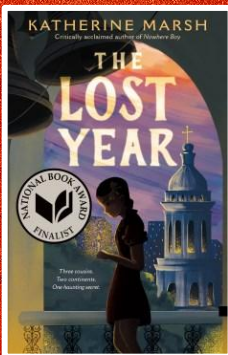
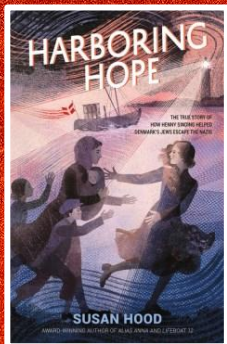
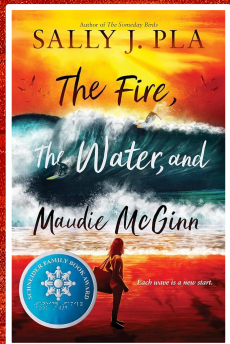
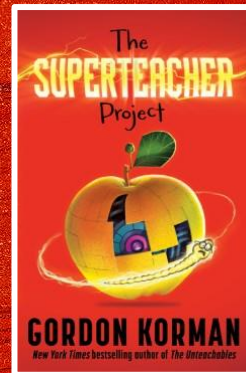
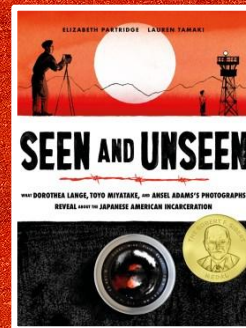
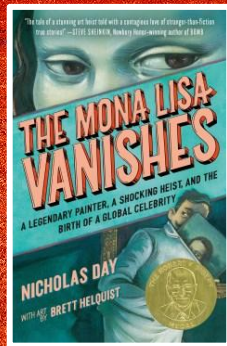
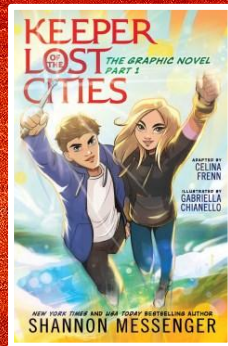
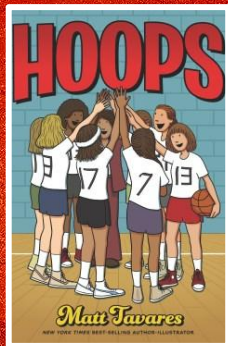
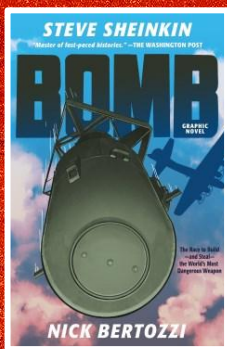
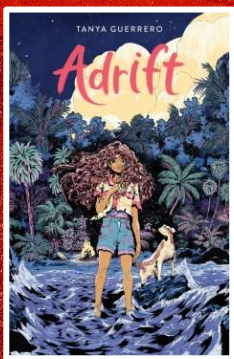
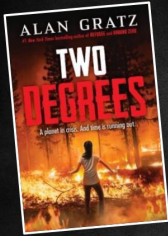


**Red Dirt Book
Award
2024-2025**

2025 Red Dirt Nominees

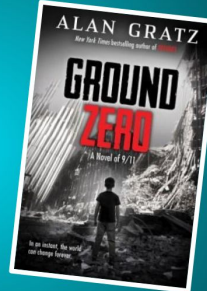


Previous Red Dirt Winners



**2024 Red Dirt
Book Award
Winner**

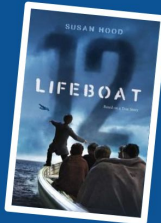
**2023
Red Dirt
Book Award
Winner**



**2022
Red Dirt
Book Award
Winner**



**2021
RED DIRT
BOOK AWARD
WINNER**



**2019 Red
Dirt Book
Award
Winner**

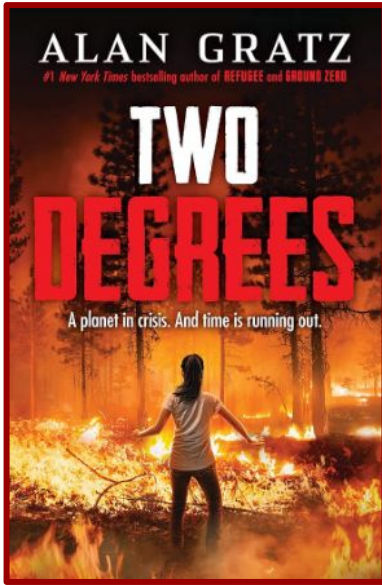


**2020 RED DIRT
BOOK AWARD
WINNER**





Two Degrees by Alan Gratz

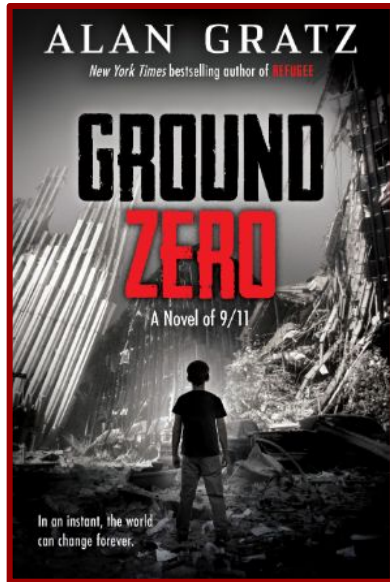


Survival

When three children endure separate climate change disasters--a wildfire in the California woods, a close encounter with a hungry polar bear in Canada, and a massive hurricane in Florida--they emerge from their experiences committed to changing the world.



Ground Zero by Alan Gratz

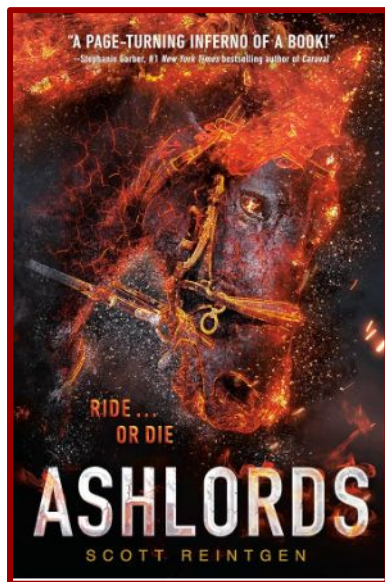


Historical Fiction

Brandon is visiting his dad on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 when the attack comes; Reshmina is a girl in Afghanistan who has grown up in the aftermath of that attack but dreams of peace, becoming a teacher and escaping her village and the narrow role that the Taliban believes is appropriate for women--both are struggling to survive, both changed forever by the events of 9/11.



Ashlords by Scott Reintgen

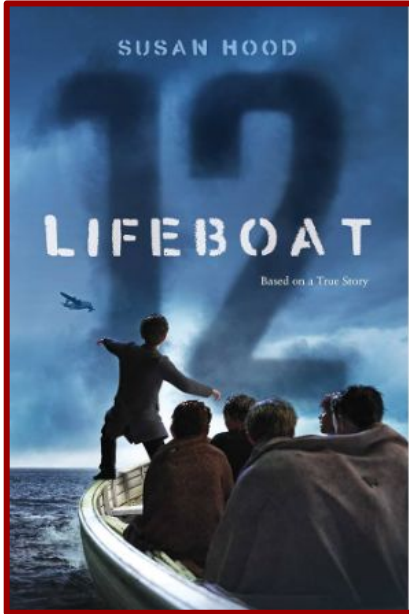


Fantasy

Every year since the Ashlords were gifted phoenix horses by their gods, they've raced them. First into battle, then on great hunts, and finally for the pure sport of seeing who rode the fastest. Centuries of blood and fire carved their competition into a more modern spectacle: The Races. Over the course of a multi-day event, elite riders from clashing cultures vie to be crowned champion. But the modern version of the sport requires more than good riding. Competitors must be skilled at creating and controlling phoenix horses made of ash and alchemy, which are summoned back to life each sunrise with uniquely crafted powers to cover impossible distances and challenges before bursting into flames at sunset. But good alchemy only matters if a rider knows how to defend their phoenix horse at night. Murder is outlawed, but breaking bones and poisoning ashes? That's all legal and encouraged. In this year's Races, eleven riders will compete, but three of them have more to lose than the rest--a champion's daughter, a scholarship entrant, and a revolutionary's son. Who will attain their own dream of glory? Or will they all flame out in defeat?



Lifeboat 12 by Susan Hood



Historical Fiction

In 1940, a group of British children, their escorts, and some sailors struggle to survive in a lifeboat when the ship taking them to safety in Canada is torpedoed. Includes historical notes.



Refugee by Alan Gratz

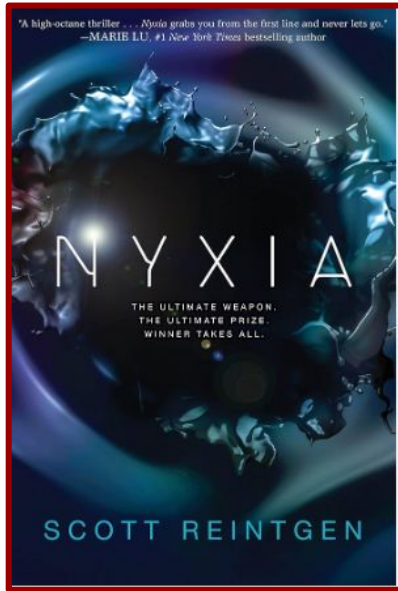


Historical Fiction

Although separated by continents and decades, Josef, a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany; Isabel, a Cuban girl trying to escape the riots and unrest plaguing her country in 1994; and Mahmoud, a Syrian boy in 2015 whose homeland is torn apart by violence and destruction, embark on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, discovering shocking connections that tie their stories together.



Nyxia by Scott Reintgen



Science Fiction

What would you be willing to risk for a lifetime of fortune? Emmett Atwater isn't just leaving Detroit; he's leaving Earth. Why the Babel Corporation recruited him is a mystery, but the number of zeroes on their contract has him boarding their lightship and hoping to return to Earth with enough money to take care of his family. Forever. Before long, Emmett discovers that he is one of ten recruits, all of whom have troubled pasts and are a long way from home. Now each recruit must earn the right to travel down to the planet of Eden—a planet that Babel has kept hidden—where they will mine a substance called Nyxia that has quietly become the most valuable material in the universe. But Babel's ship is full of secrets. And Emmett will face the ultimate choice: win the fortune at any cost, or find a way to fight that won't forever compromise what it means to be human.



Read 3 & Vote!

Read at least three, 2025 Red Dirt nominated books, and vote by April 11th for your favorite.

- ★ Which books will you read?
- ★ How will you decide?

Go check out a book and enjoy each one of these wonderful stories!



Adrift by Tanya Guerrero



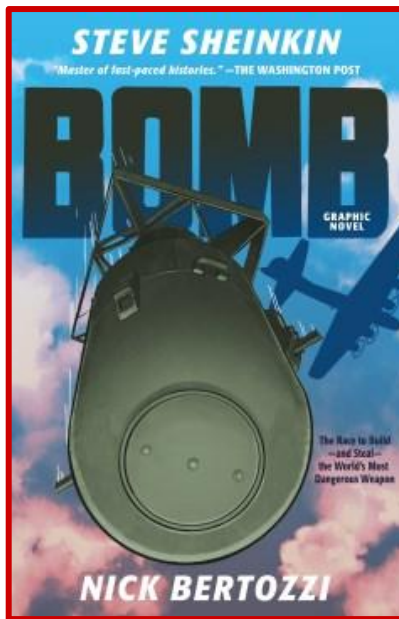
Survival

The resilience of two cousins is tested when one of them is lost at sea and washes up on a deserted island while the other remains at home, holding on to the belief that her beloved cousin is still alive.



Bomb, Graphic Novel: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World's Most Dangerous Weapon

by Steve Sheinkin



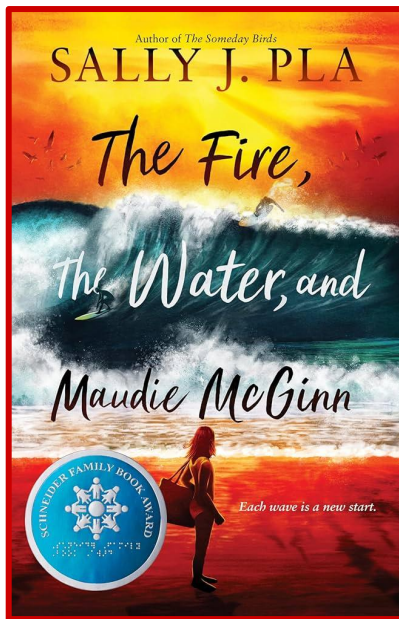
Nonfiction Graphic Novel

This graphic adaptation examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.



The Fire, The Water, and Maudie McGinn

by Sally J. Pla

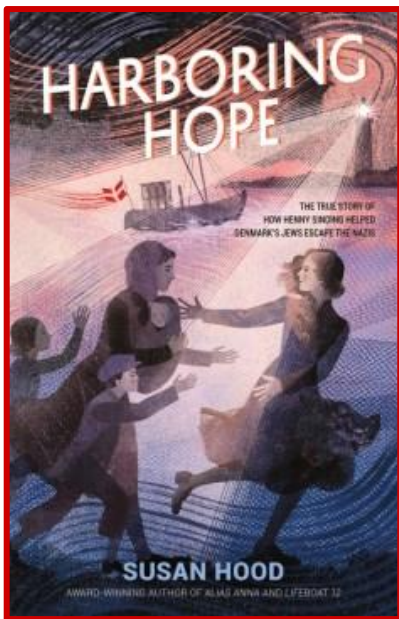


Realistic Fiction

Neurodivergent Maudie is ready to spend an amazing summer with her dad, but will she find the courage to tell him a terrible secret about life with her mom and new stepdad?



Harboring Hope by Susan Hood

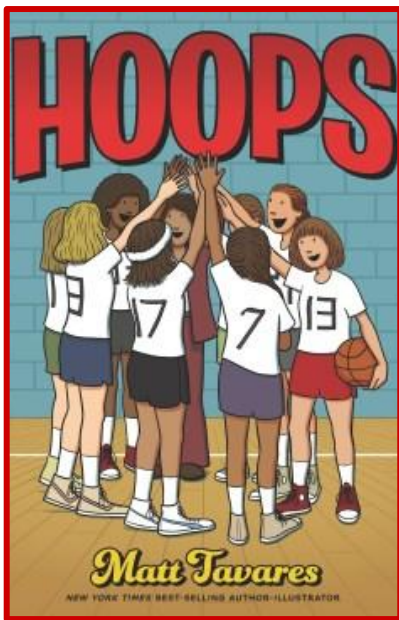


Nonfiction

The inspirational true story of how 22-year-old Henny Sinding courageously helped smuggle hundreds of Jewish families in occupied Denmark to safety in Sweden during the Holocaust.



Hoops by Matt Tavares



Graphic Novel

Inspired by a true story, this graphic novel about the ongoing battle of women striving for equality in sports follows the Wilkins Regional High School girls' basketball team in 1975 Indiana, as they push through to improbable victory after improbable victory despite their disadvantages.



Iceberg by Jennifer A. Nielsen



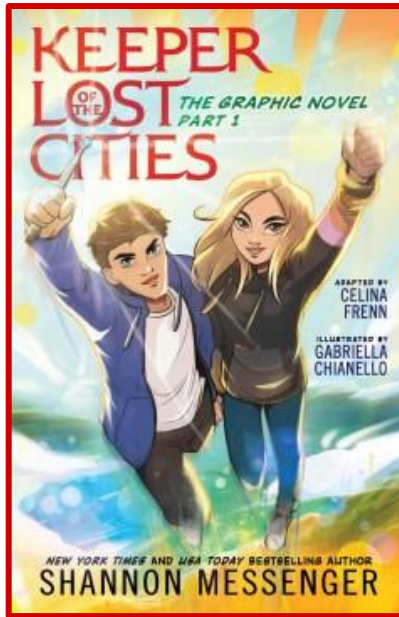
Historical Fiction

Traveling all alone aboard the Titanic, stowaway and aspiring journalist Hazel Rothbury secretly explores the opulent ship with the help of a porter and a sweet first-class passenger until disaster strikes, forcing Hazel to fight to save her friends and herself.



Keeper of the Lost Cities Graphic Novel Part 1

by Shannon Messenger

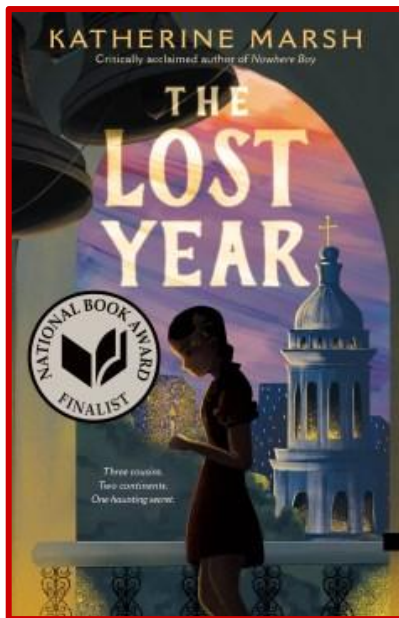


Fantasy Graphic Novel

Reimagined as a graphic novel, this first book in the New York Times best-selling series brings to life the adventures of 12-year-old Sophie, a mind-reading Telepath who is forced to leave her family behind after a shocking truth is revealed.



The Lost Year by Katherine Marsh



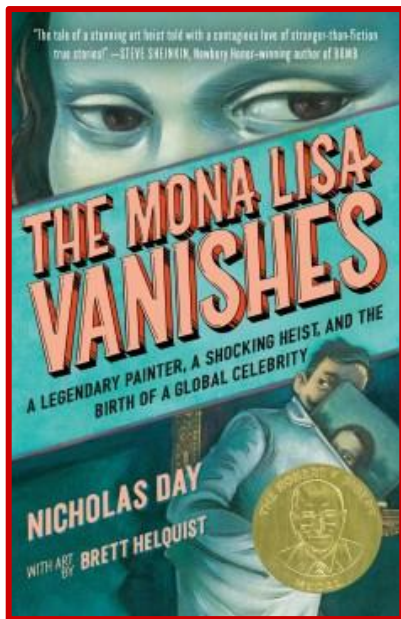
Historical Fiction

When his great-grandmother comes to stay with them during the pandemic, 13-year-old Matthew discovers a photo in her belongings that reveals a life-shattering family secret, in this brilliant survival story set in alternating timelines that connects the present day to 1930s Soviet Ukraine.



The Mona Lisa Vanishes

by Nicholas Day



Nonfiction

Transporting readers back to turn-of-the-century Paris where they will bear witness to the heist of the Mona Lisa from the Louvre, which made it the most famous artwork in the world, this nonfiction thriller is shot through with stories of crime and celebrity, genius and beauty.



Saving Sunshine by Saadia Faruqi

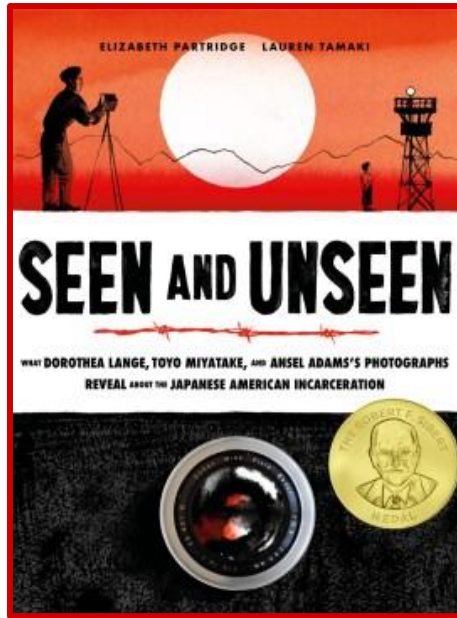


Graphic Novel

During their family trip to Florida, it doesn't take long for twins Zara and Zeeshan to start bickering. Amid their forced bonding time, the siblings discover deeper wounds that they both carry: Zara resents Zeeshan for not standing up for her in the past when being bullied for wearing her hijab, and Zeeshan is frustrated with ignorant people misinterpreting what it means to be a Pakistani American. But when Zara discovers a stranded sea turtle, Zeeshan surprises them both with his eagerness to help. Will the twins succeed in saving Sunshine's life? Will they begin to see eye to eye?



Seen and Unseen by Elizabeth Partridge

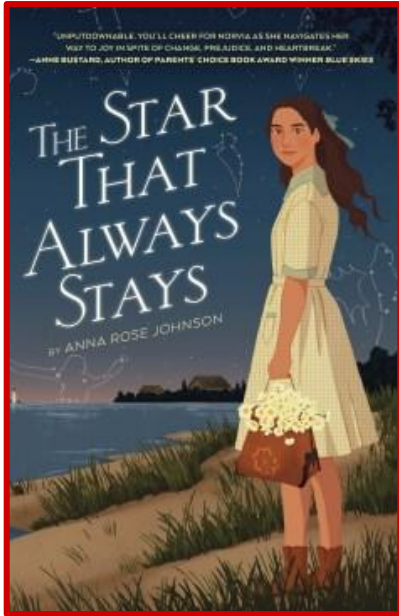


Nonfiction

Legendary photographers Dorothea Lange, Toyo Miyatake, and Ansel Adams all photographed the Japanese American incarceration, but with different approaches and different results. This nonfiction picture book for middle grade readers examines the Japanese-American incarceration, and the complexity of documenting it, through the work of these three photographers.



The Star that Always Stays by Anna Rose Johnson

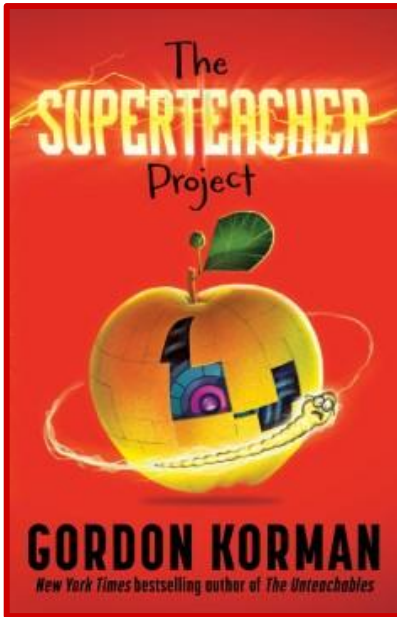


Historical Fiction

In 1914, Norvia moves from the country to the city, where her mother forces her to pretend she's not Native American, and when faced with numerous changes and the looming threat of world war, Norvia must find the courage to reveal who she truly is.



The Superteacher Project by Gordon Korman



Humorous Fiction

Determined to teach their new teacher who's boss, Oliver Zhan and his best friend Nathan realize that Mr. Aidact is not what they expected and, suspecting something is fishy, must get to the bottom of the mystery.



The Unforgettable Logan Foster by Shawn Peters



Adventure

Noticing some odd things about his prospective parents, Logan Foster becomes caught in the middle of a massive battle, forcing him to find a way to save the day and his new family.

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