenly learns the startling truth: he is a Weirlind warrior, a group of magical people who live among us, and there are no limits to what they’ll do to get him to fight. (14+) ○ Hyperion (PA) $8.99

The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing Volume II: The Kingdom on the Waves  
M.T. Anderson  
The long-awaited sequel to the 2006 National Book Award winner. Fearing a death sentence, Octavian and his tutor escape rising tides and pouring rain to find shelter in British-occupied Boston. Sundered from all he knows and with the Revolutionary War exploding around him, Octavian senses elusive visions of liberty. A masterwork that “fascinates, appals, condemns, and enthralls.”—New York Times (14+) ○ Candlewick (HC) $22.99  
Listening Library Audio (AUD) $50.00

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The Dead and the Gone  
Susan Beth Pfeffer  
A harrowing companion novel that examines the same events as they unfold in New York City. When Alex’s Morales’ parents disappear in the aftermath of tidal waves, he must care for his two younger sisters, and suddenly learn the startling truth: even as Manhattan becomes a deadly wasteland, and food and aid dwindle. Haunting and powerful. (14+) ○ PW Harcourt (HC) $17.00

Twisted  
Laurie Halse Anderson  
Tyler Miller used to be the kind of guy who faded into the background. But since he got busted for doing graffiti on the school, he stands out like you wouldn’t believe. His newfound fame is attracting attention and has Tyler questioning his place in the school, his family, and the world. (14+) ○ LA Printz Honor

The Warrior Heir  
Cinda Williams Chima  
Except for his medicine and the thick scar above his heart, Jack lives an unremarkable life in Trinity, Ohio. Then one day Jack skips his medicine, and suddenly learns the startling truth: he is a Weirlind warrior, a group of magical people who live among us, and there are no limits to what they’ll do to get him to fight. (14+) ○ Hyperion (PA) $8.99

The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing Volume II: The Kingdom on the Waves  
M.T. Anderson  
The long-awaited sequel to the 2006 National Book Award winner. Fearing a death sentence, Octavian and his tutor escape rising tides and pouring rain to find shelter in British-occupied Boston. Sundered from all he knows and with the Revolutionary War exploding around him, Octavian senses elusive visions of liberty. A masterwork that “fascinates, appals, condemns, and enthralls.”—New York Times (14+) ○ Candlewick (HC) $22.99  
Listening Library Audio (AUD) $50.00

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   For every $100 you spend at one of our local businesses, $68 will stay in the community. What happens when you spend it at a chain? $57 will go to corporate headquarters instead.

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3. Created local jobs
   Local businesses are better at creating higher paying jobs for our neighbors.

4. Helped the environment
   Buying from a local business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation, less packaging, and products that you know are safe and well-made because we stand behind them.

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   We know you, you know us. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains. Who would you rather ask?

6. Conserved your tax dollars
   Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money available to beautify our community. Also, spending locally makes sure your tax dollars are put to work right here where they count.

7. Created more choices
   We pick the merchandise we sell based on what we know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because we look for those special things you won’t find in a chain store.

8. Took advantage of our expertise
   You are our neighbors and we have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. We’re passionate about what we do. Why not take advantage of it?

9. Invested in entrepreneurship
   Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

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    The more interesting and unique we are as a community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors, and guests. This benefits everyone!

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