Athaide, Tina. *Orange for the Sunsets*. New York: Katherine Tegen Books, 2019. 336 p. (Grades 3-7). Twelve-year old Ugandan citizens Asha and Yesofu have been best friends forever. Yesofu is African and Asha is Indian, but it does not matter to them that they come from different backgrounds; until one day the Ugandan government decides that all Indians with British citizenship must leave. Asha is determined that her life will not change and she will always have her best friend Yesofu.

Boyce, Jo Ann Allen and Debbie Levy. *This Promise of Change: One Girl’s Story in the Fight for School Equality*. New York: Bloomsbury Children’s Books, 2019. 310 p. (Grades 5-9). Boyce, one of 12 black students who integrated Clinton, Tennessee's public high school in 1956, recounts her experiences in narrative poems and free verse. Readers are introduced to segregation practices in the South not only through Boyce’s poems, but also through interspersed headlines and quotations from newspapers and public figures at the time.

Craft, Jerry. *New Kid*. New York: HarperCollins, 2019. 249 p. (Grades 5-8). When his parents decide to send him to a fancy private school known for rigorous academics, Jordan is bummed. He had his heart set on art school, and now he is one of only a couple of students of color in his new school. In this engaging graphic novel, Jordan must find balance between his two very different lives and learn how to just be himself.

Donnelly, Jennifer. *Stepsister*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2019. 342 p. (Grades 6-8). Isabelle pretends to be Cinderella however the prince finds out she is her stepsister and sends her away. She decides that she doesn’t have to spend her life being horrible and turns her life around in a most amazing way.

Dunbar, Erica and Van Cleve, Kathleen. *Never Caught, the Story of Ona Judge: George and Martha Washington’s Courageous Slave Who Dared to Run Away*. New York: Simon and Schuster Children’s Publishing Division, 2019. 233 p. (Grades 4-8). Ona Judge was born into slavery in the 1770s. This account tells of her early life and time as George and Martha Washington’s slave. Through her accounts she describes life as the First Family’s slave. The story goes through Judge’s history including escaping slavery and her death in 1848.

Garber, Alyson. *Focused*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2019. P. 288 (Grades 4-7). Even though 12 year-old Clea tries to be responsible, prepare for tests, play her best moves during her chess matches, and complete her homework on time, she struggles to be successful. Something always seems to distract her. In an attempt to help Clea, her parents take her to a doctor who eventually diagnoses her with ADHD (without hyperactivity). Clea, along with help
from her psychiatrist, seeks to understand what her diagnosis means and identify ways to help her stay focused.

Gratz, Alan. *Allies*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2019. 336 p. (Grades 4-8). It’s June 6th, 1944 and World War II is raging. Dee, a young U.S. soldier is heading for the French coast - and he’s scared to death. Dee is not the only one scared to death, a girl named Samira, who is working as a spy lives in constant fear of being found out that she is trying to sabotage the German army. Allies is the story of soldiers doing their best to fight for their country, through many obstacles and fears.

Johnson, Katherine. *Reaching for the Moon: The Autobiography of NASA Mathematician Katherine Johnson*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2019. Pages 256. (Grades 6-8). In 1950s & 1960s, being a woman, much less a woman of color, gave you few opportunities outside of the stereotypes of the day. Katherine Johnson broke many barriers during her life. From advancing beyond her peers in school, to studying complex math with professors, Katherine soon found herself working for NASA before it was NASA and on into the era of the race to the moon. In her own words she tells the story of the changes she experienced throughout her life.

Landis, Matthew. *It’s the End of the World as I Know It*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2019. 314 p. (Grades 5-8). Ever since his mom was killed in Iraq, Derrick is convinced that doomsday is coming. He has even been building a shelter in preparation for that day. When his neighbor, Misty, insists on helping, Derrick isn’t so sure, thinking that there was only room in the shelter for one person. However, when disaster strikes, it wasn’t what either of them had anticipated.

Ramée, Lisa Moore. *A Good Kind of Trouble*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2019. 358 p. (Grades 4-7). Twelve-year-old Shayla always follows the rules and never gets in trouble until she starts a armband movement in her school to support Black Lives Matter. She faces a lot of resistance from those who do not share her views, especially school administration. Shayla is not sure of the right thing to do when she is in the most trouble she has ever been.

Schmidt, Gary D. *Pay Attention Carter Jones*. New York: Clarion Books, 2019. 217 p. (Grades 5-8). As Carter Jones prepares for sixth grade and is trying to deal with his parents divorce, he finds out they have inherited a butler from his late grandfather. A true Englishman, the know-it-all Butler does his best to “fix” Carter’s family and teach Carter to be a true gentleman.

picturesque life gets overturned by a series of unsettling events that includes her German mother being shipped off to an internment camp, her father helping the troops at Dunkirk, and her older sister Mags being secretive. See how this family survives the horrors of war in their castle by the sea.

Valentine, Nicole. *A Time Traveler’s Theory of Relativity*. Minneapolis: Carolrhoda Books, 2019. 346 p. (Grades 4-8). Finn is dreading his thirteenth birthday as it not only reminds him of his twin sister’s death, but his mom has left them as well with no explanation. While Finn’s father goes away for the weekend, Finn discovers the fantastical truth from his gran: the women in his family are time travelers and his mother has disappeared into another timeline to save his sister. Finn embarks on a journey to help save his family.

Warga, Jasmine. *Other Words for Home*. New York: HarperCollins, 2019. 342 p. (Grades 4-7). This novel in verse tells the story of Jude who flees the violence in Syria with her mother to live with relatives in Cincinnati. She must try to adjust to a lifestyle that is very different than the one she left behind as she misses the friends and family she left in Syria.

Williams, Alicia D. *Genesis Begins Again*. New York: Atheneum, 2019. 364 p. (Grades 5-8). Genesis has many reasons she doesn't like herself. In fact, she keeps a list of them. She believes she is the reason why her family has troubles. Her family has to move frequently, her dad has a problem with gambling and perhaps also with drinking. She feels that if she could just change these things about herself, everything would be fine. When one of her family’s moves brings Genesis to a new school, she meets people there who help her see things to like about herself. She then learns that change begins with a change in her own attitude.