Even with so many depressing events in the news there are bright spots. For one thing, this fall is shaping up to be a stellar season for books! It’s as if the book world stepped up its game in order to give us something to look forward to—and to hope for. Whether it’s the next in a popular series like *Princess in Black* or the *Wimpy Kid* or new books by bookseller favorites such as Markus Zusak and Brandon Mull, we have much to smile about this year. Kids’ authors and illustrators are taking a stand, encouraging such radical activities as being kind to each other (*I Am a Warrior Goddess*), being proud of yourself (*The Day You Begin*), welcoming all people (*Carmela Full of Wishes*), telling a story your way (*Blue Rider*), being true to yourself (*How to Build a Hug*), and voting (*What Can a Citizen Do*)!

Locally, schools are adding reading for pleasure to their days. Juan Diego Catholic High School schedules time for school-wide reading daily, and even the adults are included. The Open Classroom is using books—fiction and nonfiction—to talk about immigration. Local pediatrician Dr. Barbara Bean gives a book away to every patient she sees. Our own bookseller Dawn Houghton routinely provides books to at-risk young readers with her Book Wagon campaign. Nathan Spofford, another of our booksellers, has the kids in his Title 1 Gifted and Talented programs writing award-winning poetry. Booksellers at TKE are reading at a furious pace, getting ready to make sure that you get the perfect book.

So, keep reading to yourself, and to all your people, young and old! Talk about the books you’ve read, the ideas you’ve encountered, the book events you’ve attended, and then find another book to read! Give books to everyone, for every occasion! Books and the people who read them are bright lights in our world today.

**Meet Our Storytellers!**

We have storytime every single day at 11 a.m. and it’s free and fun for everyone! Here are some of our favorite storytellers.

**Rob Eckman**

Rob wears many hats at TKE but his favorite is that of resident storyteller. He specializes in Dr. Seuss but is open to anything his young audience clamors for, especially *That Is Not A Good Idea* and *The Wide-Mouthed Frog*. A little-known fact about Rob is that he loves to give tours of the Salt Lake City & County building and has even been known to sneak up into the bell tower. Shh!

**Linda Paoletti**

Linda retired as the beloved librarian at J.E. Cosgriff Memorial School in 2012. She began volunteering for the Salt Lake Assistance League as chair of Book Bank, a program that provides books to the Head Start classrooms in the Salt Lake valley, in Title 1 junior high schools in Granite and Salt Lake school districts, and for several nonprofits. She reads to children on Friday mornings to get her kid fix, because her granddaughters live out of state. Her laugh is contagious! Linda loves many books; among her favorites are *Gooseberry Park*, *Tuck Everlasting*, the *Redwall* series, *The Goose Girl*, anything by Mo Willems or Lois Lowry, the list goes on and on.

**Lia Martinez**

Lia considers the children’s section of any bookstore or library her happy place, so she is thrilled to be joining The King’s English for bilingual story time every Wednesday. Lia is an elementary school teacher and has taught first, second and fourth grades. Some of her favorite authors for young readers include Mo Willems, Eric Carle, Peter Brown, Patricia Polacco, and Kate DiCamillo. Lia shares her love of reading and the Spanish language with her husband and two young daughters.

**Amanda Esko**

Raised in Salt Lake City, Amanda is a graduate of the University of Utah. She is an educator, an avid children’s book reader and a parent. When not at the bookshop, you can find her in the neighborhood chasing her children and dog, baking, or organizing communities of children and teens. Her kiddos are growing up at TKE, so it’s a logical extension for her to join us for regular story times on Thursday!

**R.E.A.D. Dogs**

We have a special visitor from Intermountain Therapy Animals (ITA) join us on the first Saturday of each month. It’s usually a dog, but we’ve been known to host cats and bunnies as well. In ITA’s own words, “we utilize the companionship of therapy animals to build and encourage children’s love of books and the reading environment and provide an opportunity for them to practice the full range of communication skills. Research indicates that positive experiences like this will help lay the foundation for a lifetime of learning and a higher quality life.”
Children and Teen Calendar of Events
*Signed copies available from recent events

*Tuesday, October 9, 6:30 p.m. Local favorite Lindsay Eagar returned with *The Bigfoot Files.*

*Wednesday, October 10, 6 p.m. The one and only Molly Idle joined us to read from and sign her new picture book, *Pearl.*

*Wednesday, October 10, 7 p.m. The very “peculiar” Ransom Riggs presented *A Map of Days,* the latest in his *Miss Peregrine* series.

*Thursday, October 11, 7 p.m. Ally Condie and Brendan Reichs scared us with *The Darkdeep* at the Provo Library.

*Saturday, October 13, 5 p.m. Dynamic duo Shannon Hale and Dean Hale read from and signed their new children’s book, *The Princess in Black and the Science Fair Scare.*

Tuesday, October 16, 6 p.m. Adventurer Dylan Thuras will join us for a discussion and signing of his unusual travel guide, *The Atlas Obscura Explorer’s Guide for the World’s Most Adventurous Kid.*

Wednesday, October 17, 6 p.m. Newbery Medalist Matt de la Peña and Caldecott Honoree Christian Robinson, the creators of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling *Last Stop on Market Street,* will present their new picture book, *Carmela Full of Wishes,* at the Salt Lake City Public Library.

Saturday, October 20, 2 p.m. Join Kate Coombs for a spooky reading and signing of her frightful book of poetry, *Monster School.*

Saturday, October 20, 7 p.m. Markus Zusak returns with *Bridge of Clay,* sure to be a classic. At Rowland Hall Larimer Auditorium.

Thursday, October 25, 7 p.m. Author and artist Molly Brooks will read from and sign her new middle reader graphic novel, *Sanity & Tallulah.*


Monday, October 29, 7 p.m. Fantasy favorite, Brandon Mull, will introduce *Dragonwatch 2: Wrath of the Dragon King* at the Provo Library.

Friday, November 2, 7 p.m. Photographer Jordan Matter presents his dazzling book of children dancing in *Born to Dance.*

Friday, November 2, 7 p.m. Jarrett J. Krosoczka, just nominated for the National Book Award, will discuss and sign his new graphic novel *Hey, Kiddo.*

Saturday, November 3, 11 a.m. Salt Lake’s own Abby Huntsman will be on hand to read from and sign her new picture book, *Who Will I Be?*

Saturday, November 3, 3 p.m. Newbery Honor-winning author Vince Vawter will join us to read from and sign his new middle reader novel, *Copyboy.*

Saturday, November 3, 7 p.m. We are thrilled to host four YA authors for another exciting Epic Reads Meetup! This roundtable discussion will feature favorite authors Kheryn Callender, Anna Godbersen, Mackenzi Lee, and Laura E. Weymouth. This event is ticketed and will take place at the bookshop.

Monday, November 5, 7 p.m. Young adult author Jennifer L. Armentrout will read from and sign her new YA sci-fi novel, *The Darkest Star.*
Tuesday, November 6, 7 p.m. Kathryn Purdie will read from and sign *Frozen Reign*, the final book in her *Burning Glass* trilogy.

Friday, November 9, 7 p.m. Shannon Messenger will present *Flashback*, the seventh in her *Keeper of the Lost Cities* series, at the Provo Library.

Saturday, November 10, 11 a.m. Join us for a special storytime with *The Nocturnals*.

Thursday, November 15, 7 p.m. Saryon Michael White will read from and sign his new novel, *Roya Sands and the Bridge Between Worlds*.

**A Fun Line-Up for the Holidays!**

Saturday, November 24, 11 a.m. The Salt Lake Acting Company will perform a selection from its holiday show, “Pinkalicious.”

Sunday, December 2, 9 a.m. Books & Bagels! Betsy, Anne, and Margaret will share all the books they are excited about for holiday gift-giving and help match them to the people on your list. Enjoy 20% off from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; we can wrap and mail for you too!

Friday, December 7, 5-7 p.m. Our annual holiday party! Take 20% off and enjoy food from Hell’s Backbone Grill with Blake Spalding and Jen Castle, along with a host of wonderful authors who have previously visited us this year.

Saturday, December 8, 11 a.m. Grow your heart three sizes with a special Grinch appearance (and a reading, of course). Kids: bring your adults!

**For the New Year**

Friday, January 11, 7 p.m. RuthAnne Snow will read from and sign her teen novel, *When the Truth Unravels*.

Saturday, January 12, 7 p.m. Tiana Smith will read from and sign her teen novel, *Match Me If You Can*. 
How Do I Love Thee?, Jennifer Adams, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal
This wonderful talent brings the oft-quoted sonnet “How Do I Love Thee” by Elizabeth Barrett Browning straight into the modern world. Illustrator Neal does a lovely job of complementing Adams’ text; I can see parents and children reading this over and over, adding their own answers to the question in new ways time after time. – Margaret Brennan Neville, Harper, $17.99

A Home in the Barn, Margaret Wise Brown, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“Outside in the cold/ Hear the wind rattle/ Come to the barn/ Keep warm with the Cattle.” Mention the name Margaret Wise Brown and most people think of Goodnight Moon and Runaway Bunny. But Brown was a prolific author, and her lovely book A Home in the Barn has just been given new life by the fabulously talented illustrator Jerry Pinkney. His watercolor paintings of farm animals are stunning. (p.s.: We have signed first edition copies!) – Harper, $17.99

Pearl, Molly Idle
Well known for her engaging picture books about Flora and her feathered friends, Caldecott Award-winner Idle has created a lovely fable about a mermaid who wants to save the entire ocean but who’s given the assignment of caring for one tiny grain of sand instead. This special book is a joy both to look at and to read. – Little, Brown, $17.99 Editor’s note: Idle joined us to read from and sign her new picture book on October 10 and signed copies are available.

Giraffe Problems, Jory John, illustrated by Lane Smith
Wait. Another book by Jory John and Lane Smith about an animal with a problem? OH, YES PLEASE! This time giraffes get the busi-ness. Like the late great Nora Ephron, Cyrus (he’s the giraffe) feels bad about his neck. It’s too long! It’s too bendy! It’s just plain ludicrous! What’s a poor giraffe to do? John and Smith follow up their bestselling Penguin Problems with another winner. – Random House, $17.99

How to Scare a Ghost, Jean Reagan, illustrated by Lee Wildish
Just when you think Reagan, one of our favorite local authors, couldn’t possibly think of another addition to her wonderful “How to...” series, she delights young read-
Children’s Picture Books

ers (and their parents) with another title. In her new book, Reagan offers helpful hints for scaring a ghost and ways to have a fun-filled Halloween along the way. This one is a winner too! – Knopf, $17.99

Editor's note: join Reagan for a special storytime featuring her new picture book Saturday, October 27, 11 a.m.

A Big Mooncake for Little Star, Grace Lin

This gorgeous new book tells the story of Little Star who helps her mother bake a “mooncake” to place in the evening sky. But Little Star can’t resist nibbling on the mooncake, which disappears bit by bit by bit—until nothing is left but a trail of stars. **A Big Mooncake for Little Star**, reads as though it's rooted in Chinese legend. It isn’t, Lin says, although this tale about the phases of the moon was inspired by her favorite Asian holiday, the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival.

– Little, Brown, $17.99

**Editor’s note: TKE has signed first editions.**

Good Rosie!, Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Harry Bliss

Whenever a new DiCamillo book hits the shelves, we here at TKE sit up and pay attention. Especially if animals are involved. Like this one. Rosie is a dog who is lonely even though she lives with a kindly master named George who takes her on walks so they can look at the clouds together. (“George thinks that most clouds look like presidents. Rosie thinks that most clouds look like squirrels.”) When George finally realizes Rosie is lonely, he takes her to a dog park. But will Rosie learn how to be friends with Maurice and Fifi? Dog lovers will adore this sweet-natured book. – Candlewick, $16.99

The Very Last Castle, Travis Jonker, illustrated by Mark Pett

The last castle in town is guarded by a man to whom no one ever speaks. Why? Because they're afraid of what might lurk inside. Enter one curious little girl who works up enough courage to knock on the castle door. This engaging book celebrates a person's willingness to stare down fear and extend a hand of friendship. Bonus! Salt Lake's Mark Pett is the illustrator. It's always a pleasure to see Pett’s work in print. – Abrams, $16.99

Sleepy the Goodnight Buddy, Drew Daywalt, illustrated by Scott Campbell

What do you do with a kid Who. Just. Won't. Go. To. Bed? If you're his parents you (finally!) buy your son a stuffed toy with the hopes it will help him drift off to sleep. BUT! What if that toy talks! And makes demands! You know, like asking for snacks or a blanket or another bedtime story? What kind of a good-night buddy is that? (Answer: a surprisingly good one.) Daywalt, author of *The Day the Crayons Quit*, is in nice form here. – Hyperion, $16.99

Carmela Full of Wishes, Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson

De la Peña and Robinson, who collaborated on the Newbery and Caldecott award-winning *Last Stop on Market Street*, team up once again for this lovely story about a young girl who thinks long and hard about what she’ll wish for on her birthday. Like *Market Street*, this picture book visually explores the physical and emotional territory where a young person of color lives and celebrates the beauty there. Recommended, naturally. – Putnam, $17.99

Editor’s note: Newbery Medalist de la Peña and Caldecott Honoree Robinson will present their new picture book at the Salt Lake City Public Library Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 6 p.m.
Stop that Yawn, Caron Levis, illustrated by Leuyen Pham
Readers of all ages will understand exactly what Levis and Pham are doing when main character, Gabby, tries to "Stop that Yawn!" Once the yawning starts, it's so so hard to stop. Smart, funny, rich in details, this might be the bedtime story that works because those dang yawns are also sooooooooo contagious! – Margaret Brennan Neville, Simon & Schuster, $17.99

Poe Won't Go, Kelly DiPucchio, illustrated by Zachariah Ohoroa
"One morning, the good people of Prickly Valley awoke to find an elephant sitting smack-dab in the middle of the only road in town. How he got there was a mystery. His name was Poe." Naturally an elephant sitting in the middle of road creates a few headaches, so the citizens of Prickly Valley try everything in their power to make Poe go. Which he doesn’t. It takes a young girl who’s willing to step up and ask Poe why he won’t move to solve the problem. This likeable book subtly explores the importance of taking time to listen. – Hyperion, $17.99

Got to Get to Bear’s!, Brian Lies
Bear never asks for anything. Ever. So when Izzy gets a note from Bear asking her to come over, Izzy will not and cannot say no. Even though there’s a winter storm coming. A big winter storm. A really, REALLY big winter storm. Still, Izzy is determined to arrive at Bear’s place, which she does with a little help from her friends. A sweet story that celebrates the bonds of friendship. We love the illustrations! – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $17.99

Loved to Bits, Teresa Heapy, illustrated by Katie Cleminson
This quiet book, about a young boy who loves his well-worn teddy bear because it is well-worn, is full of heart. The gently rhyming text makes this especially nice for reading aloud. One of my favorite new books of the season. – Roaring Book Press, $17.99

The Snowy Nap, Jan Brett
Hedgie the hedgehog is determined to stay awake instead of hibernate when winter arrives so he can enjoy all the sights and sounds of the season. But will he, can he, follow through with his intentions? Although Brett has set some of her books in both tropical and desert climates, she’s at her very best when illustrating wintry landscapes. Her many fans will find much to love in The Snowy Nap. – Putnam, $18.99

Holes in the Sky, Patricia Polacco
I loved this sequel to Polacco’s Chicken Sunday! It’s thoughtful, it’s tender and it’s full of love. Trisha, who misses her beloved deceased grandmother, begins to find her again in the new friends and their powerful choices for kindness. Polacco’s numerous fans will be thrilled to add this book to their collections. – Margaret Brennan Neville, Putnam, $18.99

Lyric McKerrigan, Secret Librarian, Jacob Sager Weinstein, illustrated by Vera Brosgol
Bad news! Evil Doctor Glockenspiel has escaped from prison and is threatening to destroy all the books on the planet. What can
humanity do to stop him, especially after all the world’s best secret agents have failed to recapture him? Easy. Send in Lyric McKerrigan (Secret Librarian), of course, who defeats Dr. Glockenspiel by stealthily putting books back in the hands of all the people who work for him. Brogol’s cartoon style is a good fit for this story about a most unlikely superhero.
– Clarion, $17.99

**Presto & Zesto in Limboland**, Arthur Yorinks, illustrations by Maurice Sendak
While going through his old papers, Maurice Sendak’s longtime assistant Lynn Caponera discovered a manuscript that Sendak and his friend and frequent collaborator Arthur Yorinks had created while riffing on 10 illustrations Sendak had done as projections for a performance by the London Symphony Orchestra. Together the two men (who called themselves Presto and Zesto) created a nonsense story about two old friends who go searching for cake and (much like Max in *Where the Wild Things Are*) find themselves lost in a semi-nightmarish world called Limboland. You probably had to be there to find the story as entertaining as Sendak and Yorinks clearly did. But still Sendak’s illustrations will definitely remind readers why we all loved him so. TKE has copies signed by Yorinks.
– Scholastic, $18.95

**Dreamers**, Yuyi Morales
This story, told by a mother to her young child, speaks to the dreams of all immigrants who come to this country to find a better life—a journey that is further shaped when this family of two discovers a library and immerses themselves in all the books they find there. The tale is based on Morales’ own experience when she immigrated to the United States with her young son. Morales, who spoke very little English at the time, has since written and illustrated her own books, including *Viva, Frida*, which won a Caldecott Honor.
– Holiday House, $18.99

**I Am Human: a Book of Empathy**, Susan Verde, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds
Verde and Reynolds’ third picture book in a series designed to promote “wellness,” *I Am Human* invites young readers to realize that everybody makes mistakes. Why? Because we’re human, and, in spite of our imperfections, we’re beautiful. Like its predecessors, *I Am Yoga* and *I Am Peace*, *I Am Human* promotes kindness and mindfulness in a world that can sometimes feel chaotic.
– Abrams, $14.99

**When I Grow Up**, Julie Chen, illustrated by Diane Goode
“Mom, when I grow up, what do you think I will be?” So begins this story by TV personality Julie Chen about a young boy dreaming of his future. There are all kinds of options. Will he be a baker? A writer? A teacher? The mayor? His mother’s answer is doubly reassuring. The boy can be whatever he can dream of being—AND she will always be there for him.
– Simon & Schuster, $17.99

**The Rough Patch**, Brian Lies
Farmer Evan loses his beloved dog and in his grief lets his amazing well-tended garden deteriorate dramatically. Even though this is about losing a friend, it is a book with great charm, hope-filled and forward-looking. It deserves to be on bookshelves everywhere. Loved the art too!
– Harper, $17.99
**All-of-a-Kind Family Hanukkah**, Emily Jenkins, illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky

It's the first night of Hanukkah on New York's Lower East Side in 1912. More than anything young Gertie wants to help her mother and four older sisters (Ella, Henny, Sarah, and Charlotte) make latkes. But she's too little to peel potatoes, chop onions, and crack eggs. Is there anything one little girl can do to help her one-of-a-kind family prepare for the holiday? This beautiful picture book is based on the much-loved classics by Sydney Taylor. My favorite holiday book of the season. – Schwartz & Wade, $17.99

**Santa Bruce**, Ryan T. Higgins

Oh, Bruce. Why do people—and by “people” I mean “animals”—always think you're something you're not? Like a mother, for example. Or Santa Claus. Which is why everyone in the forest is lining up to tell you what they want for Christmas. Poor Bruce. We hope you survive the season, because everyone here at TKE loves you so! Happy Holidays, Santa Bruce! – Hyperion, $17.99

**A Unicorn Named Sparkle’s First Christmas**, Amy Young

Well now, who doesn’t love a unicorn named Sparkle? Especially when that unicorn named Sparkle is actually a goat. Yes! You guessed it! Lucy and Sparkle are back in this happy holiday story. But will Sparkle remember to find a present for Lucy? And can Lucy stop Sparkle from eating the tree? As winning as it is sly. – Farrar Straus Giroux, $16.99

**One Christmas Wish**, Katherine Rundell

Will desperately wants someone to be with for the holidays, but his parents have to work and the sitter is asleep with her phone. The old dilapidated ornaments coming out of a dusty ratty box seem to make things worse until his heartfelt wish is heard and the magic of the season takes Will out into the world to solve problems, to learn to be true to himself, and to believe. This book is bound to become a holiday favorite. – Margaret Brennan Neville, Simon & Schuster, $18.99

**This Is Christmas**, Tom Booth


**Cookiesaurus Christmas**, Amy Fellner Dominy and Nate Evans, illustrated by A.G. Ford

When it comes to Christmas cookies, why do people always leave bells and stars and gingerbread boys out for Santa? WHAT A Cliché! Especially when there’s a T-Rex cookie in the house who wants to know why he and his tiny little arms can’t be the main attraction. Dinosaur lovers will love this sweet (!) and silly story. Ford’s illustrations are the frosting on the cake. Or cookie. Whichever you prefer. – Disney, $16.99

**Tallulah’s Ice Skates**, Marilyn Singer, illustrated by Alexandra Boiger

Tallulah the ballerina is back in this (sort of) holiday story about ice-skating—which oughta be a snap if you’re as gifted a dancer as Tallulah is, right? But who knew that a graceful spin was so hard? This book celebrates the notion that sometimes having fun is more important than being perfect. – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $17.99

**The Christmas Tree Who Loved Trains**, Annie Silverstro, illustrated by Paola Zakimi

Is there a child in your life who adores trains? And Christmas? Then do we have the perfect book for you! This is the story of a tree that misses the sounds of trains rumbling past the field where it once grew. Good thing someone knows exactly what to give a certain little boy who lives in the same house. – Harper, $17.99
**The Darkdeep**, Ally Condie and Brendan Reichs

Get a blanket and a flashlight, maybe lock the door, and settle down to read *The Darkdeep*. Four kids find a pool that never stops whirling and is so dark nothing reflects in it. Just getting to it is scary! Nico, Opal, and their friends think that despite the spine-tingling “you are being watched” feeling the pool gives them, it is worth returning to. In fact, they can’t stay away! Their own monsters are brought to life before they can figure out what is really going on. Get ready for a great read. Can’t wait to see what is really in Still Cove! – Bloomsbury Children’s Books, $16.99 (9 and up)

**Editor’s note:** Condie and Reichs read from and signed *The Darkdeep* at the Provo Library and signed copies are available.

**Harbor Me**, Jacqueline Woodson

Woodson (*Brown Girl Dreaming*) once again captures the voices of kids not often heard in our communities. A school in NYC has a program giving students a chance to talk, just to each other. This group of sixth-graders call it ARTT, a room to talk. At first everyone, whether quiet or loud, is afraid, in hiding. But slowly, as the stories come out, the power of this book grows. Each child has to figure out what to share, how to react, and what to do next. Kids and adults all deal with difficult things, so what better way to explore illegal immigration, loss, racism, poverty, prison, being alone (the list goes on) than this book which invites discussions, empathy. Woodson is unafraid and brilliant; this is the must-read book for the season. – Penguin, $17.99 (10 and up)

**Resistance**, Jennifer Nielsen

Chaya’s family, like all the other Jewish families, has been relegated to wearing the Yellow Star and doing their best to survive the horrific downward death cycle that the Nazis have put them in. As her family falls apart, Chaya makes the difficult decision to leave the ghetto and join the resistance. Because this choice comes with many dangers, her position becomes even more vulnerable. And it looks as if her resistance cell is going to end up in the middle of the Warsaw Ghetto. Nielsen (*A Night Divided*) adds a moving, compelling character to the extensive WWII library while shedding even more light on the heroic history of the Jewish resistance/sacrifice in Poland. Another terrific read from one of my favorite authors! – Scholastic, $17.99 (10 and up)

**Nightbooks**, J.A. White

As Alex sneaks into the basement to burn his ‘Nightbooks’ in the furnace, he is lured magically into the apartment of the witch Natacha. Imprisoning him, she forces him to tell her his scary stories every night, just like Scheherazade. This creepy tale lures the reader in too. I couldn’t put it down. Bonus: tips on writing are included in the story. – Becky Hall, Simon Pulse, $18.99 (8-12)

**Saving Winslow**, Sharon Creech

Louie’s dad brings home a premature mini-donkey, and Louie is determined to do whatever it takes to keep this teeny motherless baby alive. Louie has missed older brother Gus since he left for the military, and the donkey Winslow helps distract the whole family. Winslow is not supposed to live, but he does, giving a lot of people a chance to find affection, resolution, comfort, along with some laughter. Readers have come to expect great stories from Creech, and she definitely comes through with Winslow! – Harper, $16.99 (8 and up)

**Lions & Liars**, Kate Beasley

Fifth-grader Frederick Frederickson is bullied. When things go too far, he takes a boat and ends up washed ashore at Camp Omigoshee “where boys are transformed.” He is mistaken for Dashiell Blackwood, a notorious thug, and takes on this persona which may transform him even as he struggles to survive the rope climb, killer dodgeball and a category 5 hurricane. Clever, witty and heartwarming. – Becky Hall, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, $16.99 (8-12)

**The Bigfoot Files**, Lindsay Eagar

Miranda’s mother is a cryptozoologist, and she is on the hunt for monsters. Miranda has a perfect attendance record at school, friends, and opportunities, all of which are at risk because of her mom’s obsession. As Miranda’s disappointments mount, she decides she must prove to her mom once and for all that Bigfoot does not exist. Funny and smart, Eagar’s (*Hour of the Bees*) new book is a charmer! – Candlewick, $16.99 (8 and up)

**Editor’s note:** signed copies are available.
Inkling, Kenneth Oppel
Life is rough at the Rylance house. Ethan’s mom has recently died, and nothing will ever be the same. For one thing Ethan's dad, a famous cartoonist, is having major writer’s block. When it comes to the latest class assignment, all of Ethan’s friends assume he has his father’s talents, and Ethan gets help from a very unlikely source….
Everyone will have to grapple with the truth in a book that is clever, funny, a little bit tender, and has something for everyone. Oppel is a terrific storyteller!
– Random House, $17.99 (9 and up)

Explorer Academy: Nebula Secret, Trudi Trueit
National Geographic’s new middle-grade series is off to a great start! Explorer Academy is an exclusive, high-end, state-of-the-art school that is using every kind of technology imaginable, and Cruz Coronado is excited to start school—until he finds out that his mom’s mysterious history puts him in danger. And maybe the school too. Attacked while he is scuba diving and sabotaged at every turn, Cruz must figure out who his friends are. An adventurous quick read, illustrated with the National Geographic touch.
– Random House, $16.99 (8 and up)

My Father’s Words, Patricia MacLachlan
MacLachlan brings her sympathetic and authentic touch to a new book about grief and loss. As in so many of her other books there are dogs, and there is resilience, and ultimately, hope in a tale that begins with Fiona and Finn at the local dog shelter looking for some comfort and a way to process the devastating loss of their dad. MacLachlan packs a lot of story in her book.
– Harper, $15.99 (8 and up)

My Real Name Is Hanna, Tara Lynn Masih
Hitler’s plan for killing the Jews extended far beyond Poland. Ukrainian Jews were persecuted, hunted, and killed as well. One of the most famous tales is that of the Stermer family, living underground in a cave network for over a year and a half. In a novel loosely based on this story, Hanna and her family know that bad things are coming; her parents have been sheltering Jewish refugees who are fleeing Nazi horror. Her dad moves them to some old cabins deep in the woods, and when those become unsafe, they move to the caves. Ingenuity, luck, and the kindness of members of their community all contribute to their precarious ability to survive. And survive they do as hope, courage, and kindness prevail.
– Mandel Vilar Press, $16.95 (10 and up)

Game Changer, Tommy Greenwald
Teddy is in a coma caused by an “accident” at football camp. Right from the start readers will know that something is not right—something Teddy’s family and friends are trying to figure out, even while hoping that Teddy recovers. Teddy’s voice and those of the other characters, all sharing their thoughts, memories, fears, and choices, along with everything from newspaper clippings to strings of texts and other online posts make Greenwald’s well-paced novel unique and uniquely readable.
– Amulet, $16.99 (10 and up)

Forgotten City, Michael Ford
Dystopia fans rejoice! Turns out that there is a man-made fertilizer, designed to help with worldwide hunger problems that has altered the DNA of every living thing. And scariest of all, the “Waste” kills humans!!! Thirteen years after the catastrophe Kobi and his scientist dad are living in complete isolation in a version of Seattle that no one would recognize. Dense foliage that includes killer plants and hyper-strong, larger-than-they-used-to-be predators are everywhere now. When Kobi’s dad makes a trip to his lab and does not come back, Kobi has to act. Turns out that the Waste is not the scariest evil in the world….Too bad we have to wait a year for the next book!
– Harper, $16.99 (9 and up)

The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge, M.T. Anderson and Eugene Yelchin
Anderson is one of the most creative writers of our times. Like a lot of his previous fiction, this novel is weird, quirky, odd—and I couldn’t put it down. Yelchin, another fine author, shows off his mad drawing skills here. The elves and the goblins are mortal enemies, willing to go to any length to destroy one other. Elf Spurge, sent to deliver a priceless gift to the goblin overlord, is actually a spy. Werfel, goblin historian, is responsible for Spurge. And, of course, nothing goes right! Ultimately this is a fantasy about friendship, not complicated, but so much fun to read! The text and art are a wonderful mix of imagination, humor, and adventure.
– Candlewick, $24.99 (10 and up)
**Middle Reader**

_The Dollar Kids_, Jennifer Richard Jacobson, illustrated by Ryan Andrews

Lowen Grover is excited when his family wins an opportunity to buy a house for one dollar, hoping the move will help him get past the tragic death of his neighbor. Lowen and his family really struggle in this story about hard work, about hope—and about not giving up. Biases come in all shapes and sizes, and so does hope. Terrific read. – Candlewick, $17.99 (10 and up)

_Winnie’s Great War_, Lindsay Mattick, Josh Green

Mattick and Blackall collaborated on the 2016 Caldecott winner _Finding Winnie_. The success of the picture book inspired them to do it again. This new chapter book is a longer, more detailed version of the _Winnie the Pooh_ origin story. Winnie, a black bear cub, finds her way into a Canadian army unit headed to England and WW1. Winnie has a tremendous impact on every human she comes into contact with, and the world is a better place because of her. This piece of history is as engaging as the Blackall illustrations are charming. – Hachette, $16.99 (8 and up)

_The Tales of Beedle the Bard: The Illustrated Edition_, J.K. Rowling, illustrated by Lisbeth Zwerger

This might be the Harry Potter book of the season. It’s not a new story, but Zwerger’s illustrations add a whole new dimension to one of Harry’s most sought-after books. I love her vision, and for me it melds right into the Harry Potter lexicon! – Scholastic, $34.99 (10 and up)

_Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster_, Jonathan Auxier

Nan is a chimney sweep, a profession that routinely kills people. Somehow she has managed to survive both the work and her cruel boss, but when she gets stuck in a chimney, she’s certain this is the end. Instead, she wakes up in a deserted attic in the company of Charlie. Nan and Charlie want to run and to start a new life somewhere safer, but they can’t make themselves abandon all the other sweeps.

Set in 19th century London, the story resonates with a wonderful sense of place. However magical a creature Charlie may be, what is certain is that he is the heart of this tender novel, a story that explores loyalty, friendship, growing up—and social justice as well! – Amulet, $18.99 (8 and up)

**Young Adult**

_Skyward_, Brandon Sanderson

Sanderson ( _Steelheart_ ) is a great all-around storyteller. Main character Spensa remembers her dad with so much love, but her colony only sees that he was a coward who fled a critical battle against their ancient enemy, the Krell. She just knows that there is an explanation, and all the harassment motivates her even more to become a fighter pilot. Spensa has had to live on the fringes of her community, her family punished for her father’s choices, but this might work to her advantage in Flight School. World-building, plot surprises, technology, complex characters—this is a novel that will make Sanderson’s fans happy and attract more readers. – Random House, $19.99 (12 and up)

_Dry_, Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman

Set in Los Angeles and positively creepy! Shusterman and his son imagine what the world would be like with no water. But in this case there is no earthquake, no monster storm, no war; the upstream states have simply turned the water off. Society goes to hell in a few days without water, and everyone is woefully unprepared.

Main characters Alyssa, her little brother Jarret and neighbor Kelton are forced to navigate all the horrors that go with the steep spiral into anarchy. Personal fears, crises and the complications of L.A. add layers to this dystopian novel. It is not hard to imagine this really happening, and that is the most scary part of all. Shusterman fans will love it. – Simon & Schuster, $18.99 (12 and up)

_Thief of Happy Endings_, Kristen Chandler

Dear Kristen Chandler: While I always love a well-written fantasy, there are times when I really, really crave realistic YA. You know. Like your new book about a young woman who heads west one summer to stay at a Wyoming ranch where teenagers are taught to face their demons by working with horses. I loved watching your main character grow as she grapples with her heartbreak over her parents’ separation, as well as her growing interest in an attractive but troubled young cowboy. Your personal knowledge of therapy horses shines through in this excellent young adult novel. Sincerely, Ann Cannon. – Viking, $18.99

_The Bird and the Blade_, Megan Bannen

Genghis Khan has been dead for three generations, and his ancestors are killing each other trying to grab control of the vast lands of Asia. Jinghua used to be a princess, and a simple act of kindness by Prince Khalaf sets her on a path that might dramatically improve her life of slavery. She, along with Khalaf and his father, end up fleeing another
round of the violence, and both father and son come to believe that their only hope is to pursue and win the hand of the Princess Turandokht by solving three riddles... This novel is a quest, an adventure, historical fiction and a fairy tale—Bannen's years of research shine through and her storytelling skills are superb. A great read with an ending that will blow you away. – Harper, $17.99 (12 and up)

**The War Outside**, Karen Hesse

Hesse (*Girl in the Blue Coat*) does an inspiring job of giving readers insight into a WWII story, this time one set in an American internment camp. Japanese American Haruko and German American Margot meet in high school in Crystal City and in a camp in Texas. Despite having their internment in common, camp is a hotbed of its own version of racism. The girls are dealing with "stuff" they cannot share. I thought I knew what was going to happen in this story, and I was WRONG. Hesse will surprise readers. – Hachette, $17.99 (12 and up)

**Empress of All Seasons**, Emiko Jean

A competition to find the next empress, bride of the prince, is set to happen. It is a fierce, brutal competition that requires the sacrifice of the lives of every young woman who enters, except the winner. Mari has spent her life getting ready; her mother, her village, have been obsessively training her. Mari has many skills but she also has a secret. In this world "yokai" (monsters of all shapes and sizes) are slaves, collared by the emperor. Her chance encounter with Prince Taro changes things, and her beloved friend Akira's choices complicate matters even more. Strong and imaginative characters, clever plot use of the four seasons, and a surprise at the end make this fantasy worth reading. – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $17.99 (12 and up)

**Imposters**, Scott Westerfeld

Back to the world of Uglies, Westerfeld's terrific dystopic series, the rebels are still trying to gain a foothold. Things have not improved, however; one despot is running over every state and first family to increase his own power. When he has a chance at another grab, he sends his most beloved daughter, Rafi, as a hostage. But it turns out that he really has a set of identical twins, and because of his nefarious plans, he ends up sending the body-double daughter, Frey, in the beloved daughter's place. Doing what he does best, Westerfeld will keep readers turning the pages of this creepy, action-filled, twisted story. – Scholastic, $18.99 (12 and up) **Editor's note: signed copies available!**

**Catwoman: Soulstealer**, Sarah J. Maas

In this third in the Random House DC comic origin stories, Catwoman's story was as much fun to read as Bardugo's Wonder Woman and Lu's Batman. Maas (*Throne of Glass* series) crafts a fast-paced, entertaining, insightful view of Catwoman. Like all the other super villains, no one is all bad. Selena Kyle's complexities are what make her so interesting—and her relationship with her cute neighbor Luke Fox makes this story even more entertaining. – Random House, $18.99 (12 and up)

**All That I Can Fix**, Crystal Chan

“Put Ronney in any situation and he will know what to do.” That's what George, his beautiful not-quite-girlfriend, says, but to him his life is the pits. Dad is depressed and suicidal, Mom is popping pills, his genius little sister is falling apart, and escaped zoo animals are terrorizing the town. Fifteen-year-old Ronney is trying to hold his world together but he's had it. From the pits there's nowhere to go but up. Follow Ronney's sweet if heartrend- ing journey. – Becky Hall, Simon Pulse, $18.99 (12 and up)

**Lifeboat 12**, Susan Hood

Thirteen-year-old Ken's parents sent him from London on a luxury liner with kids 5-15 headed for Canada to escape the Nazi bombing. When their ship is struck, he and 45 others struggle to survive on Lifeboat #12 on the open ocean. This historical novel in verse is based on a little-known WWII story. – Becky Hall, Simon & Schuster, $17.99 (8-13)
Bridge of Clay, Markus Zusak
Five brothers, a menagerie, a murderer and Michelangelo—a memorable cast of characters. Throw in bridge building, track training, horse racing, courting, grieving... the craziness at the heart of the Dunbar boys’ rough and tumble lives. They make it through, somehow, despite all that is thrown at them. When I finished it, I wanted to read it again, to watch the boys get out of bed, off the sofa, and pick up the bits and pieces in order to live another day. The narrative is complex, rich in character, texture and plotting, and the story bursts at the seams with heart and humanity. – Knopf, $26 Editor’s note: Zusak will read from and discuss his novel Saturday, October 20, 7 p.m. at Rowland Hall’s Larimer Auditorium

A Very Large Expanse of Sea, Tahereh Mafi
Mafi (Shatter Me series) writes a post-9-11 realistic novel about a first-generation Muslim girl who keeps experiencing over and over again the stereotyping and the racism that is just so endemic in the U.S. Shirin is starting a new school, and she knows that if she did not wear the hijab (no one is making her wear it) the stares, the comments, the bullying, the threats would be significantly less. But she wants to wear the head scarf; it is part of who she is. When big-time popular athlete Ocean James works at getting to know her better, she can’t believe that their friendship is real. But there are consequences to their budding romance. Loosely based on Mafi’s own high school experiences, this is a riveting authentic story. – $18.99, Harper (14 and up)

The Wicked King, Holly Black
Good sequels are SO hard to find, and Holly Black has knocked it out of the park! At the end of the The Cruel Prince, Jude and the rest of the Faerie world are caught by surprise when they find out that her little brother Oak is the heir. Jude will go to any length to keep him safe—humans and faeries are not meant to work or be together. Captivating, creative, danger around every corner, The Wicked King was so much fun to read. – Hachette, $19.99 (14 and up) Editor’s note: available in January

The Dark Descent of Elizabeth Frankenstein, Kiersten White
The observance of the 200th anniversary of Frankenstein has produced some very impressive novels/tributes. Add White’s book to the list. Elizabeth has found a safe place to be as the companion to the troublesome young Victor Frankenstein, but, as she struggles with her attachment to Victor, the things she finds out about him are more horrifying than she could have ever imagined. Over time their relationship seems to change, but Elizabeth knows that only she might be able to save him from that dark, dark place. Ultimately Elizabeth has to figure out what defines a monster. White calls on the original story and Mary Shelley’s life to add authentic flavor to her very readable retelling. – Random House, $18.99 (14 and up) Editor’s note: signed copies available!

Swing, Kwame Alexander with Mary Rand Hess
Noah considers himself a total loser. He is bad at baseball and he is bad at love. The girl he has loved for years only considers him her bff, and he cannot bring himself to express his affection to her. But Noah’s best friend Walt, who is bad at baseball too, is always optimistic and won’t give up—on baseball, on love, on jazz music, on eventually hitting his stride and “finding cool.” Due to his determination to get on the baseball team and his love for jazz music, Walt takes the nickname Swing, and we follow him on a journey to reform Noah, fall in love and make the team. Written in Alexander’s signature form of free-verse poetry, this book grooves and slides with lyrical cadence and motion. The story is loaded with jazz references which add to the sizzle and pop of the narrative. Alexander is a jazz artist himself in a sense—the musical references make the free-verse jump right off the page. The story is one of deep friendship and loyalty, unrequited young love, patriotism, art and jazz history, and it gives the reader a glimpse into the unstable and terrifyingly real world of political and law enforcement race relations today. – Rob Eckman, Blink, $18.99 (13 and up)

Wildcard, Marie Lu
Lu (Cinder) has written an engaging sequel to Warcross. Emika ruled the Warcross games in book one, but she also found out that Hideo’s desperate search for his missing little brother has culminated in a new software program which will literally get rid of individual free will. To save her own life, and hopefully the world as well, Emika ends up joining Zero and his Blackcoats gang. This mystery adventure unspools with lightning speed: it feels like you are reading inside a complicated computer game with high-velocity special effects! The multilayered worlds and compelling story highlight Lu’s talent all over again. Great read. – Penguin, $18.99 (13 and up)
Hey, Kiddo, Jarrett J. Krosoczka

Krosoczka’s memoir will remind readers how hard it is to grow up—even harder when your mom is a missing drug addict and your grandparents seem like they are crazy. But despite the difficult moments and bad choices, Krosoczka has plenty of adults around him who love him and do their best to guide, push, and sometimes force him to hang in there. This is graphic novel at its best, and Krosoczka’s mad skills shine. – Scholastic, $14.99 (12 and up)

Editor’s note: Krosoczka, who was just nominated for the National Book Award, will be reading from and signing Hey, Kiddo on Friday, November 2, 7 p.m. at TKE The Cardboard Kingdom

The Cardboard Kingdom, Chad Sell

In The Cardboard Kingdom everyone belongs. Sixteen kids, a bunch of boxes and summer vacation all add up to adventure, fun, and friendship. Loyalty, growing up, and figuring out things about yourself give this highly imaginative graphic novel even more heft. – Random House, $12.99 (8 and up)

Illegal, Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin

Ebo and Kwame are desperate to get out of Ghana and into Europe. Their journey is fraught with so many horrific moments, it’s hard to believe that anyone would want to attempt to do this. It says something very powerful about how difficult things are in third world countries. Colfer and Donkin tell the tale with a realistic and unflinching eye. Great addition to the growing body of work about refugees. – Sourcebooks, $14.99 (10 and up)

Attucks!: Oscar Robertson and the Basketball Team that Awakened a City, Phillip Hoose

Indianapolis was a city many Southern blacks moved to in the 1900s. This influx brought to light deeply embedded racism. One of the results was an all-black high school, Crispis Attucks High. The Attucks Tigers, along with all the private schools, were not allowed to compete in the state high school athletic competitions. Indiana is still known today for its tremendous high school basketball tournament! And you can guess where the story goes. Robertson is a bball icon! Still alive, still supporting his community, still working to eradicate racism, Hoose does a fine job highlighting another American story that we should all know. – Farrar, Straus Giroux, $19.99 (10 and up)

Starstruck: The Cosmic Journey of Neal Degrasse Tyson, Kathleen Krull and Paul Brewer

This biography has the same charm the subject has and is a wonderful introduction to America’s most famous astrophysicists. The colorful, rich illustrations will remind readers of his trademark vests! Degrasse was hooked the first time he went to the planetarium, and when, sometime later, he was out of the big city and saw the actual starscape, a passion was born. A great picture biography that can inspire kids to keep reaching for the stars. – Random, $17.99 (4 and up)

Through the Window: Views of Marc Chagall’s Life and Art, Barb Rosenstock, illustrated by Mary Grandpré

The cover will catch your attention: Grandpré’s art is a wonderful interpretation of Chagall’s work. Rosenstock, whose last picture book was a biography of Van Gogh, skillfully shows readers how the experience of living through a war can affect someone’s life and how art can literally change a life—and maybe history as well. – Random House, $17.99 (4 and up)

Inky’s Amazing Escape: How a Very Smart Octopus Found His Way Home, Sy Montgomery

Inky was caught by a fisherman in New Zealand and ends up in the national aquarium. As he gets older, the staff understands that if they do not keep him engaged, entertained, distracted (sounds like a lot of kids) he will get into trouble. Then Inky decides he has had enough and literally escapes through a drain pipe! Octupuses are smart and agile. Montgomery does a great job, using mixed media along with a lot of facts about our favorite eight-legged animals. Nonfiction rules! – Simon & Schuster, $17.99 (4 and up)
**NWF 9/15**

**NONFICTION**

*Just Mercy (Adapted for Young Adults): A True Story of the Fight for Justice,* Bryan A. Stevenson

One of the best works of recent adult non-fiction has been published in a young adult edition. Stevenson’s story about his law career and the endemic racism in our penal system, especially as it pertains to the death penalty, is gripping, infuriating and well worth reading at any age!

– Random House, $18.99 (12 and up)

*She Made a Monster: How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein,* Lynn Fulton, illustrated by Felicata Sala

Another ode to Mary Shelley and Frankenstein on the 200th anniversary, this picture book biography hones in on the night that Mary Shelley had to come up with an idea for her friend Lord Byron. Everyone in the group was supposed to have an original ghost story to share around the fire. Mary wanted hers to be the best and the scariest. It became a story that lasted has 200 years. The art work stands out, portraying Mary, her angst, her friends, her monster with atmospheric, eye-catching spreads.

– Random, $17.99 (8 and up)

*Avalanche Dog Heroes: Piper and Friends Learn to Search the Snow,* Elizabeth Rusch

Piper is a Border Collie being trained to search for people who get caught in avalanches. Along with a couple of other pups, readers will learn about those same skills in a book which is chockfull of photos that will either make you want to get a dog or go skiing! Information about the conditions and warning signs of avalanches is also fascinating. The book, set in the “school” at Crystal Mountain Resort in Washington, is pertinent in our neck of the woods as well, since we too live in avalanche country. Here’s to a lot of snow this winter! – Little Bigfoot, $18.99 (7 and up, and everyone who likes winter sports!)

*Stretch to the Sun: From a Tiny Sprout to the Tallest Tree on Earth,* Carrie A. Pearson

There are great tree books for the kids this year too. The tallest tree in the world—380 feet high and still growing—is in Redwood National Park. It is not just a tree, it is an ecosystem in its own right. Budding environmentalists will love this tender look at what is an amazing living organism. The art tells more of the story, and the many details that are a pleasure. – Charlesbridge, $16.99 (5 and up)

*Wonders of Nature: Explorations in the World of Birds, Insects and Fish,* Florence Guiraud

This book screams “look at me!” Ninety-six pages of water color illustrations and information come together in a stunning view of our feathered friends, bugs and swimmers! Each page gives readers a chance to explore the natural world through Guiraud’s interesting and beautiful illustrations. This book could live on your coffee table, but trouble is, your kids will be too busy looking at it. – Prestel, $25 (all ages)

*Origami and Haiku: Inspired by Japanese Artwork,* The Trustees of the British Museum

This “activity/art” book combines three Japanese art forms into one book, the art of folding paper, the minimalist poetry form, and Japanese art in the British Museum. It is a brilliant execution of an art book. It also includes origami paper. Even though the target audience starts with kids, adults will appreciate the information and the origami instruction. – Nosy Crow, $15 (10 and up)

*Now You Know How It Works: Pictures and Answers for the Curious Mind,* Valorie Fisher

How does a toilet work? How do you make a crayon? Fisher goes right to the guts of the matter with simple, colorful, fresh photos and drawings. Aimed at younger readers, the explanations will satisfy and pique their interest in all kinds of science. – Scholastic, $17.99 (4 and up)

*How to Build a Hug: Temple Grandin and Her Amazing Squeeze Machine,* Amy Guglielmo and Jacqueline Tourville, illustrated by Giselle Potter

Grandin’s story about one of her first and most famous inventions is being told in picture book format! One of the most interesting things about this story is that readers get to see not only how her mind was working, but also why she did not want to be hugged. Dr. Grandin is an example, over and over again, that people with different abilities can participate fully; she is a hero.

– Simon & Schuster, $17.99 (4-8)
Ancient Warriors, Iris Volant and Joe Lillington

This oversized nonfiction narrative about armies and warriors is great! The illustrations, starting with the cover, will capture any reader’s attention. Following the arc of history, readers will see armies, sites, weapons and famous warriors. There is just enough information to make readers go look for more! – Flying Eye, $19.99 (9 and up)

Spooked! How a Radio Broadcast and the War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America, Gail Jarrow

Our current POTUS is not the first (and probably not the last) to use “fake news.” Jarrow’s retelling of the famous radio broadcast that sent radio listeners into a panic is fascinating, but, as she explains, even the story about the story was fake. Stories about fake news are everywhere, and this narrative nonfiction is a great way to delve into a very timely subject. – Calkins Creek, $18.95 (10 and up)

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Betsy Burton  Deon Hilger
Ann Cannon  Anne Holman
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