2020 OLA Children’s Sequoyah Masterlist Annotations


Bethell, Zillah. *The Extraordinary Colors of Auden Dare*. New York: Feiwel & Friends, 2018. 352 p. (Grades 4-6). Auden is color blind in a world ravaged by water shortages, but when his uncle leaves him a mysterious gift, the many secrets and layers of his life will unravel.

Dekeyser, Stacy. *The Rhino in Right Field*. New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books, an imprint of Simon and Schuster Children’s Publishing Division, 2018. 257 p. (Grades 3-7). For 12 whole years Nick has done what his immigrant parents want him to do, but now he’s looking for his own American dream. The local baseball team is having a batboy contest, and Nick’s goal is to be a Mudpuppy for a day.


Guterson, Ben. *Winterhouse*. New York: Henry Holt and Company (BYR), 2018. 384 p. (Grades 4-6). Cast away by her aunt and uncle, Elizabeth discovers mystery, luxury, friendship, and danger at a lavish mansion over the Christmas holidays. But things are not always as they seem and this mansion might need champion puzzlers like Elizabeth and her friend Freddy to unlock its secrets and right the wrongs of the past.

Hood, Susan. *Lifeboat 12*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2018. 336 p. (Grades 3-8). Thirteen-year old Ken leaves London on a luxury ship to escape the bombings by the Nazis during World War II. Ken is aboard the ship sailing to Canada when it is torpedoed. Ken jumps into a lifeboat with others and fights to survive. Based on true people and events, *Lifeboat 12* is a story of survival. Told in verse, this is the author’s debut middle school grade novel.
Janowitz, Jessie. *The Doughnut Fix*. Naperville: Sourcebooks, 2018. 304 p. (Grades 3-7). Eleven year-old Triston Levin is devastated by his family’s move to the tiny, doughnutless town of Petersville, until he launches a plan to bring doughnuts back and changes his life in a big way.

Makechnie, Amy. *The Unforgettable Guinevere St. Clair*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2018. 322 p. (Grades 3-7). Guinevere’s life has been turned upside down with her mother’s brain injury, and now the family is leaving New York City for rural life in Iowa with her grandmother. This family adventure follows Guinevere as she and her new friends try to solve a mystery of a missing farmer while Guinevere is coming to terms with her mother’s condition.

Mass, Wendy, and Rebecca Stead. *Bob*. New York: Feiwel and Friends, 2018. 208 p. (Grades 3-7). Livy is visiting her Gran Nicholas in Australia for the first time in five years, and she has a nagging feeling she’s forgotten something really important: Bob, the greenish creature who’s been living in her closet since her last visit. Livy must figure out who Bob really is and how to help him get home.

Piontek, Victoria. *The Spirit of Cattail County*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2018. 275 p. (Grades 4-6). Sparrow’s mom passes away, and Sparrow is left to live with her sour Auntie Geraldine. She really isn’t alone because her best friend is a ghost she calls “The Boy.” Sparrow thinks if he can linger after death then why can’t her mother? But before The Boy will lead her to Mama, Sparrow must solve the mystery that has The Boy lingering here.

Shurtliff, Liesl. *Grump: The (Fairly) True Tale of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2018. 295 p. (Grades 4-6). Borlen, also known as “Grump,” lives and works in an underground cavern. When an opportunity to explore “The Surface” becomes a reality, Grump feels leaving his home was the best decision. However, once he discovers evil in the world, he wonders if he can protect himself and those he has grown fond of during his adventures above ground.

Trevayne, Emma. *Spindrift and the Orchid*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2018. 245 p. (Grades 3-7). After discovering her glass orb is really one of the Seven Sage Orchids, Spindrift sets off on an adventure with her best friends to find the last orchids before Roland does and discover the truth about her parents.

Tubb, Kristin O’Donnell. *The Story Collector: A New York Public Library Book*. New York: Henry Holt and Company (BYR), 2018. 233 p. (Grades 4-7). Eleven-year-old Viviane Fiedler was born and raised in the New York Public Library where each night she is allowed to explore the halls and stories within. Convinced that her home is haunted, she sets out to prove to her friends that a ghost lives in the library.
Wallace, Sandra Neil. *Between the Lines: How Ernie Barnes Went from the Football Field to the Art Gallery.* New York: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books, 2018. 48 p. (Grades PK-3) Ernie Barnes discovered his love of art at an early age and found a way to use his career as a football player to become the artist he always wished he could be.