





By Steve Light. Illus. by the author. Candlewick. Join a little boy on a journey through the city in search of his dragon. Against a black-and-white background, colorful icons of city life help him on his adventure.

. By Jon J. Muth. Illus. by the author. Scholastic. An exuberant journey through the alphabet with panda bear, Koo. This investigates the seasons through watercolor illustrations and haiku poems.

. By Patricia MacLachlan. Illus. by Hadley Hooper. Roaring Brook/Neal Porter. Using only two evocative sentences, MacLachlan's gentle and engaging portrait supports Hooper's stunning visual homage to the boy who would become a famous painter.

. By Katheryn Russell-Brown. Illus. by Frank Morrison. Lee & Low. A little known story of a self-taught prodigy and world-class trombone player, composer, and arranger whose music mirrors the black musical sounds of the 20th century.

. By Susan Middleton Elya. Illus. by Susan Guevara. Penguin/G.P. Putnam's Sons. This spin on the classic fairy tale provides glimpses into a contemporary Hispanic family. Guevara's illustrations are a visual treat full of suspense and humor. (2015 Belpré Illustrator Honor Book)

. By Jennifer Ward. Illus. by Steve Jenkins. Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane. Lively couplets describe birds and the nests they build for their young, while beautiful cut-paper collages are a feast for children's natural curiosity.

. By Ashley Spires. Illus. by the author. Kids Can. A little girl, with the help of her dog, tries to build a magnificent thing. But it is harder than expected! See how her persistence pays off.

. By Cynthia Rylant. Illus. by Arthur Howard. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Mr. Putter and his cat Tabby are excited to participate in a library read-aloud program, but they are nervous when Mrs. Teaberry and her unpredictable dog Zeke want to join. (2015 Geisel Honor Book)

. By Peter Brown. Illus. by the author. Little, Brown. Bobby thinks his teacher is the worst...that is ! by



By Mo Willems. Illus. by the author. Disney-Hyperion. Piggie has a big surprise

pays off with a breathtaking conclusion. (2015 Geisel Honor Book)

. By Pat Mora. Illus. by Meilo So. Tr. by Adriana Domínguez & Pat Mora. Lee & Low/Children's Book Press. In a series of short poems (in English and Spanish) partnered with dramatic illustrations, the power, beauty, and value of water are celebrated.

. By Cindy Jenson-Elliott. Illus. by Carolyn Fisher. Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane. These often overlooked plants take center stage in this touching tribute to weeds. Jenson-Elliott highlights weeds' resilience with a catchy text full of attention. Fisher uses mixed media and digital collage to create bold, vibrant illustrations.

. By Joyce Sidman. Illus. by Rick Allen. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. A collection of Sids



Mississippi blacks. Rubin writes about the murder of three young civil rights workers with a superb sense of suspense and dread.

. By Varian Johnson. Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine. Reformed schemer and middle schooler Jackson Greene comes out of retirement, assembling a top-notch team to pull off Maplewood Middle School's biggest con ever in a fast-paced caper.

. By Cynthia Lord. Scholastic. A young girl struggles to determine her place when her family moves to a new community. An authentic story of friendship, loss, and self-identity told through the lens of her interest in photography.

. By J. Patrick Lewis. Illus. by Gary Kelley. Creative Editions. Poetic vignettes depict the dramatic story of a band of African-American soldiers--who are also jazz musicians--during World War I.

. By G. Neri. Illus. by A. G. Ford. Candlewick. This brief overview of Johnny Cash's early life takes him from his harsh but music-filled boyhood to early stardom. Told through intriguing poetry and beautifully expressive illustrations.

. By Loïc Dauvillier. Illus. by Marc Lizano. Color by Greg Salsedo. Tr. by Alexis Siegel. First Second. In this evocative graphic novel, a grandmother recounts her childhood experiences hiding from the Nazis in World War II France. (2015 Batchelder Honor Book)

. By Robin Herrera. Abrams/Amulet. Fifth grader Star tries to fit in but seems to be failing miserably. To connect with classmates that only seem to care about her trailer-park home, she starts a poetry club. An insightful look at the process of self-discovery.

. By Marjorie Agosín. Illus. by Lee White. Simon & Schuster/Atheneum. When warships appear and neighbors and friends begin to disappear, 11-year-old Celeste's idyllic life is shattered. She is sent into exile and when she returns home, she works to move her country forward. This Chilean story offers a refreshing perspective on resiliency. (2015 Belpré Medal Book)

. By Patricia Hruby Powell. Illus. by Christian Robinson. Chronicle. A dynamic dance of beautifully written verse and lively illustrations describe the life of the effervescent entertainer Josephine Baker. (2015 Sibert Honor Book)

. By Coe Booth. Scholastic. Eleven-year-old Jarrett learns the value of friendship when an expected foster baby comes to stay, along with an unexpected big brother.

. By Cathy Camper. Illus. by Raúl the Third. Chronicle. Lupe, Flapjack, and Elirio enter a car-detailing contest to fulfill their dream of owning their own garage. This graphic novel celebrates Mexican-American culture and takes readers on a road trip through outer space.





. By Duncan

Tonatiuh. Illus. by the author. Abrams. Tonatiuh draws upon traditional Mixtec codex art to tell the story of 11-year-old Sylvia Mendez, who helped end school segregation in California seven years before Brown v. Board of Education. (2015 Belpré Illustrator Honor Book & Sibert Honor Book)

. By Raina Telgemeier. Illus. by the author. Scholastic/Graphix. A family car trip highlights the tensions between two sisters, the cause of which is explored through flashback sequences in this comedic graphic novel.

. By Natalie Lloyd. Scholastic. Felicity Pickle, a word collector and poet, hopes Midnight Gulch, Tennessee proves to be a permanent home for her wandering family. She uses her words to restore the town's magic in an endearing story of community.

. By Sara St. Antoine. Candlewick. Adam and his new friend spend the summer in

. By Kwame Alexander. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Twelve-year-old narrator Josh uses the rhythms of a poetry jam to emulate the "moving & grooving/popping and rocking" of life on the basketball court. This novel in verse paints an authentic portrait of a closely-knit family on the brink of crisis. (2015 Newbery Medal Book)

. By Candace Fleming. Illus. Schwartz & Wade/Random House. Fleming brilliantly delineates the tragic fall of the Russian royal family, contrasting their opulent lives with primary source voices from the rebellion. (2015 Sibert Honor Book)

. By Marilyn Nelson. Illus. by Hadley Hooper. Penguin/Dial. Marilyn Nelson powerfully captures glimpses of her life growing up in a military family in the 1950s.

. By Jonathan Auxier. Abrams/Amulet. As two abandoned siblings try to find their way in Victorian England, they discover the value of storytelling as well as the dark side of greed. A spine-tingling tale.

. By Benny Lindelauf. Illus. by Dasha Tolstikova, Tr. by John Nieuwenhuizen. Enchanted Lion. Fing's loving but fractious family moves into a new house outside of town and gradually discovers a lion. (!

. By Padma V

. By John Corey Whaley Atheneum. Travis Coates has lost his head—literally. Dying of