



Life in the Balance
Jen Petro-Roy
J PETR,J

As she worries about her mother who is entering a rehab facility for alcoholism, eleven-year-old Veronica struggles with secrets, her favorite sport softball, and what she really wants to do with her life.



Tornado Brain
Cat Patrick
J PATR,C

Seventh-grader Frankie, who has various sensory disorders, is determined to find her missing best friend, Colette, before it is too late.



The Crossover
Kwame Alexander
T ALEX,K

Josh Bell and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood.



12 to 22: POV You Wake Up in the Future!
Jen Calonita
T CALO,J

Harper is turning 12-and-a-half and her parents let her start a social media account. When she goes to post her first photo, there is a filter that shows you what you'll look like when you are older. Curious, Harper clicks on it and ends up flash forwarding in time to when she is 22.



Refugee
Alan Gratz
J GRAT,A

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



The Girl Who Drank the Moon
Kelly Regan Barnhill
J BARN,K

An epic fantasy about a young girl raised by a witch, a swamp monster, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her.



Aurora
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Recommended Reads for 7th Graders





Genesis Begins Again
Alicia D. Williams
J WILL,A

Thirteen-year-old Genesis tries again and again to lighten her black skin, thinking it is the root of her family's troubles, before discovering reasons to love herself as is.



The Henna Wars
Adiba Jaigirdar
T JAIG,A

When Nishat comes out to her parents, they say she can be anyone she wants - as long as she isn't herself. Because Muslim girls aren't lesbians. Nishat doesn't want to lose her family, but she also doesn't want to hide who she is, which only gets harder once Flávia walks into her life.



Sisters
Raina Telgemeier
JGN TELG,R

Raina's been wanting a sister for the longest time. When Amara finally arrives, life isn't quite like Raina imagined it. A great story by the master of middle grade graphic novels.



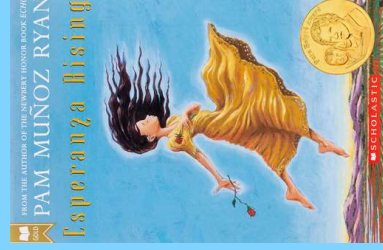
Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief
Rick Riordan
J RIORD,R

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.



Golden Girl
Reem Faruqi
J FARU,R

When her father is accused of a crime he didn't commit, seventh grader Aafiyah, a Pakistani American girl who has a habit of "borrowing" glittery things, decides to use her bad habit to reunite her family.



Esperanza Rising
Pam Muñoz Ryan
J RYAN,P

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.



Amari and the Night Brothers
B.B. Alston
J ALST,B

Thirteen-year-old Amari, a poor Black girl from the projects, gets an invitation from her missing brother to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs and join in the fight against an evil magician.



Surviving the City
Tasha Spillett
TGN SPIL,T

Miikwan and Dez are best friends. Miikwan's Anishinaabe; Dez is Innu. Together, the teens navigate the challenges of growing up in an urban landscape.



New Kid
Jerry Craft
JGN CRAF,J

After his parents send him to a prestigious private school known for its academics, Jordan Banks finds himself torn between two worlds.