



2016 Winners 2017 Nominations

Presenters: Melanie Hetrick, Tillamook County Library &
MacKenzie Ross, Silver Falls Library

What is ORCA?

- Founded in 2010
- Fun and exciting way for Oregon youth in grades 3-12 to become enthusiastic and discriminating readers
- Students choose their favorite book in a real-life democratic process

How are the books chosen?

- Oregon students, teachers, and librarians may nominate titles
- Copyright date must be two years prior to when the list is announced
- Nominations are reviewed by a committee of Oregon librarians, educators, and booksellers
- Committee creates the final list!

Committee Members

Chair: Nina Kramer (Albina Library, Portland)

Lisa Elliott (Tigard Public Library)

Kathryn Harmon (Neah-Kah-Nie School, Rockaway Beach)

Melanie Hetrick (Tillamook County Library)

Beth LaForce (George Fox University, Newberg)

Marie LeJeune (Western Oregon University, Monmouth)

Kiva Liljequist (Metropolitan Learning Center, Portland)

Jessica Marie (Salem Public Library)

Laurie Nordahl (North Bend High School)

Kira Porton (A Children's Place Bookstore, Portland)

MacKenzie Ross (Silver Falls Library, Silverton)

Karen Timmermans (Pacific University, Forest Grove)

Denise Willms (Port Orford Public Library)

And the 2016 winners are...

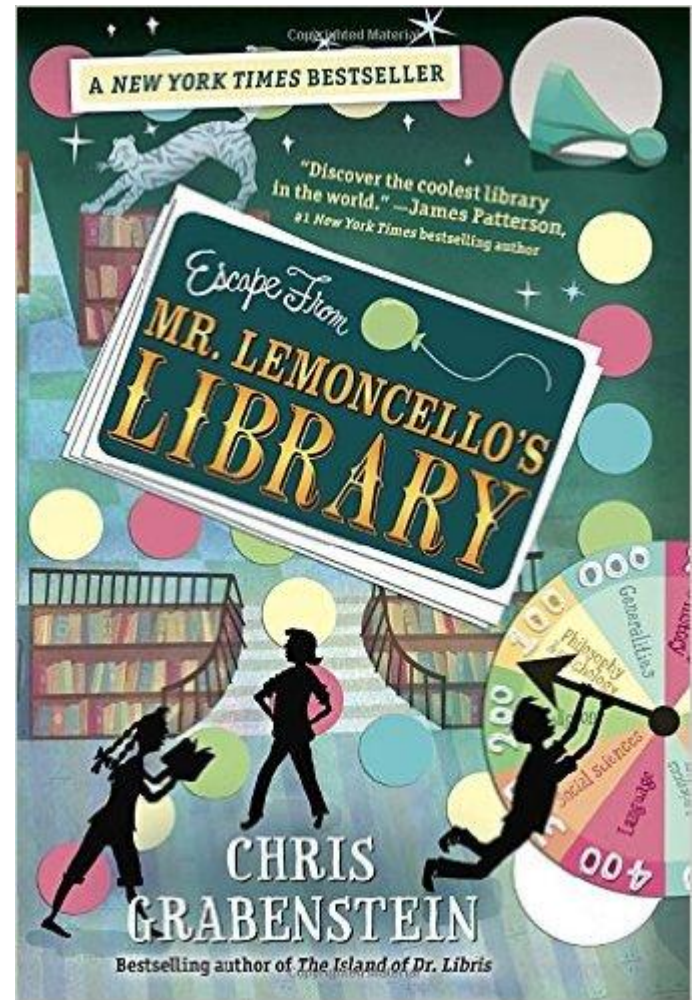


2016 ORCA Upper Elementary Winner

If you liked *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*...

You might like these other best sellers by
Chris Grabenstein:

Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics and *The
Island of Dr. Libris*



2016 ORCA Middle School Winner

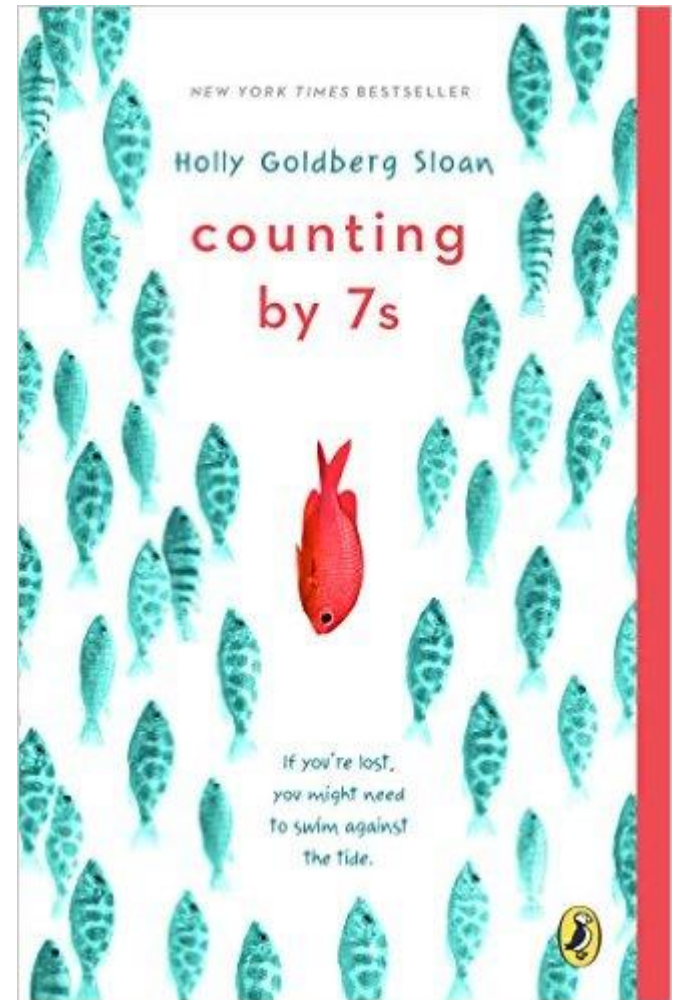
If you liked *Counting by 7s*...

You might like these other best sellers:

Out of my Mind by Sharon Draper

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Mockingbird by Kathryn Erskine



2016 ORCA High School Winner

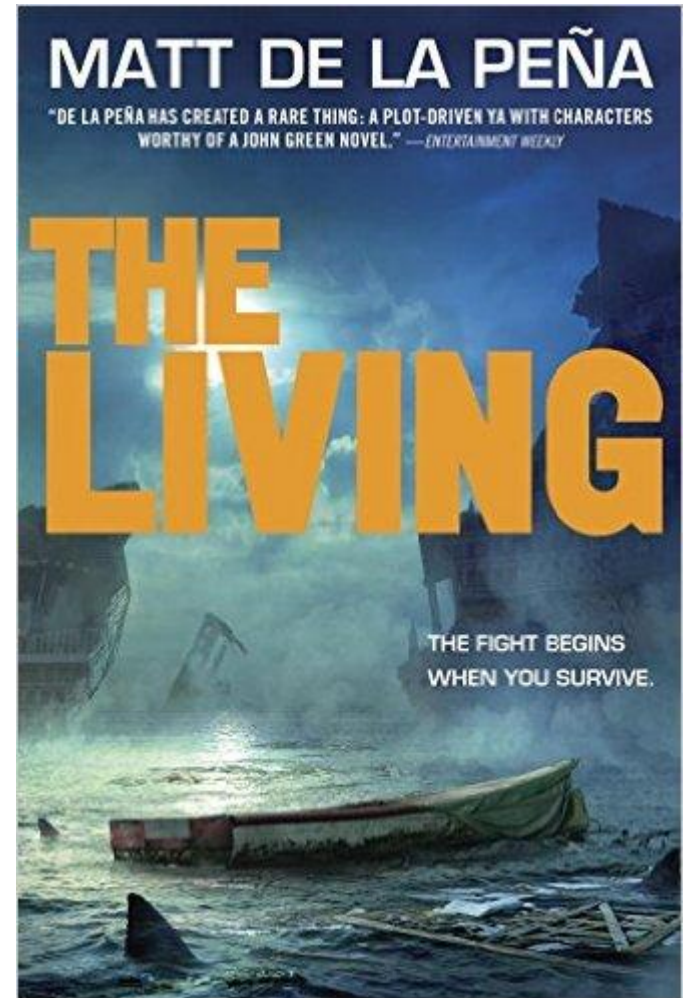
If you liked *The Living*...

You might like these other best sellers by Matt de la Peña

The Hunted (sequel to *The Living*)

Mexican Whiteboy

The *Infinity Ring* series



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

El Deafo

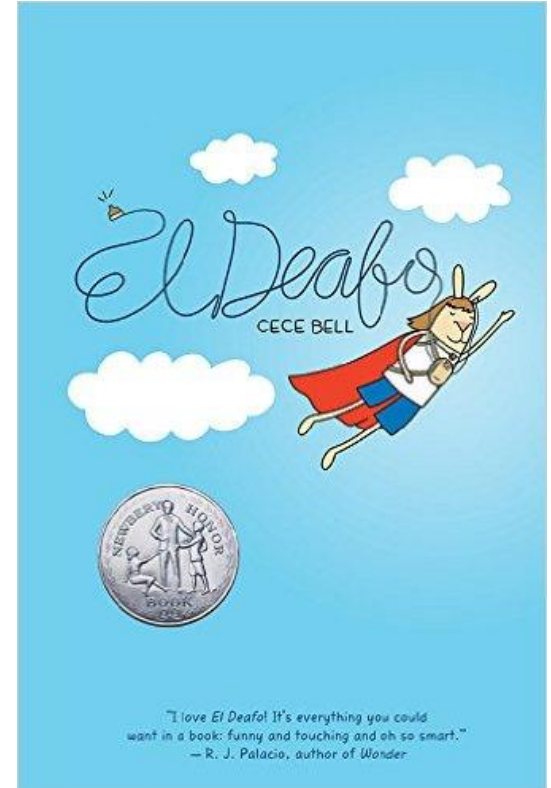
By Cece Bell

Newbery Honor Medal

Author's Site: <https://cecebell.wordpress.com/>

Author's Talk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cnj5STG0SZo>

Read-alikes: *Roller Girl* (Jameison), *Drowned City* (Brown)



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

The Madman of Piney Woods

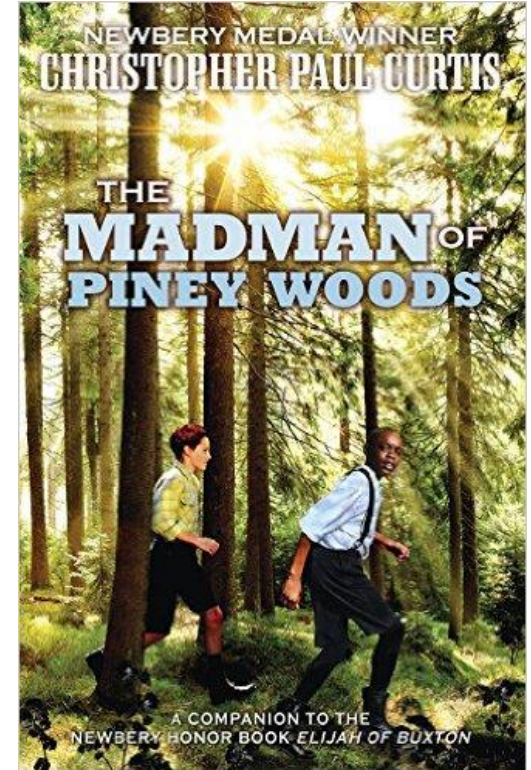
By Christopher Paul Curtis

Author's Site: <http://www.nobodybutcurtis.com/>

Video Interview: <http://www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/curtis>

Enthusiastic readers will be delighted to jump 40 years into the future to learn about what happened to Elijah from Christopher Paul Curtis' Newbery Honor Book & Coretta Scott King Award winner *Elijah of Buxton*.

Read-alikes: *Bone by Bone* (Johnston), *Stella by Starlight* (Draper)



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

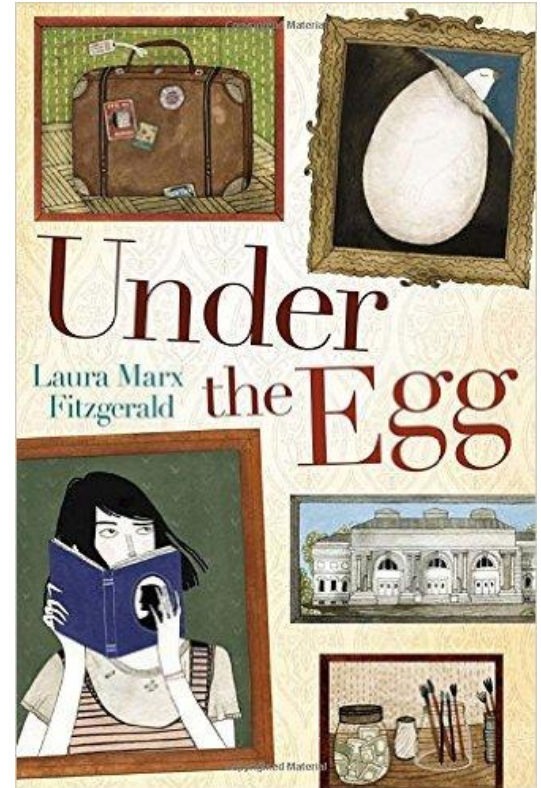
Under the Egg

By Laura Marx Fitzgerald

A fast-paced mystery . . . If Dan Brown of *The Da Vinci Code* wrote middle-grade novels, this would be the one. — *Kirkus Reviews*

Author's Site: <http://www.lauramarxfitzgerald.com/#!/books/cnec>

Read-alikes: *When You Reach Me* (Stead), *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* (Konigsburg)



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

By the Grace of Todd

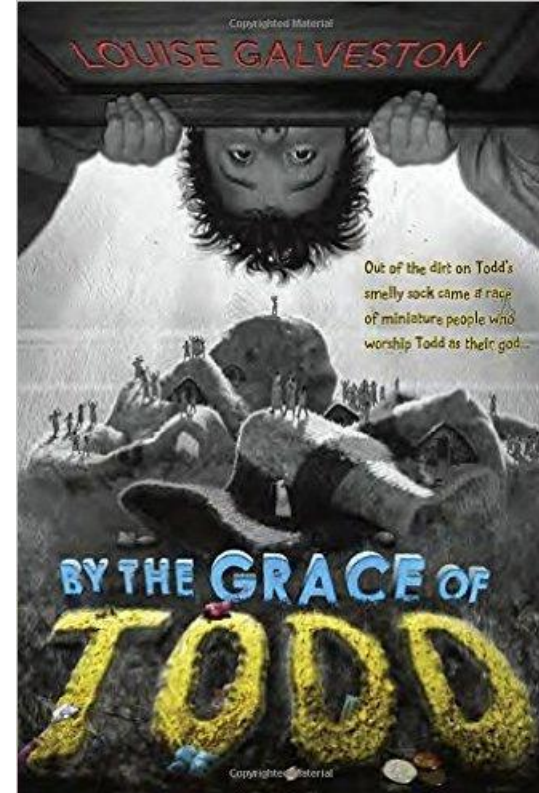
By Louise Galveston

Author's Site: <http://www.bythegraceoftodd.com/index.html>

Visit the author's site to get the inside scoop into Todd's world and how one dirty sock created a whole new world of tiny people.

Want to read more about the *Toddlians* and what they do when they think Todd has forgotten about them? Read *In Todd We Trust*.

Read-alike authors: Dan Gutman, Gordon Korman, Andrew Clements



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

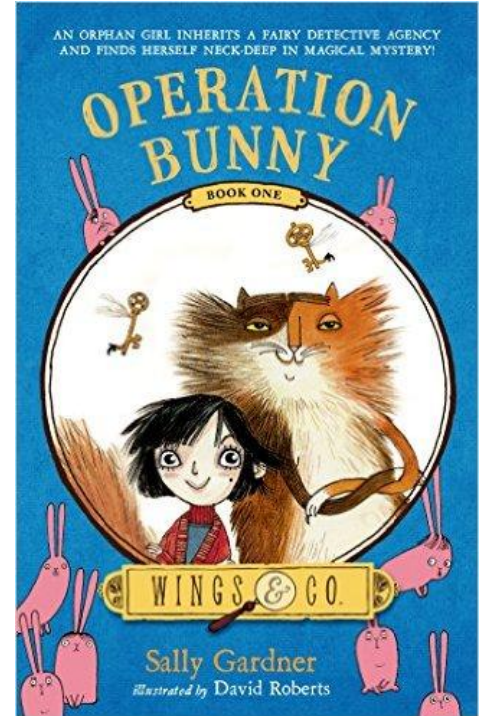
Operation Bunny

By Sally Gardner

Author's Site: <http://www.sallygardner.net/>

There is more fun and adventure with Wings & Co. in *Three Pickled Herrings* and *The Vanishing of Billy Buckle!*

Read-alikes: *Matilda* (Dahl), *The Tilting House* (Llewellyn)



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

Gabriel Finley & the Raven's Riddle

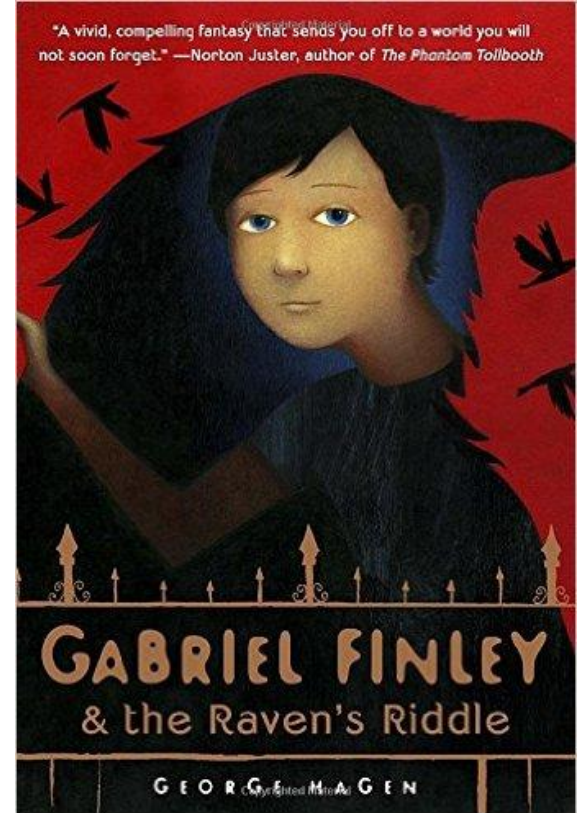
By George Hagen

"A vivid, compelling fantasy that sends you off to a world you will not soon forget."
—Norton Juster

Author's Site: <http://www.georgehagen.com/>

Discussion guides & activities: <http://www.randomhousekids.com/brand/gabriel-finley/>

If you liked *Gabriel Finley & the Raven's Riddle*, you'll probably like Katherine Rundell's *Rooftoppers*.



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

A Snicker of Magic

By Natalie Lloyd

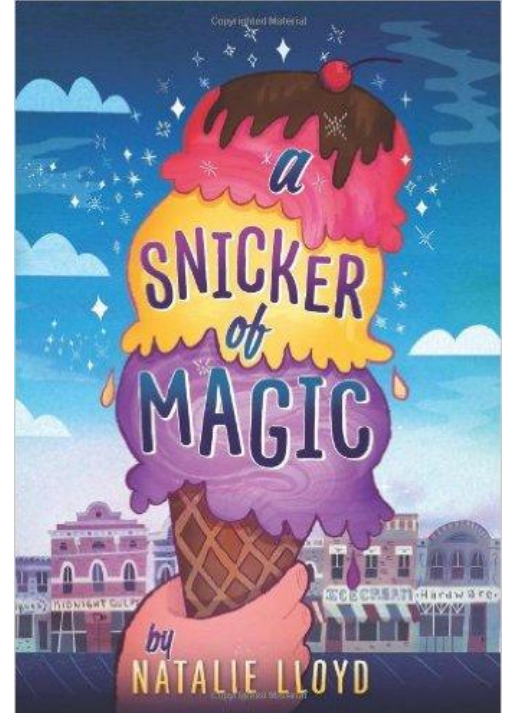
2017 OBOB Book

ALA Notable Children's Book, New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice, and E.B. White Honor Book

Author's Site: <http://www.natalielloyd.com/a-snicker-of-magic/>

New from Natalie Lloyd: *The Key to Extraordinary*

Read-alikes: *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* (Grabenstein), *Savvy* (Law)



2017 ORCA Upper Elementary Nominees

Hook's Revenge

By Heidi Schulz

2017 OBOB Book

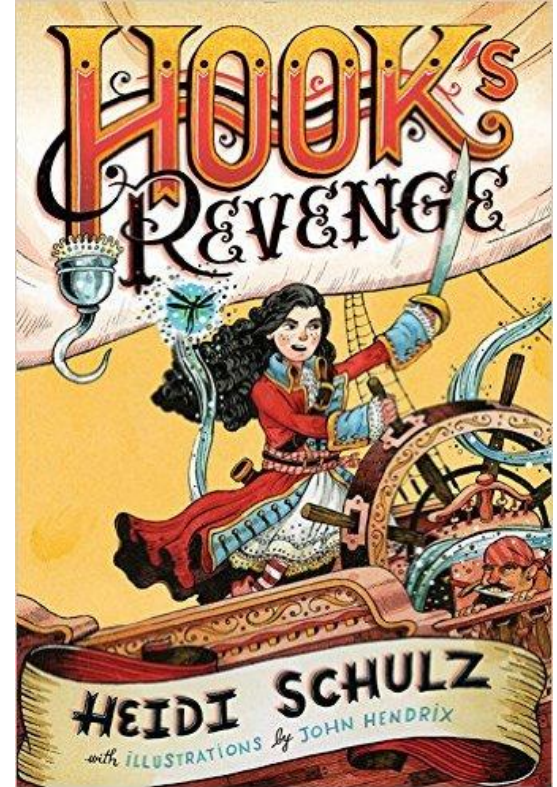
New York Times Bestseller

2014 OCTE Oregon Spirit Award Honor Book

Author's Site: <http://heidischulzbooks.com/>

If you liked *Hook's Revenge*, you'll probably like Schulz's next book *Hook's Revenge: The Pirate Code*.

Read-alikes: *Peter and the Starcatchers* (Barry), *The Brotherband Chronicles* series (Flanagan)



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

The Crossover

By Kwame Alexander

2016 Newbery Award

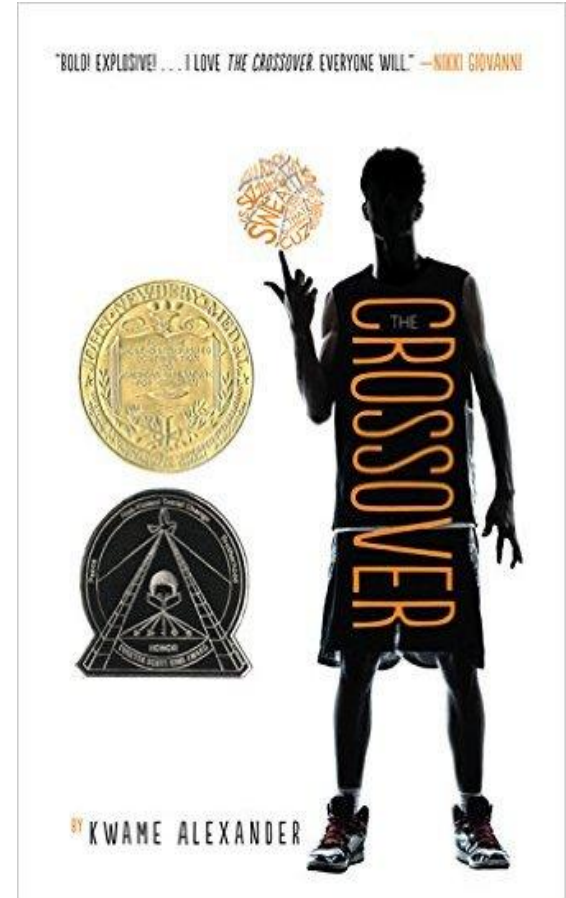
2016 Coretta Scott King Award Honor

Author's Site: <http://kwamealexander.com/index.php?page=about&family=books>

Author's Speech: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnh3JNCMLq8>

Left hanging by *Crossover*? Alexander continued the story in *Booked*.

Read alike: *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson and *Serafina's Promise* by Anne E. Burg.



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

Brown Girl Dreaming

By Jacqueline Woodson

2016 Newbery Honor book

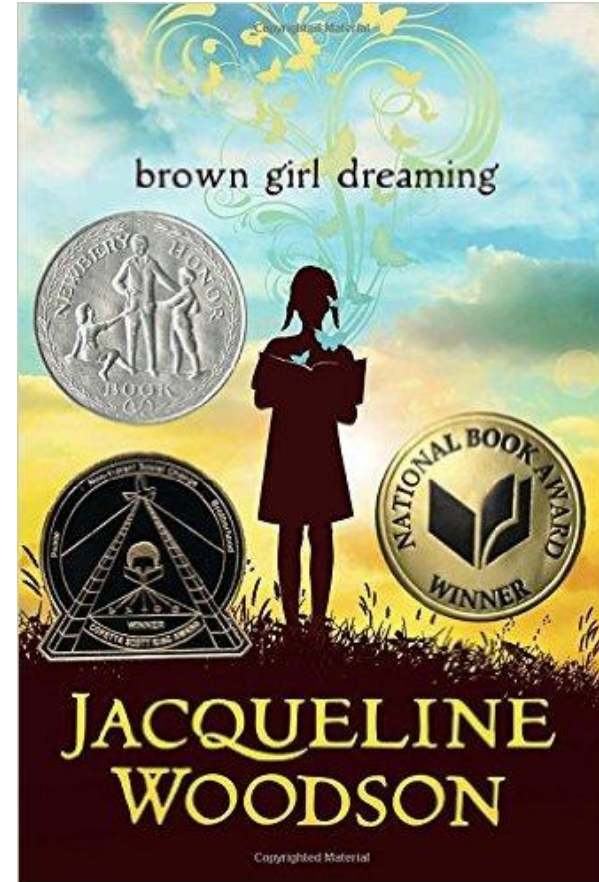
2016 National Book Award Winner

2016 Coretta Scott King Award Winner

Author page: <http://www.jacquelinewoodson.com/>

Woodson's NPR Interview: <http://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2014/12/10/369736205/jacqueline-woodson-on-growing-up-coming-out-and-saying-hi-to-strangers>

You might also like *The Gaither Girls* books by Rita Williams-Garcia and author Nikki Grimes.



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

Egg & Spoon

By Gregory Maguire

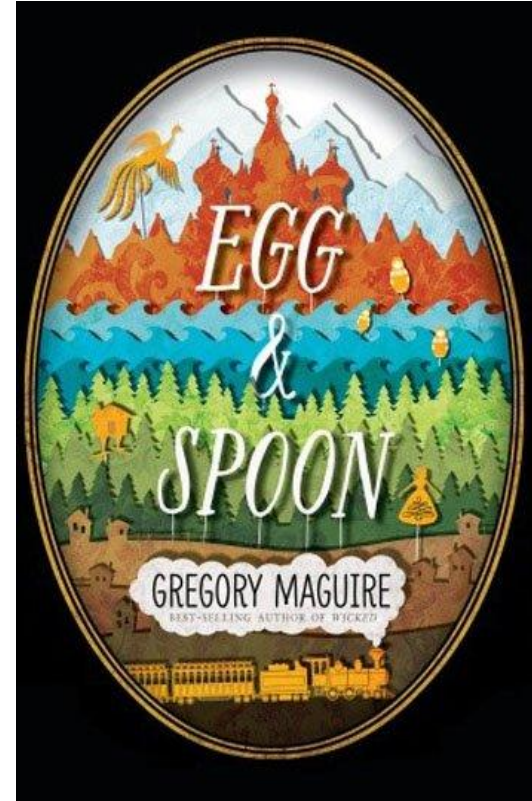
YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults: 2015

School Library Journal Best Books: 2014

Author's Site: <http://www.gregorymaguire.com/>

Sunday Book Review, NYT: http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/24/books/review/egg-spoon-by-gregory-maguire.html?_r=0

Read alike: anything else by Gregory Maguire



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

The Boundless

By Kenneth Oppel

ALA Notable Children's Books - Middle Readers Category: 2015

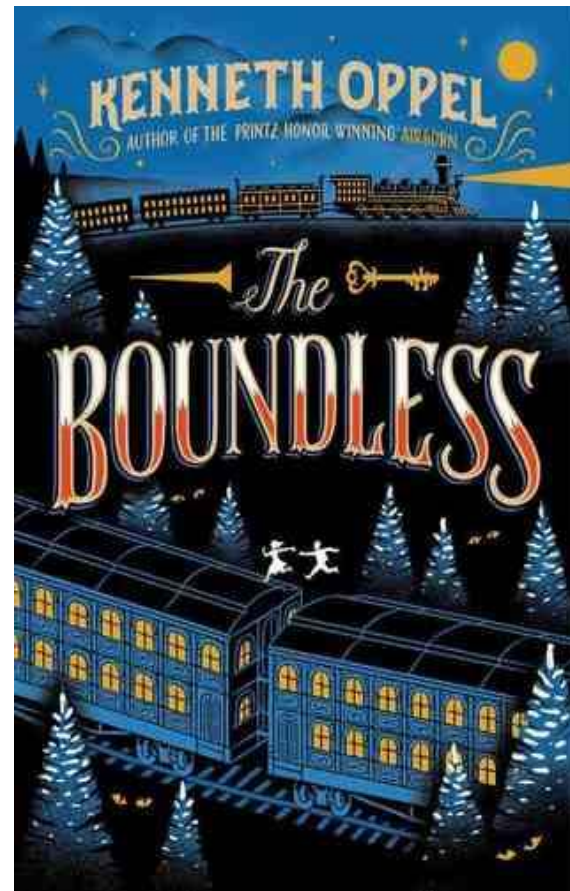
Booklist Editors' Choice - Books for Youth - Middle Readers Category: 2014

Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Awards (Ontario): YA-Middle Reader

School Library Journal Best Books: 2014

Author Site: <http://www.kennethoppel.ca/>

Read alikes: *Airman* by Eoin Colfer and *The Blue Comet* by Rosemary Wells



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

The Great Greene Heist

By Varian Johnson

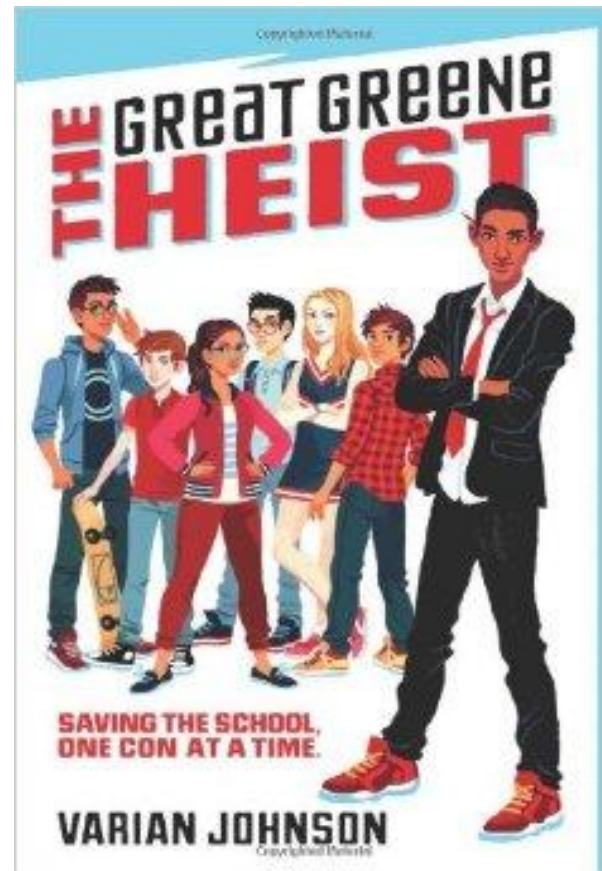
ALA Notable Children's Books - Middle Readers Category: 2015

Author Site: <http://www.varianjohnson.com/>

SLJ Review of the Day article: http://blogs.slj.com/afuse8production/2014/05/01/review-of-the-day-the-great-greene-heist-by-varian-johnson/#_

If this book left you hanging, no worries! Johnson continued the story in *To Catch A Cheat*, published in January of 2016.

Read alike: *Loot* by Jude Watson and *Schooled* by Gordon Korman



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

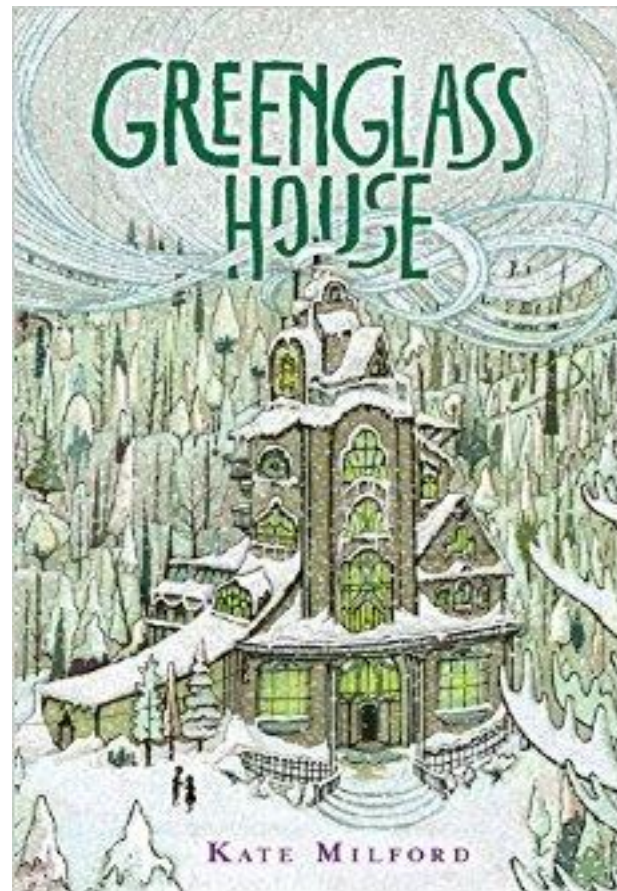
Greenglass House

By Kate Milford

2014 National Book Award Nominee for Young People's Literature,
2014 Agatha Award Nominee for Best Children's/Young Adult Novel,
2015 Edgar Award for Best Juvenile, 2016 Dorothy Canfield Fisher
Children's Book Award Nominee

Author Site: <http://clockworkfoundry.com/2015/06/in-which-i-update-this-site-with-all-the-greenglass-news/>

Read Alikes: *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris
Grabenstein and *The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trenton
Stewart



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

The Night Gardener

By Jonathan Auxier

ALA Notable Children's Books - Older Readers Category: 2015

International Reading Association Children's Book Award:

Intermediate Fiction (post-2001 winners)

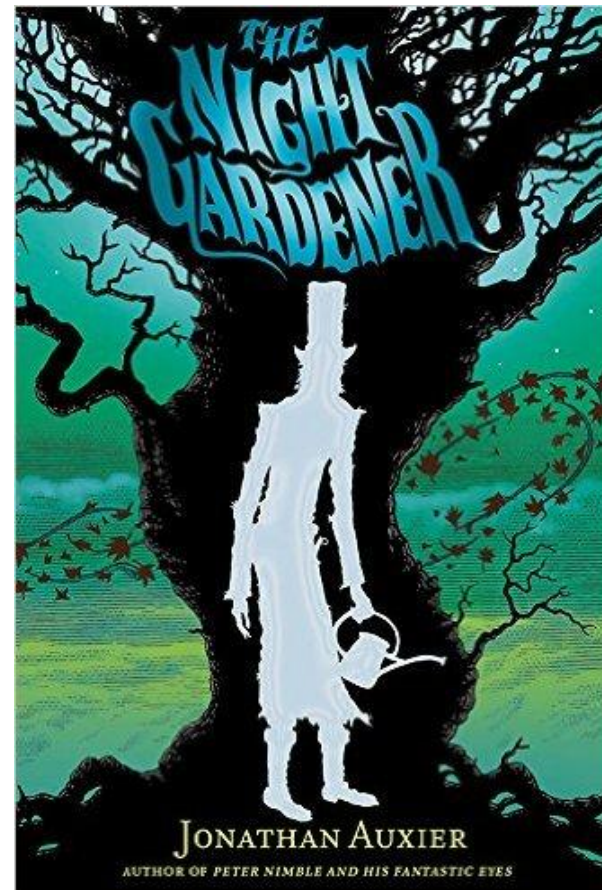
Monica Hughes Award for Science Fiction and Fantasy

School Library Journal Best Books: 2014

Westchester Fiction Award (California)

Author Site: <http://www.thescop.com/>

Read Alikes: *The Nest* by Kenneth Oppel and *The Screaming Staircase* by Jonathan Stroud



2017 ORCA Middle School Nominees

The Fourteenth Goldfish

By Jennifer L. Holm

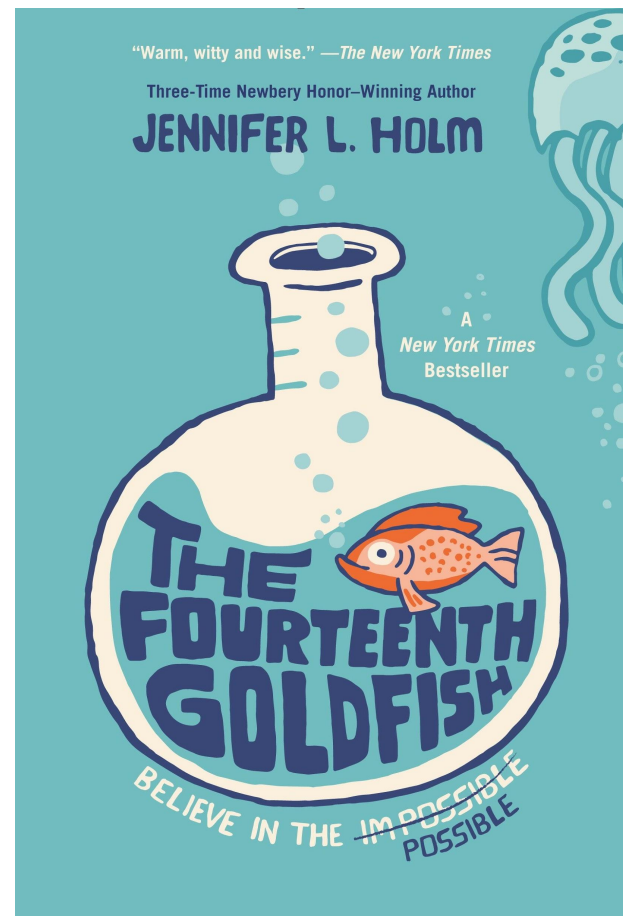
Awards: ALA Notable Children's Books - Middle Readers Category:
2015

Author Site: <http://www.jenniferholm.com/>

New York Times Books Review, August 24, 2014:

"Youth, old age, life, death, love, possibilities, and – oh yes – goldfish all come together in this warm, witty and wise novel."

Read Alikes: *Wake Up Missing* by Kate Messner and *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

Through the Woods

By Emily Carroll

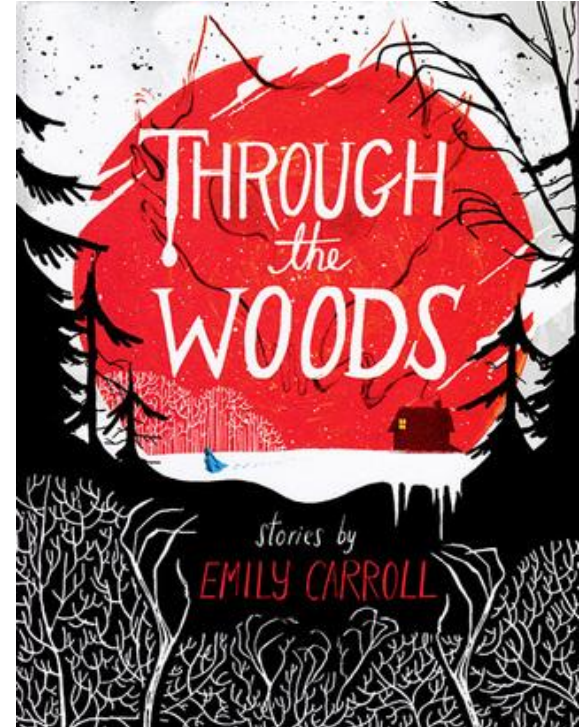
2015 Will Eisner Award Winner

Author's Site: <http://www.emcarroll.com/>

Five deliciously creepy stories!

Read-alikes: *The Undertaking of Lily Chen* (Novgorodoff), *The Sleeper and the Spindle* (Gaiman), *The Girl With all the Gifts* (Carey)

Co-created a choose-your-own adventure video game: *The Yawhg*



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

Girls Like Us

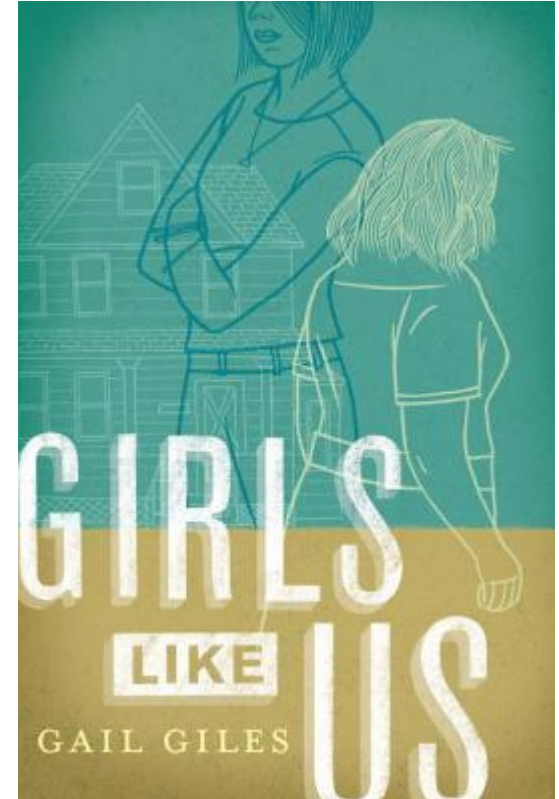
By Gail Giles

2015 Schneider Family Book Award Winner

Author's Site: www.gailgiles.com

School Library Journal interviews Gail Giles: <http://www.slj.com/2014/12/interviews/inside-special-education-gail-giles-and-girls-like-us/#>

Read-alikes: *The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B* (Toten), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Haddon)



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

The Story of Owen: Dragon Slayer of Trondheim

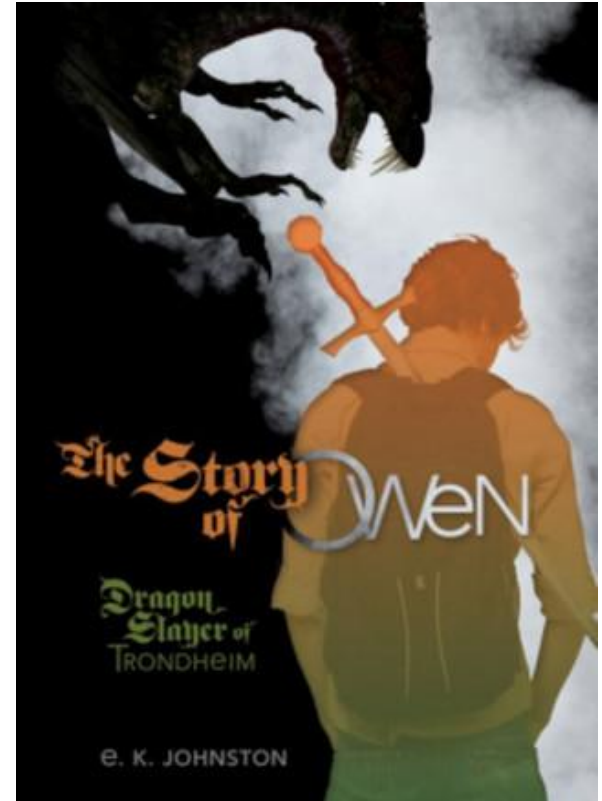
By E.K. Johnston

2015 Morris Award Finalist

Author's Site: <http://ekjohnston.ca/>

Discussion Guide: <https://www.lernerbooks.com/digitalassets/Assets/Title%20Assets/13011/9781467710664/Discussion%20Guide.pdf>

Sequel: *Prairie Fire*



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

We Were Liars

By E. Lockhart

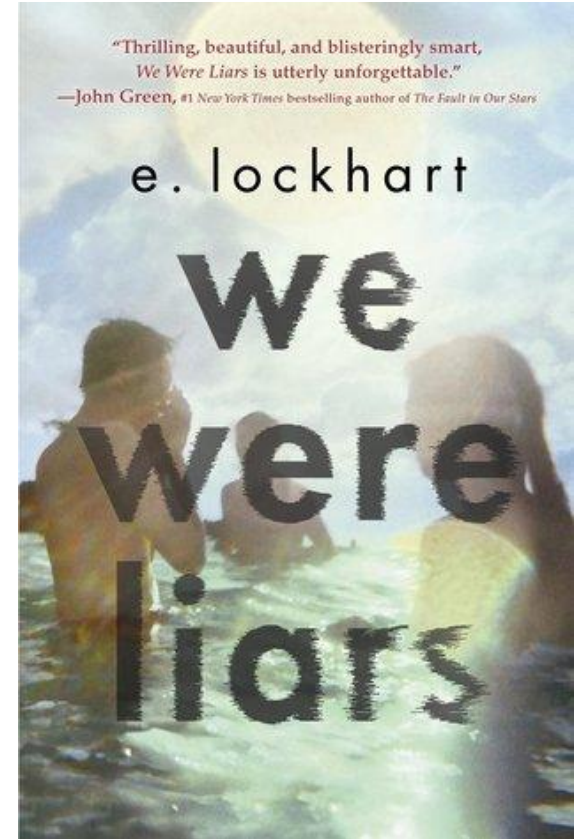
2014 Goodreads Choice Award Winner

Author's Site: <http://www.emilylockhart.com/>

We Were Liars Tumblr: <http://wewereliarsbook.tumblr.com/>

Review: <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/e-lockhart/we-were-liars/>

Read-alikes: *Chopsticks* (Anthony), *Burn for Burn* (Han), *This One Summer* (Tamaki)



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

How It Went Down

By Kekla Magoon

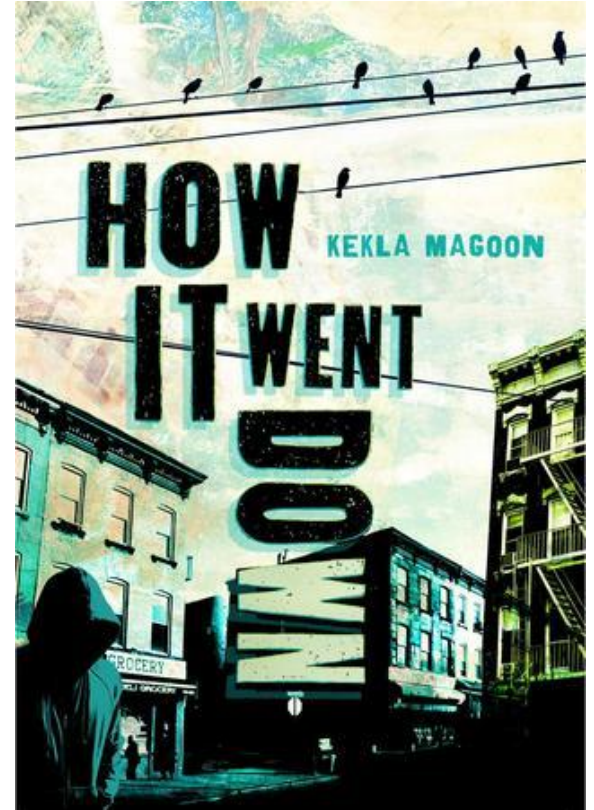
2015 Coretta Scott King Award for Author Honor

2017 OBOB

Author's Site: <http://keklamagoon.com/>

Discussion Guide: http://keklamagoon.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/how_it_went_down_reading_guide.pdf

Read-alike: *All American Boys* (Reynolds)



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

I'll Give You the Sun

By Jandy Nelson

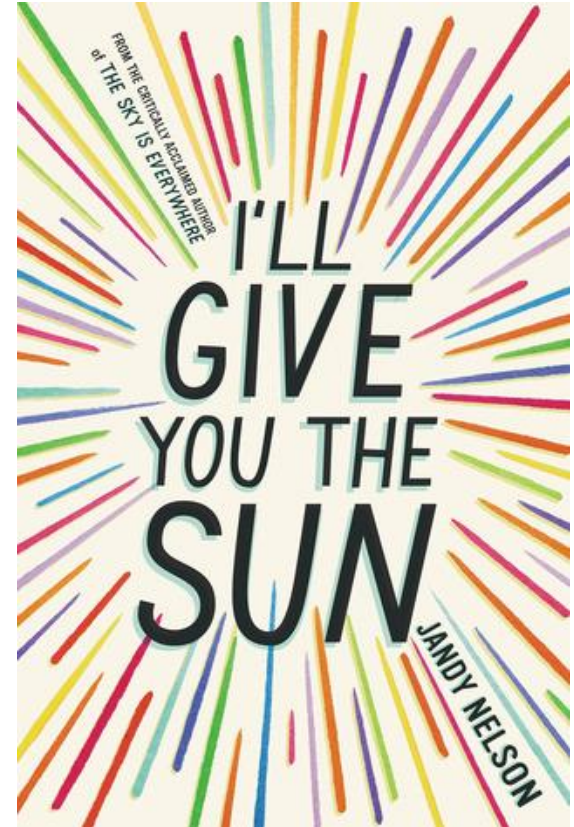
2015 Printz Award Winner

2017 OBOB

Author's Site: <http://jandynelson.com/>

Discussion Guide: <http://www.penguin.com/yabookclub/books/ill-give-you-the-sun/>

Read-alikes from YALSA: <http://www.yalsa.org/thehub/2015/09/08/12-books-for-fans-of-ill-give-you-the-sun-by-jandy-nelson/>



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

Gabi, a Girl in Pieces

By Isabel Quintero

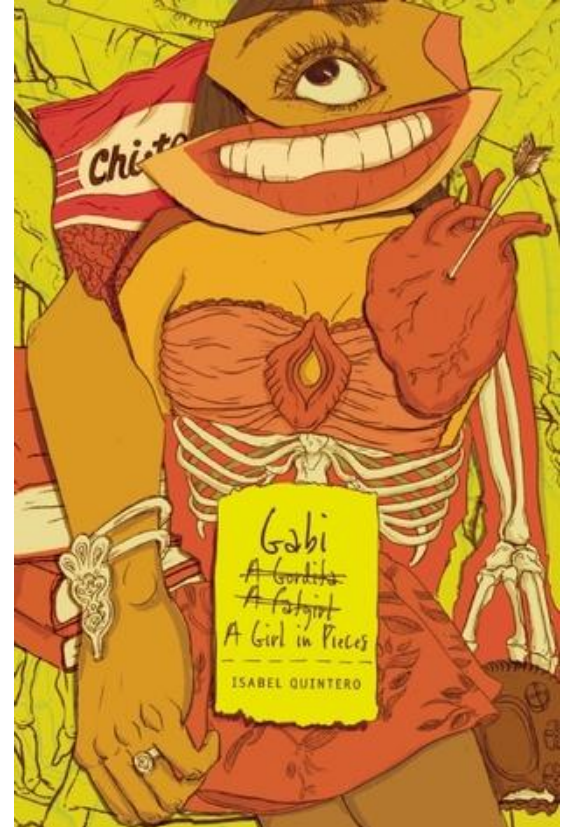
2015 Morris Award Winner

Author's Site: <https://laisabelquintero.com/>

Cover Artist's Site: <http://zpvisual.com/>

Discussion Guide (aligned with Common Core Standards): http://www.cincopuntos.com/files/gabi_a-girl-in-pieces_teachers_guide.pdf

Read-alikes: *Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass* (Medina), *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* (Alexie)



2017 ORCA High School Nominees

Jackaby

By William Ritter

2016 Oregon Book Award Finalist

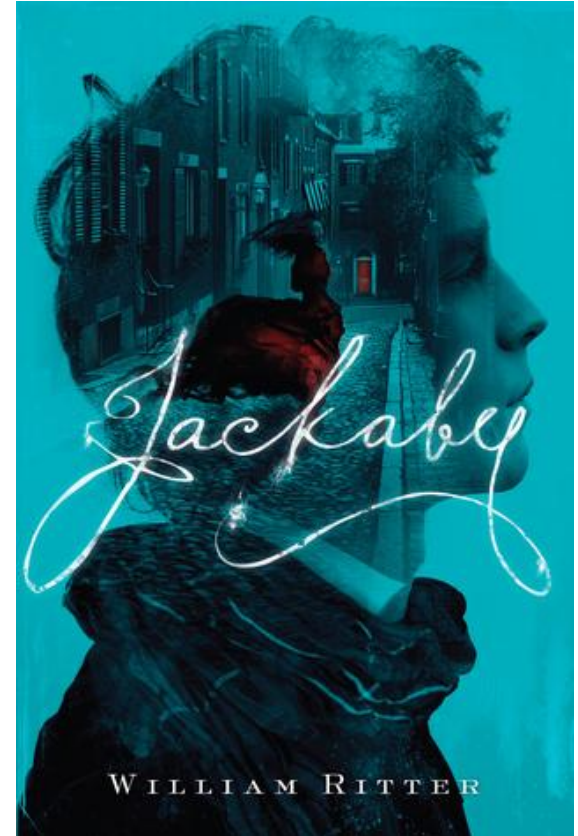
Author's Site: <https://rwillritter.wordpress.com/>

Author's Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Willothewords>

Local author--lives in Springfield.

Tagline: *Doctor Who meets Sherlock Holmes!*

Sequels: *Beastly Bones* and *Ghostly Echoes*



For ORCA Resources, Visit the Blog...

<https://oregonreaderschoiceaward.wordpress.com/>

If you are interested in being involved with the ORCA Committee, contact the Chair at orca@olaweb.org

Thank you!