Annotation:
Fifteen-year-old Janna Yusef, a self-proclaimed misfit, navigates her Muslim culture while also trying to be a normal teenager with friends, a somewhat unrequited crush, and divorced parents. Life becomes all the more complicated when well-respected member of her family’s mosque assaults her, and she must work to find her voice and speak up before he attempts to hurt her further.

Booktalk:
Janna’s life is filled with saints and misfits. Janna herself could be considered somewhat of a misfit. She loves books, photography, and a certain guy named Jeremy, but he’s not exactly someone she would be allowed to date, even if she could date. Janna also wears her Muslim identity proudly, but finds the struggle to fit in with her Muslim and non-Muslim friends difficult at times. Janna also finds herself in awe of the “saints” in her life, people like her brother’s crush, Sarah who in Janna’s eyes and everyone else’s is considered “the most perfect Muslim girl.”

As if navigating those issues in her life weren’t enough, Janna also has a monster lurking around her. He is considered a saint by her mosque, but after sexually assaulting her, Janna knows the truth. Shamed into silence by his actions she struggles to find her voice before he tries to hurt her again.

Filled with humor, heart, and a powerful portrayal of a girl finding the power within herself to speak up and fight back, Saints and Misfits is one beautiful and moving story.

Reviews:
Booklist (Starred), 5/15/2017
School Library Journal (Starred), 5/1/2017
Kirkus (Starred), 4/15/2017
Publishers Weekly 5/8/2017

Awards and Honors:
Morris Award Finalist (2018)
Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association Honor for Young Adult Literature (2018)

Websites:
https://skalibooks.com/
twitter.com/sajidahwrites

Related Titles:
Love, Hate, and Other Filters by Samira Ahmed (2018)
American Panda by Gloria Chao (2018)
Does My Head Look Big in This by Randa Abdel-Fattah (2007)

Other Books by Author:
Saints and Misfits is S. K. Ali’s debut novel
Midnight at the Electric
By Jodi Lynn Anderson


Annotation:
In 2065, Adri has been chosen as a colonist on a prestigious mission to Mars, but something is keeping her rooted to Earth. In 1934, Catherine fights to keep her family together as the dust bowl ravages their farm. In 1919, Lenore struggles to reconcile her feelings of grief for her brother with her blossoming love for a mysterious stranger. Three beautifully interwoven stories of loss, love, and finding your way in the world… even when it means believing in the impossible.

Booktalk:
Midnight at the Electric tells the stories of Adri, Catherine, and Lenore, three fantastically different young women living centuries and continents apart, but each coming to terms with leaving home behind in search of a new life. Set simultaneously in post-WWI England, the Kansas Dust Bowl, and a futuristic Mars colonist training program, this novel features a trio of strong-willed main characters discovering that a brighter future means letting go of everything they’ve ever known. Jodi Lynn Anderson’s thoughtful prose winds together three stories that will resonate with anyone who has ever had to let go of someplace or someone they love.

Reviews:
Booklist (Starred), 04/01/2017
Hornbook, 09/2017-10/2017
Kirkus (Starred), 04/01/2017
Publisher’s Weekly (Starred), 04/17/2017
School Library Journal (Starred), 04/01/2017
Bulletin (Starred), 05/2017

Awards and Honors:
New York Public Library Best Book of 2017

Websites:
jodilynnanderson.com
twitter.com/jodilynnna

Related Titles:
The Girl from Everywhere by Heidi Heilig (2016)
Speak Easy, Speak Love by McKelle George (2017)
A Lite Too Bright by Samuel Miller (2018)

Other Books by Author:
My Diary from the Edge of the World (2015)
The Vanishing Season (2014)
Tiger Lily (2012)
Americapedia: Taking the Dumb Out of Freedom (2011)
Loser/Queen (2010)
Love and Peaches (2008)
The Secrets of Peaches (2007)
21 Proms (2007)
May Bird, Warrior Princess (2007)
May Bird Among the Stars (2006)
Peaches (2005)
May Bird and the Ever After (2005)
Full Blooded Fantasy (2005)

**Annotation:**
Determined to launch his golden iPod full of Earth sounds into space, eleven-year-old Alex Petroski stocks the fridge with meals for his mom, leaves his older brother a voicemail, and takes a train to a rocket festival in New Mexico with his dog Carl Sagan - named after his real life hero astronomer Dr. Carl Sagan. The simple trip begins a journey full of unlikely friendships, bumps in the road, and answers to questions Alex didn’t even think to ask.

**Booktalk:**

New Recording 1M 45S

Hi guys! Alex thought you should know that he’s using this golden iPod to make sounds from earth to send into space just like his real life hero Dr. Carl Sagan did with the golden record. He took a train from Colorado to New Mexico with his dog, also named Carl Sagan, and hopes to shoot it into space during SHARF, the Southwest High Altitude Rocket Festival. He met some new friends from Rocketforum.org who are big rocket enthusiasts as well and they said they’d take him to Las Vegas to search for his dad.

Anyway, I hope he’s able to get some great earth sounds and is safe during his travels. If you want to find out more you should read *See you in the Cosmos* by Jack Cheng.

**Reviews:**
Publishers Weekly (Starred), 12/05/2016
Kirkus (Starred), 2/28/2017
School Library Connection,
Booklist,
School Library Journal, 1/1/2017

**Awards and Honors:**
Golden Kite Award: Middle Grade/Young Reader Fiction
Parents' Choice Awards - Fiction: 2017

**Websites:**
https://jackcheng.com/
@jackcheng

**Related Titles:**
*The Honest Truth* by Dan Gemeinhart (2015)
*How to Avoid Extinction* by Paul Acampora (2016)
*Ashes to Asheville* by Sarah Dooley (2017)

**Other Books by Author:**
*These Days* (self-published 2013)
Annotation:
Years before the marriage act is signed into law, sisters Fella and her sister Zany are separated after the death of Mama Lacy, leaving Zancy with Mama Shannon and Fella with her biological grandmother. Looking to bring their family back together, Fella and Zancy kidnap Mama Lacey's ashes and embark on a crazy road trip to fulfill Mama Lacey's dying wish, to spread her ashes in the last place they all were a family, Asheville, North Carolina. Find out if they make it to their destination and fulfill their mothers wish.

Booktalk:
How can a kidnapped dog named Haberdashery, an urn full of Mama Lacey’s ashes, $20.00 in a wet sock, and the borrowing of one car and one truck get two young ladies from West Virginia to Asheville, North Carolina?

Read how Ophelia, a twelve-year-old nicknamed Fella, and her 16-year-old sister, Zaney Grace, aka Zany, fulfill their mother's last wish to have her ashes spread where they were last one happy family.

Zany and Fella take their Mama Lacy’s ashes from their grandmother’s mantel and head to North Carolina. The car they drive overheats; they hitchhike with a young man named Adam who had stolen their dog and urn while he was headed to his father’s death bed.

Reviews:
Kirkus Review, 02/01/2017
School Library Journal, 02/01/2017
Publishers Weekly, 02/20/2017
Booklist, 03/15/2017
Horn Book Guide, 10/01/2017

Awards and Honors:
Oklahoma Sequoyah Book Award Nominee

Websites:
https://sites.google.com/view/dooleynotedbooks

Related Titles:
Free Verse by Sarah Dooley (2016)
Waiting for Unicorns by Beth Hautala (2015)
Getting near to baby by Audrey Couloumbis (2001)

Other Books by Author:
Livvie Owen Lived Here (2010)
Body of Water (2011)
Free Verse (2016)

**Annotation:**
Set in 1974 Los Angeles, Armstrong and Charlie find themselves living out court-ordered integration. Armstrong is one of the 6th graders selected to travel to Wonderland Elementary in Hollywood Hills. Charlie has attended the school forever but his best friends are changing schools because "times are changing." This is where it all begins with two very different boys, or are they?

**Booktalk:**
What would you do if it was the night before you start the 6th grade and you find out your 3 best friends in the whole world, the same friends you have been with since kindergarten, were not starting with you? Plus you have to do this without your big brother.

Better yet, what if you were starting the 6th grade, at a new school, having to ride an “opportunity bus” across town? Not only that but you have to get up an hour and a half earlier to do it. Just because, some judge in Washington D.C. said so. But you go anyway because of course Mom and Dad know best.

This is the dilemma Charlie Ross “The Rules Boy” and Armstrong Le Rois “Rebel with an Attitude” find themselves in, in 1974 Los Angeles. More specific: In Hollywood Hills, the rich “white” side of LA. In the 1970s, if you were white you went to a school that had no black students. The same thing was true in the “projects” of LA where mostly just blacks lived. Then came a program called “opportunity”. They picked kids from the black schools and sent them to all white schools. How would you feel if you were in either pair of shoes? Would you have gone in thinking, "no one better mess with me or I will start to fight?" Would you be scared they would not like you? How about do they listen to your kind of music, or know how to play your games at recess? So many questions and fears.

Life as they know it is changing at Wonderland Elementary School, because who wants to admit to being Alice or the White Hare to their friends? Between hot sauce laced Ho-Hos, playground antics, and a table built for two, life will get real interesting for Armstrong and Charlie and their families.

**Reviews:**
Kirkus Reviews, 02/01/2017
KidsRead.com, Alizé J., Teen Board Member, 06/09/2017
School Library Journal, 03/23/2017
yabookscentral.com, 02/14/2017
www.jewishbookcouncil.org, 01/2018

**Awards and Honors:**
CYBILS (Children's & Young Adult Bloggers' Literary Awards) finalist in Middle Grade Fiction

**Websites:**
www.stevenbfrank.com
https://www.facebook.com/authorstevenbfrank
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**Related Titles:**
The Lions of Little Rock by Kristin Levine (2012)
The Seventh Most Important Thing by Shelley Pearsall (2015)

**Other Books by Author:**
Class Action, Spring 2018
Braced
By Alyson Gerber


Annotation: Gerber, Alyson. Braced. New York: Arthur A. Levine, 2017. 287 p. (Grades 6-8). Rachel Brooks plays on her school’s soccer team, navigates the minefield of junior high friendships, and hopes her crush will notice her—all while dealing with progressive idiopathic scoliosis. Wearing a brace twenty-three hours a day changes the way others see her and how she sees herself.

Booktalk: Rachel Brooks is excited about the new school year. She hopes she will make the varsity soccer team this year. Just one more doctor’s appointment and she can forget her scoliosis and focus on getting her crush, Tate to notice her. However, the doctor’s appointment does not go as planned and now Rachel is stuck in a brace 23 hours a day! Her clothes do not fit right and her friends treat her differently. As Rachel works through balancing scoliosis with the rest of her life, she might just be stronger than thinks.

Braced does not gloss over the realities of living with scoliosis, but Alyson Gerber has also created a character who feels the angst of junior life and does not always get along with her mom. This is a heartwarming story with a realistic feel, in part because the author herself dealt with scoliosis in junior high. Braced is recommended by the Curvy Girls foundation, which provides support for girls with scoliosis.

Reviews:
Booklist, Feb. 1, 2017
Children's Bookwatch, September 2017
Kirkus Reviews, December 15, 2016

Awards and Honors:
Booklist Top 10 Sports Books for Youth, 2017
Cybils Awards, 2017, Nominee, Middle Grade Fiction

Websites:
http://alysongerber.com/
Twitter: @AlysonGerber

Related Titles:
Wonder by R.J. Palacio, 2012
Smile by Raina Telgemeier, 2010
Posted by John David Anderson, 2017

Other Books by Author:
Focused (Anticipated 2019)
Refugee
By Alan Gratz


Annotation:
Though they live in different time periods, Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud all have something in common: they are refugees. Josef is a Jewish boy fleeing Nazi Germany. Isabel, a Cuban girl, heads for the United States on just a homemade raft so she can escape riots in her country. Mahmoud leaves Syria with his family after a bomb destroys their home. Though they each have their own harrowing journey, they find their lives intersect in an unexpected way.

Booktalk:
Have you ever thought about what it would feel like to leave almost everything you own and have known? Thought there stories are different, that is exactly what Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud must do. There are many dangers ahead for the three young people as they journey to safety and a new life.

Reviews:
Horn Book Magazine, 11/01/17
Kirkus Reviews starred, 06/01/17
Publishers Weekly starred, 05/22/17
School Library Connection, 10/01/17
School Library Journal. 07/01/17

Awards and Honors:
National Jewish Book Awards: Children's and Young Adult Literature
Notable Books for a Global Society: 2018
Sydney Taylor Book Awards: Older Readers
YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults: 2018
YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers: 2018

Websites:
www.alangratz.com
https://twitter.com/AlanGratz
https://www.facebook.com/alangratz?ref=profile

Related Titles:
Escape from Aleppo by N.H. Senzai (2018)
Across a War-Tossed Sea by L.M Elliott (2014)
Inside Out and Back Again by Thanahha Lai (2011)
All the Broken Pieces: A Novel in Verse, by Ann E. Burg (2009)

Other Books by Author:
Ban This Book (2017)
Projekt 1065 (2016)
Prisoner B-3087 (2013)
Fantasy Baseball (2011)

**Annotation:**
Amina loves to sing, but only when no one but her best friend, Soojin, can hear her. But Soojin has made some popular new friends in middle school, and now she wants to change her name to sound more “American.” Feeling unheard at home, Amina struggles with the changes happening all around her. But when her mosque is vandalized, Amina finally finds her voice to speak up for what matters.

**Booktalk:**
Amina, a sixth grade girl growing up outside of Milwaukee, loves both her cultures: her family’s Pakistani Muslim roots, and the American culture of pizza and pop music she lives at school. Amina doesn’t think she should have to choose one side of herself, even though her best friend Soojin is trying to become more “American,” and her uncle visiting from Pakistan disapproves of her family’s American ties. This timely story of an immigrant family figuring out their new normal in a place that isn’t always friendly will resonate with new middle schoolers trying to find their place with friendships, family, and the world. Author Khan, a Pakistani-American Muslim herself, gives Amina a genuine and compelling voice as she navigates the unique perspective of a second-generation American alongside the quintessential challenges of middle school.

**Reviews:**
Kirkus (starred), 01/15/2017
Booklist (Starred), 02/01/2017
School Library Journal (Starred), 02/01/2017
Horn Book, 03/2017
Publisher’s Weekly, 01/02/2017

**Awards and Honors:**
Goodreads Choice Award Nominee for Middle Grade & Children’s (2017)
A Washington Post Best Children’s Book of 2017

**Websites:**
henakhan.com
twitter.com/henakhanbooks
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www.facebook.com/hena.khan.books

**Related Titles:**
*First Rule of Punk* by Celia C. Perez (2017)
*Short* by Holly Goldberg Sloan (2017)
*See You in the Cosmos* by Jack Cheng (2017)
*The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya (2017)
*This is Just a Test* by Madelyn Rosenberg and Wendy Wan-Long Shang (2017)
Other Books by Author:

*Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors* (2012)
*It's Ramadan, Curious George* (2016)
*Mars: You Decide How to Survive! (The Worst-Case Scenario Ultimate Adventure, #2)* (2011)
*Amazon: You Decide How to Survive! (The Worst-Case Scenario Ultimate Adventure, #3)* (2012)
*Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets: A Muslim Book of Shapes* (2018)
*Power Forward* (2018)

**Annotation:**
It is the first day of summer vacation. Rowan Chase is trying to sleep in when workers find a body in the garage floor at her home. Though the murder is a century old, Rowan is intrigued. Through her research, she learns about Will, who lived in the same house. The story then unfolds from two perspectives: Rowan, who lives in present day Tulsa, and Will, a teen who lived in Tulsa during the Nation’s deadliest race riot.

**Booktalk:**
Rowan Chase has plans for her summer vacation, but when a dead body is found on the property of her home, her plans change. Feeling like the police will just dismiss the case because the body is a century old, Rowan begins her own investigation. What she finds will change her forever.

William lives in the era of Prohibition and Jim Crow laws. He struggles to come to terms with events in his life and some of his decisions could result in a man being murdered.

Though they don’t live in the same century, Rowan and Will’s lives intersect in unexpected ways as this exciting story about racism and murder unfolds.

**Reviews:**
- Booklist starred, 11/15/16
- Bulletin for the Center for Children’s Books, 12/01/06
- Horn Book Guide, 10/01/17
- Horn Book Magazine, 11/01/16
- Kirkus Reviews starred, 11/01/16
- New York Times, 4/16/17
- Publishers Weekly, 11/14/16
- School Library Connection, 8/01/17
- School Library Journal starred, 11/01/16
- Teacher Librarian, 2/01/18
- Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA), 2/01/17

**Awards and Honors:**
- Notable Books for a Global Society: 2018
- YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers: 2018

**Websites:**
- www.jenniferlatham.com
- https://twitter.com/jenandapen
- https://www.facebook.com/jenniferlathamwrites/
- https://www.instagram.com/jenandapen/
Related Titles:
*Midnight Without a Moon* by Linda Williams Jackson
*Tulsa Burning* by Anna Myers (2002)

Other Books by Author:
*Scarlett Undercover* (2015)
Annotation:
Sixteen-year old Evangeline Ray lives what she considers an idyllic life in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, with her two best friends, Mamere, her beloved grandmother, and time spent in her skiff on the bayou. When Hurricane Katrina’s destruction changes everything for Evangeline, she has to fight for her family, her friends, a buddy relationship, and to find her way back to the life she loves on the bayou.

Booktalk:
For Evangeline Ray, nothing is better than life on the bayou in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. She has not one, but two best friends, is offered words of wisdom and advice from Mamere, her beloved grandmother, and spends quality time in her skiff on the bayou looking up at the beautiful sky. As her sixteenth birthday nears, Evangeline cannot envision life changing.

But that beautiful sky brings destruction and devastation when Hurricane Katrina wreaks havoc on New Orleans and on Evangeline’s precious bayou. Her family makes the difficult decision to relocate to Atlanta, where Evangeline’s idyllic life begins to splinter apart. Her parents seem to be choosing different paths, her sister, Mandy is making some poor decision, one of her best friends, Danielle, has not been heard from since she and her mother evacuated the parish, and a budding relationship with fellow Plaquemines Parish refugee Tru stalls when he and his family disappear from Atlanta.

Evangeline’s life seems to be an endless stream of struggles and missteps. She wants what is best for her family, but her heart, her very soul belongs to the bayou, and she will do whatever necessary to get back there. Go along with Evangeline on her journey to find the life she desires above all else Between Two Skies.

Reviews:
School Library Journal, 02/01/17
ALA Booklist, starred, 02/15/17
Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books, 03/01/17
Horn Book Guide, 10/01/17
Kirkus Reviews, starred, 02/01/17
Publishers Weekly, 02/20/17
Voices of Youth Advocates, 06/01/17
Teacher Librarian, 10/01/17

Awards and Honors:
Texas-Lone Star Reading List, 2018
Texas-Tayshas High School Reading LIst, 2018

Websites:
www.joanneosullivan.com
Twitter: @jkosullivan1
Related Titles:
Finding Someplace by Denise Lewis Patrick (2015)
Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes (2012)
A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park (2010)
Refugee by Alan Gratz (2017)
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys (2015)

Other Books by Author:
Long Way Down
By Jason Reynolds


Annotation:
Where Will lives there are three rules: No crying, No snitching, Take revenge. On level 7 of his apartment building, fifteen year old Will enters the elevator with his dead brother’s gun and the three rules creating chaos in his head. Should he follow the rules he was raised by or create his own? Will has 60 seconds to decide.

Booktalk:
“The Rules have always ruled. Past present future forever.” No crying, No snitching, Take revenge. Will learned the first rule when he was eight years old and watched his friend Dani die under the monkey bars. Will is now 16 and his brother has been fatally shot. Will enters the elevator with his dead brother’s gun and the three rules creating chaos in his head. Can Will follow all three rules? Should he?

This novel-in-verse is a gut punch of an elevator ride. Readers will learn that rules can carry hidden truths and growing up includes making some difficult choices.

Reviews:
Booklist, 7/1/2017
Bulletin of Ctr for Child Bks, 10/1/2017
Horn Book, 7/1/2017
Kirkus Reviews, 7/1/2017
Publishers Weekly, 7/1/2017
School Library Journal, 7/1/2017

Awards and Honors:
National Book Award Nominee for Young People’s Literature (2017)
Newberry Honor (2018)
Odyssey Honor (2018)
Michael L. Printz Honor (2018)
Coretta Scott King (Author) Honor (2018)
YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults (2018)
YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers (2018)

Websites:
Author Website: http://www.jasonwritesbooks.com
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Twitter: https://twitter.com/JasonReynolds83

Related Titles:
The Closest I’ve Come by Fred Aceves (2017)
Monster by Walter Dean Myers (2004)
*The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo (2018)
*When I Was the Greatest* by Jason Reynolds (2015)

**Other Books by Author:**
*All American Boys* (2015)
*Boy in the Black Suit* (2016)
*Ghost* (2016)
*Miles Morales* (2017)
*Patina* (2017)
*When I Was the Greatest* (2014)
Miles Morales: Spider-Man
By Jason Reynolds


Annotation:
“You’re just like me.” Uncle Aaron was always running afoul with the law, and those were his last words to his nephew, sixteen-year-old Miles Morales. Miles really hopes he wasn’t referring to his current suspension from an elite and exclusive prep school in New York City. Miles was following his spidey-sense but lately it’s been wonky and…wrong. When Miles returns to his classes, sticking closely to the rules is priority and immediately his spidey-sense starts tingling again. In discovering a deviously hidden plot, Miles must balance the great responsibilities of holding onto his scholarship, his school work, a budding romance, and keeping other students safe while fighting against generations of evil.

Booktalk:
“You’re just like me.” Those were the last words Uncle Aaron Davis spoke to his nephew before dying in front of him after trying to kill him. Sixteen-year-old Miles Morales has wondered ever since exactly what did his Uncle mean. While he figures that out, other problems surface: Miles is suspended from the private boarding school for needing to use the bathroom, he loses his part-time job when he tries to talk to Alicia, a girl he likes, and he thinks his spidey-sense is failing him.

Miles has depended on his sense of danger and is always ready to help save others, but this time he can’t figure who needs saving. The tingling only happens in one class, with this one teacher, but there's no danger. As his life slowly starts to fall apart, Miles’ nightmares begin to have elements of truth. Putting faith back into his spidey-sense leads Miles down a dark path made from generations of hate and subjugation.

Reynolds’ story of revisionist history, faith, honesty and the invisible population brings weight to a familiar character. Readers will discover there’s more to Spider-Man than just the suit.

Reviews:
Booklist 07/01/2017
Bulletin of Ctr for Child Bks 07/01/2017
Horn Book Magazine 09/01/2017
Kirkus Reviews 06/15/2017
School Library Journal 08/01/2017

Awards and Honors:
Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent
Coretta Scott King Honor
Kirkus Award Winner
NAACP Image Award Winner
National Book Award Honoree
New York Times Bestselling Author
Newbery Award Honoree
Printz Award Honoree
Walter Dean Myers Awards Winner

Websites:
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Instagram: http://instagram.com/jasonreynolds83
Tumbler: http://procrastinationjason.tumblr.com
Twitter: https://twitter.com/JasonReynolds83

Related Titles:
The Epic Crush of Genie Lo by F.C. Lee (2017)
Shadowshaper by Daniel Jose Older (2015)
Ms. Marvel: No Normal by G. Willow Wilson and Adrian Alphona (2014)

Other Books by Author:
Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds (2017)
Boy in the Black Suit by Jason Reynolds (2016)
All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely (2015)
When I Was the Greatest by Jason Reynolds (2014)

**Annotation:** In 1907, Jim Thorpe, a student at the Carlisle Indian School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, is introduced to Pop Warner. And so begins the story of one of the winningest football teams in the country, even though Thorpe and his teammates had to overcome huge obstacles, including playing powerhouse teams like Harvard and Yale, lack of adequate funding—not only for the team, but for all the students at the Indian School, and the biggest obstacle of all--the intense hatred and distrust of Native Americans around the country.

**Booktalk:**

“I want to play football!” Jim Thorpe looked ridiculous and he knew it--like a scarecrow dressed for football, he’d later say.” And so begins the story of the Carlisle Indian School football team, coached by the legendary Pop Warner and with its star player, Jim Thorpe, who later became known as “the world’s greatest athlete”. Warner, Thorpe, and the rest of the team have to deal with many challenges. Which include inadequate funding, playing against some of the most elite football teams in the country, which included Harvard, Yale, and Westpoint, and the biggest challenge of all, the rampant racism they faced not only from other football teams, around the country, but within inside the walls of the Carlisle Indian School itself.

Three-time National Book Award finalist, Steve Sheinkin, not only tells the compelling story of Jim Thorpe, but also sheds light on the violent persecution of Native Americans by the U.S. government in the early 1900s, and the determination of those Native Americans, who refuse to be defeated--on the football field and off.

**Reviews:**

*ALA Booklist,* 12/01/17  
*Bulletin of the Center for the Children’s Books,* 01/01/17  
*Horn Book Guide,* starred, 10/01/17  
*Horn Book Magazine,* starred, 03/01/17  
*Kirkus Reviews,* starred, 11/15/17  
*School Library Journal,* starred, 02/01/17  
*Voices of Youth Advocates (VOYA),* 04/01/17

**Awards and Honors:**

Boston Globe Honor Winner, 2017  
NYT Notable Children’s Books of 2017, Honor Winner  
Lamplighter Book Award, Honor Winner, 2017  
Horn Book Fanfare, 2017  
North Carolina Young Adult Book Award Nominee, 2017

**Author’s Website:**

www.stevesheinkin.com  
Twitter: @SteveSheinkin
**Related Titles:**

*Native American Son: The Life and Sporting Legend of Jim Thorpe* by Kate Buford (2010)  
*Jim Thorpe, World’s Greatest Athlete* by Robert Wheeler (1979)  

**Other Books by Author:**

*Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon* (2012)  
Piecing Me Together
By Renée Watson


**Annotation:**
Jade Butler attends a mostly white private school, loves to collage and create beautiful art, and fully understands that education is her way out of the rough neighborhood where she has grown up. When she is put in a mentorship program for at-risk youth instead of a prestigious study abroad trip she has worked so hard for, Jade finds her voice to become more than just a charity case to her teachers and friends.

**Booktalk:**
“You already get so much” is a sentiment that many of Jade’s teachers and peers feel about her. While she is attending a mostly white private school on a scholarship, Jade wants more than just the “help” she receives on a daily basis. She really wants to study abroad like all the other top Spanish students, but is instead is put in a women’s mentoring program for at-risk youth, having nothing in common with her mentor other than their skin color. Jade wants so much more for herself, but has trouble find the words to tell the very people “trying” to help her. She doesn’t want to be seen as a charity case anymore, but will she be able to find her voice? Will anyone listen? A beautiful story about breaking through stereotypes and believing in yourself, *Piecing Me Together* is story full of heart and hope.

**Reviews:**
Booklist, 12/1/2016
Horn Book Magazine, July/August 2017)
Kirkus (starred), 11/15/2016
Publishers Weekly (starred), 11/21/2016
School Library Journal (starred), 1/1/2017

**Awards and Honors:**
Coretta Scott King (Author) Book Award (2018)
Newbery Honor (2018)

**Websites:**
http://www.reneewatson.net/
Twitter: @reneewauthor

**Related Titles:**
*The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas (2017)
*Calling My Name* by Liara Tamani (2017)
*After Tupac and D Foster* by Jacqueline Woodson (2008)

**Other Books by Author:**
*Betty Before X* with Ilyasah Shabazz (2018)
*This Side of Home* (2015)
*Harlem’s Little Blackbird* (2012)
Annotation:
"Are you on your way?" That was the last text Carver Briggs sent his friends before they died in a horrific car accident. Now he is faced with accusations of negligent manslaughter, feelings for his best friend’s girl, and three families that want to say goodbye one last time.

Booktalk:
After a tragic texting and driving accident claimed the life of his 3 best friends, Carver Briggs is left to pick up the pieces. Did he cause the accident? Is he a murderer? Some would say yes, some would say maybe, others just want to say goodbye. So Carver embarks on a series of “Goodbye Days” with their families, and learns about the people his friends were. Readers of Jeff Zentner’s realistic title will take away a respect and awareness of the dangers of texting and driving.

Reviews:
Booklist (Starred), 12/01/16
Kirkus, 03/07/2017
Publisher’s Weekly (Starred), 03/07/2017
School Library Journal, 09/22/2017

Awards and Honors:
Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award (2017)
Goodreads Choice Award Nominee for Young Adult Fiction (2017)
A Publisher’s Weekly Noteworthy Second Novel (2017)

Websites:
www.jeffzentnerbooks.com

Related Titles:
History is All You Left Me by Adam Silvera (2018)
They Both Die at the End by Adam Silvera (2017)
Before I Fall by Lauren Oliver (2010)

Other Books by Author:
The Serpent King (2016)