Genesis Begins Again—Nicola D. Williams 2020-06-18 “Reminiscence of Toni Morrison’s The Bluest Eye.” —The New York Times “One of the best books I have ever read... will live in the hearts of readers for the rest of their lives.” —Cally Sharp, founder of Nerdy Book Club “An emotional, painful, yet still hopeful adolescent journey... one that needed telling.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) “I really loved this.” —Sharon M. Draper, author of the New York Times bestseller Out Of My Mind This deeply sensitive and "compelling" (SCBWI) debut novel tells the story of a thirteen-year-old who must overcome internalized racism and a verbally abusive family to finally learn to love herself. There are ninety-six reasons why thirteen-year-old Genesis dislikes herself. She knows the exact number because she keeps a list. —Because her family is always being put out of their house. —Because her dad has a gambling problem. And maybe a drinking problem too. —Because Genesis knows this is all her fault. —Because she wasn’t being loved. Genesis is determined to fix her family, and she’s willing to try anything to do so... even if it means harming herself in the process. But when Genesis starts to see a thing or two she actually likes about herself, she discovers that changing her own attitude is the first step in helping change others.

BOX: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom—Carole Boston Weatherford 2021-02-23 In a moving, lyrical tale about the cost and fragility of freedom, a New York Times best-selling author and an acclaimed artist follow the life of a man who courageously shipped himself out of slavery. What have I to fear? My master broke every promise to me. I lost my beloved wife and our dear children. All, said South. Neither my time nor my body is mine. The weight of life is all I have to lose. And bondage is suffocating me. Henry Brown wrote that, long before he came to be known as Box, he “entered the world a slave.” He was put to work as a child and passed down from one generation to the next — as property. When he was an adult, his wife and children were sold away from him out of spite. Henry Brown watched as his family left bound in chains, headed to the deeper South. What more could be taken from him? But then hope — and help — came in the form of the Underground Railroad. Escape! In stanzas of six lines each, each line representing one side of a box, celebrated post Carmela Boulet’s picture book beautifully narrates Henry Brown’s story of how he came to send himself in a box from slavery to freedom. Strikingly illustrated in rich hues and patterns by artist Michele Wood, Box is augmented with historical records and an introductory excerpt from Henry’s own writing as well as a time line, notes from the author, and a bibliography.

Everything Sad Is Untrue—Daniel Nayeri 2020-08-25 The unforgettable voice of a young refugee gives this ground-breaking autobiographical its beating heart. Capturing the essence of A Thousand and One Nights, from middle school humiliations to wondrous Persian myths, you will find one powerful narrative, united by hope for a world that ought to be. At the front of a middle school classroom in Oklahoma, a boy named Khosrow (whom everyone calls "Daniel") stands, trying to tell a story. His story. But no one believes a word he says. To them he is a dark-skinned, hair-armed boy with a big butt whose lunch smells funny; who makes things up and talks about poop too much. But Khosrow’s stories, stretching back years, and decades, and centuries, are beautiful, and terrifying. From the moment his family fled Iran in the middle of the night with the secret police moments behind them, back to the sad, cement refugee camps of Italy... and further back to the fields near the river Aras, where rain-soaked flowers bled red like the yolk of sunset burst over everything, and further back still to the Jasmine-scented city of Isfahan. We bounce between a school bus of kids armed with paper clip missiles and epithets to the heroines and heroes of Khosrow’s family’s past, who ate pastries that made people weep and cry "Akh, Tamar!" and touched carpets woven with precious gems. Like Scheherazade in a hostile classroom, Daniel weaves a tale to save his own life: to stake his claim to the truth. And it is a (true story). It is Daniel’s. Critical acclaim for Everything Sad Is Untrue in true story: "A modern epic.”—Kirkus Reviews, starred review "A distinctive voice. A rare treasure of a book.” —Publishers Weekly, starred review "A story that sears. Readers will be transported.” —The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books, starred review "Engaging and powerful. A story of heartbreak and resilience.” —Foreword Reviews, starred review.

Other Words for Home—Jasmine Warga 2019-05-28 Newbery Honor Book! A powerfully written, hopeful middle grade novel in verse about a young girl who must leave Syria to move to the United States, perfect for fans of Jason Reynolds and Aisha Saeed. Jude never thought she’d be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to America—away from everything and everyone she loves, and her new label of “Middle Eastern,” an identity she’s never known before. But this life also brings unexpected surprises—there are new friends, a whole new family, and a school musical that Jude just might try out for. Maybe America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is. This lyrical, life-affirming story is about losing and finding home and, most importantly, finding yourself.

Feathers—Jacqueline Woodson 2010 When a new, white student nicknamed “The Jesus Boy” joins her sixth grade class in the winter of 1971, Frannie’s growing friendship with him makes her start to see some things in a new light.

Hike—Pete Oswald 2020-03-17 Take to the trails for a celebration of nature — and a day spent with dad. In the cool and quiet early light of morning and father and child wake up. Today they’re going on a hike. Follow the duo into the mountains as they witness the magic of the wilderness, overcome challenges, and play a small role in the survival of the forest. By the time they return home, they feel alive — and closer than ever — as they document their hike and take their place in family history. In detail-rich panels and textured panoramas, Pete Oswald perfectly paces this nearly wordless adventure, allowing readers to pause for subtle wonders and marvel at the views. A touching tribute to the bond between father and child, with resonant themes for Earth Day. Hike is a breath of fresh air.

All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys’ Soccer Team—Christina Soontornvat 2020-10-13 A unique account of the amazing Thai cave rescue told in a heart-racing, you-are-there style that blends suspense, science, and cultural insight. On June 23, 2018, twelve young players of the Wild Boars soccer team and their coach enter a cave in northern Thailand seeking an afternoon’s adventure. But when they turn to leave, rising floodwaters block their path out. The boys are trapped! Before long, news of the missing team spreads, launching a seventeen-day rescue operation involving thousands of rescuers from around the globe. As the world sits vigil, people begin to wonder: how long can a group of ordinary kids survive in complete darkness, with no food or clean water? Luckily, the boys have extraordinary extraordinary ordinary companions. Combining firsthand interviews of rescue workers with in-depth science and details of the region’s culture and religion, author Christina Soontornvat—who was visiting family in Northern Thailand when the Wild Boars went missing—masterfully shows how both the complex engineering operation above ground and the mental struggles of the thirteen young people below proved critical in the life-or-death mission. Meticulously researched and generously illustrated with photographs, this page-turner includes an author’s note describing her experience meeting the team, detailed source notes, and a bibliography to fully immerse readers in the most ambitious cave rescue in history.

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