

Best New Children's Books of 2021



December 30, 2021

presented by Sally Snyder
Nebraska Library Commission



Picture Books

Baptiste, Tracey *LOOKING FOR A JUMBIE*

Illus. by Amber Ren unp. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297081-7

Charles, Tami *MY DAY WITH THE PANYE*

Illus. by Sara Palacios unp. Candlewick Press 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-7636-9749-5

Charrow *POOJO'S GOT WHEELS*

Unp. Candlewick Press 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1036-1

Esperanza, C. G. *BOOGIE, BOOGIE, Y'ALL*

Unp. Katherine Tegen Books (HarperCollins) 2021 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297622-2

Floca, Brian *KEEPING THE CITY GOING*

Unp. Atheneum (Simon & Schuster) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5344-9377-3

Gorman, Amanda *CHANGE SINGS*

Illu. by Loren Long unp. Viking Books for Young Readers \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-593203224

Hall, Michael *HOUSE MOUSE*

Unp. Grenwillow Books (HarperCollins) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-286619-6

Howe, James *TYRONE O'SAURUS DREAMS*

Illus. by Randy Cecil unp. Candlewick Press 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1087-3

Khiani, Darshana ***HOW TO WEAR A SARI***

Illus. by Joanne Lew-Vriethoff Versify (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-328-63520-4

Klassen, Jon ***THE ROCK FROM THE SKY***

Unp. Candlewick Press 2021 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1562-5

Lies, Brian ***LITTLE BAT IN NIGHT SCHOOL***

Unp. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2021 \$14.99 ISBN 978-0-358-26984-7

Maynor, Megan ***HENRY AT HOME***

Illus. by Alea Marley unp. Clarion Books (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-328-91675-4

Miller, Tim ***TINY KITTY, BIG CITY***

Unp. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-241442-7

Mitchell, Malcolm ***MY VERY FAVORITE BOOK IN THE WHOLE WORLD***

Illus. by Michael Robertson unp. Orchard Books (Scholastic) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-38-2532-7

Neal, Juana Martine ***ZONIA'S RAIN FOREST***

Unp. Candlewick Press 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-0845-0

Phelan, Matt ***TURTLE WALK***

Unp. Greenwillow Books (HarperCollins) 2020 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-293413-0

Pinkney, Jerry ***TIME FOR KENNY***

Unp. Greenwillow (HarperCollins) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-073528-9

Singer, Marilyn ***BEST DAY EVER!***

Illus. by Leah Nixon unp. Clarion Books 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1328987839

Stevens, Cat ***PEACE TRAIN***

Illus. by Peter H. Reynolds unp. HarperCollins 2021 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-06-305399-1

Tabor, Corey R. ***MEL FELL***

Unp. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-287801-4

Wade, Stef ***Q & U CALL IT QUILTS***

Illus. by Jorge Martin unp. HarperCollins 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297068-8

Wolf, Allan ***NO BUDDY LIKE A BOOK***

Illus. by Brianne Farley unp. Candlewick Press 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-0307-3

Beginning Readers

Adler, David A. ***RUN, MO, RUN!***

Illus. by Sam Ricks 32p. Penguin Young Readers (Penguin Random House) 2020 \$15.99 ISBN 978-1-9848-3682-3

Duncan, Reed ***LOOK AT ROLLO!***

Illus. by Keith Frawley 32p. Penguin Workshop (Penguin Random House) 2020 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-5247-9252-7; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-5247-9253-4

Fang, Vicky ***FRIENDBOTS: Blink and Block Make a Wish***

32p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-304945-1; \$4.99 (pbk) 978-0-06-304944-4

LaRochelle, David ***SEE THE DOG: Three Stories About a Cat***

Illu. by Mike Wohnoutka unp. Candlewick Press 201 \$8.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1629-5

Tabor, Corey R. ***FOX VERSUS WINTER***

32p. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2020 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297705-2; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-297704-5

Waldo, Steph ***TINY TALES: Shell Quest***

32p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-306783-7; \$4.99 (pbk) 978-0-06-306782-0

Nonfiction Picture Books

Davids, Sharice & Nancy K. Mays ***SHARICE'S BIG VOICE: A Native Kid Becomes a***

Congresswoman Illus. by Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley unp. HarperCollins 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297966-7

Feder, Tyler ***BODIES ARE COOL***

Unp. Dial Books (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-593-11262-5

Hoyt, Megan ***BARTALI'S BICYCLE: The True Story of Gino Bartali, Italy's Secret Hero***

Illus. by Iacopo Bruno unp. Quill Tree Books (HarperCollins) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-290811-7

Sheneman, Drew ***THE GOLDBLOCKS ZONE***

Unp. HarperCollins 2021 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297236-1

Stewart, Melissa ***SUMMERTIME SLEEPERS: Animals that Estivate***

Illus. by Sarah S. Brannen unp. Charlesbridge 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-580897167

Yuksel, M. O. ***IN MY MOSQUE***

Illus. by Hatem Aly unp. HarperCollins 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297870-7

Early Chapter Books

Atinuke ***TOO SMALL TOLA***

Illus. by Onyinye Iwu 96p. Candlewick Press 2021 \$15.99 ISBN

Braddock, Paige ***PEANUT, BUTTER, & CRACKERS: Fetch!***

92p. Viking (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$12.99 ISBN 978-0-593-11746-0

Davies, Jacqueline ***SYDNEY & TAYLOR EXPLORE THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD***

Illus. by Deborah Hocking 79p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2021 \$14.99 ISBN 978-0-358-10631-9

Davies, Jacqueline ***SYDNEY & TAYLOR TAKE A FLYING LEAP***

Illus. by Deborah Hocking 77p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2021 \$14.99 ISBN 978-0-358-10635-7

Feuti, Norm ***BEAK & ALLY: Unlikely Friends***

64p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2021 \$12.99 ISBN 978-0-06-302157-0

Gravel, Elise ***KING OF THE BIRDS***

64p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2020 \$12.99 ISBN 978-0-06-298221-6

Gutman, Dan ***MR. CORBETT IS IN ORBIT!***

Illus. by Jim Paillot 89p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2021 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-06-294762-8; \$8.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-294761-1

LaReau, Kara ***THE INFAMOUS RATSOS RATTY TATTLETALE***

Illus. by Matt Myers 86p. Candlewick Press 2021 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-0746-0

Quigley, Dawn ***JO JO MAKOONS: The Used-To-Be Best Friend***

Illus. by Tara Audibert 62p. Heartdrum (HarperCollins) 2021 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-06-301537-1; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-301538-8

Schmidt, Gary D. & Elizabeth Stickney ***ONE SMART SHEEP***

Illus. by Jane Manning 80p. Clarion Books (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-544-88835-7

Spires, Asley ***BURT THE BEETLE DOESN'T BITE***

55p. Kids Can Press 2021 \$12.99 ISBN 978-1-5253-0146-9

Torres, Jennifer ***BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLITZ***

Illus. by Vanessa Flores 87p. HarperCollins 2021 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-06-305945-0; \$5.99 ISBN 978-0-06-305944-3

Weinberg, Stevens ***THE MIDDLE KID***

62p. Chronicle Books 2021 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-4521-8180-6

Yi, Susie ***THE QUEST FOR SNACKS***

94p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2021 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-06-308381-3; \$8.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-308380-6

Fiction for Grades 2-5 (or so)

Arnold, Marie ***THE YEAR I FLEW AWAY***

245p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-358-27275-5

Baptist, Kelly J. ***ISAIAH DUNN IS MY HERO***

191p. Crown Books (Penguin Random House) 2020 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-593-12136-8

Bruchac, Joseph **REZ DOGS**

185p. Dial (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-593-32621-3

Corbett, Phil **KITTY QUEST**

208p. Razorbill (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$20.99 ISBN 978-0593205440; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-593-20546-4

Creech, Sharon **ONE TIME**

248p. HarperCollins 2020 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-257074-1 (pub. 9/8/20)

Cushman, Karen **WAR AND MILLIE McGONIGLE**

210p. Alfred A. Knopf (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-9848-5010-2

Darraj , Susan Muaddi **FARAH ROCKS FIFTH GRADE**

Illus. by Ruaida Mannaa 135p. Stone Arch Books (Capstone) 2020 \$15.95 ISBN 978-1-4965-8339-0

Darraj , Susan Muaddi **FARAH ROCKS SUMMER BREAK**

Illus. by Ruaida Mannaa 135p. Stone Arch Books (Capstone) 2021 \$15.95 ISBN 978-1-4965-8340-6

Darraj , Susan Muaddi **FARAH ROCKS NEW BEGINNINGS**

Illus. by Ruaida Mannaa 144p. Stone Arch Books (Capstone) 2021 \$15.95 ISBN 978-1-4965-8341-3

DiCamillo, Kate **THE BEATRYCE PROPHECY**

Illus. by Sophie Blackwell 247p. Candlewick Press 2021 \$19.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1361-4

Escabasse, Sophie **WITCHES OF BROOKLYN**

227p. RH Graphic (Penguin Random House) 2020 \$20.99 ISBN 978-0-593-12528-1; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-593-11927-3

Escabasse, Sophie **WITCHES OF BROOKLYN: What the Hex?!**

220p. RH Graphic (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$20.99 ISBN 978-0-593-12544-1; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-593-11930-3

Fry, Michael **GHOSTED**

265p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2021 \$13.99 ISBN 978-0-358-26961-8

Gardner, P.J. **HORACE & BUNWINKLE**

208p. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2020 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-294654-6

Giles, Chrystal D. **TAKE BACK THE BLOCK**

224p. Random House (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-593-17517-0

Gutman, Dan **HOUDINI AND ME**

206p. Holiday House 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-8234-4515-8

Henkes, Kevin **BILLY MILLER MAKES A WISH**

179p. Greenwillow Books (HarperCollins) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-304279-7

Holm, Jennifer L. **THE LION OF MARS**

251p. Random House (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-593-12181-9

Ireland, Justina **OPHIE'S GHOSTS**

325p. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-291589-4

Jennings, Terry Catasús **DEFINITELY DOMINGUITA: Knight of the Cape**

Illus. by Fátima Anaya 118p. Aladdin (Simon & Schuster) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5344-6503-9

Kinney, Jeff **ROWLEY JEFFERSON'S AWESOME FRIENDLY SPOOKY STORIES**

218p. Amulet Books (ABRAMS) 2021 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-4197-5697-9

LaMotte, Lily **MEASURING UP**

Illus. by Ann Xu 205p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2020 \$22.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297387-0; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-297386-3

LaReau, Kara **RETURN OF ZOMBERT**

Illus. by Ryan Andrews 149p. Candlewick Press 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-0107-9

Mbalia, Kwame ed. **BLACK BOY JOY**

294. Delacorte Press (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-593-37993-6

McGrane, Madeline **THE ACCURSED VAMPIRE**

169p. Quill Tree Books (HarperCollins) 2021 \$22.99 ISBN 978-0-06-295435-0; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-295434-3

Mian, Zanib **PLANET OMAR: Incredible Rescue Mission**

Illus. by Nasaya Mafaridik 238p. G.P. Putnam's Sons 2021 \$13.99 ISBN 978-0-593-10927-4

Mills, Claudia **LUCY LOPEZ: CODING STAR**

Illus. by Grace Zong 111p. Holiday House 2020 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-8234-4628-5; \$7.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-8234-4921-7

Mills, Claudia **BOOGIE BASS: SIGN LANGUAGE STAR**

Illus. by Grace Zong 109p. Holiday House 2021 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-8234-4629-2; \$7.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-8234-4936-1

Paulsen, Bree **GARLIC & THE VAMPIRE**

151p. Quill Tree Books (HarperAlley – HarperCollins) 2021 \$22.99 ISBN 978-0-06-299509-4; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-299508-7

Petty, Kate Reed **THE LEAK**

Illus. by Andrea Bell 232p. First Second 2021 \$22.99 ISBN 978-1-250-21795-0; \$14.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-250-21796-7

Probert, Tim **LIGHTFALL** (Bk 1 of The Girl & the Galdurian)

247p. HarperCollins 2020 \$22.99 ISBN 978-0-06-299047-1; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-299046-4

Reed, Dwayne **SIMON B. RHYMIN'**

226p. Little, Brown & Co. 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-316-53897-8

Rowling, J. K. **THE ICKABOG**

[274p. Scholastic 2020 \$26.99 ISBN 978-1-338-73287-0

SanGiacomo, Scott **BEDHEAD TED**

209p. Quill Tree Books (HarperCollins) 2021 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-294132-9; \$10.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-294130-5

Stone, Nic **FAST PITCH**

175p. Crown (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-9848-9301-7

Watson, Renée **WAYS TO GROW LOVE**

Illus. by Nina Mata 177p. Bloomsbury Children's Books 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5476-0058-8

Nonfiction for Grades 2-5 (or so)

Cherry-Paul, Sonja *STAMPED (FOR KIDS): Racism, Antiracism, and You*

Illus. by Rachelle Baker 141p. Little, Brown & Co. 2021 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-316-16758-1

Mercado, Yehudi *CHUNKY*

201p. Katherine Tegen Books (HarperCollins) 2021 \$21.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297279-8; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-297278-1

Sorell, Traci *CLASSIFIED: The Secret Career of Mary Golda Ross, Cherokee Aerospace Engineer*

Illus. by Natasha Donovan unp. Millbrook Press (Lerner) 2021 \$19.00 ISBN 978-1-5415-7914-9

Sorell, Traci *WE ARE STILL HERE!: Native American Truths Everyone Should Know*

Illus. by Frané Lessac 39p. Charlesbridge 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-62354-192-7

Thermes, Jennifer *HORSE POWER: How Horses Changed the World*

48p. Abrams 2021 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-419749452

Weatherford, Carole Boston *UNSPEAKABLE: The Tulsa Race Massacre*

Illus. by Floyd Cooper unp. Carolehoda Books 2021 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5415-8120-3

Yelchin, Eugene *THE GENIUS UNDER THE TABLE*

201p. Candlewick Press 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1552-6

New Titles in Popular Series

Beginning Readers

Dean, Kimberly & James *PETE THE CAT: ROCKING FIELD DAY*

32p. HarperCollins 2021 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297408-2

Fiction for Grades 2 – 5 or so:

Holm, Jennifer L. *SUNNY MAKES A SPLASH*

Illus. by Matthew Holm 218p. Graphix (Scholastic) 2021 \$24.95 ISBN 978-1-338-23318-6 ; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-338-23317-9

Mills, Claudia ***NIXIE NESS: COOKING STAR***

Illus. by Grace Zong 114p. Holiday House 2019 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-8234-4093-1; \$7.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-8234-4603-2

Mills, Claudia ***VERA VANCE: COMICS STAR***

Illus. by Grace Zong 111p. Holiday House 2020 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-8234-4094-8; \$7.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-8234-4742-8

Winick, Judd ***GINA THE GIRL WHO BROKE THE WORLD***

209p. Random House (Penguin Random House) 2021 \$13.99 ISBN 078-0-525-64409-5

Abbreviations Note:

(pbk) – paperback edition

(PLB) – public library binding edition



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