



I. Readers Advisory for Non-Professionals
(Library Clerks & Staff)

II. 2017 Forecast & Trends in Children's and Young Adult Literature

Kaela Wallman
Schenectady County Public Library
kwallman@mvl.info

I. Readers Advisory for Library Clerks & Staff

- Noted strengths of library staff other than librarians
- Key piece of readers advisory is the conversation & librarians are not the only staff members that excel in probing, listening & responding
- With basic training, key phrases, and a willingness to try, clerical staff can shine at suggesting library materials to young patrons & parents
- With non-professionals, emphasize the qualities of openness and connection with patrons and let the computer do the “heavy lifting”

Early Literacy Readers Advisory

- Lead-in questions to ask parent/caregiver:
 - (Upon returning of books) Which selections did you like best?
 - What has worked in the past?
 - Do you remember books from your own childhood?
 - When do you read to your child?
 - Are you working on building your child's literacy? I can show you rhyming, singing stories & books with simple sight words.
- Ask the child:
 - What are your favorite toys?
 - What shows or movies do you like?

Elementary or Teen Readers Advisory

- Ask parent/caregiver:
 - Do you know your child's reading level? What grade are they in? Do you know if they reading at grade level?
 - Do you like to read?
 - Do you have a reading goal for your child?
 - Share the 5 finger rule and the tricks of graphic novels
- Ask the child:
 - Is this for an assignment or because you want to read for fun?
 - What was the last book you liked?
 - What do you like to do besides reading? (gauge their interests)

Tools for Your Toolbelt

- “Thanks for sharing, let’s find some just right books together.”
- “These are just suggestions, it’s ok if they don’t look appealing to you.”
- Diverse books concept: “Would you like to try a book that is a window on another world or a mirror to your life?”
- Take books off the shelf, open them up and show to parents & kids. Put them back on shelf, but leave selections sticking out
- If possible, engage the parent & child in the search at the computer. Use card catalog, Novelist, B&N.com, Goodreads, CCBC from University of Wisconsin, & Bank Street
- Online converter: [Scholastic Book Wizard](#)
- Flip the screen around so patrons can see how/what you are searching
- Use the PAC for searching as much as you can, share simple search tips

Barriers/Breakthroughs in Readers Advisory

- Time
- Teen patrons don't come to the circulation/reference desk
- Annoying parents/annoyed kids
- "I've read that. I've read that. I've read that."
- Try a simple inviting phrase at check-in or check-out: "You made great choices, please ask if we can ever help you find more titles next time"
- Adopt predictive borrowing strategies for teens who return books. Note what they return, search alike titles & give them a list of options
- Divide and conquer – pick the easiest target and offer "can I show you something?"
- Is there a different author you've wanted to try?

II. Trends in Children's and Young Adult Literature & Publishing - 2017





Highlights of Trends 2017

Young Readers

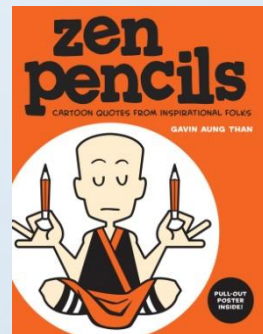
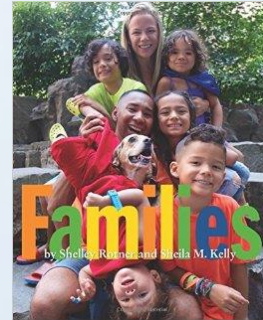
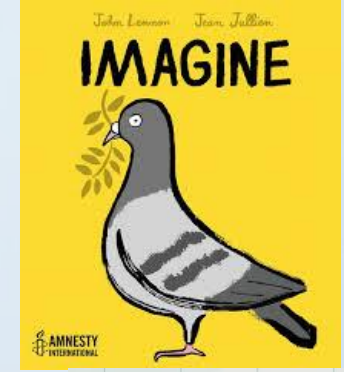
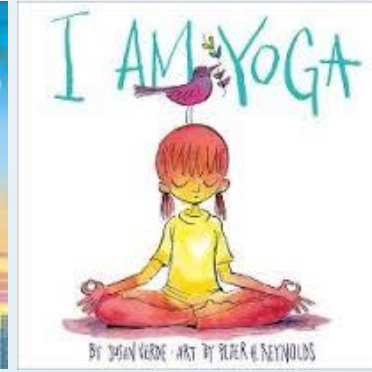
- Lessons on kindness prevail – publishers look for books with “moral & emotional punch”
- Several book anniversaries (make us feel old) and offer opportunities for reprint & reintroduction of “modern classics”
- Thank goodness for funny books!
- Reinvented classics
- Publishers push diverse stories and continue to make the ‘new normal’

Middle Grade and Young Adult

- Kindness thrives along with books featuring unique & vibrant voices
- Accessible fantasy and magical realism are re-emergent in 2017
- Capital D for Diversity (and its Dominance)
- Authors are the selling point & fans/publishers reward those who are active in their digital lives
- Still STEMing
- Fiction with a historical context or element of the story; just not the focus

Kindness is King

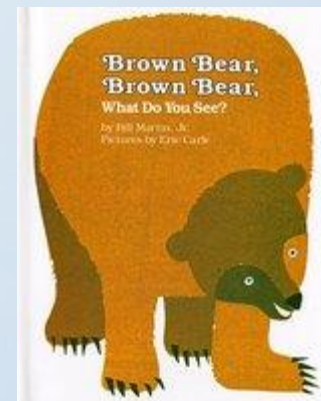
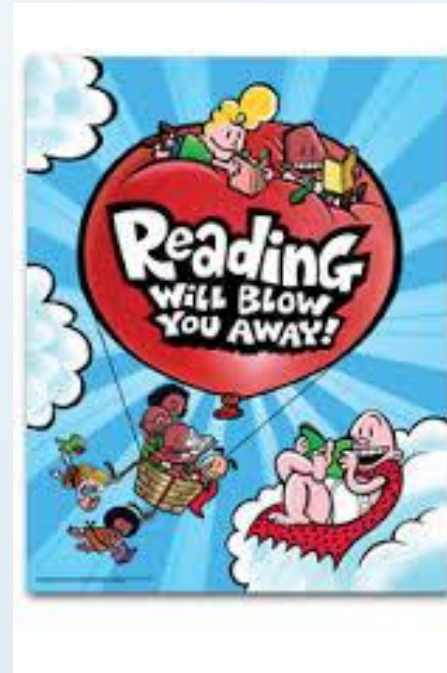
- Titles serve as a counterpoint to presidential election, voices dominating the media coverage & represent an “everyone counts” attitude
- Picture books emphasize empathy, openness and sharing
- Books for older readers feature unexpected friendships



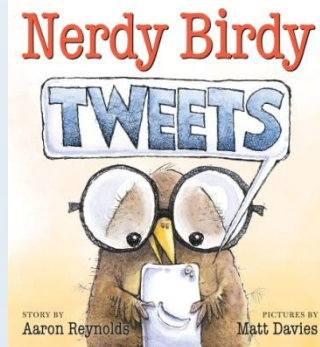
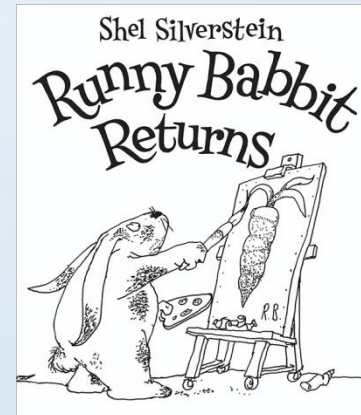
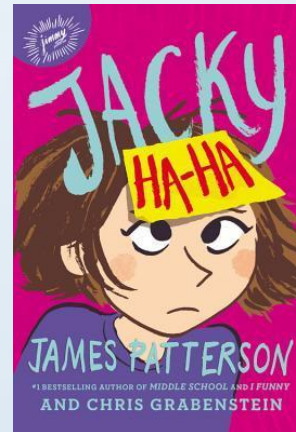
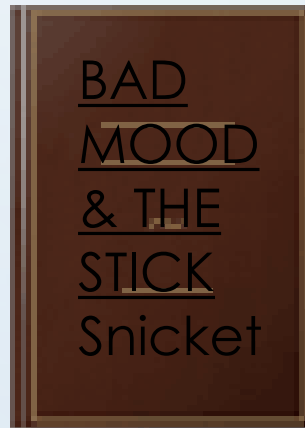
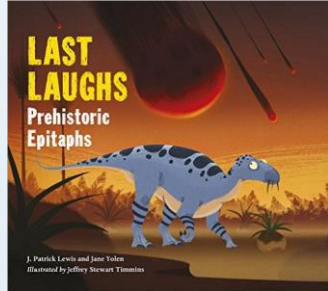
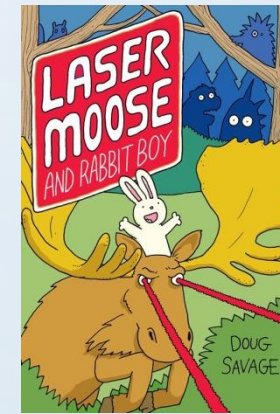
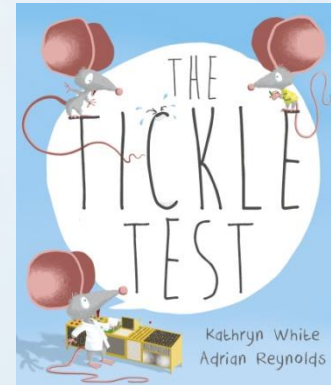
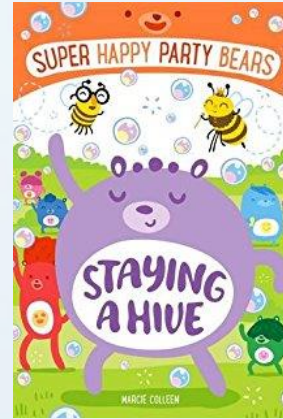
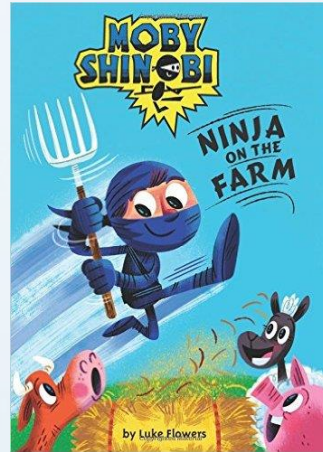
A Feel Better Book for Little Ones Who Worry
by Brochmann and Bowen

I See You
by Michael Genhart

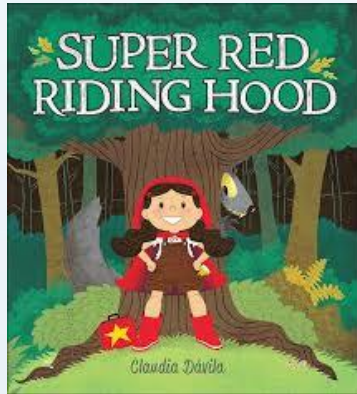
Book Anniversaries



Thank goodness for funny books

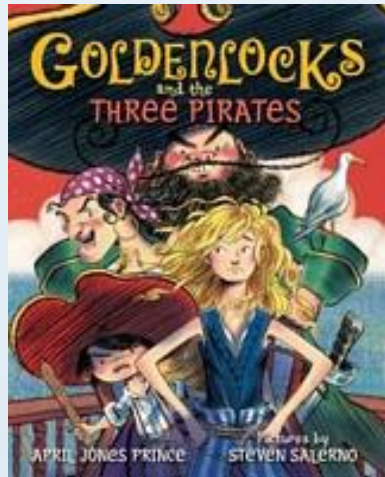
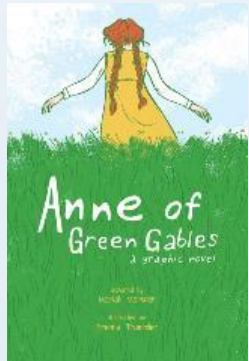


Reinvented Classics



Rapunzel by
Bethan
Woolvin

Twinderella
by Coresy
Rosen
Schwartz



Real Story of
the Emperor's
New Clothes
by
Compestine

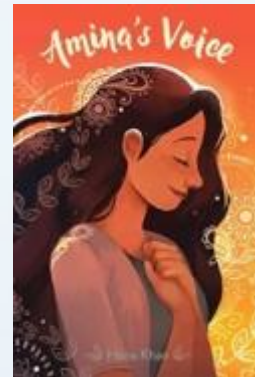
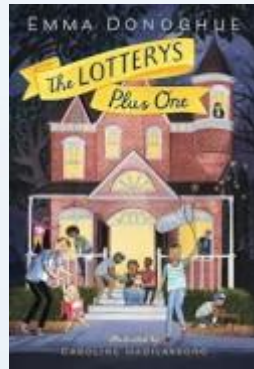


Mermaid by
Jan Brett

Muppets Meet
the Classics:
The Phantom
of the Opera
by Leroux and
Jackson

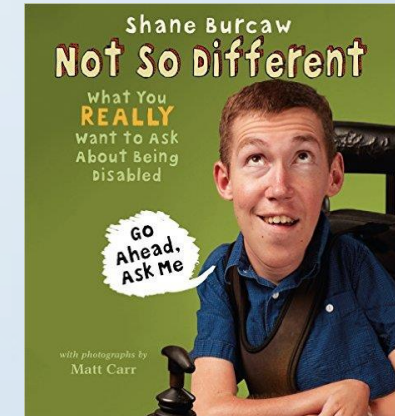


Publishers push diverse stories and continue to make the 'new normal'

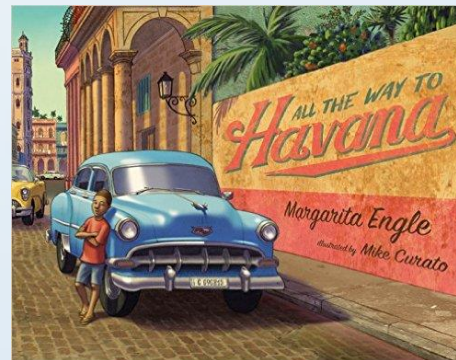


Liara Tamani's Calling My Name

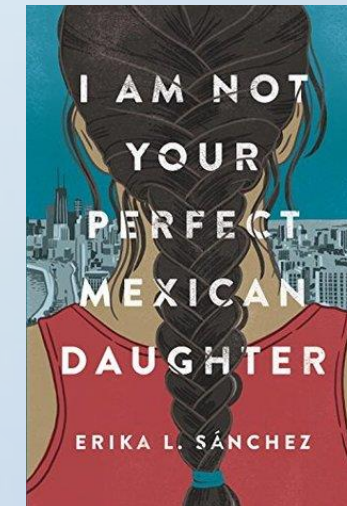
Jane O'Reilly's Notations of Cooper Cameron



Can I Touch Your Hair?
Latham and Waters



Between the Lines
by Grimes

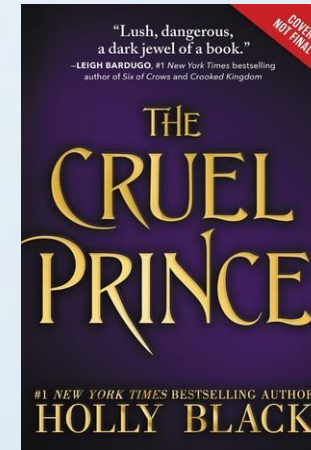
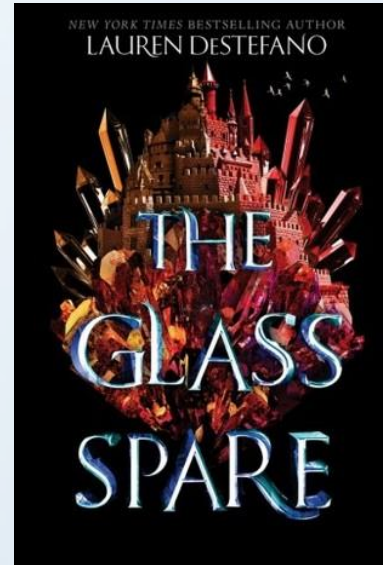


Accessible fantasy and magical realism are re-emergent in 2017



DiCamillo's
La La La
Cover
Coming
Soon

Girls Made
of Snow
and Glass
Cover
Coming
Soon

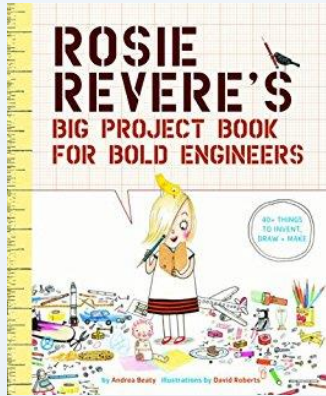


Mad
Magic by
Nicole
Conway

Last Namsara
by Ciccarelli

Five Kingdoms book
#5 Time Jumpers
(conclusion to series)
by Brandon Mull

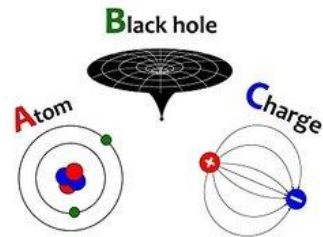
Still STEMing



Fold a Flap: Opposites
by Giordano
(board book)

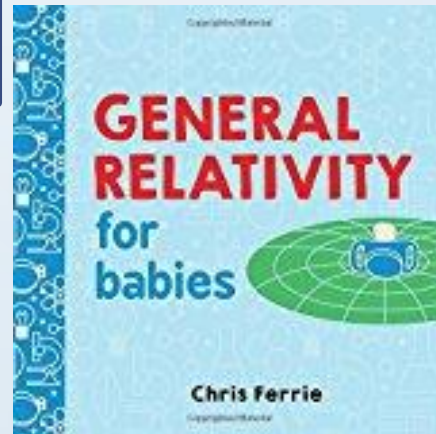
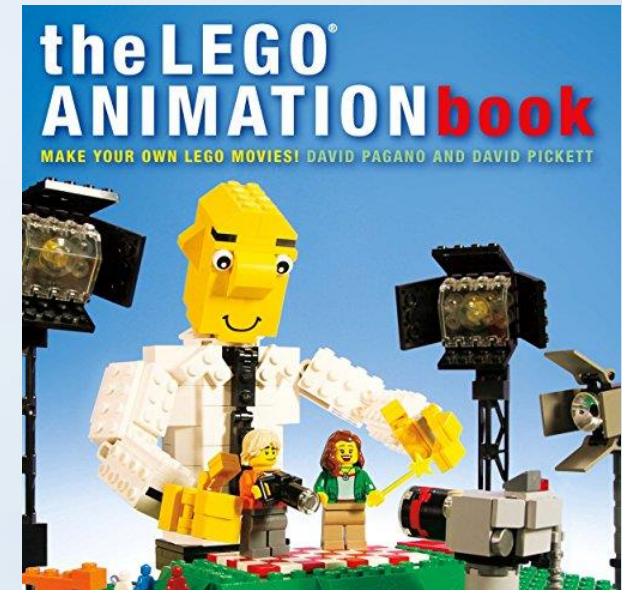
Explanatorium
of Nature
Dk

The ABC's of Physics

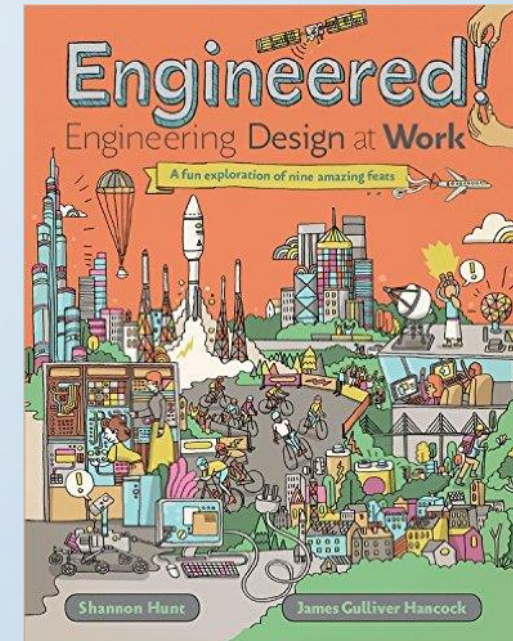


by Chris Ferrie

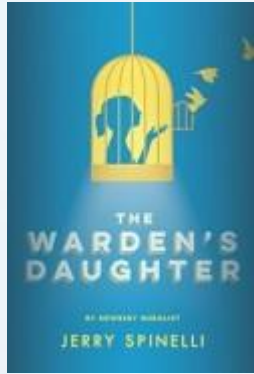
Wild Winter
Adventure!
By Behling
(Nickelodeon
Rusty Rivets
series)



DK's Optical
Illusions 2



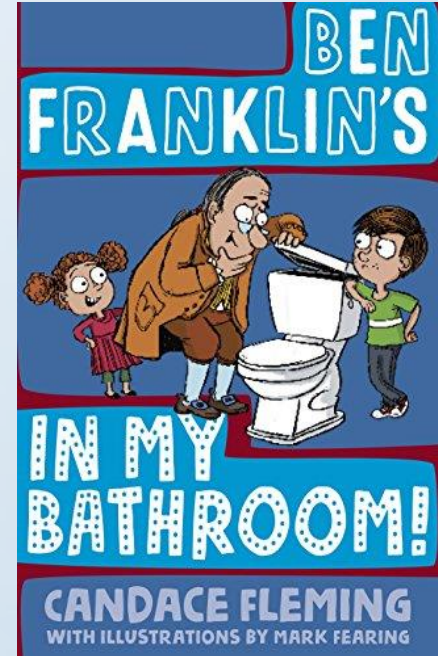
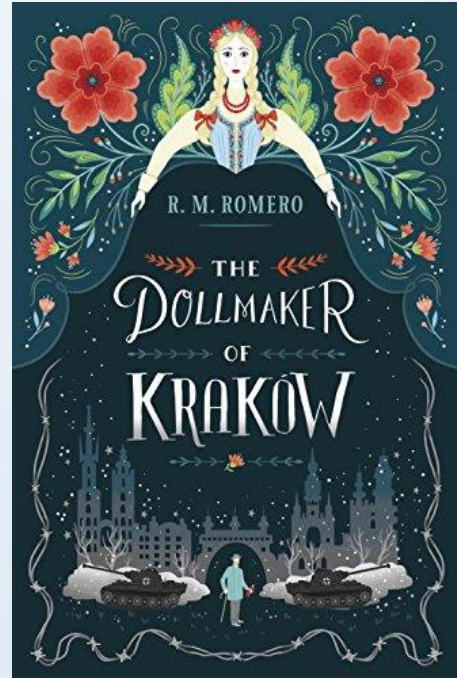
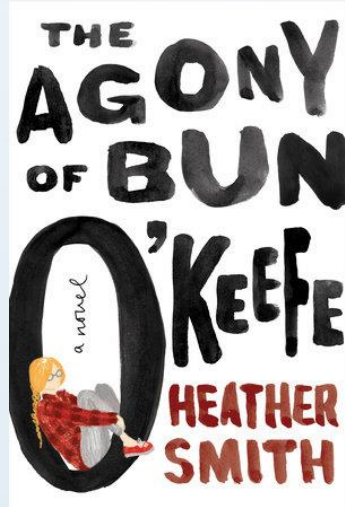
Historical context to Middle Grade & YA Fiction/Nonfiction



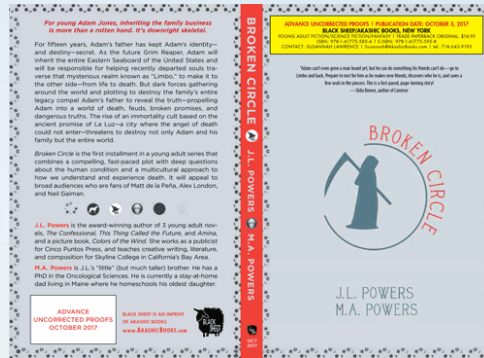
Dazzle Ships by Barton

In the Night Garden by Horvath

Gertie Milk by Simon Van Booy



Young Adult of Note



Nice Try
Jane
Sinner

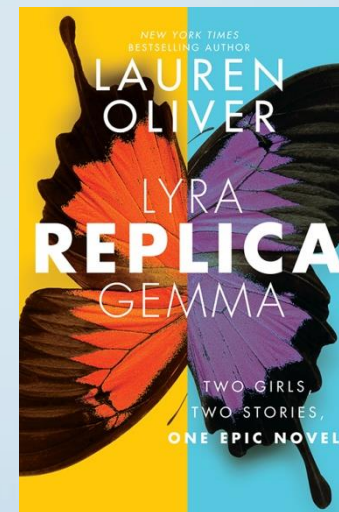
Jen Lancaster's Gatekeepers

Assassin's Curse by Sands

Sarah Maas Throne of Glass #6 (conclusion 2018?)

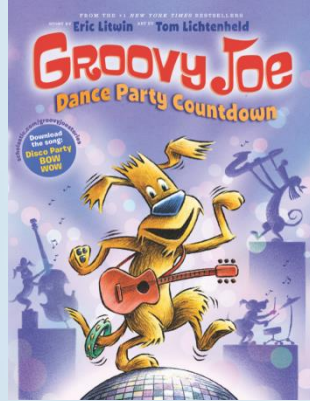
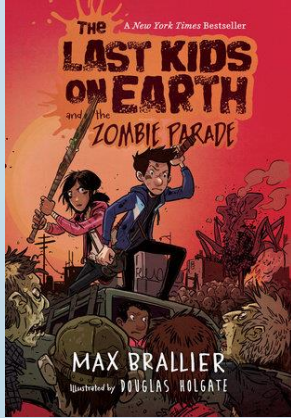
Sun Warrior by P.C. Cast

Ringer by Lauren Oliver



More Titles of Note (fall 2017 releases)

Margaret Wise Brown's The Steam Roller illus. by Bob Staake



Willems & Collier easy reader It's Shoe Time

Dork Diaries 12

Salam Alaikum by Harris J

