2016 Intermediate “Not Quite Sequoyah”

Anderson, John David. Sidekicked. New York: Walden Pond Press, 2013. 373p. (Grades 3-7). Andrew Bean has enough to deal with between super secret training to be a superhero sidekick, his sensitive superpowers, and keeping his secrets from his parents and the rest of the world. But when a supervillain reappears and superheros start disappearing, all of Drew’s secrets may be revealed.

Balliett, Blue. Hold Fast. New York: Scholastic Press, 2013. 274p. (Grades 8-12). Although poor and living in a one room apartment, the Pearl family has big dreams, a love for reading, and the rhythm of poetry. When Dash, the father, disappears after their home is vandalized, the other 3 members of Pearl family escape to a homeless shelter and never lose hope that their family will be reunited again.


Berry, Julie. All the Truth That’s In Me. New York: Viking, 2013. 288p. (Grades 7-12). Judith mysteriously disappeared years before. Her equally mysterious reappearance and literal loss of her tongue has provided her with nothing but mistrust and shunning from the people in her small village. Now that village is under attack, and Judith must regain her voice to save the man she loves and herself.

Blackwood, Sage. Jinx. New York: HarperCollins, 2013. 368p. (Grades 4-8). Young and abandoned in the magical and dangerous forest Urwald, Jinx finds shelter with the wizard Simon. When Simon casts a spell that takes away Jinx’s unique ability to see others’ emotions, Jinx embarks on a quest through the Urwald to recover his gift.

Charbonneau, Joelle. The Testing. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013. 339p. (Grades 7-12). Cia’s only chance for future education and a different kind of life depends on passing the testing in this dystopian novel, but the stakes are far higher than she expects and her life may depend on who she trusts and who she loves.

Clark, Kristin. Freakboy. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2013. 435 pages. (Grades 8 & up). Brendan Chase is confused. He loves his girlfriend and enjoys spending time with her but sometimes he just wants to BE here. He cannot reconcile how he feels inside with the way he appears on the outside. Vanessa doesn’t understand why sometimes her boyfriend feels more like a best girlfriend than a dating partner. When Brendan meets Angel, a transgendered girl working at the LGBTQ community center, he is even more confused about his identity and how to become the person he feels he is inside. Told in free verse through three distinct voices, this book is a glimpse into the struggles transgender teens and those who love them face daily.
Eddleman, P. *Sky Jumpers*. New York: Yearling, 2013. 288p. (Grades 3-7). In a post world war III town where each year everyone is required to invent something and have that invention judged, Hope’s inventions always fail. Hope and a group of children end up risking their lives to save their village from bandits.

Finneyrock, Karen. *The Sweet Revenge of Celia Door*. New York: Speak, a division of Penguin Publishing, 2013. 288p. (Grades 7 & up). After a disastrous 8th-grade year, Celia Door begins freshman year ready for many things: revenge against her tormentor, Sandy, for her first boyfriend, who may or may not be her new best friend Drake, but most of all, she is ready to fight back against anyone who wants to make her feel like less.

Fitzmaurice, K. *Destiny Rewritten*. New York: Katherine Tegen Books, 2013. 352p. (Grades 3-7). Emily is rejecting the idea that she is destined to become a poet just because she is named after the famous poet, Emily Dickinson. Emily loses the copy of The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson that her mother gave her, the copy that holds the secret to finding her father.

Gansworth, Eric. *If I Ever Get Out Of Here*. New York City: Arthur A. Levine Books, 2013. 359p. (Grades 8-12). It’s 1975 and Lewis “Shoe” Blake is the only Native American from his reservation in the class for “smart kids” at his middle school. Shoe’s only friend at school George, a military kid, arrives, the two bond over their mutual appreciation of music.

Grabenstein, Chris. *Escape from Mr.Lemoncello’s Library*. New York: Random House, 2013. 291p. (Grades 3-7) When famed game maker, Luigi Lemoncello builds the new town library, avid gamer Kyle Keeley wins one of twelve spots for a lock-in on opening night. But when the doors don’t open come morning, Kyle and the other contestants must solve the clues to find their escape!

Harrell, Rob. *Monster on the Hill*. Marietta, GA: Top Shelf Productions, 2013. 186p. (Grades 4-7). This fun graphic novel set in Victorian times features a depressed monster who is the shame of his town because he can’t properly terrorize them like other town monsters. It’s up to an eccentric doctor and a stowaway boy to help the monster regain his confidence while saving the town from real danger.

Hawkins, Rachel. *School Spirits*. New York: Hyperion, 2013. 297p. (Grades 6-12). Trained by her family to fight magical creatures, tough-girl Izzy Brannick moves to a new town after her older sister disappears on a witch hunting job, only to find dangerous magical hauntings mixed with humor and romance at her new high school.

MacHale, D.J. *SYLO*. New York: Razorbill, 2013. 416p. (Grades 5 & up). The government abruptly invades Pemberwick Island, Maine and forcibly quarantines Tucker Pierce and his community from the rest of the world as mysterious explosions appear in the sky and the inhabitants begin to suddenly drop dead of a virus.

Ockler, Sarah. *The Book of Broken Hearts*. New York: Simon Pulse, 2013. 357p. (Grades 8-12). Jude and her sisters have sworn an oath never to have anything to do with any of the Vargas
brothers after they broke the hearts of her older sisters, but when the youngest, Emilio, begins to help her ailing father, it may be Jude’s heart that is now in trouble.

Padian, Maria. *Out of Nowhere*. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2013. 256p. (Ages 14 & up). After a poor decision, Tom Bouchard, captain of the Enniston High School soccer team, is made to volunteer his time at the Somali community center in his town. He had spent the last year “not noticing” the influx of Somali refugees at his high school and is just beginning to understand a culture vastly different from his own. When several Somali boys come out for the soccer team, he begins to create bonds of friendship with them and look past differences to get to know the people in his community. After a winning streak makes a championship seem likely, the Somali students eligibility is challenged by a rival team. Can Tom stand with his new friends or will the local attitude toward the immigrants keep him quiet?

Polksy, Sarah. *This Is How I Find Her*. Park Ridge, Illinois: Albert Whitman Teen, 2013. 272p. (Grades 9 & up). Sophie’s life has always revolved around the rhythms of her mother’s bipolar disorder, but when a suicide attempt puts her mother in the hospital, Sophie goes to live with her aunt and must come to terms with her feelings about family.


Schneider, Robyn. *Beginning of Everything*. New York: HarperCollins, 2013. 335p. (Grades 8 & up). Popular high school tennis star Ezra Faulkner’s beginning of everything starts when his life is forever changed by his girlfriend cheating on him, leading to a horrific car accident and falling in love with Cassidy Thorpe, the unconventional new girl.