

. Steve Jenkins. Houghton. \$16.00. Grades PreK-3

An oversize book that presents Jenkins' signature collage illustrations of animals appearing at actual size. Small animals fit nicely on the pages, and larger animals are cleverly pictured with just a hand or a jowl. Illustrations are accompanied by short informational text.

. Kenneth Oppel. HarperCollins. \$18.00. Grades 6-8

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.

Gennifer Choldenko. Putnam. \$16.00. Grades 5-8

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Sara Pinto. Bloomsbury. \$17.00. Pre S - K

Each double spread in this alphabet book shows a letter and corresponding object. Lifiable flaps hide pictures that show a room that fills up with the featured objects thus creating a cumulative tale. Bright illustrations.

Katharine Lee Bates. Illus. by Chris Gall. Little, Brown. \$17.00.

Grades K-5

Presents the 1893 poem written by Katharine Lee Bates in celebration of the beauty of America. The illustrations depicting American scenes and the diverse contributions of all Americans are hand engraved on clay-coated board and digitized with computer graphics. The resulting images resemble woodcuts. Includes the musical notation for the song inspired by the poem.

Ed. by Aaron R. Murray. DK. \$17.00.

Grades 5-8

Offers a brief overview of the American Revolution, highlighting key people, places, and events, with more than two hundred paintings, portraits, artifacts, and maps. This heavily illustrated volume works well for quick facts and summaries of important battles.

Allison Lassieur. Franklin Watts. Grades 6-8

Surveys the history and culture of ancient Rome and examines Roman government and the power of the senate, the rise of the monarchy, scholars and Roman soldiers, the role of women, religion, and slavery. This is an attractive, thorough, and comprehensible book, illustrated with full-color photos and reproductions.

N.E. Bode. Illus. by Peter Ferguson. HarperCollins. \$16.00 Grades 5-8

After learning that she is not the biological daughter of boring Mr. and Mrs. Drudger, Fern embarks on magical adventures with her real father and finally finds "a place that feels like home." Includes inside jokes for children who are fans of children's literature, for example, the appearance of a tree bearing a giant peach.

Deborah Hopkinson. Illus. by Nancy Carpenter. Simon & Schuster. \$16.00.
Grades K-4

A pioneer father transports his beloved fruit trees and his family to Oregon in the mid-nineteenth century. Based loosely on the life of Henderson Luelling, a pioneer who transported plants and fruit trees to Oregon in 1847. Illustrated with oil paintings.

Teresa Bateman. Illus. by Nadine Bernard Westcott. Albert Whitman.
\$16.00. Grades K-3

Grandma, Grandpa, and the grandkids enjoy April Fools' Day on the farm. The grandkids race in and out of the kitchen reporting a series of catastrophes, but Grandpa just keeps cooking breakfast, sure that these events are just April foolery. Children may notice the story parallels the children's tales and Grandpa's actions, for example, when the kids report the pigs are loose, he reaches for the bacon, when the hens are loose, he reaches for the eggs. A humorous gotcha ending. Illustrated with bright watercolor and ink artwork.

Gloria Skurzynski. National Geographic.
\$19.00. Grades 5-7

Presents a study of space and the possibility of extraterrestrial civilizations and discusses UFO sightings throughout the twentieth century, crop circles, and other paranormal occurrences. Well-placed color photographs and illustrations are important tools in helping readers to understand the science presented.

Jeff Weigel. Albert Whitman. \$16.00. Grades 1-4
In this rhyming story told in comic book format, a boy considers his family normal, though his superhero dad, Atomic Ace, does amazing feats, even battling the evil Insect King. The comic-strip panels alternate between super heroics and regular-guy domesticity in this humorous look at a hero balancing work and home.

Iain Lawrence. Delacorte. \$16.00. Grades 7+
Sixteen-year-old Kak, desperate to escape his abusive parents, lies about his age in the spring of 1943 to enlist in the Canadian Air Force and soon finds himself based in England as part of a crew flying bombing raids over Germany. This is a coming-of-age novel and a fascinating bit of aviation history.

Jane Breskin Zalben. Illus. by Victoria Chess. Clarion.
\$15.00. Grades K-3
Unhappy when her baby sister turns out to be a brother, Beryl schemes with her brother Sam to make the newborn disappear, but Uncle Morty helps by telling stories of the love his big sisters had for him, even when he squirted one with pickle juice and ruined another's doll. The soft, rounded illustrations bring the characters to life.

Simon James. Candlewick. \$16.00.
Grades PreK-2
Mr. and Mrs. Brains wanted to be sure their baby was going to be very intelligent, reading, playing music and the news for the unborn baby. He is indeed intelligent, and by the time he is just a few months old, is an astronaut. However, when Baby Brains finds himself alone in space, he wants his mommy, and normalcy is restored in the form of a warm bath, a tickle, and a nap in his own crib. Watercolor and ink illustrations.

Tim Myers. Illus. by Oki S. Han. Marshall Cavendish. \$17.00.

Grades 1-4

Tricked by a fox into giving up his share of cherries, a famous Japanese poet is inspired to write a haiku and the fox, ashamed of his actions, must devise another trick to set things right. The lush illustrations are composed of pastoral scenes highlighted with kimono-silk patterns.

N.M. Browne. Bloomsbury. \$18.00. Grades 7-12

Two teens who discover they are sharing the same dream of dragons fight to stop the evil dictator from bringing their dreams to life in the form of a terrible basilisk with the power to literally scare people to death.

Frank Stockton. Illus. by P.J. Lynch. Candlewick. \$18.00. Grades 1-5

The Bee-Man of Orn first appeared as a short story in St. Nicholas magazine in November 1883. The Bee-man, informed by a Junior Sorcerer that he was once something or someone entirely different, sets out to discover his original form so that he can be changed back. Includes a DVD that shows P.J. Lynch at work in his studio. Lush paintings in watercolor-and-gouache.

Jacqueline Woodson. Putnam. \$16.00. Grades 8-12

After fifteen-year-old Jeremiah is mistakenly shot by police, the people who love him struggle to cope with their loss as they recall his life and death, unaware that he is watching over them.

Lesléa Newman. Illus. by Ronald Himler. Eerdmans. \$14.00.

Grades K-3

A young boy deals with the loss of his beloved cat Charlie, that he called the best cat in the world. When he accepts the arrival of a new kitten, he learns to appreciate the differences and begins to realize that there can be more than one best cat in the world. The watercolor and pencil illustrations create a just right quietness for this tender story.

. David LaRochelle. Illus. by Hanako Wakiyama. Dutton. \$16.00. Grades K-3

A young boy enlists the help of a dragon to persuade his mother to let him have a dog as a pet. Kids will cheer the solution in which he finally gets the dog he has longed for. Retro-style illustrations add a bit of sly humor to this tale.

Carolyn Coman. Illus. by Rob Shepperson. Front Street. \$15.00. Grades 4-6

When Ivy and Ray's parents are sent to jail, and left in the custody of their parent's accusers, they decide to look for evidence that will "spring" their parents. Illustrated with a whimsical-style black-and-white art.

Carole Lexa Schaefer. Illus. by Stacey Dressen-McQueen. Farrar. \$16.00.

Grades K-3

When Kessy, who lives in the Truk Islands of Micronesia, is sent by his mother to buy laundry soap, he hurries back to listen to her storytelling, discovering that his own experience makes a good story too. The artwork features lush tropical colors and islanders wearing brightly patterned clothes.

Patricia MacLachlan & Emily MacLachlan. Illus. by Dan Yaccarino. HarperCollins. \$17.00. Grades PreK-2

Nigel, the marmalade cat and Julia, the rotund beagle, think they will have no use for the new baby in their house, but after awhile they realize that they have come to love her. Readers see that she loves them too as the book concludes with her first words: "Woof" and "Meow." Illustrated with bold and bright gouache paintings.

Charles Edward Carryl. Illus. by Charles Santore. Random House. \$17.00.

Grades K-4

The camel compares his life with that of other animals of the world in this poetic offering from a contemporary of Lewis Carroll and Edward Lear. The rich and detailed illustrations bring the text of the poem to life.

Karen Hesse. Illus. Wendy Watson. Scholastic. \$17.00. Grades 2-4

Two Jewish sisters, escapees of the infamous Warsaw ghetto, devise a plan to thwart an attempt by the Gestapo to intercept food bound for starving people behind the dark Wall. The story, told in free verse poetry, describes how the abandoned cats were used to distract the Gestapo's dogs.

Henry Sayre.

Chronicle. \$23.00. Grades 3+

Introduces fifty celebrated works of art, including King Tut's sarcophagus and Andy Warhol's paintings of Campbell's soup cans. Each spread features a sharply reproduced image of an individual artwork, a time line placing the work in history, and a story about the artist, the medium, or the piece's origins.

Carmen Bernier-Grand. Illus. by David Diaz. Marshall

Cavendish. \$15.00. Grades 3-6

Tells the life story of Cesar Chavez, whose efforts as a labor leader in the mid-twentieth century brought better working conditions to migrant farmworkers in the U.S. This is a powerful biography told through poems, many of which are in Spanish. Illustrated with stylized, computer-drawn, folk-art illustrations by David Diaz.

Allan Stratton. Firefly/Annick. \$20.00. Grade 8 up.

Chandra Kabelo, a sixteen-year-old in a small South African town, faces down shame and stigma in her efforts to help friends and family members who are dying of AIDS.

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Ed. By Aaron R. Murry. DK. \$13.00. Grades 5-8

Offers a battle-by-battle overview of the Civil War and profiles key military and civilian leaders from the era. This is a slim volume, illustrated with well placed color spot art, thumbnail-sized portraits, small maps showing troop movements, vintage photos, and helpful pull-quotes.

Guido Visconte. Illus. by Bimba Landmann. Eerdmans. \$20.00.

Grades 3-6

Reviews the lives and works of two members of Assisi society, Francis and Clare, who renounced their wealth and founded religious orders dedicated to relying on God and living in peace, poverty, and humility. The illustrations incorporate a Byzantine style, and are accented in gold gilt.

Kes Gray. Illus. by Mary McQuillan. Holiday House. \$17.00. Grades K-3

A group of chickens has a full day on the farm, from eating breakfast early in the morning to avoiding a fox late at night. Narrated in rhyme, the story features artwork that incorporates egg clocks and makes for a delightful lesson on telling time.

Jacqueline Woodson. Illus. by E. B. Lewis. Putnam. \$17.00.

Grades K-4

After Mama takes a job in Chicago during World War II, Ada Ruth stays with Grandma but misses her mother who loves her more than rain and snow. The story ends on a positive note as the long-awaited letter from Mama promising she'll be home. Illustrated with warm watercolor paintings that are a perfect backdrop for the story. (Caldecott Honor 2005)

Sun Yung Shin. Illus. by Kim Cogan. Children's Book Press. \$17.00.

Grades K-4

Cooper, confused about his half-American, half-Korean heritage, gains insights from Mr. Lee, the owner of the neighborhood grocery store, whose insistence on speaking Korean to Cooper takes the young boy from anger to understanding. Illustrated with full-page oil paintings. Text in English and Korean.

Amy Nathan. \$18.00. National Geographic.

Grades 9-12

A well-designed and comprehensive book tells of the contributions American women involved in the armed forces from the Revolutionary War to the present, including the 2003 invasion of Iraq. Illustrations and mini biographies of women in each time period provide a solid historical overview. Quotations, insets, and many period photographs bring the narrative to life.

Elmore Leonard. Harper Collins. \$14.00. Grades 4-8

Antwan, a coyote, befriends Buddy, an aging movie-star pooch, poses as a dog to move in with a human family, and finds himself giving his new pal advice when Buddy decides to eschew humans and take a walk on the wild side. This canine version of *The Prince and the Pauper* features quirky characters, a strong plot, and retro red and black illustrations that break up the text.

Michael Lawrence. Greenwillow. \$16.00. Grades 8-12

Sixteen-year-old Alaric discovers how to travel to an alternate reality, where his mother is alive and his place in the family is held by a girl named Naia.

Marilyn Singer. Illus. by Gris Grimly. \$14.00. Hyperion. Grades 2-4

Presents a collection of poems about the fabled beasts that are part of the Creature Carnival, including the Sphinx, Cerberus, Nessie, the Frog Prince, and others. The

Diane McWhorter.

Scholastic. \$20.00. Grades 5-8

Examines the rise of the Civil Rights movement in America, the men and women whose lives made an impact in the pursuit of social and political equality, and landmark Supreme Court cases that changed the fabric of American society in the mid-to-late twentieth century.

Paul Showers. Illus. by Edward Miller. HarperCollins. \$17.00. Grades K-3

A simple introduction to the composition and functions of blood. The Dracula-inspired illustrations by Miller give a fresh look to an old favorite from the Let's Read-and-Find-Out series.

Doreen Cronin. Illus. by Betsy Lewin. Simon & Schuster. \$14.00.

Grades K-3

When Duck of Click, Clack, Moo fame gets tired of working for Farmer Brown, his political ambition eventually leads to his being elected President. He quickly learns that it's not much fun running the government, and retires to write his memoirs, graduating from the typewriter to a computer.

Michael L. Cooper. Clarion. \$13.00

Grades 5-8

Presents a photographic chronicle of the 1930s, focusing on Depression and the dust storms that crippled the Great Plains, and looks at the effects of the twin disasters on American society and domestic policy. Illustrated with stunning black-and-white archival photos that are accompanied by eyewitness reports. Pair with the fiction selection *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse.

Campbell Geeslin. Illus. by Ana Juan. Simon & Schuster. \$15.00.

Grades K-4

In Mexico, a little girl who wishes to be a glassblower is rebuked by her father, who says, "Who ever heard of a girl glassblower?" Undeterred, she disguises herself as a boy and lands a position as an apprentice. Along the way, she gains confidence. Illustrated with acrylic and crayon artwork.

Shirley Hughes. Simon and Schuster. \$17.00.

Grades K-4

Presents a retelling of the Cinderella story, set in the 1920s, in which Ella finds herself with two suitors--the handsome Duke of Arc, and Buttons, the delivery boy. Pen-and-inks ornament each blocks of text and full-color illustrations show the action.

Ntozake Shange. Illus. Kadir Nelson. Simon & Schuster.

Grades 3-6

Presents an illustrated poem in which Ntozake Shange recalls her childhood growing up in the company W.E.B. Du Bois, Dizzy Gillespie, Paul Robeson, and other great African-American men who were instrumental in changing American culture and society.

Elizabeth Mann. Illus. by

Alan Witschonke. Mikaya. \$20.00. Grades 4-8

Dan Bortolotti. \$16.00. Firefly. Grades 4-8

This appealing presentation features a well-organized and engaging text as well as many exceptionally clear, colorful illustrations, photographs, space-telescope images, paintings, and drawings. It describes the exploration of Saturn from ancient astronomers to the latest NASA findings. Includes website resources, and location guide for backyard observations.

Thomas B. Allen. Illus. by Cheryl Harness. National Geographic.

\$17.00. Grades 5-9

This small, concise volume focuses on Washington's use of spies to gather intelligence that helped the colonies win the Revolutionary War. The engaging text is laced with details about invisible ink, codes, and double agents. The book design is intended to resemble an antique publication from the 1700's and is illustrated with reproductions of archival art and pen-and-ink sketches.

Ursula K. Le Guin. Harcourt. \$17.00. Grades 9-12

When a young man in the Uplands blinds himself rather than use his gift of "unmaking"- a violent talent shared by members of his family-he upsets the precarious balance of power among rival, feuding families, each of which has a strange and deadly talent of its own. The tale is narrated by the central character.

Sylvia Olsen. Sono Nis, dist. by Orca. \$17.00. Grades 8-12

Jane, one of the most popular girls and best students in her school, loses her good reputation when she has a baby at the age of fourteen, but as her Native American

Kim Lewis. Candlewick. \$14.00. Grades PreK-2

When Harry, a toy elephant, has trouble sleeping, his friends help him. He tries everything including reading, tidying, and exercise. Finally, after being reassured by his friends, he is able to fall asleep. Soft illustrations accompany this quiet tale.

Deborah Noyes, Ed. Candlewick. Grades 9-12.

Presents ten original stories of vampires, ghosts, witches, and sorcerers, including selections from Joan Aiken, Neil Gaiman, Gregory Maguire, and others.

T.A. Barron. Putnam. \$20.00.

Grades 6-12

The fate of Avalon rests in the hands of three people: Tamwyn, Elli, and Scree; however one of them is the true heir of Merlin and the only one who can save Avalon and one of them is the child of Dark Prophecy, the person chosen to destroy it.

Louise Borden. M. K.

McElderry Books. Grades 3-6

During World War II in the Netherlands, a ten-year-old boy's dream of skating in a famous race allows him to help two children escape to Belgium by ice skating past German soldiers and other enemies. The sepia-tone illustrations highlight the boy's viewpoint, and show spacious views of the kids speeding through the white landscape.

Amy Hest. Illus. by Jill Barton. Candlewick. \$12.00. Grades PreK-2

On a rainy day when Baby Duck is sick with a cold, her grandfather cheers her up by showing her family photographs. The photo album includes pictures of Baby Duck on the

or central image tempt readers to turn back the pages for repeated looks. Pair with

Lauren Child. *Candlewick*. \$17.00. Grades PreK-2
Siblings Lola and Charlie return in this new offering from Lauren Child. Big brother Charlie must convince Lola to give school a chance, though she is full of reasons why she doesn't need it. Charlie eventually comes up with a reason Lola cannot refute and Lola is off to school. Illustrated with mixed media illustrations that include photos, fabric, and childlike cartoon renderings.

Carolyn Curtis. Illus. by Alison Jay. *Barefoot*. \$15.00.

Grades PreK-2

As the sun sets and everyone heads indoors, a young boy takes the moon on an imaginary stroll around his neighborhood. This is a bedtime poem that is illustrated with oil paintings rendered in muted tones and treated with a crackling varnish that give them an antique look.

Katherine Hannigan. *Greenwillow*. \$16.00. Grades 4-6

In Wisconsin, fourth-grader Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school. A poignant, affirming, and often funny first novel.

Ed Young. *Philomel*. \$17.00. Grades K-5

The story is told of the varied uses of a Nepalese basket through three generations of a family in the voice of the basket. Based on a Nepalese folktale, it is illustrated with gold-bordered spreads that are rendered in gouache, pastel, and collage.

Donna M. Jackson. \$18.00. Viking Press.

Grades 4-8

Kevin Henkes. Greenwillow. \$17.00. Grades PreK-2

When naïve Kitten mistakes the full moon for a bowl of milk, she ends up tired, wet, and hungry trying to reach it. This is a warm, humorous story, extended in Henkes' shimmering, gray-toned artwork. (Caldecott Winner 2005)

Lynne Barasch.. Lee & Low. \$17.00. Grades K-3

Presents a picture book biography of Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates, an African American who lost his leg in a factory accident at the age of twelve and went on to become a world-famous tap dancer. Sprightly ink-and-watercolor art depicts both the poverty of Bates'early life and the colorful world of entertainment.

Mo Willems. Hyperion. \$14.00. Grades PreK-2

Toddler Trixie becomes very unhappy when she accompanies her daddy to the laundromat and realizes she has lost her stuffed bunny. The playful illustrations are digitally incorporated into sepia-toned photographs of a quiet urban neighborhood. (Caldecott Honor 2005)

Michael Bania. Alaska Northwest. \$14.00.

Grades K-3

On a beautiful Arctic morning when Kumak and his family go ice fishing, Kumak hooks what seems like an enormous fish, and the entire village gets involved. This comical tale combines folklore with some realistic detail of the Arctic setting and community. Light watercolor washes outlined in ink show an icy setting while still conveying the joyful energy of the people as they work together to bring in the fish.

Satomi Ichikawa. Putnam. \$16.00. Grades K-3

La La Rose, a young girl's stuffed rabbit, gets lost in Luxembourg Gardens. While lost, she is thrown around by a soccer team, falls down some stairs, and lands in a pond before being picked up by a little girl who brings doll and owner back together. Illustrated with ink-and-watercolor paintings that are a wonderful mix of action sweetness.

Sheila Moses. Simon & Schuster. \$16.00. Grades 6-9

In 1947, twelve-year-old Pattie Mae is sustained by her dreams of escaping Rich Square, North Carolina, and moving to Harlem when her Uncle Buddy is under arrest for attempted rape of a white woman and her grandfather is diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor.

Philippa Pearce. Illus. by Tom Pohrt. Greenwillow. \$17.00. Grades 3-5

A young girl's dull life is transformed when she meets and befriends an extraordinary talking mole that likes to be read to and tell of his past exploits throughout the centuries. There are many exciting and dangerous events in this humorous and moving novel.

Harry Horse. Peachtree. \$14.00. Grades K-3

Little Rabbit takes his favorite toy, Charlie Horse, along for his first day of school and when there is trouble, he blames it all on Charlie. Ink-and-watercolor illustrations showcase a charming woodland world.

Gary D. Schmidt. Clarion. \$15.00. Grades 7-12

In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers--and Turner's--want to change into a tourist spot.

Loreen Ludy. Holiday

House. \$17.00. Grades 2- 4

Provides ideas and simple directions for writing, illustrating, designing, and binding books. The format includes as lists, captioned illustrations, and thought bubbles, making the book accessible even to emerging readers and writers. Includes a list of age-

appropriate books dealing with writing and illustration, and research skills for teachers, parents, and young authors.

. Sophie Webb. Houghton Mifflin.

\$16.00. Grades 4-8

The journal of researcher and artist Webb includes her observations and adventures while working on a research vessel counting seabirds through Alaska's Aleutian Island chain. In her narrative and watercolor artwork, she gives equal time to the details of daily life aboard a research vessel and to her observations of a variety of marine life.

Jean Fritz. Illus. by Hudson Talbott. Putnam. \$17.00. Grades 3-5
Describes the English colony of Roanoke, which was founded in 1585, and discusses the mystery of its disappearance. In Fritz's lively narrative style, the conjectures, hoaxes, and evidence that have fueled speculation about the colony for 400 years is discussed. Includes artwork that reflects the work of John White and sixteenth-century portrait artists.

Barbara Knutson.

Caroldrhoda. \$17.00. Grades K-4

In this folktale from the Andes, a clever guinea pig repeatedly outsmarts the fox that wants to eat him for dinner. The author, who lived in Peru, includes an author's note, a glossary and pronunciation guides for the Spanish and Quechua words that appear in the story. Illustrated with bright watercolors by the author.

Kevin O'Malley. Walker. 18.00. Grades K-3

After his mother tells him to stop playing video games and go outside, a young boy tries

Tiriam Cohen. Illus. by Thomas F. Yezerski.

Farrar. \$16.00. Grades 2-4

Describes the experiences of two sisters growing up in Brooklyn in the time of Shirley Temple movies and trolleys in six short chapters. The format provides an excellent first chapter book for newly independent readers. The stories are enhanced by many ink-and-wash illustrations.

Leslie Connor. Illus. by Mary Azarian. Houghton. \$16.00

Grades K-3

Miss Bridie emigrates to America in 1856 and chooses to bring a shovel, which proves to be a useful tool throughout her life. This is a lyrical tribute to hard working immigrants, and is expressively illustrated with wood cuts that provide additional details to the time and place.

Ruth Vander Zee. Illus. Floyd Cooper. Eerdmans Books for Young

Readers. \$16.00. Grades 3-6

Amidst the economic depression and the racial tension of the 1930s, a boy discovers a horrible secret of his father's involvement in the Ku Klux Klan. Warm oil paintings create the perfect sense of time, place, and atmosphere.

. Barbara Hathaway. Houghton Mifflin. Grades 3-6

During the early 1900s, eleven-year-old Viney spends her summer working for the local midwife and learns firsthand about birth, death, and "catchin' babies." Based on the fond memories of the author's mother, these are warm and funny stories with some memorable characters.

Eric Carle. Putnam. \$17.00. Grades K-3

After Mrs. Seahorse lays her eggs on Mr. Seahorse's belly, he drifts through the water, greeting other fish fathers who are taking care of their eggs. The artwork illustrates how different kinds of fish can hide themselves, executed in Carle's signature elegant painted tissue-paper collages.

Wallace Edwards. Kids Can Press. Grades 2-5

Introduces idioms through a collection of animal portraits and illustrations. The artwork is full of details that young readers will enjoy discovering with each subsequent reading. Use when teaching idioms in _____, Grade 4, Unit 3.

Eleanor Updale. Scholastic. \$17.00. Grades 6-9

In Victorian London, after his life is saved by a young physician, a thief utilizes the knowledge he gains in prison and from the scientific lectures he attends as the physician's case study exhibit to create a new, highly successful, double life for himself. Short chapters and a fast-paced plot make this a readable historical fiction that paints an accurate picture of the times. Look for the sequel coming in 2005, *Montmorency on the Rocks: Doctor, Aristocrat, Murderer?*

Ann Hassett. Illus. by John Hassett. Houghton. \$15.00. Grades K-3

When Nana Quimby is upset by the mouse in the house, Father gets an owl, which also upsets Nana, so Mother gets a dog ... until the family ends up with an elephant in the house. The tale comes full circle when the Quimbys use a certain rodent to get rid of the elephant. Illustrated with colorful artwork in a folk-art style.

Frank Asch. Illus. by Devin Asch. Kids Can Press. \$16.00.

Grades K-4

Mr. Maxwell celebrates his promotion by treating himself to a live mouse at the Paw and Claw restaurant; however, the mouse is a clever one, and outsmarts Mr. Maxwell. This slightly dark story is well illustrated with computer-generated art that is stylishly elegant, and executed in dark hues of slate and black.

Alison McGhee. Illus. by Harry Bliss. Harcourt. \$16.00.

Grades K-2

A first grader is frightened on her first day of school after hearing a rumor that her teacher is a 300-year-old alien with a purple tongue who steals baby teeth from her students. The clever watercolor and black-ink illustrations provide details that will keep children looking.

Rosemary Wells. Hyperion. \$17.00. Grades K-1

Emily, a little rabbit child, and her classmates learn many new things as they journey through the months of their kindergarten year of school. This is a reassuring picture book that is illustrated with detailed panels and spreads of well-dressed animal characters.

Molly Bang. Scholastic. \$17.00. Grades 2-4

The sun explains the different ways in which its light is transformed into energy which powers the bulbs that illuminate the night, and explains how we harness energy from water, wind, earth, and sun. The science is sound and the illustrations enhance the information.

Eve Bunting. Illus. by Suzanne Bloom. Boyds Mills.

\$16.00. Grades K-4

This is a fictionalized story, but probably based on Bunting's experiences, of an author's visit to a school. The children are well prepared; they have read her books, decorated the school, and prepared questions to ask. Illustrated with bright watercolors, this would be a good choice to use when preparing for an actual visit by an author.

John Kelly and Kathy Tincknell. Candlewick. \$16.00. Grades 2-4

Mr. and Mrs. Pork-Fowler are invited to spend a weekend of gourmet dining at a spooky castle where their host, Mr. Hunter, is anxious to "meat" them. Illustrated with digital artwork that is rendered as paintings.

Avi & Rachel Vail. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Grades 5-7

Twelve-year-old New York City twins Meg and Edward have nothing in common, so they are just as shocked as everyone else when Meg's hopes for popularity and Edward's mischievous schemes coincidentally collide in a hilarious showdown. The tale is written by two writers and told in alternating chapters that provide each twin with a separate narrative.

Allan Wolf. Candlewick.

\$19.00. Grades 6-8

Letters and thoughts of fourteen participants are presented in a poetic style to tell the story of the journey of Lewis and Clark to the Pacific and back. Four years of research is shown in an author's note, and includes maps and a list of the crew and the Native American nations encountered.

Ana Juan. A. A. Levine. \$17.00. Grades K-2

The Night Eater, who brings each new day by gobbling up the darkness, decides he is too fat and stops eating, with dire consequences. Illustrated with rounded shapes and bright colors in a surrealist art style.

Ian Whybrow. Illus. by Tiphonie Beeke. Scholastic. \$16.00. Grades K-1

As a sleepy boy decides it is bedtime and sets out across the farm toward home, he meets several animals who, in their noisy way, express the same idea. The rhyming verse encourages young children to join in to the telling of the tale. The story is accompanied by full-page, mixed-media pictures that provide a pleasing blend of colors, textures, and facial expressions.

Edward Lear. Illus. by Valorie Fisher. Simon & Schuster. \$17.00. Grades 1-5
Presents fifteen nonsense limericks by nineteenth-century English author Edward Lear.
Illustrated with bright collage artwork that includes definitions of words decoratively
integrated as ribbons, scrolled paper, or street signs, making the verses more accessible
for young readers.

Albert Marrin. Dutton. \$25.00.

Grades 7+

Reeve Lindbergh. Illus. by Jill McElmurry. Candlewick. \$16.00. Grades PreK-2
A rhymed view of the interrelatedness and belonging of all things and creatures in the universe, from the stars, to the sea, to a mouse, to a child. The folk-art style illustrations lend simplicity to the concept of the interrelatedness of nature.

Christina Kessler. Philomel. \$18.00. Grades 4-8

Text mostly in English with some Masai. Namelok, a Masai girl, tries to persuade her traditionalist father to delay her initiation and marriage because they will restrict her freedom and keep her from the black rhino mother and baby she is protecting from poachers.

Joe Rhatigan and Rain

Newcome. Sterling. \$17.00. Grades 4-7

Introduces "the study of stuff in space," providing statistics, quizzes, activities, and experiments about the stars and planets. The text is lively, and the activities are suitably linked to the ideas covered. Illustrated with colorful, photo-filled layouts that support the

Gene Del Vecchio. *Pelican*. \$17.00. Grades 10-12

Jason Del struggles to master himself and the Pearl of Anton in order to defend humanity in the Final Contest. The action intense and is accompanied by violence. A well developed fantasy novel.

Virginia Hamilton. Illus. by Leo Dillon and Diane

Dillion. Knopf. \$17.00. Grades 3-8

This is a retelling of a folktale, in which a group of slaves, unable to bear their sadness and starvation any longer, calls upon the African magic that allows them to fly away. Illustrated with large paintings that are magic realism at its finest. This is an illustrated version of the title story in Hamilton's 1985 book, *People Could Fly: American Black Folktales*.

Jeanne Duprau. Random. \$16.00. Grades 5-9

Lina and Doon are thrilled to see their people join them above ground in the vibrant village of Sparks, but suspicion and prejudice soon turn the villagers and newcomers against each other. Sequel to *The City of Ember* (2003).

Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson. Hyperion. \$18.00. Grades 4-8

Peter, an orphan boy, and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep the secret safe away from the diabolical Black Stache and his evil associate Mister Grin. This is a prequel to *Peter Pan* that explains how Peter Pan, the Lost Boys, and Captain Hook all ended up in Never Land.

Mo Willems. Hyperion. \$12.00. Grades PreK-2

Pigeon, from the hilarious *Pigeon Drives the Bus* (2003), learns about sharing when a curious duckling keeps asking questions about the hot dog Pigeon has found. Told through artistic minimalism and clever dialog that will keep young readers laughing.

Tanith

Lee. Dutton. \$18.00. Grades 6-9

Maps on endpapers. Artemesia finally escapes the prim and proper world of finishing schools and sets out to win her mother's title as pirate queen of the seas until she meets her match against Goldie Girl, the treacherous captain of the pirate ship "Enemy."

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origin. The paintings that illustrate the tales draw elements from African textiles.

Jane Yolen. Putnam/Philomel. \$19.00. Grades 5-8

In 1746, a year after the Scottish clans have rallied to the call of their exiled prince, Charles Stuart, to take up arms against England's tyranny, fourteen-year-old, epileptic Duncan MacDonald and his cousin, Ewan, run away to join the fight at Culloden and discover the harsh reality of war.

. Kenneth Grahame. Illus. by Inga Moore. Candlewick. \$18.00.

Grades 3-6

In this beautifully illustrated, abridged version of the original, the boy who finds the dragon in the cave knows it is a kindly, harmless one, but how can he convince the frightened villagers and, especially, St. George the dragon killer that there is no cause for concern? The colored pencil and ink drawings provide detailed images of town and countryside, as well as close-ups of the friendly dragon.

Ronald J. Drez. National

Geographic. \$16.00. Grades 4-8

Discusses the events and personalities involved in the momentous Allied invasion of France on June 6, 1944. The large format is easily accessible and contains many fine illustrations that include black-and-white photos of individuals and battle scenes and color shots of leaders, sites, and artifacts.

Toni Morrison. Houghton Mifflin. \$18.00.

Grades 3-8

Presents a selection of archival photographs that document events surrounding the integration of U.S. schools following the 1954 Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, and includes captions in which Toni Morrison imagines what the people in the pictures must have been thinking and feeling.

Ed. by Patrice Vecchione. Holt. \$16.00.

Grades 7+

A collection of nearly sixty poems dealing with revenge and forgiveness, plus suggested readings about each contributing poet. The anthology was inspired by the events of September 11 and includes biographical and notes on the poems.

Jane Goodall. Illus. Alan Marks. Minedition/Penguin. \$16.00.

Grades K-4

When her human guardian goes on a business trip, Ricki, an orphaned chimpanzee infant, adopts Henri, a shaggy dog, as her "mother." This is a powerful picture book that stays true to the experience of the baby chimpanzee in Central Africa. Illustrated with realistic line-and-watercolor paintings.

Dorothy Hinshaw Patent.

Photos by William Muñoz. Walker. \$20.00. Grades 3-5

Tells how a golden retriever is trained as a service dog, to help someone who has trouble moving their arms or legs, and later as a guide dog for a man who cannot see. Includes many large, full color photographs that follow the dog's growth and relationships.

Dyan Blacklock. Illus. by

David Kennett. Walker. \$18.00. Grades 4-8

Presents an illustrated history of the Roman Army, including information about its composition, organization, training, methods, weapons, and campaigns. Includes discussion of the treatment of the defeated people, captives, and individual soldiers. Bold full-color illustrations provide informative details to supplement the text.

Jorge Elias Luján. Translated by Elisa Amado. Illus. by Manuel Monroy.

Groundwood. \$15.00. Grades PreK-2

A rooster's call begins the unfolding of the morning and heralds the continuing cycle of day and night. Text in English and Spanish. The simple, yet lyrical text, is accompanied by bright artwork that is the real star of this picture book.

Jack Gantos. Illus. by Nicole Rubel. Farrar. \$15.00. Grades 1-3
Rotten Ralph comes to appreciate Sarah's healthy cat food after he gets sick from eating out of trash cans. This cautionary tale about eating junk food is accompanied by bright artwork that lights up this beginning reader.

Lenore Look. Illus. by Anne Wilsdorf. Simon & Schuster.

\$16.00. Grades 1-3

Almost-eight-year-old Ruby Lu spends time with her baby brother, goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks and learns to drive, and has adventures with both old and new friends. This beginning chapter book includes some Chinese words and poetic phrases. Illustrated with pencil artwork that bounces throughout the story.

Merlina Marchetta. Knopf. \$16.00. Grades 9-12

Sixteen-year-old Francesca could use her outspoken mother's help with the problems of being one of a handful of girls at a parochial school that has just turned co-ed, but her mother has suddenly become severely depressed.

James Cross Giblin. Illus. by Bagram Ibatoulline. Scholastic. \$18.00.

Grades 4-7

Discusses some of Egypt's most famous artifacts and monuments, including the pyramids, the Rosetta Stone, and, especially, the Great Sphinx, presenting research and speculation about their origins and their future. The realistic gouache and watercolor illustrations include paintings of the desert, close-ups of the sculptured face, details of hieroglyphics, and portraits of famous figures through history.

Kim Ablon Whitney. Knopf. \$16.00. Grades 9-12

Sixteen-year-old Bridget, member of an Irish Traveler community in the U.S., questions the traditions of her family's nomadic, criminal way of life and begins to consider breaking free. The first-person narration is sprinkled with raunchy humor and some expletives but is strong and convincing.

Jeanette Winter. Farrar. \$14.00. Grades K-3

Two sisters find a good use for the roses they are transporting from South Africa to a flower show in New York City. The women arrive in New York on the morning of September 11, along with the 2,400 flowers they had planned to exhibit. Stranded at the airport, they are offered shelter by a stranger. As a way of thanking him, the sisters take their roses to Union Square Park and arrange the blossoms into the shape of the fallen buildings. Based on a factual anecdote. Beautifully illustrated.

James Rumford. Translated

by Anna Sixkiller Huckaby. Houghton. \$16.00. Grades 1-4

This is a biography of Sequoyah, a member of the Cherokee nation who was born in the 1760s in eastern Tennessee and who developed the first written alphabet and language for the Cherokee people. The text is accompanied by stately illustrations that are primitive in appearance. The text is presented in English and Cherokee.

Joelle Stolz. Delacourte. \$16.00. Grades 5-8.

At the end of the nineteenth century in Libya, eleven-year-old Malika simultaneously enjoys and feels constricted by the narrow world of women, but an injured stranger enters her home and disrupts the traditional order of things. Conveys the traditional Muslim world.

Philemon Sturges. Illus. by Ashley Wolff. Little,

Brown. \$14.00. Grade K-3

New words to the traditional tune describe a camper-driving, "hootin'" and "shoutin'" guest and the party that will begin when she arrives. This southwestern variation of the traditional folk song is accompanied by bright illustrations.

Julie Markes. Illus. David Parkins. Harper Collins. \$16.00.

Grades PreK-2

A young child is encouraged to go to sleep by the thought of everyone else sleeping, from teacher to baker to postman. Short rhyming text is accompanied by two-page spread paintings that show each person asleep with the tools of their trade surrounding them.

Walter Dean Myers. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Grades 4-6. Conveys the story of a young boy who is sent to a reformatory and how he finds a way to see a better future.

Susan Goodman. Photographs by Michael Doolittle.

Knopf. \$19.00. Grades 3-6

Joy Hakim. Smithsonian. \$22.00.

Grades 8+

This is the first book in a projected series of six that weaves creation myths, history, physics, and mathematics to present a multifaceted view of the foundation of modern

Tom Pow. Illus. by Ian Andrew. Candlewick. \$16.00.

Grades PreK-2

Molly and her father play a bedtime game that shows how much they love each other. Molly asks questions about various creatures: a dinosaur, a polar bear, a crocodile, the mythical Grimalken, and, of course, Dad. Dad's answer to each question is that they love their babies. The illustrations are full-page close-ups of parents and offspring that are warm and whimsical.

Kimberly Newton Fusco. Knoph/Borzoi. \$15.00. Grades 8-12

When Cornelia's mother runs off with a boyfriend, she leaves her with an eccentric aunt. Ninth-grader Cornelia teaches her aunt to read, and her aunt helps Cornelia overcome her self-consciousness about her stuttering. In the end, Cornelia must finally confront the truth about herself and her mother.

Deborah Ellis. Douglas & McIntyre.

\$17.00. Grades 7-9

Presents the words of young people between the ages of eleven and eighteen in which they share what it is like to live in the midst of the upheaval and violence of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. Presents 20 stirring first-person narratives by Jewish, Christian, and Muslim young people interviewed by the author in 2002.

Dan Bortolotti. Firefly.

\$17.00. Grades 3-8

Discusses threats to the tiger's survival and examines tiger conservation efforts around the world. Covers the tiger's natural habitat, habits, physiology, and behavior in captivity. Also includes a time line of conservation efforts. Illustrated with exciting full color photographs.

Adele Geras. Illus. by Shelagh McNicholas. Dial. \$17.00. Grades K-2

Tilly, who loves ballet, plays the part of a cat in her class's dance recital. This picture book shows the day by day preparation for the recital including rehearsals and Tilly practicing at home during the week. Illustrations are filled with humorous, realistic detail.

Martin Waddell. Illus. by John Lawrence. Candlewick. \$14.00.

Grades PreK-2

Tiny, a barn mouse, visits the wheat field for the first time with his sister, Katy, and discovers things he has never seen before. The illustrations include engravings, watercolor washes, and printed wood textures that complement the warm hearted adventure.

William Steig. Illus. by Teryl Euvremer. HarperCollins. \$16.00.

Grades PreK-2

On a family picnic, Toby has fun pretending to be a variety of animals and then asking his parents to guess what he is. The pastel, impressionistic pictures are a perfect complement to this quiet adventure by the late William Steig.

. Paul B. Janeczko. Illus. by

Jenna LaReau. Candlewick. \$17.00. Grades 4-8

Presents a guide to codemaking, codebreaking, and their role in history, describing different types of codes and ciphers, discussing codebreaking and concealment techniques, and including brief stories about exciting moments in the history of the art. Humorous illustrations.

John Frank. Simon & Schuster.

\$17.00. Grades K-4

A group of grizzly cowboys are transformed when Foofy, a French poodle, comes to live with them on the range. The comical oil paintings, with their stunning Western

landscapes and deliberately distorted cowboy caricatures, fit this clever tall-tale read-aloud.

Kim Siegelson. Putnam. \$18.00. Grades 6-9

Zilpha Keatley Snyder. Delacorte. \$16.00. Grades 5-8

Niki Daly. Farrar. \$16.00. Grades K-3

When Mama gets a new job and a new house, everyone is excited about moving except Jamela who likes her old house just fine. As moving preparations are being made, panic ensues when Jamela cannot be found, having crawled into a box and promptly fallen asleep. When she wakes she is given a warm sendoff by her neighbors. Illustrated with full color artwork.

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Sharon

Flake. Hyperion. \$16.00. Grades 9-12

Presents ten short stories that are both hilarious and anguished, about growing up black today. They speak with a truthful voice about family, friends, school, and especially about finding a boyfriend.

Sylvia Waugh. Delacorte. \$16.00. Grades 5-8

