**10 CATS**
Gravett, Emily
Boxer Books
9781914912580
Mama cat and her nine mischievous kittens make a mess with spilled paint in this colorfully illustrated counting book.

**BIG**
Harrison, Vashti
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
9780316353229
A beautifully illustrated, emotionally powerful story of a small girl with a tender heart and a big body and her journey to loving and accepting herself just as she is.

**BOOM!**
Meisel, Paul
Holiday House
9780823448579
What happens to a playful cat and a timid dog alone at home during a thunderstorm? This simple, hilarious graphic novel for early readers offers a look.

**CAPE**
Johnson, Kevin
Kitt Thomas (illustrator)
Roaring Brook Press
9781250840509
A heart-wrenching story about a young boy who experiences a significant loss and how he uses his cape as protection from his grief.

**CITY BEET**
Cohen, Tziporah
Udayana Lugo (illustrator)
Sleeping Bear Press
9781534112711
A diverse community of friends and community helpers work together to harvest a giant beet from their urban garden in a clever, humorous take on an old folktale.

**ELENA RIDES**
Medina, Juana
Candlewick Press
9781536216356
A young elephant balances precariously while learning to ride a bike, and the simple sound effect words that accompany every fall beg to be read aloud. Perfect for beginning readers.
EVERGREEN
Cordell, Matthew
Feiwel and Friends
9781250317179
When her mom asks timid Evergreen to take an acorn bowl of soup to her ailing grandmother on the other side of Buckthorn Forest, the young, anxious squirrel learns that she’s braver than she thought. A tale of courage and love destined to become a classic.

FINDING PAPA
Krans, Angela Pham
Thi Bui (illustrator)
HarperCollins
9780063060968
After Papa leaves Vietnam to find a home in America, young Mai and her mother make the harrowing journey via foot and boat in this vibrantly illustrated, powerful story of migration. The serious mood is lightened by the repeated crocodile chant—chomp chomp—that Papa shared.

THE FLOCK
del Mazo, Margarita
Raúl Nieto Guridi (illustrator)
NubeOcho
9788419253262
Counting a flock of sheep becomes complicated when sheep number four goes missing and Mike can’t count his sheep to go to sleep! A gentle bedtime story about being true to yourself.

GREAT CARRIER REEF
Stremer, Jessica
Gordy Wright (illustrator)
Holiday House
9780823452682
A decommissioned aircraft carrier is sunk to become the world's largest artificial reef. Scientific, informative, entertaining, and accessible with vibrant artwork and useful back matter.

THE HOSPITAL BOOK
Brown, Lisa
Holiday House
9780823446650
A child’s hospital experience is realistically portrayed in a way that will put children (along with their adults) at ease. Child friendly illustrations accompany understandable explanations, and the emotions depicted feel authentic.

HOW TO COUNT TO ONE: (AND DON’T EVEN THINK ABOUT BIGGER NUMBERS!)
Salmon, Caspar
Matt Hunt (illustrator)
Nosy Crow
97898887770246
This interactive picture book subverts expectations for counting books in fun ways, inviting readers to notice all the things that there are ONE of (and some will be unable to resist counting higher).
IN THE TREE
Millard, Will
Rachel Qiuqi (illustrator)
Abrams / Magic Cat
9781419765940
This inviting board book uses flaps to show basic concepts of how an oak tree grows and how a variety of animals relate to the tree.

KITTY & CAT: OPPOSITES ATTRACT
Hokkanen, Mirka
Candlewick Press
9781536223675
This simple concept book depicts the relationship between an older tired grumpy cat and a younger playful energetic kitty. The illustrations are bold and bright, and a surprise ending will delight young learners.

MAMA’S SLEEPING SCARF
Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi writing as Nwa Grace-James
Joelle Avelino
Alfred A. Knopf
9780593535578
Chino likes the feel of the green scarf with red and blue circles that her mother wears on her hair at night. A simple, cheerful, boldly illustrated intergenerational story of everyday life.

MR. S
Arnaldo, Monica
Katherine Tegen Books
9780063003958
Inside a kindergarten classroom, the children and the big sandwich on the table (could that be the teacher?) get on with the school day. Meanwhile, out in the parking lot, a grown-up battles the elements to rescue his car. How these two plotlines connect is unexpected and hilarious.

MY Baba’S GARDEN
Scott, Jordan
Sydney Smith (illustrator)
Holiday House
9780823450831
A boy and his grandmother speak different languages but have a loving, close relationship, expressed through food, music, touch, and attentiveness.

NIGHT IN THE CITY
Downing, Julie
Holiday House
9780823452064
Eight night workers (nurse, baker, taxi driver, firefighter, etc.) begin their day in a busy city while the rest of us sleep. Bold, colorful, detailed illustrations invite multiple readings and closer looks.

THE NIGHT TENT
Blair, Landis
Holiday House
9780823450985
When he can’t sleep, Watson discovers another world under the covers. Reminiscent of Maurice Sendak’s work, the illustrations are fantastical, creepy, detailed, and a delight to pour over.
2024 Capitol Choices Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

SIMON AND THE BETTER BONE
Tabor, Corey R.
Balzer + Bray
9780063275553
Lively colored pencil illustrations arranged in a clever, inventive format tell the story of a determined dog who fights with and ultimately befriends his own reflection.

SOME OF THESE ARE SNAILS
Higgins, Carter
Chronicle Books
9781797220185
Beautiful, colorful graphic design, playful rhymes, and open-ended questions introduce young readers to early math concepts of sorting and classifying.

SOMETHING GREAT
Bradley, Jeanette
Levine Querido
9781646141715
This diverse picture book, with its mixed media illustrations and depiction of enjoyment of the simple things in life, is all about finding that person who gets you.

SOMETIMES IT'S NICE TO BE ALONE
Hest, Amy
Philip Stead (illustrator)
Holiday House
9780823449477
What might an elephant, horse, whale, bear, or dinosaur have in common? The joys of being alone, being with a friend, and being alone with a friend are celebrated in a thoughtfully crafted book about imaginative play and creativity.

WATCH OUT FOR THE LION
Hartman, Brooke
Anna Süssbauer (illustrator)
Page Street Kids
9781645676287
Is there a lion in this book? This teaser of a story with big, bold, colorful illustrations is just rip-roaring fun. Perfect for reading aloud.

YOU GO FIRST
Bernstein, Ariel
Marc Rosenthal (illustrator)
Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books
9781665911511
A common childhood fear—climbing up the playground slide's ladder—is examined with sensitivity and humor. Bright caricatures and clever dialog reveal Duck's excitement and Cat's anxiety, while the satisfying resolution speaks to the depth of their friendship.
AGES SIX TO NINE

THE APARTMENT HOUSE ON POPPY HILL
LaCour, Nina
Sônia Albert (illustrator)
Chronicle Books
9781797213736
Nine-year-old Ella’s welcome to new neighbors sparks a chain of events that uncovers the mystery about the previously unseen occupants of the top floor. First in a series.

AWESOME ORANGE BIRTHDAY
Ruths, Mitali Banerjee
Aaliya Jaleel (illustrator)
Scholastic
9781338799613
Diary-like entries make for a breezy, colorfully illustrated page-turner as Priya’s community comes together to help her concoct the perfect celebration for one of her aunties. Activities are included for budding party planners. First in a series.

BENEATH
Doerrfeld, Cori
Little, Brown and Company
9780316312264
A grandfather encourages a heartbroken child to look beneath the surface to recognize hidden treasures in nature and in people in this gentle intergenerational story, rich in emotional intelligence.

BIG TREE
Selznick, Brian
Scholastic Press
9781338180633
The story of Merwin and Louise, two sycamore seeds looking for a place to set down roots, is magnificently told and illustrated in Selznick’s familiar pencil style. Intriguing and imaginative, with themes of mystery, danger, and hope.

BUTT OR FACE?: CAN YOU TELL WHICH END YOU’RE LOOKING AT?
Lavelle, Kari
Sourcebooks eXplore
9781728271170
Zoomed-in photography puts readers up close and personal with the tops and bottoms of different animals in this oddball, highly engaging nonfiction title. Can they decipher which end they’re looking at?

FRANK AND THE MASKED CAT
Brockenbrough, Martha
Jon Lau (illustrator)
Levine Querido
9781646142422
A cat, a dog, and a visiting parrot discuss love in a sweet and funny story about misunderstandings. The cat is smitten, the parrot is an “expert,” and the dog is a bit confused.
HENRY, LIKE ALWAYS
Bailey, Jenn
Mika Song (illustrator)
Chronicle Books
9781797213897
Henry feels best when everything is always the same, and overwhelmed when they are not. He and his teacher work beautifully together to handle the changes that happen in Classroom Ten.

HIDDEN HOPE: HOW A TOY AND A HERO SAVED LIVES DURING THE HOLOCAUST
Boxer, Elisa
Amy June Bates (illustrator)
Abrams Books for Young Readers
9781419750007
Young social worker Jacqueline bicycled around 1940s Paris with a yellow toy duck containing forged documents and papers to help Jewish families escape the Nazis. A true story of resistance, perseverance, and heroism.

IS IT OKAY TO PEE IN THE OCEAN? THE FASCINATING SCIENCE OF OUR WASTE AND OUR WORLD
Schwartz, Ella
Lily Williams (illustrator)
Bloomsbury Children’s Books
9781681195131
A humorous, scientific take on urination, sea pollution, and the magical worlds inside our bodies and seas, this non-fiction title also features science experiments, historical side bars, and the right level of illustration to bring the concepts to life.

THE LAST PLASTIC STRAW: A PLASTIC PROBLEM AND FINDING WAYS TO FIX IT
Romito, Dee
Ziyue Chen (illustrator)
Holiday House
9780823449491
From a history of the purpose and evolution of straws, to why they can cause issues in the ecosystem, this well-illustrated work allows readers to understand how making a simple change can have beneficial consequences.

LEEVA AT LAST
Pennypacker, Sara
Matthew Cordell (illustrator)
Balzer + Bray
9780063114425
Calling fans of Matilda! Lleeva contends with crazy villains, dreadful parents, and delightful friends when she escapes the confines of home to find out, What are people for?

MY POWERFUL HAIR
Lindstrom, Carole
Steph Littlebird (illustrator)
Abrams Books for Young Readers
9781419759437
A young Indigenous girl celebrates her beautiful, long hair, evidence of triumph and empowerment after the decades of trauma, boarding schools, and colonization experienced by her family. Gorgeous, dynamic illustrations.
OUR ROOF IS BLUE
Echenique, Sara E.
Ashley Vargas (illustrator)
Charlesbridge
9781623542337
Antonio loves to tell his older sister stories, but his voice goes silent after Hurricane Maria hits their Puerto Rico home. A blue tarp—and imagination—help them to survive and heal. Published in English and Spanish.

SCHNOZZER & TATERTOES: TAKE A HIKE!
Stromoski, Rick
Union Square Kids
9781454948315
A pair of adventurous dogs on a quest to find one of their birth mothers encounter some familiar fairy tale characters. Fast-paced wordplay, appealing illustrations from a comics veteran, and a tight friendship make for a very funny, highly entertaining graphic novel. First in a series.

SEARCH FOR A GIANT SQUID: PICK YOUR PATH
Forrester, Amy Seto
Andy Chou Musser (illustrator)
Chronicle Books
9781797213934
Imagine yourself in a submersible in the depths of the ocean, searching for a giant squid. This fun, choose-your-own-path story is perfect for kids who love science and adventure.

SEE THE GHOST: THREE STORIES ABOUT THINGS YOU CANNOT SEE
LaRochelle, David
Mike Wohnoutka (illustrator)
Candlewick Press
9781536219821
A dog and a cat contend with the unseen in this laugh-out-loud book that invites in new readers with silly illustrations and situations, with plenty of white space and repetition.

SKELEANOR THE DECOMPOSER
Ettlinger, Emily
Penguin Workshop
9780593519448
In this sweet, lightly spooky graphic novel, music-loving Skeleanor wants nothing more than to perform in the annual festival, but she scares the townsfolk in her attempts to fit in. Fortunately, her friend Batima comes to the rescue.

THE SKULL: A TYROLEAN FOLKTALE
Klassen, Jon
Candlewick Press
9781536223361
Otilla, a young girl, runs away from danger in the dark only to find a spooky house inhabited by a talking skull. Loosely adapted from a Tyrolean folktale, Klassen combines his unique humor and signature illustration style to paint a story that is eerie and unsettling but ultimately memorable and thoughtful.
2024 Capitol Choices Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

THE STORY OF GUMLUCK THE WIZARD
Rex, Adam
Chronicle Books
9781797213231
Small, hapless wizard Gumluck and his exasperated sidekick, Helvetica the Raven, go on a quest that helps Gumluck realize his powers. Hilarious and heartfelt in equal measure.

STRANDED! A MOSTLY TRUE STORY FROM ICELAND
Benediktsson, Ævar Þór
Anne Wilson (illustrator)
Barefoot Books
9781646869916
A pair of explorers—the author’s grandfather and a friend—are nearly barbecued by a volcano. Plenty of facts about volcanoes, some droll commentary, and one untrue thing for readers to find make for great fun.

THERE WAS A PARTY FOR LANGSTON
Reynolds, Jason
Jerome Pumphrey & Jarrett Pumphrey (illustrators)
Atheneum Books for Young Readers
9781534439443
Here is a celebration of music, dance, books, life, and laughter, inspired by the 1991 opening of the Langston Hughes Auditorium at the New York Public Library’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem. Bold, joyful illustrations jam wonderfully with the bebop text.

TOMFOOLERY!: RANDOLPH CALDECOTT AND THE RAMBUNCTIOUS COMING-OF-AGE OF CHILDREN’S BOOKS
Markel, Michelle
Barbara McClintock (illustrator)
Chronicle Books
9780811879231
This picture book biography shows and tells how Randolph Caldecott was a trailblazer in children’s book illustration, adding movement and humor to what was previously a staid artform. Every spread has motion, and the artist incorporates Caldecott’s own illustrations.

WE ARE BRANCHES
Sidman, Joyce
Beth Krommes (illustrator)
Clarion Books
9780358538189
Intricately detailed, carefully labeled illustrations of the natural world’s many branches accompany a simple text. This basic shape in nature, from tiny to large, from the simple to more complex and unexpected, is gracefully, elegantly, and simply explained visually and in the thought-provoking, poetic narrative.

WOMBATS ARE PRETTY WEIRD: A [NOT SO] SERIOUS GUIDE
Cushman, Abi
Greenwillow Books
9780063234437
Wombats are weird...it’s true....and this book has a silly side. But it is loaded with facts and will entice young readers to learn more about this strange species.
WORM AND CATERPILLAR ARE FRIENDS
Windness, Kaz
Simon Spotlight
9781665920018
This amusing graphic novel for early readers follows two friends, Worm and Caterpillar, as they unpack the ways they are alike...and the ways they are quite different.
ABENI’S SONG
Clark, P. Djèlí
Starscape
9781250825827
Abeni’s unexpected apprenticeship with a witch may be the only thing that can save her village from the ghost ships. The world in this West African fantasy is filled with adventure and a side of spookiness.

ANIANA DEL MAR JUMPS IN
Méndez, Jasminne
Dial Books for Young Readers
9780593531815
Aniana’s whole life revolves around swimming. When she is diagnosed with juvenile arthritis, she works to balance her chronic illness and her love of the water.

THE DEADLANDS: HUNTED
Melki-Wegner, Skye
Henry Holt Books and Company
9781250827692
What would have happened if the asteroid didn’t wipe out the dinosaurs but made them human-level smart? This thriller is full of action, adventure, and friendships to keep you on the edge of your seat.

DEAR MOTHMAN
Gow, Robin
Rebecca Harry (illustrator)
Amulet Books
9781419764400
Autistic transgender sixth-grader Noah feels lost and alone after his best friend Lewis dies in a car accident. Noah fears he will never find another person he connects with in the same way, and he begins writing to Mothman, Lewis’ cryptid obsession, in search of comfort and connection.

THE FIREFLY SUMMER
Matson, Morgan
Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers
9781534493353
When Ryanna receives an invitation to join her estranged maternal grandparents at their summer camp in the Poconos, she isn’t sure what to expect. At camp, she embarks on a scavenger hunt to discover the mother she never knew and finds a connection with the family she didn’t know she was missing.

A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING: A TRUE STORY
Santat, Dan
First Second
9781626724150
First love, a first taste of Fanta, and getting lost while riding a bicycle in Germany are just some of Dan’s adventures in his summer before high school. An extensive author’s note, photographs, and drawings complete this memorable graphic novel memoir.
HAZEL HILL IS GONNA WIN THIS ONE
Horne, Maggie
Clarion Books
9780358664703
Ambitious loner Hazel finds unexpected connections and strength when she teams up with a former nemesis to stop a popular boy's online harassment. This exploration of gender, power, and social media in middle school is as observant and entertaining as its sharp protagonist.

THE JAKE SHOW
Levy, Joshua S.
Katherine Tegen Books
9780063248199
Tired of pretending to be the son he isn't for his divorced and polarized parents, twelve-year-old Jake stages an elaborate bluff with friends to attend a Jewish summer camp where he finally can be himself.

THE LABORS OF HERCULES BEAL
Schmidt, Gary D.
Clarion Books
9780358659631
Seventh-grader Hercules Beal, grieving for his dead parents, is tasked with performing modern versions of the twelve labors of Hercules. As he works through the assignment, he discovers new friends (human and animal) and finds he may not have to go it alone.

LASAGNA MEANS I LOVE YOU
O'Shaughnessy, Kate
Alfred A. Knopf
9781984893871
After the death of her grandmother, Mo is cast into New York City’s foster care system and begins to search intently for family through heirloom recipes and blog posts.

A LONG TIME COMING: A LYRICAL BIOGRAPHY OF RACE IN AMERICA FROM ONA JUDGE TO BARACK OBAMA
Shepard, Ray Anthony
R. Gregory Christie (illustrator)
Calkins Creek
9781662680663
Six notable freedom fighters - Ona Judge, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Barack Obama - are celebrated in verse in these caring and compelling portrayals.

THE LOST YEAR
Marsh, Katherine
Roaring Brook Press
9781250313607
Matthew, stuck at home and bored due to COVID lockdowns, discovers the family secrets his century-old great grandmother has been keeping about her childhood in 1930s Soviet Ukraine. This historical mystery, told through alternating timelines, examines the lines that divide, the ties that bind, and the struggle to survive.
THE MANY ASSASSINATIONS OF SAMIR, THE SELLER OF DREAMS
Nayeri, Daniel
Daniel Miyares (illustrator)
Levine Querido
9781646143030
A monk delivers a memorable account of the trials and tribulations of the would-be merchant and scallywag who rescued him while traveling on the Silk Road. Their banter is lively, their adventures livelier, and the life lessons memorable.

MEXIKID: A GRAPHIC MEMOIR
Martin, Pedro
Dial Books for Young Readers
9780593462294
Pedro’s parents decide to take the whole family (eleven altogether) to Mexico in a Winnebego to bring his legendary Abuelito back to live with them in California. A clever, hilarious, and heartwarming graphic memoir.

PELL OF GUMBLING: MY EXTREMELY NORMAL FAIRY-TALE LIFE
Steinkellner, Emma
Labyrinth Road
9780593570692
Along with her two best friends—a fairy with too-small wings and a thumbkin named Gil—Nell navigates life’s challenges and sets out to save their beloved home of Gumbling from being turned into a fancy resort. A perfect, cozy graphic novel adventure.

NIKHIL OUT LOUD
Pancholy, Maulik
Balzer + Bray
9780063091924
Nikhil’s life changes quickly when he goes from being a celebrity voice actor in California to just another middle schooler in Ohio. Friendships and self-expression help him navigate struggles with perfectionism, homophobia, and tensions in his Gujarati American family.

ONCE THERE WAS
Monsef, Kiyash
Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers
9781665928502
Marjon learns that magical animals are real and that she has a special connection with them after her veterinarian father is murdered. Now she is expected to take his place, despite many dangers.

A ROVER’S STORY
Warga, Jasmine
Balzer + Bray
9780063113923
Res, a Mars Rover, and Fly, his drone, prepare for their time on Mars. With letters from the lead engineer’s daughter to Res sprinkled throughout, this story will capture the attention of fans of space, sci-fi stories, and real adventures.
2024 Capitol Choices Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

**SIMON SORT OF SAYS**
Bow, Erin  
Disney Hyperion  
9781368082853  
Simon and his unconventional parents move to a National Quiet Zone following a horrific incident at Simon’s elementary school. A heartbreaking and simultaneously hilarious take on trauma, grief, new friendships, and how one family copes in the aftermath of unimaginable loss.

**SPARKLE**
Wilson, Lakita  
Viking  
9780593465752  
Sparkle wants to be a star just like her famous father. When she starts to lose her hair and is diagnosed with alopecia, Sparkle tries to figure out how to keep shining brightly.

**THE SPIRIT GLASS**
Chokshi, Roshani  
Disney Hyperion  
9781368093392  
This fantastic stand-alone adventure quest is based on Filipino mythology and includes a blood-thirsty gecko sidekick who steals the show.

**THE SWIFTS: A DICTIONARY OF SCOUNDRELS**
Lincoln, Beth  
Claire Powell (illustrator)  
Dutton Children’s Books  
9780593533239  
A killer, a long-lost treasure, and a family with names chosen from the dictionary all play a part in a mystery full of twists, turns, and a unique cast of characters.

**WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT VAGINAS: AN IMPORTANT BOOK ABOUT VULVAS, PERIODS, PUBERTY AND SEX!**
Rodgers, Allison K.  
Annika Le Large (illustrator)  
Neon Squid  
9781684492848  
In straightforward text and illustrations, the authors present factual information that young women might be afraid to discuss openly, including vaginal care and healthy sexual activity.

**WHAT HAPPENED TO RACHEL RILEY?**
Swinarski, Claire  
Quill Tree Books  
9780063213098  
A mix of texts, emails, podcast transcripts, passed notes, and traditional texts will have you on the edge of your seat as this mystery about the formerly most popular girl at middle school unfolds.

**THE YEAR MY LIFE WENT DOWN THE TOILET**
Arlow, Jake Maia  
Dial Books for Young Readers  
9780593112960  
Between her recent Crohn's diagnosis and her first big crush, middle school just keeps getting more mortifying for Al. Anyone who has been overwhelmed by the weird, messy reality of having a body will connect with this funny and poignant novel.
YOU ARE HERE: CONNECTING FLIGHTS
Oh, Ellen (editor)
Allida
9780063239081
Fast-paced short stories by East and Southeast Asian American writers explore identity and belonging through overlapping perspectives, as young travelers pass through the Gateway International Airport in Chicago.
ACCOUNTABLE: THE TRUE STORY OF A RACIST SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT AND THE TEENAGERS WHOSE LIVES IT CHANGED
Slater, Dashka
Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers
9780374314347
Slater used three years of interviews with dozens of subjects as well as court records, social media, and a variety of other sources to craft this incredibly compelling and urgent story about the struggles of growing up in the age of social media.

ALL THE FIGHTING PARTS
Sawyerr, Hannah V.
Amulet Books
9781419762611
Amina stands up for herself and for what she believes. When an unthinkable act of violence shatters her sense of self, Amina must rely on the people she loves to gain strength to share her truth.

THE BLACKWOODS
Colbert, Brandy
Balzer + Bray
9780063091597
A multi-generational saga set between present day and early 1940s-1960s Black Hollywood. When Blossom Blackwood, star of the silver screen and matriarch of the Blackwood family, passes away, exposing painful family secrets, each family member struggles to cope with the pressures of fame in a different way.

BONESMITH
Pau Preto, Nicki
Margaret K. McElderry
9781665910590
Three intriguing characters make their way, thwarted by the undead, in a world where adults think they are little more than pawns. A daring rescue, an incredibly cool magic system, and a touch of romance make this an outstanding fantasy.

CHASING PACQUIAO
Pulido, Rod
Viking
9780593526736
Bobby, a gay Filipino teen, takes up boxing like his hero Manny Pacquiao, but what happens when your hero doesn’t turn out to be that heroic?

DIFFERENT FOR BOYS
Ness, Patrick
Tea Bendix (illustrator)
Walker Books
9781536228892
Four boys deal with sexuality, masculinity, and friendship, while asking a lot of questions and breaking the fourth wall along the way. A thought-provoking and poignant exploration of identity and acceptance, as well as the complexities of teenage relationships.
THE DO-OVER
Painter, Lynn
Simon & Schuster Books For Young Readers
9781534478862
After the perfectly planned Valentine’s Day is a disaster, Emilie just wants to move on. But when she gets stuck in a time loop of that same day, does she have the chance to fix it? And what does the perfect day really mean?

ENTER THE BODY
McCullough, Joy
Dutton Books
9780593406755
Shakespeare’s female characters take back their stories from under the stage in this wonderfully written novel in verse, which reimagines some of the most famous tragic plays and how the characters themselves would have done things differently. Full cast audiobook.

THE FALL OF WHIT RIVERA
Maldonado, Crystal
Holiday House
9780823452361
Whit is excited to chair her school’s Homecoming Week festivities until her nemesis Zay is assigned to be her co-chair. This cozy romcom is a refreshing installment to the genre and features diverse and robust characters.

FOR LAMB
Cline-Ransome, Lesa
Holiday House
9780823450152
In this powerful historical novel, an attempted interracial friendship between two teenaged girls sets off a tragic chain of events in the Jim Crow South.

FORGIVE ME NOT
Baker, Jennifer
Nancy Paulsen Books
9780593406847
Violetta begins her freshman year of high school as the girl who killed her baby sister while drunk driving. Her older brother, Vince, is known as the perfect eldest son, but deals with his own secret: addiction. The siblings navigate the juvenile justice system and tackle the idea of forgiveness.

GATHER
Cadow, Kenneth M.
Candlewick Press
9781536231113
Ian has his hands full with a single mom with no job and an adopted pup at home. When tragic events send Ian and his dog on the run, all he can do is survive. This novel tells the beautiful tale of a teen’s resilience when faced with hardships.

GIVE ME A SIGN
Sortino, Anna
G.P. Putnam’s Sons Books
9780593533796
Lilah, a teen with hearing loss, becomes a junior counselor at a camp for deaf and blind kids in this heartwarming story about fitting in, finding your community, falling in love, and what it means to find your voice in a society that doesn’t want to listen.
HIDDEN SYSTEMS: WATER, ELECTRICITY, THE INTERNET, AND THE SECRETS BEHIND THE SYSTEMS WE USE EVERY DAY
Nott, Dan
Random House Graphic
9781984896049
We use the Internet, electricity, and water every day, but probably don't stop to consider how they work. Easy-to-follow panels and deceptively simple illustrations explore these complex systems and invite readers to re-imagine them in pursuit of a more equitable world.

I’LL TAKE EVERYTHING YOU HAVE
Klise, James
Algonquin Young Readers
9781616208585
Joe, a naive farm boy, explores both the big city of Chicago and his queerness in 1934. The voices and vocabulary of the characters feel historically accurate in this refreshingly different teen book, featuring believable situations and characters wrestling with moral quandaries.

LION’S LEGACY
Rosen, L.C.
Union Square & CO.
9781454948056
Seventeen-year-old Tennessee Russo isn't thrilled to be back with his dad, a famous archaeologist, but finding the Rings of the Sacred Band of Thebes is a queer adventure of a lifetime. This adventurous novel is filled with wit, charm, and queer joy.

THE MINUS ONE CLUB
Magoon, Kekla
Henry Holt and Company
9781250806208
After losing his sister in a car accident, Kermit notices how everyone refuses to look at him in the hallways and doesn't know what to say at the lunch table. A mysterious note invites him after school to join the Minus One Club—a group of students who, on paper, would never hang out normally except that they’ve all experienced a significant loss.

THE OTHER PANDEMIC: AN AIDS MEMOIR
Curlee, Lynn
Charlesbridge Teen
9781623543501
A raw and compelling account of the AIDS epidemic from the first illness to what is now managed care, written by someone who was there. Chronicles the deaths, uncertainties, ending of lives too soon, and lack of action by the government for its most vulnerable citizens.

THE PRINCESS AND THE GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH
Muniz, Deya
Little, Brown and Company
9780316538725
This beautiful graphic novel uses a unique setting to explore issues we all face. Secret identities, romance, and grilled cheese sandwiches abound, along with with a tasty helping of cheesy puns.
2024 Capitol Choices Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

PROMISE BOYS
Brooks, Nick
Henry Holt and Company
9781250866974
When Principal Moore is murdered on the campus of Urban Promise Prep, everyone thinks J.B., Ramon, or Trey must have pulled the trigger. The boys' investigation into the truth will keep readers guessing until the very end. Full cast audiobook.

THE QUEENS OF NEW YORK
Shen, E.L.
Quill Tree Books
9780063237957
Best friends Jia, Ariel, and Everett are separating from each other for the first time this summer, each on a different path, with adventure, uncertainty, dreams, and changes in plans. Full cast audiobook.

THE REUNION
Frick, Kit
Margaret K. McElderry Books
9781665921466
Eleven members of the Mayweather clan gather together for a relaxing family vacation in Cancun, but only ten return home, in this fun, breezy, suspenseful, gripping thriller. Full cast audiobook.

ROYAL BLOOD
Carter, Aimée
Delacorte Press
97800593485897
Evan finally gets to meet her father—the King of England. When she arrives at Windsor Castle, she finds herself in the middle of a murder investigation. A fast-paced first volume of a new series about secret royals.

STAR SPLITTER
Kirby, Matthew J.
Dutton Children’s Books
9780735231665
In this fast-paced sci-fi thriller, seventeen-year old Jessica Mathers awakes on a starship that was supposed to find her reunited with her parents who have been on an exploratory mission for the past six years, but something on the ship is very, very wrong.

THOSE PINK MOUNTAIN NIGHTS
Ferguson, Jen
Heartdrum
9780063086210
A group of First Nations teens find comfort and community while working at their local pizza parlor. While navigating new friendships, they work together to solve the mystery of a missing girl, a cousin to one of the main characters, and stop the looming closure of their beloved restaurant. Full cast audiobook.

WARRIOR GIRL UNEARTHED
Boulley, Angeline
Henry Holt and Company
9781250766588
Perry Firekeeper-Birch is ready for a summer of doing nothing, but a fender bender forces her to work in her tribe’s museum cataloging artifacts. This thriller expertly combines adventure, mystery, and the power of reclaiming your stolen history.