Kai was born with a clubfoot, so his Cro-Magnon (early human) tribe believes that he is *tabat*, or cursed, and leaves him to the wolves. The wolves take care of him, though, and so he is allowed back into his family. Years later, Kai decides to take in an abandoned wolf cub in return, but when the rest of his tribe grows angry at the growing wolf, the pair leave the village and must make their way across the frozen north.

Chantel prefers learning and practicing magic to the tedious education she is receiving in deportment—the endless polite rules young sorceresses must follow in order to appear harmless to the ruling patriarchs. But when her city is threatened by Maruaders, her teachers disappear, and the patriarchs are not at all what they seem…deportment may need to fly out the window. Can Chantel discover the fiery magic within her in time to save the city and the people she loves?

Uwohali’s father has been gone for six years, and now he has returned, raising eyebrows among the Tsalagi (Cherokee) people. Not only has Sequoyah started a new family, but the rumor is that the weird shapes he draws are evil curses. Based on the true story of the creation of the written form of the Cherokee language, this novel is also an amazing family drama, as Uwohali grows close to the father he never knew.

Sunflower and her father move to the countryside in 1960s China when her father is sent to a Cadre School. Sunflower loves the slow pace of country life, but when her father drowns during a weather disaster, she is taken in by the poorest family in the village. Her new brother, Bronze, is mute, but the two children become very close as they have adventures in the village. This very literary book, originally written in Mandarin, is beloved in many other countries, but was only translated into English this year!

The latest entry in the acclaimed *Scientists in the Field* series lets you follow a spacecraft the size of a piano, named New Horizons, on the first-ever spacecraft mission to Pluto. New Horizons has one chance to successfully navigate nearly 3 billion miles—through the hunks of ice, rock, comets and other objects of the Kuiper Belt—to
fulfill its mission and fly by Pluto. After reading the book, check out NASA’s website and see what other thrilling new discoveries are being made by this tiny, remarkable spacecraft.

Flora and her brother, Julian, don’t believe they were born. Maybe they came from the ocean or the television or even the horizon. They’ve lived in way too many foster homes. Now, Flora can’t talk when her words “get stuck.” Julian has fake smiles and hordes food. After so much loss, how can they ever believe that Person, their adoptive mom, isn’t going to desert them? In an effort to find out more about their past and prove to Flora and Julian that she would never abandon them, Person takes them on a road trip to find some answers. A heartbreaking, realistic story that explores what it means to be a family.

Seeds. They’re everywhere, right? This book takes you on a journey to show you just how life-and-death seeds actually are. Plant genetic diversity has dropped 75% since the 1900s, and you’ll find out why people are literally risking their lives to stop this seed crisis.

What you wear can say a lot about you, and no one knows this better than the women in this book. From Elizabeth I (who used her clothing to show the world that a woman could rule England) to Anna Wintour (the famously scary editor of *Vogue*), the women in this book used their fashion to make a statement—one that may have set them at odds with the society they lived in. Fashion can be fun…but this edgy book will show you that it’s anything but frivolous.

Twelve-year-old Jaime hears a scream from the kitchen, and he knows the bad news already: a gang has killed his cousin. Suddenly, no one in his family is safe, and he and his fifteen-year-old cousin Ángela must make the terrifying journey from Guatemala, across México, into El Norte, the United States. Taking along his sketchbook, and not much else, Jaime and Ángela must jump onto moving trains, pay smugglers, and avoid la migra to make it to Jaime’s brother in Nuevo México. A heartbreaking and hopeful book, inspired by the stories of real undocumented immigrants. [Pura Belpré Honor]

Three unlikely heroes: a peasant girl (with a saint-like greyhound), a young hopeful priest on a mission from his monastery, and a young Jewish boy with healing powers.
They’re all running from something, but they band together to travel across medieval France in hopes of saving holy books from being burned. This one’s got it all: monsters, bandits, stinky cheese, brawls, chivalry, and even a farting dragon. [Sydney Taylor Book Award and Newbery Honor]

Tucker and Hudson develop superpowers in an unusual way in this graphic novel: from the scarves and umbrella that their mother bought for them at a yard sale. With the help of a squirrel sidekick, they’re on their way to fighting evil!

Harrington, Janice N. Catching a Storyfish. 2016.
In this novel in verse, Keet's friends call her Keet-Keet Parakeet because she’s such a jabbermouth and storyteller. That is, until her parents move her family from Alabama to Illinois to be closer to her grandfather. Now, Keet’s gone quiet, and she’s not sure how she’ll find her voice again.

Hennessey, M.G. The Other Boy. 2016.
Shane is really into baseball, video games, the graphic novel he’s drawing, and his classmate Madeline. He’s also holding onto a secret: he is about to start a prescription for testosterone, which will help him go through puberty the way he needs to. Shane is transgender—which means that when he was born, everyone thought he was a girl—and when a bully finds out and tells everyone at his school, Shane turns to other friends for support.

The lives of four misfits are intertwined when a bully’s prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen band together in an epic quest to find and rescue him.

If Sam can find the dead body in the alligator-infested waters of the Bayou before his policeman father, then maybe he can earn some respect—especially after the embarrassing beating he took at school. Boating in forbidden territory, what he discovers instead is the secret-ridden and dangerous world of a boy named Davey. Davey, who is trying to survive in an abandoned fishing camp—and not doing a very good job of it.

Think about this: of the world’s seven billion people, sixty-five million of them have had to leave their homes because of war, persecution, or natural disaster. In this book, you’ll find just a few of their stories. Phu set out without his family to escape Vietnam during a war with Cambodia; he survived seventeen pirate attacks. Najeeba fled the Taliban in
Afghanistan by taking a fishing boat to Australia. A powerful collection of stories you won’t ever forget.

If your family is from the Dominican Republic, you should like baseball, right? So, what if your favorite sport is basketball? Doesn’t your best friend, who is a girl, really belong on the bleachers instead of playing point guard? And how can the team come together if center Steve Korrigan keeps making fun of your heritage? Especially when his dad ran for mayor on an anti-immigration campaign? Gus is starting to wonder if all these prejudices are going to block the teams shot at a winning season—but he has a plan.

In this imagined prequel to Alice in Wonderland, Cath would rather open a bakery than accept a proposal from the King of Hearts, but that’s not possible with her high-class parents’ expectations. Throw in the handsome and mysterious court jester who has captured Cath’s eye, and you have all you need for a tragic romance—with just a dash of whimsy.

Leonard was the son of Russian Jewish immigrants whose passports were stamped “alien”. His talent chanting the Shema prayer landed him a part in a play where the director encouraged him to “reach for the stars”. Reach he did, and became the most famous alien on planet earth: Dr. Spock. You’ll enjoy this moving picture book biography. Live long and prosper. [Sydney Taylor Honor Book]

Napoli, Donna Jo; illus. by David Wiesner. Fish Girl. 2017.
Fish Girl, a young mermaid living in a boardwalk aquarium, has never interacted with anyone beyond the walls of her tank until a chance encounter with an ordinary girl, Livia. Their growing friendship inspires Fish Girl's longing for freedom, independence, and a life beyond the aquarium tank. David Wiesner, Sutherland Award and Caldecott Medal winner, provides the luminous art for this graphic novel.

Princess Sadie’s trapped in a tower, and none of the dozens of princes who have tried have been able to rescue her. So Sadie rolls her eyes at the next person to make an attempt...until she realizes that it’s Princess Amira to the rescue! This short graphic novel sends both of them vanquishing ogres and sorceresses, with a very happy-ever-after ending: a wedding!

Take EEL—a notorious mob syndicate. Add the FBI—the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Apply T.O.A.S.T.—the Theory of All Small Things. Throw in twelve-year-old Florian Bates, his new friend Margaret, the National Gallery in Washington D.C., a
kidnapping, Alice Deal Middle School, and a dangerous caper. What do you get? A can’t-put-it-down-until-you-finish-it mystery.

In a world of drones and androids, Zen Starling is a human thief, but mostly he just likes to ride the Interstellar Express, the sentient trains that travel through the K gates from planet to planet—a complicated transportation system that only the illusive, godlike Guardians can understand. Now the mysterious Raven wants him to steal one small box from the Emperor’s train. One small box that just might bring everything in this galaxy—and the next—to the end of the line.

Castle Crenshaw (alias Ghost) is always running. He’s always thought of himself as a basketball player, though, until one day on his way home from school, he challenges a track sprinter to a race—and wins. He’s on the track team now, and Coach sees that he’s got real natural talent. The other thing Coach sees? Ghost has a lot of anger and a past he doesn’t want to face. As Coach says, though, “Trouble is, you can’t run away from yourself.”

When Farah and her two best friends get sucked into a mechanical board game called The Gauntlet of Blood and Sand, they know it is up to them to defeat the game’s diabolical architect in order to save themselves and those who are trapped inside—including Farah’s baby brother, Ahmed.

A great American sport and Native American history come together in this true story of how Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner created the legendary Carlisle Indians football team. Both a football story and a tale of unimaginable social injustice, this book is ultimately a tribute to the remarkable Jim Thorpe, arguably one of the greatest athletes to ever live.

Very short for her age (but don’t call her “short” because she is boycotting the word), Julia grows into her sense of self while playing a munchkin in a summer regional theater production of The Wizard of Oz. Annotations cannot prepare you for the rewards you’ll get from this read. Be prepared to laugh. And cry. And laugh again. Julia is a triumph!

Saki and her family are visiting her grandmother in the countryside of Japan when a prank played by the local mean girls goes wrong, and Saki accidentally invokes a death curse at the cemetery. Now, Saki must make her way through the Night Parade, a terrifying spirit world, over the course of three nights to find the Midnight Prince and reverse the curse before it’s too late.
When a plane goes down in the arctic, eight young survivors step from the wreckage expecting to see nothing but ice and snow. Instead, they find themselves lost in a strange jungle with no way to get home and little hope of rescue. Food is running out. Water is scarce. And the jungle is full of threats unlike anything they’ve seen before—from razor-beaked shredder birds to the mysterious predator stalking the wilderness in the dead of night, whose chilling cries seem to be getting closer, and closer, and closer…

*Why We March*. 2017.
On January 21, 2017, over 5 million people in 673 cities around the globe gathered in solidarity for the Women’s March. Maybe you were there. Maybe you weren’t. This book presents more than 300 of the most powerful, uplifting, clever, and creative signs from these marches that will bring back memories, or give you a glimpse of what it was like. Another recently published title that is also worth a look is *Why I March: Images from the Woman’s March Around the World.*