
Matson, Morgan. *The Firefly Summer*. New York. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2023. 383p. (Grades 3-6). Eleven year-old Ryanna Stuart has her summer planned and organized: a trip to Budapest, Hungary to accompany her filmmaker father to a movie set. But Ryanna’s plans change when she receives an unexpected letter from her grandparents, whom she’s never met, inviting her to spend the summer with them at the family-owned campground in Lake Phoenix, New York. The chance to learn more about her deceased mother and her grandparents is an opportunity Ryanna can’t pass up. But when Ryanna arrives, she finds more than she bargained for: unscheduled days of fun in the sun, aunts, uncles, cousins, and a mystery about her mother that Ryanna is determined to unravel. And solving the mystery may be the key to saving the family’s campground.

Dimopoulos, Elaine. *The Remarkable Rescue at Milkweed Meadow*. Watertown. Charlesbridge, 2023. 181 p. (Grades 4-6). A young and timid rabbit, Butternut, lives a quiet life in her burrow spending her days telling stories to her siblings, until a litter of coyote pups needs rescuing. Butternut and her fellow animal friends decide to step up and help, testing this rabbit’s bravery and showing her that heroes do exist in real life.

Chantler, Scott. *Squire & Knight*. New York. First Second, 2023. 162 p. (Grades 3-5). In this adventure driven graphic novel, Squire thinks his way to solutions as he rides along with Sir Kelton. As they enter Bridgetown, a dragon fearing community, the real action begins. Will a dragon be conquered? Will the brain win over brawn?


Davies, Jacqueline. *The International House of Dereliction*. New York, 2023. Clarion Books. 227 pgs. (Grades 4-6). Alice is moving again. She has lived in many houses and each of them have been falling apart. When Alice gets moved into her new house she is captivated by the house next door that is now a condemned mansion. Alice wants to restore this mansion to its original beauty. As she begins to work in the mansion she feels ghosts in the building.
Burnham, Molly B. *The Infinite Questions of Dottie Bing.* New York. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2023. 208 p. (Grades 3-7). Dottie Bing has always been a girl who likes asking questions and solving problems. After the death of her grandmother, her Grandpa Walter shows up for a very extended stay causing Dottie’s life to be turned upside down. He carries around his belated wife’s ashes in a Choc full o’ Nuts can and keeps talking to her. Will healing her grandfather’s broken heart and her own finally be a problem that Dottie can’t solve?

Anderson, M.T., *Elf Dog and Owl Head.* Candlewick Press, 2023. 240. (Grades 3-7). Quarantined due to a global plague, a young boy retreats to the woods where he makes friends and goes on a fantastical adventure where choosing the wrong path could make him lose his way forever.

Crowder, Tracy Occomy. *Montgomery and the Case of the Golden Key.* New York. Tu Books, 2023. 291 p. (Grades 3-7). Montgomery is a young boy looking forward to a summer of freedom in his South Side Chicago neighborhood in 2008. Barack Obama is running for president, there is talk of the Olympics coming to town, and the neighborhood is filled with energy. However, when Montgomery both discovers a mysterious treasure in his yard and gets in trouble for breaking his birthday present, his summer plans change. Suddenly his days are filled with camp, helping his elderly neighbors, hunting for treasure, and unlocking neighborhood secrets.

Oh, Ellen, editor. *You Are Here: Connecting Flights.* New York. Allida, 2023. 251 p. (Grades 4-7). In an airport in Chicago, several different families deal with the pitfalls of traveling while Asian. From mix ups at customs, to trouble ordering food, to younger sibling tantrums, each narrator in these intersecting stories must deal with stereotypes, misunderstandings, loss, and the courage to speak up for themselves. Overall it is a story of the many meanings of family, identity, and cultural pride.

Burke, Cliff. *My Not-So-Great French Escape.* New York. Clarion Books, 2023. 214 p. (Grades 4-6). Rylan and Wilder used to be best friends, but not so much anymore. All of that might change as Wilder invites Rylan to join him in France for a summer farming program. What seemed like an exciting adventure for Rylan undergoes some twists and turns like when his dad who left ten years ago attempts to meet up with Rylan in Paris, not to mention an eccentric camp leader with crazy goats, pigeons, and bees. Rylan thinks he’s going to rekindle his old friendship but ends up making some pretty great new friendships along the way.
Applegate, Katherine & Gennifer Choldenko. *DogTown*. New York. Feiwel & Friends, 2023. 344 Pgs. (Grade 3-5). Join Chance, the “luckiest dog in DogTown” as he helps the other shelter dogs through the “boo-hoos”, “bouncebacks”, and even learning what love is like for a dog. With the help of his buddy Mouse, Chance helps a robot dog find connections while at the same time hoping that his own family still remembers him. Will he find his own family or end up on The List?

Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Mr. Whiskers and the Shenanigan Sisters*. New York. Alfred A. Knopf, 2023. 199 p. (Grades 3-7). Mr. Whiskers is a stray dog who spends a lot of time at Merryweather Manor with Misty and Zelda, who he affectionately refers to as the Shenanigan Sisters. When their professor father mysteriously disappears and the sisters suspect foul play, Mr. Whiskers is on the case. The three make quite a team, racing through the streets of San Francisco to catch the kidnappers, and discover some secrets of the manor in their quest.

Hartman, Aubrey. *The Lion of Lark-Hayes Manor*. New York. Little, Brown and Company, 2023. 314 p. (Grades 3-7). Poppy’s family relocates to Oregon to restore the historical Lark-Hayes Manor. Poppy believes that magic exists in the real world, as well as between the pages of her beloved stories, although she has yet to see any proof. There is something magical about the manor, and Poppy will go to great lengths to discover it, but at what cost?