

Explore New York: Build a Better World

Tween



Abbott, E. F. Sybil Ludington: Revolutionary War Rider. New York : Feiwel and Friends, 2016.

A fictionalized account of the sixteen-year-old girl, trained to handle a musket, who rode alone over forty miles in New York to bring out the militia before the Battle of Ridgefield.

FICTION

Adler, David A. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. New York: Holiday House, 2014.

Rough Rider, monopoly-buster, conservationist, Nobel Peace Prize winner and President, Theodore Roosevelt left a large mark on both the country and his native New York.

NON-FICTION

Airgood, Ellen. The Education of Ivy Blake. New York, NY: Nancy Paulsen Books, 2015.

When eleven-year-old Ivy Blake leaves the family she had been living with in upstate New York and moves back in with her mother she is forced to face the fact that her alcoholic, dysfunctional parent will never be able to provide her with a stable home--and if she wants to achieve her dreams she is going to have to take charge of her own future. Sequel to Prairie Evers.

FICTION

Anderson, Laurie Halse. Chains. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2010.

Sisters Isabel and Ruth are young girls who are promised freedom after the death of their slave master. Instead, they become property of a New York City couple. Isabel soon catches Revolution fever after meeting a young boy named Curzon who encourages her to spy on her owners. Together Isabel and Curzon strive for their personal freedom and the freedom of New York and their country.

2009 ALA Notable Children's Book

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 068396

Audio CD by Brilliance (2008), Playaway (2008)

Appel, Marty. Pinstripe Pride: The Inside Story of the New York Yankees. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2015.

Get the complete story of the Yankees, from Babe Ruth to Derek Jeter—with twenty-seven World Championships in between—in this home run of a middle grade adaptation of *Pinstripe Empire*.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable format: DB080923

Auch, Mary Jane. One-Handed Catch. New York: Square Fish, 2009.

After sixth-grader Norman loses his hand in an accident in his father's butcher shop in 1946, he uses hard work and humor to learn to live with his disability and to succeed at baseball, art, and other activities.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 064853

Avi. Catch You Later Traitor. Chapel Hill, N.C.: Algonquin Young Readers, 2015.

It's 1951, and Pete Collison is a just regular kid in Brooklyn, who loves detective books and radio crime dramas. But when an FBI agent shows up at Pete's doorstep, accusing Pete's father of being a Communist, Pete is caught in a real-life mystery.

FICTION

Audio CD by Recorded Books

Playaway by Findaway World

Avi. City of Orphans. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011.

Maks is a newsboy in 1893 New York City, facing some big challenges. Not only is there someone out to take control of all newsies in the city, but now his sister has been wrongly accused of a crime. The reality of tenement life in New York City clearly comes through in this story about the life of immigrants.

Audio book by Prince Frederick, Recorded Books (2011)

FICTION

Avi. Don't You Know There's a War On? New York: HarperCollins, 2003.

In wartime Brooklyn in 1943, eleven-year-old Howie Crispers mounts a campaign to save his favorite teacher from being fired.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 054773

Avi. The Seer of Shadows. New York: HarperCollins, 2008.

In New York City in 1872, fourteen-year-old Horace becomes entangled in a plot to create fraudulent spirit photographs. When Horace accidentally frees the real ghost of a dead girl bent on revenge, his life takes a frightening turn.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 067358

Audio CD by Recorded Books (2008)

Avi. Sophia's War: A Tale of the Revolution. New York: Beach Lane Books, 2012.

In 1776, Sophia Calderwood witnesses the execution of Nathan Hale in New York City, which was newly occupied by the British army. She resolves to do all she can to help the American cause, including becoming a spy.

FICTION

Audio CD by Recorded Books (2012)

Baskin, Nora Raleigh. Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story. New York: Atheneum, 2016.

Four kids from different parts of the country are dealing with life, as they know it, before it all changes. And then it changes...and we travel with these characters as they deal with the attacks.

FICTION

Berman, Len. The Greatest Moments in Sports: Upsets and Underdogs. Napperville, IL: Jabberwocky Books, 2012.

Berman presents riveting accounts of upsets that have happened throughout sports history. Among the many stories are those that took place in New York or were accomplished by New Yorkers, including the race between Upset and Man O'War at Saratoga Race Track, the New York Jets's victory at the Orange Bowl, the Miracle on Ice in Lake Placid, Olympic Champion and Long Island native Sarah Hughes, Yankees Pitcher Jim Abbott, New York City-born tennis player Althea Gibson, and Greece-Athena high schooler Jason McElwain.

NON-FICTION

Brown, Dan. America Is Under Attack. New York: Roaring Book Press, 2011.

Brown presents a chronological look at the events on the morning of September 11, 2001, in watercolor illustrations.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 074337

Binder, Phil. The Unforgettable Season: The Story of Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams and the Record-Setting Summer of '41. New York: J.P. Putnum's Sons, 2011.

In the summer of 1941, New York Yankee Joe DiMaggio and Boston Red Sox Ted Williams set records that still stand today.

NON-FICTION

Bruchac, Joseph. Hidden Roots. New York: Scholastic Press, 2004.

Harold, living in a small upstate town in the 1960s, learns the truth of his family's heritage: They were part of the Abenaki tribe which in the 1930s was forced to undergo sterilization. Some of them, though, like Harold's family, went into hiding.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 065485

Bruchac, Joseph. Walking Two Worlds. Summertown, Tenn.: 7th Generation, 2015.

Hasanoanda was his Indian name. But in mission school he became Ely Parker. He encountered racism and deceit but did not give up his quest to walk between two worlds. This story explores the early education of a famous Native American who gained greatness in the white man's world while staying true to his Seneca people.

FICTION

Bukiet, Melvin Jules. Undertown. New York: Amulet Books, 2013.

Crossing Manhattan en route to a sailing outing off Long Island, Timothy and Jessamyn are riding in Timothy's family's sailboat when it becomes detached from the family's truck. The sailboat ends up falling through a gaping construction site hole, beginning Timothy and Jessamyn's adventure beneath Manhattan.

FICTION

Burgan, Michael, and Timothy J. Shannon. Voices from Colonial America: New York, 1609-1776. Washington, DC: National Geographic Society, 2006. Series: Voices from Colonial America.

Presents the history of New York by discussing the interaction between Native American tribes and Dutch settlers, as well as leaders including Peter Stuyvesant and Alexander Hamilton. Complete with period maps and first-person accounts.

NON-FICTION

Burleigh, Robert. Edward Hopper Paints His World. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 2014.

As a boy, Hooper knew exactly what he wanted to be when he grew up: on the cover of his pencil box, he wrote "Edward Hopper, Would-Be Artist." He traveled to New York and to Paris to hone his craft. And even though no one wanted to buy his paintings for a long time, he never stopped believing in his dream.

NON-FICTION

Burns, Catherine Lloyd. The Good, the Bad and the Beagle. Harrisonburg, VA: RR Donnelley & Sons Company, 2014.

Troubled eleven-year-old Manhattanite Veronica Morgan believes that Cadbury, the beagle in the pet store down the street, is the answer to her problems.

FICTION

Carman, Patrick. Floors. New York: Scholastic Press, 2011.

Leo Filmore, who lives in the basement of an old hotel in New York City, investigates the mysterious disappearance of the hotel's owner.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 019749

Carvell, Marlene. Sweetgrass Basket. New York: Dutton Juvenile Books, 2005.

In alternating passages, two Mohawk sisters describe their lives at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, established in 1879 to educate Native Americans, as they try to assimilate into white culture.

FICTION

Castelluci, Cecil. Rose Sees Red. New York: Scholastic Press, 2010.

Against the backdrop of the Cold War in 1982, Rose feels the stress of attending the New York City High School of Performing Arts. When she befriends her Russian neighbor, Yrena, Rose sets off on a fun and daring adventure through the city.

FICTION

Collins, Suzanne. The Underland Chronicles. New York: Scholastic, 2003-2007.

Gregor the Overlander and his family have struggled since his father disappeared, and Gregor, at eleven years old, has been left to pick up the slack. When he follows his 2-year-old sister Boots through a basement grate in their New York City apartment building, both siblings end up in a world of giant talking cockroaches, spiders, rats, bats, and subterranean humans.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 074333

Connor, Leslie. Waiting for Normal. New York: Katherine Tegen Books, 2010.

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 018148

Downloadable Format: DB 068286

Audiobook by Recorded Books (2008)

Cotrell Boyce, Frank. Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and the Race Against Time. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2013.

Chitty rescues the Tooting family from a hungry T. Rex and takes the family on a tour of early New York among other places.

FICTION

Christensen, Bobbie. Fabulous: A Portrait of Andy Warhol. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 2011.

A biography of famous New York artist Andy Warhol, flashing back and forth from his fame in New York City in the 1960s and his upbringing in Pittsburgh.

NON-FICTION

Cutler, Jane. Susan Marcus Bends the Rules. New York: Holiday House, Inc. 2014.

Born and raised in New York City, 10-year-old Susan has a difficult time understanding the prejudices that surround her family when she moves to Missouri in 1943. In the suburbs of St. Louis, Jim Crow laws still exist, and anger toward New Yorkers, African-Americans, the Japanese, and the Jewish is common. As Susan, a Jew herself, confronts these prejudices, she learns valuable lessons about friendship and understanding.

FICTION

Dairman, Tara. All Four Stars. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2014.

Gladys loves food and cooking, so when she is asked to write a restaurant review for a New York City newspaper, she will do anything to make it happen, even risk the wrath of her fast-food loving parents.

FICTION

Danticat, Edwidge. Behind the Mountains. New York: Scholastic Paperbacks, 2004.

Writing in the notebook her teacher gave her, thirteen-year-old Celiene describes life with her mother and brother in Haiti as well as her experiences in Brooklyn after the family finally immigrates there to be reunited with her father.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 014941

DeFelice, Cynthia. Under the Same Sky. New York: Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2005.

To earn money for a coveted motorbike, young Joe Pedersen joins the Mexican laborers who work on his father's farm in upstate New York and soon discovers racism and romance while learning to see the world in a whole different way.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 057189

DePrince, Michaela and Elaine DePrince. Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2014.

This memoir chronicles Michaela DePrince's remarkable journey from orphan in war-torn Sierra Leone to principal dancer with the Dance Theatre of Harlem.

NON-FICTION

Duane, Diane. So You Want to be A Wizard?. New York: Harcourt Trade Publishers, 1996.

Two lonely kids are inadvertently caught up in the never-ending battle between good and evil after finding a mysterious book called 'So You Want to Be a Wizard?'. Follow the two as they become wizards and friends, all the while they work together to defeat evil. First in a series.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB026846

Audio available on Audible

Elliott, Lang. Guide to Night Sounds, A: The Nighttime Sounds of 60 Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, and Insects (with Audio CD), Mechanicsburg: Stackpole Books, 2004.

Recorded in the author's studio in Ithaca, NY, Elliott narrates the nighttime field recordings of birds, otters, frog croaks and various mammal noises. Illustrations and photographs accompany the hour-long CD.

NON-FICTION

Elliott, Zetta. The Deep. Rosetta Press, 2013.

It has been almost a year since Nyla Evans moved from Ramstein Air Base in Germany to Brooklyn, and she's still searching for a way to belong. It doesn't help that Nyla has started to hallucinate while walking the city streets, and things get even stranger when a man named Osiris offers to introduce Nyla to others who have similar "gifts." When she refuses, her friend D is kidnapped and held in the deep until Nyla agrees to let Osiris guide her underground. There, miles beneath Brooklyn, Nyla meets Lada—the mother who abandoned her a decade ago. Within days Nyla finds herself at the center of a battle between good and evil, and she must learn to wield the astonishing power she inherited from her mysterious mother.

FICTION

Eulberg, Elizabeth. The Great Shelby Holmes. New York: Bloomsbury, 2016.

Nine-year-old Shelby Holmes, the best detective in her Harlem neighborhood, and her new easy-going friend from downstairs, eleven-year-old John Watson, become partners in a dog-napping case.

FICTION

Federle, Tim. Better Nate Than Ever. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2013.

Thirteen-year-old Nate Foster travels to Manhattan from his small town in Pennsylvania to audition for a Broadway musical based on the movie E.T. The author is a Broadway performer and director.

2014 Odyssey Award Honor Recording

2014 Stonewall Honor Book in Children's and Young Adult Literature

2014 Notable Children's Book

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 076408

Audio available through Simon & Schuster Audio (2013)

Federle, Tim. Five, Six, Seven, Nate! New York: Simon & Schuster, 2014.

Now on Broadway as second understudy for E.T., Nate keeps in close contact with his best friend, Libby, as he faces his nemesis, Jordan Rylance, and his own insecurities as the cast member with the least training and experience.

2015 Odyssey Award Honor for the audiobook by Simon & Schuster

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 078334

Audio CD by Simon & Schuster (2014)

Fiedler, Lisa. Mouseheart. New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2014.

Hopper is just an ordinary pet shop mouse before he escapes. Soon he finds himself below the bustling streets of Brooklyn, deep within the untamed tangles of transit tunnels, and in Atlantia, a glorious utopian rat civilization. But all is not what it seems. First in the series.

FICTION

Fiscus, James W. Meet King Kong. New York: Rosen Publishing Group, 2005.

A special-effects New York movie classic, King Kong used stop-motion animation and glass mattes to create the effects that were amazing for their time. Readers will learn about the real-life adventures that influenced the filmmaker's vision as well as the successes, spin-offs, and remakes the film inspired.

NON-FICTION

Fitzgerald, Laura Marx. Under the Egg. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2014.

Her grandfather's dying words lead thirteen-year-old Theodora Tenpenny to a valuable, hidden painting she fears may be stolen, but it is her search for answers in her Greenwich Village neighborhood that brings a real treasure.

FICTION

Fritz, Jean. You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton? New York: Puffin, 1999.

With her trademark humor and anecdotal style, the Newbery Honor Award-winner and preeminent biographer for young people turns her attention to Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the lively, unconventional spokeswoman of the woman suffrage movement. Convinced from an early age that women should have the same rights as men, Lizzie embarked on a career that changed America.

NON-FICTION

Braille Format: BR 010778

George, Jean Craighead. My Side of the Mountain. New York: Puffin, 2004.

Sam Gibley's great-grandfather owned land in the Catskill Mountains that had been uninhabited for years. Tired of living in the hustle and bustle of New York City, teenager Sam runs away to the Catskills in search of that land.

1960 Newbery Honor

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 015070, BR 007885

Downloadable Format: DB 050211

Getzinger, Donna. Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire. North Carolina: Morgan Reynolds, Inc., 2008.

In 1911, a fire broke out in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory, a clothing company located in the top floors of a New York high rise. The fire spread fast, and soon the factory's workers, mostly immigrant women, faced death by fire, as their only way out was to jump from the windows.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 068078

Giff, Patricia Reilly. All the Way Home. New York: Yearling, 2003.

In 1941, circumstances bring together Brick, a boy from New York's apple country, and Mariel, a young girl made shy by her bout with polio. The two make a journey from Brooklyn to upstate New York to help Brick's elderly neighbors save their apple crop and to help Mariel learn about her past.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 053791

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Eleven. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2008.

When Sam, who can barely read, discovers an old newspaper clipping just before his 11th birthday, it makes him question his entire existence. Can a new school friend help him discover the truth about himself?

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 068203

Audio CD by Listening Library

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Gingersnap. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2013.

When her brother Rob, a Navy cook, goes missing in action during World War II, Jayna, along with a turtle and a ghost, leaves her upstate New York home to find her grandmother in Brooklyn.

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Lily's Crossing. Topeka: Tandem Library Books, 1999.

A vivid portrait of the home front in World War II, where a young American girl befriends a Hungarian refugee during the summer of 1944 in Rockaway Beach.

1999 Newbery Honor

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 017375

Audio CD by Listening Library (2005)

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Storyteller. New York: Yearling, 2011.

Forced to spend months at an aunt's house, Elizabeth feels a connection to her ancestor Zee, whose picture hangs on the wall. Zee reveals her story of hardships during the Revolutionary War in upstate New York, as Elizabeth comes to terms with her own troubles.

FICTION

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Water Street. New York: Yearling, 2006.

In the shadow of the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge, eighth-graders and new neighbors Bird Mallon and Thomas Neary make some decisions about what they want to do with their lives.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 064195

Audio CD by Listening Library (2006)

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Wild Girl. New York: Yearling, 2011.

When twelve-year-old Lidie leaves Brazil to join her father and brother on a horse ranch in New York, she has a hard time adjusting to her new life, as does a new horse that has come to the ranch.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 070322

Audio CD by Listening Library (2009)

Going, K.L. The Garden of Eve. New York: Sandpiper, 2009.

Is Beaumont, New York, the town Evie and her widowed Dad have moved to haunted? Evie doesn't believe in curses or fairy tales—if they were real, her mom would still be alive. But odd things, like a mysterious dead boy and a special tree help her discover what is real.

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library

Goldblatt, Mark. Finding the Worm. New York: Random House, 2015.

In 1970 Queens, N.Y., Julian Twerski struggles to write an essay as punishment for an act he did not commit; worries about Beverly, the girl he likes; prepares for his bar mitzvah; and tries to cope with the serious illness of one of his closest friends. Sequel to Twerp.

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library (2015)

Goldblatt, Mark. Twerp. New York: Random House, 2013.

In Queens, NY, in 1969, 12-year-old Julian Twerski writes a journal for his English teacher in which he explores his friendships and how they are affected by girls, a new student, and an incident of bullying.

FICTION

Graff, Lisa. Absolutely Almost. New York: Philomel Books, 2014.

Ten-year-old Albie has never been the smartest, tallest, best at gym, greatest artist, or most musical in his class, as his parents keep reminding him, but new nanny Calista helps him uncover his strengths and take pride in himself as he transitions from private to public school in New York City.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 079309

Audio available from Recorded Books

Graff, Lisa. A Tangle of Knots. New York: Philomel Books, 2013.

In a slightly magical world where everyone has a Talent, orphan Cady has a phenomenal Talent for cake baking. Now fate has led her to a mysterious address in Poughkeepsie, NY, that houses a lost luggage emporium, an old recipe, a family of children searching for their own Talents, and a Talent Thief who will alter her life forever.

FICTION

Gratz, Alan. The Brooklyn Nine: A Novel in Nine Innings. New York: Dial. 2009.

Nine generations of German immigrants experience American life and play baseball.

FICTION

Downloadable format: DB068902

Green, Tim. Lost Boy. New York: HarperCollins. 2015.

Ryder searches for his lost father with the help of a New York City Firefighter, a signed baseball, and a letter.

FICTION

Audio CD by Dreamscape Media

Greenberg, David. A Tugging String. New York: Dutton Children Books, 2008.

A fictionalized account of the author's years growing up in Great Neck, New York, during the turbulent Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. Includes commentary from the author's father, Jack Greenberg, who was a lawyer for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

FICTION

Grimes, Nikki. Jazmin's Notebook. New York: Puffin, 2000.

Jazmin is growing up during hard times in 1960s Harlem. She expresses hope for her future as she observes life around her neighborhood.

1999 Coretta Scott King Author Honor

2017 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award

FICTION

Audiobook by Penguin Group USA and Audible (2008)

Grimes, Nikki. The Road to Paris. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 2006.

Paris Richmond, a biracial eight-year-old, goes to a loving foster home in New York while her ten-year-old brother Malcolm is sent to a boys' home. Paris must make a difficult decision when her birth mother wants to reunite the family.

2007 *Coretta Scott King Author Honor*

2017 *Laura Ingalls Wilder Award*

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 066168

Audio CD by Recorded Books (2007)

Gourse, Leslie. Sophisticated Ladies: The Great Women of Jazz. New York: Dutton Juvenile, 2007.

This lively collective biography of 14 singers begins in the 1920s with Bessie Smith and Ethel Waters and moves on through current performers Cassandra Wilson and Diana Krall. A vibrant, full-page portrait opens each chapter, depicting the performer with bold vitality, in a style suggestive of a theater poster. Includes references to Jazz Clubs in Harlem during the 1920s.

NON-FICTION

Hepler, Heather. The Cupcake Queen. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 2009.

While her dad stays behind in New York City, Penny and her mom move to the small town of Hog's Hollow, NY, to open a cupcake bakery. Small-town life is nothing like city life, she realizes. What will happen when she's given the choice of choosing between the two?

Huey, Lois Miner. Forgotten Bones: Uncovering a Slave Cemetery. Minneapolis: Millbrook Press, 2015.

Details archaeological findings about slavery in America as revealed by the discovery of 13 skeletons in upstate New York that were identified as 18th-century African-American slaves who once worked at the nearby Schuyler Farm.

NON-FICTION

Hesse, Karen. The Brooklyn Bridge. New York: Feiwel and Friends, 2008

In 1903 Brooklyn, fourteen-year-old Joseph Michtom's life changes for the worse when his parents, Russian immigrants, invent the teddy bear and turn their apartment into a factory. Nearby, the glitter of Coney Island contrasts with the dismal lives of children dwelling under the Brooklyn Bridge.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 018212

Hopkinson, Deborah. A Bandit's Tale: The Muddled Misadventures of a Pickpocket. New York, NY : Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2016.

In March of 1887, Rocco, an eleven-year-old from an Italian village, arrives in New York City where he is forced to live in squalor and beg for money as a street musician, but he finds the city's cruelty to children and animals intolerable and sets out to make things better, whatever the cost to himself.

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library (2016)

Irving, Washington. The Legend of Sleepy Hollow. Originally published in 1819.

Ichabod Crane, a schoolmaster from Connecticut, moves to the town of Sleepy Hollow to teach in a one-room schoolhouse. Ichabod soon becomes familiar with local lore involving a Headless Horseman. When Ichabod attempts to win young Katrina Van Tassel's heart, he finds himself falling prey to the legendary horseman.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 008876

Downloadable Format, as part of a collection of stories: DB 016731

Jeter, Derek. The Contract. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2014

In Kalamazoo, Michigan, eight-year-old Derek Jeter, who dreams of playing for the New York Yankees, learns what it takes to be a champion on and off the field.

FICTION

Audio CD by Simon & Schuster (2014)

Kelley, Jane. The Book of Dares for Lost Friends. New York: Feiwel & Friends, 2015

New York City middle-schooler Val teams up with a strange boy who lives in an even stranger bookshop to save her best friend who has lost her way.

FICTION

Kenney, Karen Latchana. David Karp: The Mastermind Behind Tumblr. Minneapolis: Lerner Publishing Company, 2013.

The story of the creator of Tumblr, David Karp who dropped out of school at age fifteen and lived in Tokyo by himself at age seventeen before returning to the United States to start his company.

NON-FICTION

Kent, Rose. Rocky Road. New York: Alfred Knopf, 2010.

Ma moves the family of Tess and her deaf brother from Texas to Schenectady, New York, where she uses their savings to open an ice cream shop in winter. (The book incorporates fun facts about ice cream.)

FICTION

Korman, Gordon. The Hypnotists. New York: Scholastic Press, 2013.

New York City native Jackson Opus is descended from two powerful hypnotist bloodlines, but he has just begun to realize that he can control other peoples' actions with sometimes frightening results.

FICTION

Lewis, J. Patrick. Harlem Hellfighters. Mankato, Minn.: Creative Editions, 2014.

A regiment of African-American soldiers from Harlem journeys across the Atlantic to fight alongside the French in World War I, inspiring a continent with their brand of jazz music.

2015 Children's Notable Book

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB080704

Lupica, Mike. Heat. New York: Scholastic, 2007.

A young Cuban immigrant, Michael Arroyo is a great pitcher in the Little League in the Bronx. When a rival player's team questions his age and ability, he is sidelined, and the young star athlete cannot help get his team to the Little League World Series.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 017941

Downloadable Format: DB 062264

Audio CD by Listening Library (2006)

Lupica, Mike. Hero. New York: Philomel Books, 2010.

Fourteen-year-old Zach learns he has the same special abilities as his father, who was the President's globe-trotting troubleshooter until "the Bads" killed him, and now Zach must decide whether to use his powers in the same way at the risk of his own life.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 072779

Audio CD by Penguin Group USA (2010)

Macy, Sue. Roller Derby Rivals. New York: Holiday House, 2014

Tune in for the thrills and spills of Roller Derby live in New York City, 1948, as Midge “Toughie” Brasuhn and Gerry Murray show their high-speed, hard hitting rivalry on the track at the dawn of the television era.

FICTION

Mann, J. Albert. Scar: A Revolutionary War Tale. Honesdale, Pennsylvania : Calkins Creek, An Imprint of Highlights, 2016.

Sixteen-year-old Noah Daniels wants nothing more than to fight in George Washington’s Continental Army, but an accident as a child left him maimed and unable to enlist. He is forced to watch the Revolution from his family’s hard scrabble farm in Upstate New York—until a violent raid on his settlement thrusts him into one of the bloodiest battles of the American Revolution, and ultimately, face to face with the enemy. A riveting coming of age story, this book also includes an author’s note and bibliography.

FICTION

Mann, Elizabeth. Statue of Liberty: A Wonders of the World Book. New York: Mikaya Press, 2011.

The Statue was a gift from the French to pay tribute to all that is best about America. But it took years of planning, fundraising, and building to become a reality.

NON-FICTION

Marino, Nan. Neil Armstrong Is My Uncle and Other Lies Muscle Man McGinty Told Me. New York: Roaring Brook Press, 2009.

It's the summer of 1969, and things are not only changing in Tamara's little Long Island town, but in the world. Perhaps Tamara could stand to take one small step toward a bit of compassion and understanding?

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 018539

Marrin, Al. Flesh and Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and its Legacy. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2011.

On March 25, 1911, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City burst into flames. One-hundred-forty-six people—mostly women—perished; it was one of the most lethal workplace fires in American history. This is a story of immigration and hard work to make it in a new country, as Italians and Jews and others traveled to America to find a better life.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 073753

Marsh, Katherine. The Night Tourist. New York: Disney-Hyperion. 2007.

After being hit by a car, Jack is sent to a mysterious doctor in New York and meets Euri, who guides him to New York City’s underworld below Grand Central Station. Fans of The Lightning Thief will love this book!

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 069048

Audio available through Scholastic Audio (2007)

Martin, Ann. Here Today. Topeka: Tandem Library Books, 2005.

In 1963, 11-year-old Eleanor Roosevelt Dingman's mother is crowned the Bosetti Beauty at Mr. Bosetti's supermarket, President John F. Kennedy is assassinated, and the Dingman family begins to fall apart. So begins this richly woven novel by the Newbery Honoree.

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library (2004)

Martin, Ann M. Rain Reign. Harrisonburg, VA: RR Donnelley & Sons Company, 2014.

Rose

Howard is a highly-functioning autistic fifth-grader who is obsessed with homonyms. When a storm creates a flash flood in her rural New York town, and her dog Rain is caught out in it, Rose must step outside of her comfort zone to look for her beloved pet.

2014 SLJ Best Books: Middle Grade
2015 Schneider Family Book Award
2015 National Book Festival – New York State Selection

FICTION

Audio CD by Brilliance Audio (2014)

Marx, Trish. Steel Drumming at the Apollo: The Road to Super Top Dog. New York: Lee & Low Books, Inc., 2007. Photo-essay about a high school steel drum band from upstate New York that participated in a series of talent competitions for a chance to win Super Top Dog on Amateur Night at the Apollo Theater in Harlem. Includes a CD of the band performing.

NON-FICTION

Matti, Truus. Mister Orange. New York: Enchanted Lion Books, 2013.

In 1943 Manhattan, Linus Muller works at the family grocery store in the east 70s. When his oldest brother, Albie, leaves to fight in World War II, Linus takes over the grocery deliveries. One of his customers is an artist from somewhere in Europe who arranges to have a crate of oranges delivered every other week. Over the course of these deliveries, an intimacy develops between Linus and the man, whom he knows only by the name he gives him, Mister Orange.

2014 Batchelder Award

2014 Notable Children's Book

FICTION

Mazer, Norma Fox. Ten Ways to Make My Sister Disappear. New York: Arthur A. Levine Books, 2007.

Ten-year-old Sprig no longer gets along with her 12-year-old sister Dakota but the two pull together in the fictional town of Alliance, N.Y., during their father's extended business trip to Afghanistan, sharing concerns about his safety, an elderly neighbor's health, fights with their best friends, and boys.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 065938

McKendry, Joe. One Times Square: A Century of Change at the Crossroads of the World. Jaffrey, N.H.: David R. Godine, 2012.

An illustrated look at the history of Times Square and the iconic building that gave it its name, from the space's origins as part of a farm next to a dirt path that would become Broadway, to the renowned intersection of today.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 076221

Mebus, Scott. Gods of Manhattan. New York: Puffin, 2009.

Twelve-year-old Rory discovers a spirit world that thrives alongside his contemporary New York City, filled with fantastical creatures and people from the city's colorful past who have become gods and goddesses and who have chosen Rory to perform a dangerous mission.

FICTION

Meyer, Susan Lynn. Skating with the Statue of Liberty. New York: Delacorte, 2016.

In this follow-up to *Black Radishes* (Delacorte, 2010), Meyer continues the story of a French Jew named Gustave, now 12, who emigrates with his parents for safety in the United States during World War II. Based on memories from the author's father, the story rings true as Gustave starts school at the Joan of Arc Junior High in New York City. His challenges learning English and navigating American culture make for a difficult start for the protagonist, along with worries about his best friend, Marcel, whom he left behind in France to an uncertain fate.

FICTION

Miller, Kristen. Kiki Strike: Inside the Shadow City. New York: Bloomsbury, 2006.

Ananka Fishbein finds herself sidekick to Kiki Strike, a girl detective, as they discover a 19th century labyrinth of tunnels 50 feet below Manhattan's Chinatown.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 064652

Mills, Wendy. All We Have Left. New York: Bloomsbury 2016.

The story of two girls, one on September 11, 2001 and one "now", and how one boy connects them.

FICTION

Murphy, Jim. Blizzard: The Storm That Changed America. New York: Scholastic Press, 2000.

Snow began falling over New York City on March 12, 1888. All around town, people struggled along slippery streets and sidewalks, assuming this would be the last little snowfall of one of the warmest winters on record. What no one realized was that in a very few hours, the wind and snow would bury the city in nearly 21 inches of snow and bring it to a standstill.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 052323

Audio CD by Audio Bookshelf (2003)

Murphy, Jim. The Giant and How He Humbugged America. New York: Scholastic Press, 2012.

In 1869, a farmer discovered the 10-foot-tall body of a man buried on his land in upstate New York. The Cardiff Giant, as it came to be called, became a national sensation and generated a buzz of epic proportions.

FICTION

Myers, Anna. Hoggee. New York: Walker & Co., 2004.

Always overshadowed by his competitive older brother, especially in their work as mule drivers on the Erie Canal, fourteen-year-old Howard finally finds the courage to pursue his dreams of becoming an educator after he learns about sign language and teaches it to his deaf friend in nineteenth-century New York State.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 061365

Myers, Walter Dean. Riot. New York: Egmont, USA, 2009

In July of 1863, the worst race riots the United States has ever seen erupt in New York City.

Fifteen-year-old Claire, the beloved daughter of a black father and Irish mother, finds herself torn between the two warring sides.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 018773

Unabridged Digital, Unabridged CD, Unabridged Playaway by Recorded Books (2010)

Nicholson, Simon. The Magician's Fire. Naperville, Ill.: Sourcebooks Jabberwocky, 2014.

Young Harry Houdini's efforts to perfect his magic tricks are put on hold when his mentor, Herbie, disappears, prodding Harry and his two best friends, Arthur and Billie, to embark on a dangerous investigation that pushes their skill and their friendship to the limit. First in a series.

FICTION

Northrop, Michael. Book of the Dead. New York: Scholastic, 2015.

When Alex's mother, an Egyptologist at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, uses the Lost Spells from the Egyptian Book of the Dead to bring her son from the brink of dying, she also brings back five Death Walkers, leaving Alex and his best friend to find his mother and save the world. First in a series.

FICTION

Audio CD by Scholastic (2015)

Otfinoski, Steven. The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire: Core Events of an Industrial Disaster. North Mankato, Minnesota: Capstone Press, 2014.

Find out what happened when the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City caught fire in 1911 and why so many workers were unable to escape the blaze.

NON-FICTION

Palacio, R.J. Wonder. New York: Knopf, 2012.

Auggie Pullman was born with severe facial deformities and wasn't expected to survive. But now, at 10-years-old, he's entering school for the first time in Manhattan. He learns to deal with his fear of his classmates and their taunting while trying to be just any other kid.

2014 3 Apples Children's Book Award

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 020338

Downloadable Format: DB 74228

Audio CD by Brilliance Audio

Paratore, Coleen. Dreamsleeves. New York: Scholastic, 2012.

Twelve-year-old Aislinn should be enjoying her summer, but instead she is relegated to full-time baby-sitter and housekeeper for her family, barely allowed to have any fun at all. Set in Troy, NY, this semi-autobiographical book is at times heart wrenching, but ultimately heartwarming due to Aislinn's indomitable spirit and her hopeful plan to get her father to stop drinking.

FICTION

Paratore, Coleen. Mack McGinn's Big Win. New York: Simon and Schuster Books for Young Children, 2007.

Whether the prize is a soccer trophy or the esteem of Danville, N.Y.'s elite, the McGinn family believes in winning. While striving to prove he can be best at something, sixth-grader Mack inadvertently demonstrates to his parents and older brother what really matters most.

FICTION

Patterson, James and Chris Grabenstein. I. Funny. New York: Little, Brown, 2012.

Nothing -- not bullies nor tragedy can keep Jamie from entering a comedy contest on Long Island.

FICTION

Patterson, James, Chris Grabenstein, and Mark Shulman. Treasure Hunters. New York: Little Brown, 2013.

Following clues left by their missing father, twins Bickford and Rebecca Kidd sail from the Caribbean to New York with their siblings to finish the dangerous quest of their world-famous treasure-hunting parents.

FICTION

Perl, Lila. Isabel's War. Brooklyn, N.Y.: Lizzie Skurnick Books, 2014.

Twelve-year-old Isabel has no interest in the war in Europe until her family welcomes Helga, a German war refugee, into their home in the Bronx.

FICTION

Petrucha, Stefan. Ripper. New York: Speak, 2013.

Orphaned 14-year-old Carver has joined The New Pinkertons, a spy agency, with the intention of finding his father. He soon becomes involved in the mystery of Jack the Ripper, as panic sweeps through New York City.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 075490

Pinkney, Andrea Davis. Bird in a Box. New York: Little, Brown, 2011.

In 1936, three children meet at the Mercy Home for Negro Orphans in Elmira, New York. They're not all orphans, but all are dealing with grief and loss and following the boxing career of Joe Louis.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 019660

Audio CD by Listening Library (2011)

Rhuday-Perkovich, Olugbemisola. 8th Grade Superzero. New York: Arthur A. Levine Books, 2010.

After half-heartedly joining his church youth group's project at a homeless shelter near his Brooklyn middle school, Reggie McKnight is inspired to run for school office on a platform for making a real difference in the community.

FICTION

Riordan, Rick. The Lightning Thief. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2005.

Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea. His mother sends him to a summer camp for demigods on Long Island where he and his new friends set out on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 020213

Downloadable Format: DB 063443

Audio CD by Listening Library (2005)

Robinson, Sharon. The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend. New York : Scholastic Press, 2016.

Eight-year-old Steve Satlow is thrilled when Jackie Robinson moves into his Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn in 1948, although many of his neighbors are not, and when Steve actually meets his hero he is even more excited--and worried that a misunderstanding over a Christmas tree could damage his new friendship.

FICTION

Polisner, Gae. The Pull of Gravity. Canada: D&M Publishers, Inc., 2011.

When their friend Scooter dies of a rare disease, teenagers Nick Gardner and Jaycee Amato set out on a secret journey to find the father who abandoned "The Scoot" when he was an infant, with the mission to return his signed first edition of "Of Mice and Men." The book takes place in various upstate New York locations.

FICTION

Potter, Ellen. The Humming Room. Feiwel & Friends, 2012.

Orphaned Roo Fanshaw is sent to live with her uncle in the Thousand Islands and becomes determined to solve the mystery of the secret room she discovers in his strange home. A modern version of Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic coming-of-age tale *The Secret Garden*.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 074785

Audio available on Audible

Romero, Kristina. Calling Extra. Kids Book Market, 2012

In 1899, 13-year-old Elsie Lutz is changed forever when her father is jailed for a crime he did not commit. Now alone, Elsie must fend for herself in turn-of-the-century New York. Tides change when she befriends Grin, a teenage newsboy with a kind heart and a mysterious past. Elsie soon finds herself wrapped up in the newsboy strike of 1899, a sweeping act of social activism led by children.

FICTION

Rubin, Susan Goldman. Music Was It: Young Leonard Bernstein. Watertown, MA : Charlesbridge, 2011.

What do you do when you have a dream and your father is firmly against it? If you are Leonard Bernstein, you rise to the level of the premier composer and conductor of 20th century America.

2012 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults

NON-FICTION

Sandler, Martin W. Secret Subway: the Fascinating Tale of an Amazing Feat of Engineering. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 2009.

By the mid-1800's, New York City was already a bustling center of business and commerce, glamour and excitement. But with all of this hustle and bustle came an incredible crush of horse-drawn traffic and noise. City streets were so clogged that it would take hours just to travel a few blocks. Native New Yorker Alfred Ely Beach was an entrepreneur and inventor, and he developed a plan: build tunnels under the city and install a pneumatic railway to carry passengers to their destinations.

NON-FICTION

St. George, Judith. The Duel: The Parallel Lives of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr. New York: Viking Juvenile, 2009.

Early on a July morning in 1804, on a patch of field overlooking the Hudson River, two prominent political figures fought a duel. The story tracks the lives of both men from their service under George Washington to their political careers as founders of a new nation.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 069828

Schwabach, Karen. The Hope Chest. New York: Yearling, 2010.

Eleven-year-old Violet has one goal in mind when she runs away from home: to find her sister, Chloe, in New York City. As Violet's journey grows longer, her single-minded pursuit of reuniting with her sister changes. Before long she is standing side-by-side with her new friends—suffragists, socialists, and others—the type of people whom her parents would not approve.

FICTION

Schmidt, Gary D. Okay for Now. New York: Clarion Books, 2011.

As a fourteen-year-old who just moved from Long Island to upstate New York, with no friends, an abusive father, and a louse for an older brother, Doug has everything stacked against him until he finds Lil, a friend and ally. Together, they find a safe haven in the local library, inspiration in learning about the plates of John James Audubon's birds, and an adventure on a Broadway stage.

2012 Odyssey Award (audiobook for children and/or young adults)

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 019362

Downloadable Format: DB 073716

Audio CD by Listening Library (2011).

Schmidt, Gary D. The Wednesday Wars. New York: Clarion Books, 2007.

It is 1967 and 11-year-old Holling Hoodhood is growing up in Long Island. He is convinced his teacher hates him, and he is forced to spend each Wednesday afternoon with her reading Shakespeare as the rest of his classmates go to religious studies.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 017810

Downloadable Format: DB 065788

Audio book by Scholastic Audio Books (2007)

Scieszka, Jon Francesco. Spaceheadz. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2010.

On his first day at Brooklyn's P.S. 858, fifth-grader Michael K. is teamed with two very strange students. He gradually comes to believe they are aliens who need his help, but he has trouble convincing anyone else of the truth.

FICTION

Selznick, Brian. Wonderstruck. New York: Scholastic Press, 2011.

Having lost his mother and his hearing, 12-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he never knew in New York City. At the Museum of Natural History, he meets Rose, who is also looking for something. (Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.)

2012 Schneider Family Book Award

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 074157

Sharenow, Rob. The Girl in the Torch. New York: Balzer + Bray, 2015.

After her father is killed in Europe, Sarah and her mother immigrate to America--but when her mother dies before they get through Ellis Island, and the authorities want to send her back, Sarah hides in the torch in the Statue of Liberty.

FICTION

Sheinkin, Steve. The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery. New York: Flash Point, 2010

Few know that Benedict Arnold was one of the greatest war heroes: reckless, heroic, and driven. Packed with first-person accounts, astonishing battle scenes, and surprising twists, this is a gripping and true tale.

2011 *Boston Globe* - Horn Book Award for Nonfiction

2012 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults

NON-FICTION

Braille Format: BR 019317

Downloadable Format: DB 074602

Smith, Betty. A Tree Grows in Brooklyn. New York: Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2005m c1943.

This is the story of the Nolan family, including daughter Francie, and life in the Williamsburg slums of Brooklyn during the early part of the 20th century.

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 001620

Downloadable Format: DB 044769

Smith, Chari R. Extraordinary Women from U.S. History: Readers Theatre for Grades 4-8. Portsmouth, NH: Teacher Ideas Press, 2003.

Includes scripts about famous women in history--many of whom have links to New York State--including Eleanor Roosevelt, Amelia Earhart, Susan B. Anthony, Nellie Bly, and Harriet Tubman. Can be performed or read.

NON-FICTION/DRAMA

Starmer, Aaron. The Riverman. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2014.

Alistair is a good kid growing up in Thassaly, New York in 1989. When his neighbor Fiona asks him to write her biography, things start getting strange. According to Fiona, there is an alternate universe in her basement and a creature there is stealing the souls of children.

FICTION

Stead, Rebecca. Goodbye Stranger. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2015.

As Bridge makes her way through seventh grade on Manhattan's Upper West Side with her best friends, curvaceous Em, crusader Tab, and a curious new friend--or more than friend--Sherm, she finds the answer she has been seeking since she barely survived an accident at age eight: "What is my purpose?"

FICTION

Audio CD by Listening Library (2015)

Braille Format: BR020997

Downloadable Format: DB082093

Stead, Rebecca. Liar & Spy. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2012.

Seventh-grader Georges must adjust to moving from a house to an apartment in Brooklyn while his father attempts to start a new business and his mother takes on extra shifts as a nurse. On top of all this, he is picked on at school and confronted by a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 075502

Audio CD by Listening Library (2012)

Stead, Rebecca. When You Reach Me. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2009.

Set in New York City circa 1979, sixth grader Miranda begins to receive mysterious notes about the future; notes that are eerily reminiscent of her favorite novel *A Wrinkle in Time*.

2010 Newbury Medal winner

FICTION

Braille Format: BR 018568

Downloadable Format: DB 069837

Audio CD by Listening Library (2009)

Weitzman, David. Skywalkers: Mohawk Ironworkers Build the City. New York: Roaring Book Press, 2010.

Read about the “Cowboys of the Sky,” the Mohawk ironworkers who risked death to construct some of the most famous bridges and buildings in the world, including the Empire State Building.

NON-FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 072692

Wells, Marcia. Eddie Red Undercover: Mystery On Museum Mile. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014.

Sixth grader Edmund Xavier Lonnot, codename "Eddie Red," has a photographic memory and talent for drawing anything he sees. When the NYPD is stumped by a mastermind art thief, Eddie becomes their secret weapon to solve the case.

FICTION

Woodson, Jacqueline. Brown Girl Dreaming. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2014.

This memoir-in-verse recounts the childhood of Brooklyn author Jacqueline Woodson and what it was like to grow up as an African-American girl during the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s and 70s.

2014 National Book Award, Young People's Literature Winner

2015 Coretta Scott King Author Winner

2015 Newbery Honor

2015 Robert F. Sibert Honor

NON-FICTION

Audio available from Listening Library

Woodson, Jacqueline. If You Come Softly. New York: G.P. Putnam, 2010.

Two 15 year olds, Jeremiah (Miah) who is black, and Elisha (Ellie) who is white, meet during their first year at an exclusive New York prep school and fall in love. The teenagers must deal with the subtle and not-so-subtle bigotry that they are subjected to as a mixed-race couple.

FICTION

Downloadable Format: DB 063810

Zullo, Allan. Heroes of 9/11. New York: Scholastic, 2015.

Ten stories of the first-responders who risked their lives on September 11, 2001.

NON-FICTION