

## 2012 Nominee Lists

### K-2

*Bink and Gollie*/Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee; Tony Fucile, ill.

Candlewick Press, 2010.

Two roller-skating best friends – one tiny, one tall – share three comical adventures involving outrageously bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion.

*Bridget's Beret*/Tom Lichtenheld.

Henry Holt and Company, 2010.

Bridget thinks she gets her artistic abilities from the black beret she, along with all the Great Artists, always wears. So when she loses it, her career is over. This is a clever story that is rich with parody and clever asides.

*Chalk*/Bill Thomson.

Marshall Cavendish, 2010.

In this wordless drama, a clever twist on the theme of "be careful what you wish for," sidewalk chalk provides three children with miraculous fun until one artist goes overboard.

Deliciously scary!

*Gyoku: a Year of Haiku for Boys*/Bob Raczka; Peter Reynolds, ill.

Houghton Mifflin, 2010.

Not just for boys, this volume of haiku shows the fun you can have throughout the year with a sense of adventure and just 17 words.

*Interrupting Chicken*/David Ezra Stein

Candlewick, 2010.

Little Red Chicken wants a bedtime story, but constantly interrupts his father's reading with suggestions on how to change the story. The father turns the tables by having Little Red Chicken make up his own story.

*LMNO Peas*/Keith Baker.

Beach Lane Books, 2010.

Humble green peas provide inspiration in this hilarious, occupation-based romp through the alphabet. Kids will pour over the details and ponder what they want to be.

*Miss Brooks Loves Books (and I Don't)*/Barbara Bottner; Michael Emberley, ill.

Alfred A. Knopf, 2010.

A first-grade girl who does not like to read stubbornly resists her school librarian's efforts to convince her to love books until she finds one that might change her mind.

*Orangutans are Ticklish: Fun Facts from an Animal Photographer*/Steve Grubman with Jill Davis.

Schwartz and Wade Books, 2010.

This book of gorgeous up-close animal photographs is chock-full of facts that will fascinate young animal lovers, and includes behind the scenes peeks at how the photographs were taken. Fun facts on the animals' behavior at the photo shoot are the icing on the cake.

*Rain School*/James Rumford.

Houghton Mifflin, 2010.

The children in Chad arrive on the first day of school and build a mud structure to be their classroom for the next nine months until the rainy season comes and washes it all away.

*Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales/Lucy Cousins.*

Candlewick Press, 2009.

Eight classic tales with fresh presentations. Stories include: Little Red Riding Hood – The Three Billy Goats Gruff – The Enormous Turnip – Henny Penny – Goldilocks and the Three Bears – The Little Red Hen – The Three Little Pigs – The Musicians of Bremen.

### 3-5

*Because of Mr. Terupt/Rob Buyea.*

Delacort Press, 2010.

Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by "rookie teacher" Mr. Terupt.

*Big Nate: In a Class By Himself/Lincoln Peirce.*

Harper, 2010.

Supremely confident middle school student Nate Wright manages to make getting detention from every one of his teachers in the same day seem like an achievement.

*Bones: Skeletons and How They Work/Steve Jenkins.*

Scholastic Press, 2010.

A guide to human and animal skeletons provides informative comparisons while sharing such facts as the number of bones in the human body and the ways that skeletal structures work.

*The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester/Barbara O'Connor.*

Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2010.

After Owen captures an enormous bullfrog, names it Tooley Graham, then has to release it, he and two friends try to use a small submarine that fell from a passing train to search for Tooley in the Carter, Georgia, pond it came from, while avoiding nosy neighbor Viola.

*The Magician's Elephant/Kate DiCamillo; Yoko Tanaka, ill.*

Candlewick Press, 2009.

When ten-year-old orphan Peter Augustus Duchene encounters a fortune teller in the marketplace one day and she tells him that his sister, who is presumed dead, is in fact alive, he embarks on a remarkable series of adventures as he desperately tries to find her.

*Mockingbird (Mok'ing-bu^rd)/Kathryn Erskine.*

Philomel Books, 2010.

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

*Ratfink/Marcia Thornton Jones; C.B. Decker, ill.*

Dutton Children's Books, 2010.

Creative, impulsive Logan vows to turn over a new leaf in fifth grade so his parents will let him have a pet, but when a competitive new girl arrives at school and his forgetful and embarrassing grandfather takes over the basement of Logan's house, doing the right thing becomes harder than it has ever been.

*The Strange Case of Origami Yoda/Tom Angleberger.*

Amulet Books, 2010.

Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their weird classmate Dwight, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future. Includes instructions for making Origami Yoda.

*Turtle in Paradise*/Jennifer Holm.

Random House, 2010.

In 1935, when her mother gets a job housekeeping for a woman who does not like children, eleven-year-old Turtle is sent to stay with relatives she has never met in far away Key West, Florida.

*Wild Girl*/Patricia Reilly Giff.

Wendy Lamb Books, 2009.

Lidie lives in Brazil where she's free to ride and be a wild girl, but when she turns twelve, she leaves Brazil for New York where her father and her older brother live. She proves herself as a strong young girl when she becomes determined to ride Wild Girl, the filly her father has just purchased for his racetrack.

## 6-8

*Hero*/Mike Lupica.

Philomel Books, 2010.

Zach Harriman is devastated when his dad, a globetrotting troubleshooter for the president is killed. Not knowing that he has inherited "special powers" from his father, Zach discovers the same people who murdered his father are now after him.

*How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous*/Georgia Bragg.

Walker & Co., 2011.

This nonfiction book shares the eerily gruesome details of the deaths of nineteen famous historical figures, among who are King Tut, Pocahontas, George Washington, Edgar Allan Poe, Marie Curie, and Beethoven.

*Leaving Gee's Bend*/Irene Latham.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2010.

Ludelfhia Bennett, a determined, ten-year-old African American girl in 1932 Alabama, leaves home in an effort to find medical help for her sick mother, recounting her adventures in a quilt she is making.

*Liar, Liar: The Theory, Practice, and Destructive Properties of Deception*/Gary Paulsen.

Philomel Books, 2009.

Fourteen-year-old Kevin is very good at lying and doing so makes his life so much easier. When he finds himself in big trouble with friends, family, and teachers, he must find a way to end his bad habit and make amends.

*The Line* /Teri Hall.

Dial Books, 2010.

Living close to "The Line," an invisible border of the Unified States, Rachel feels she and her mother are safe. Then she gets a message asking for help from a boy who lives across the line.

*A Long Walk to Water*/Linda Sue Park.

Clarion Books, 2010.

When the Sudanese civil war reaches his village in 1985, 11-year-old Salva becomes separated from his family and must walk with other Dinka tribe members through southern Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya in search of safety.

*Scrawl*/Mark Shulman.

Roaring Brook Press, 2010.

When eighth-grade school bully Tod and his friends get caught committing a crime on school property, Tod's "punishment" involves serving detention with the school guidance counselor and keeping a journal revealing aspects of himself that he would prefer to keep hidden.

*Sean Griswold's Head*Lindsey Leavitt.

Bloomsbury, 2011.

Angry after discovering that her parents have been hiding her dad has multiple sclerosis, Payton begins counseling sessions at school. Her assignment – a "focus exercise" to distract her – leads her to an interest in a boy she'd never really noticed before, problems with her best friend, a new interest in long-distance biking, and eventually allows her to come to terms with life's uncertainties.

*A Tale Dark and Grimm*/Adam Gidwitz.

Dutton, 2010.

This eerie tale follows Hansel and Gretel as they walk out of their own spooky tale and into eight more frightening adventures, encountering some helpful folk and several wicked creatures along the way.

*Virals*/Kathy Reichs.

Razorbill, 2010.

When Tory Brennan and her three best friends are accidentally exposed to a canine parvovirus while snooping around a top-secret government facility, their senses become heightened, and they must use these new powers to stay alive and solve the cold case murder of a young girl who disappeared years ago.

## 9-12

*Anna and the French Kiss*/Stephanie Perkins.

Dutton Books, 2010.

When Anna's romance-novelist father sends her to an elite American boarding school in Paris for her senior year of high school, she reluctantly goes, and meets an amazing boy who becomes her best friend, in spite of the fact that they both want something more.

*Dirty Little Secrets*/C. J. Omololu.

Walker, 2010.

When her unstable mother dies unexpectedly, sixteen-year-old Lucy must take control and find a way to keep the long-held secret of her mother's compulsive hoarding from being revealed to friends, neighbors, and especially the media.

*Hold Me Closer Necromancer*/Lish McBride.

Henry Holt, 2010.

Sam LaCroix, a Seattle fast-food worker and college dropout, discovers that he is a necromancer, part of a world of harbingers, werewolves, satyrs, and one particular necromancer who sees Sam as a threat to his lucrative business of raising the dead.

*Incarceron*/Catherine Fisher.

Dial Books, 2010.

To free herself from an upcoming arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of Incarceron, a futuristic prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.

*Leverage*/Joshua Cohen.

Dutton Books, 2011.

High school sophomore Danny excels at gymnastics but is bullied, like the rest of the gymnasts, by members of the football team, until an emotionally and physically scarred new student joins the football team and forms an unlikely friendship with Danny.

*Room: A Novel*/Emma Donoghue.

Little Brown, 2010.

Five-year-old Jack has spent his life living in an eleven-by-eleven foot space his mother calls Room and while Jack uses his imagination to create wondrous fantasies to entertain himself, his mother dreads the day her son begins to question why they must remain in Room and tries to find a way to escape.

*Ship Breaker*/Paolo Bacigalupi.

Little Brown, 2010.

In a futuristic world, teenaged Nailer scavenges copper wiring from grounded oil tankers for a living, but when he finds a beached clipper ship with a girl in the wreckage, he has to decide if he should strip the ship for its wealth or rescue the girl.

*Sorta Like a Rock Star*/Matthew Quick.

Little Brown, 2010.

Amber Appleton, living in a school bus with her mom, refuses to give in to despair and continues visiting the elderly at a nursing home, teaching English to Korean women, and caring for a Vietnam veteran and his dog, but a fatal tragedy may prove to be one burden too many for the seventeen-year-old girl.

*Split*/Swati Avasthi.

Knopf, 2010.

A teenage boy thrown out of his house by his abusive father goes to live with his older brother, who ran away from home years earlier under similar circumstances.

*You*/Charles Benoit.

HarperTeen, 2010.

Fifteen-year-old Kyle discovers the shattering ramifications of the decisions he makes, and does not make, about school, the girl he likes, and his future.