2021 OLA Children’s Sequoyah Masterlist Annotations

Cervantes, Angela. *Lety Out Loud.* New York: Scholastic. 196 p. (Grades 2-6). Lety is an English language learner who loves animals and volunteering at her local shelter. When she is chosen to write profiles to help the animals be adopted, she is both thrilled and intimidated because it takes her longer to write in English. When a boy decides to challenge her to a profile-writing contest, Lety knows that she is at a disadvantage. However, she is not one to back down from a challenge - especially if winning the contest will help her in her goal to adopt her favorite shelter dog, Spike.

Choldenko, Gennifer. *One-Third Nerd.* New York: Wendy Lamb Books. 208 p. (Grades 3-7). For 5th grader Liam, being the big brother to two sisters, one with Down syndrome and one who is a mad scientist, is tough. Add to that divorced parents and a dog who has bladder issues, and 5th grade just might be the most interesting year of Liam’s life.

Gemeinhart, Dan. *The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise.* New York: Henry Holt and Co. 341 p. (Grades 3-6). Coyote Sunrise wasn’t given this name at birth. Her father gave it to her when he stopped letting her call him dad. After experiencing tragedy, they climb aboard an old school bus and travel the U.S. in an attempt to leave their sorrow behind.

Kelly, Lynne. *Song For A Whale.* New York: Delacorte Press. 303 p. (Grades 4-7). Life is tough for Iris; she’s the only deaf person at her school and she has trouble fitting in with her peers. When she finds a whale that has the same dilemma, she is determined to put her superior, electronic building skills to use to build a device to speak to the whale who is 3,000 miles away.

Lord, Cynthia. *Because of the Rabbit.* New York: Scholastic. 183 p. (Grades 3-7). Emma has been homeschooled and will now start public school in the fifth grade. Her father is a game ranger, and they have recently rescued what they thought was a wild rabbit but turned out to be someone’s missing pet. More than anything, Emma wants a best friend. She learns about what it takes to be a true friend to someone, and they will be your friend, too.

Mapes, Lynda V. *Rescuing Rialto: A Baby Sea Otter’s Story.* New York: Roaring Book Press. 40 p. (Grades 3-6). On a sunny August Morning in 2016, a baby sea otter was found washed up on the sand at Rialto Beach. Orphaned and sick, Rialto was taken to the Seattle Aquarium where his dedicated caretakers nursed him back to health and taught him how to be an otter.
Manternach, Karla. **Meena Meets Her Match.** New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. 181 p. (Grades 3-7). Third-grader Meena has led a colorful life until a medical mystery shakes things up. How will she get through this without her best friend?

Reintgen, Scott. **Saving Fable.** New York: Crown Books for Young Readers. 365 p. (Grades 3-7). Indira wants nothing more than to attend Protagonist Preparatory. Her plans do not go as smoothly as she planned. Rather than qualifying for the protagonist track of study, she is placed in the side character track. Indira meets characters from well known books, new best friends, and many quirky support characters in her path to find her place in her own story. It is the evil antagonist who places all of Fable into jeopardy. With the help of her new friends, Max and Phoenix, Indira must find a way to save Fable, find her path, and possibly save the day.

Ritter, William. **The Oddmire Book One: Changling.** New York: Algonquin Young Readers. 272 p. (Grades 3-7). Everyone in the town of Endsborough knew that they should never go into the Wild Wood. It was full of dangerous magic. But in the Wild Wood, the magic was fading. Desperate to restore the magic, a goblin named Kull decides to swap a new human baby for a rare changeling, a goblin who can take on the form of any baby. However, Kull is interrupted before he can snatch the human baby, leaving two exact replicas, one human and one goblin, in the crib. The brave mother raises the “twins” for 12 years, until the day that they receive the summons, a call back to the Wild Wood and a quest to find out the truth about them both.

Spinelli, Eileen. **Birdie.** Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers. 197 p. (Grades 4-8). Birdie, an avid birdwatcher, is healing from the loss of her father after she and her mother move in with her grandmother. This novel in verse follows Birdie as she copes with her mother beginning to date again, her feelings for and about her friends beginning to date (and break up), and her grandmother falling in love.

Sumner, Jamie. **Roll With It.** New York: Atheneum. 246 p. (Grades 5-6). When baking enthusiast Ellie’s family moves to Oklahoma to help take care of her grandfather with Alzheimer’s disease, she is determined to win the annual pie contest. Life with cerebral palsy is difficult in a small town, but Ellie refuses to let anything stand in her way.

Swore, Wendy S. **A Monster Like Me.** New York: Shadow Mountain. 298 p. (Grades 3-6). Sophie believes the birthmark on her face makes her look and feel like a monster. Her study of the *Big Book of Monsters* helps her identify bullies as goblins, and her best friend as a fairy. Fearing that her monsterness will drive others away, she struggles to find a cure before it’s too late.
Thompson, Lisa. *The Light Jar*. New York: Scholastic. 232 p. (Grades 4-6). Nate and his mother have gathered the courage to flee from their unsafe household and her controlling boyfriend. They arrive at a cottage in the countryside, and Nate’s mother goes out to get supplies… and doesn’t return. As Nate is left alone, he becomes desperate and befriends a girl trying to solve a decades-old treasure hunt, but Nate gets more than he bargained for in the process.

Wang, Jen. *Stargazing*. New York: :01 First Second. 214 p. (Grades 3-7). Christine is struggling to fit into school and find herself when she meets Moon. Moon is completely the opposite of Christine. Moon is confident, impulsive, artistic, and gets in trouble at school. She stands out while Christine tries to blend in. When Christine and Moon are forced into a situation where they must spend time together, they find themselves becoming best friends. That is until Moon’s “visions” from the stars come between them. This is a true story of friendship, overcoming adversity, and finding the way to be true to yourself.

Yazdani, Ashley. *A Green Place to Be: The Creation of Central Park*. Massachusetts: Candlewick Press. 40 p. (Grades 2-5). How was a beautiful park created in a bustling city? Follow the creation of Central Park through a citywide contest in this beautifully illustrated picture book.