



*Rochambeau & Memorial*

*Middle Schools*

Entering Grade 6

2017

Summer Literacy Suggestions

June 2017

Dear Students Entering Sixth Grade:

Welcome to Rochambeau & Memorial Middle Schools' 2017 Summer Literacy Program! One of our exciting school goals is to support you in continuing your journey toward becoming lifelong readers and writers. Reading and writing enrich life in so many ways. They help you create ideas, imagine possibilities, challenge positions, learn information, and connect to a variety of people and places. Of course they both are a lot of fun, too! This summer, in between camp and hanging out, your goal is to read **at least three books** and to try writing down some of your ideas. The following pages have some great suggestions, but your selections and ideas can come from anywhere. You don't need to read books from this list; feel free to search the websites, browse a bookstore or library and find your own choices. In the fall, we will be asking you to do two things:

1. Share a list of the books you most enjoyed reading and a sample of your summer writing.
2. Participate in a Summer Literacy activity in your English/ELA class. This may be in the form of a discussion or book review.

Ultimately we hope that you find moments in your day to read and write this summer, that you discuss your thoughts, ideas and books with family members and friends and create an important place in your life for reading and writing.

Sincerely,  
Rochambeau & Memorial's  
Staff of Readers and Writers

## On the web

**American Library Association**, <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/bookawards/booklists/members>

Young adult book lists ranging from Quick Picks for the Reluctant Young Reader to Popular Paperbacks.

**Gysread.com** Web-based literacy program for boys. Books guys want to read.

**Nerdy Book Club** [nerdybookclub.wordpress.com](http://nerdybookclub.wordpress.com)

**Newbery Medal Home Page** <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/>

[newberywinners/medalwinners](#) Newbery Medal winners, 1922 to present.

**Nutmeg Book Award**, <https://sites.google.com/site/nutmegbookaward/> Nutmeg nominees & past winners.

**Sharing Our Notebooks** <http://www.sharingournotebooks.amylv.com/p/summer-notebooking-try-it.html>

## Discovery: the Real Stuff

**Amelia Lost: The Life & Disappearance of Amelia Earhart**

**Candace Fleming**

Unique nonfiction, alternating between Amelia's life and the exhaustive search for her and her missing plane. With incredible photos, maps, and hand written notes from Amelia herself.

**Big Ideas that Changed the World**

**Isabel Thomas**

Read & marvel at the stories behind some of the world's most amazing discoveries that have made a sensation, from the first wheel to satellite navigation, the Model T Ford, & Edison's light bulb.

**Bleed, Blister, Puke and Purge**

**Marin Younker**

The Dirty Secrets Behind Early American Medicine exposes the extraordinary practices and major players of American medical history, from the colonial era to the late 1800s.

**Bugged: How Insects Have Changed History**

**Sarah Albee**

There are about ten quintillion insects in the world--and some of them have affected human history in tremendous ways! For as long as humans have been on earth, we've co-existed with insects . . . for better or for worse. This book is told with fun and informative graphics.

**The Great White Shark Scientist**

**Sy Montgomery**

Scientists in the Field Series: Is Cape Cod is a breeding ground for great white sharks? A daring expedition travels into the realm of great whites to show readers that in order to save the planet and its creatures, we must embrace our humanity and face our greatest fears.

**The New Way Things Work**

**David Macaulay**

How do things work? This illustrated, humorous, easy-to-understand book richly shows how everything from a toilet to a fire extinguisher works.

## Authors of Adventure

### The Blackthorne Key

Kevin Sands

In the 1600s, England, Christopher Rowe, the apprentice to a Master Apothecary, tries to solve the murder of his master with the help of his loyal best friend. Codes, ciphers, chemistry and humor add to the mystery.

### The Copernicus Legacy—a series

Tony Abbott

A thrilling adventure packed with puzzles, intrigue, and action. Fans of Rick Riordan will love this exciting series that takes the reader all over the globe in a race to find pieces of a mysterious hidden past—before it's too late. **Also *The Serpent's Curse & The Golden Vendetta*.**

### Dawn of the Spies

Andrew Lane

A Crusoe Adventure. Rescued from a deserted Caribbean island, 17-year-old Robinson Crusoe and his female friend, Friday, find themselves in late 1600s London, a bustling city that proves as treacherous for them to navigate as the remote island they just left behind.

### Nameless City

Faith Hicks

Continually under invasion, the natives of the City don't let themselves get caught up in the unending wars. To them, their home is the Nameless City, and those who try to invade and name it are forever outsiders.

### Under the Egg—2018 Nutmeg Nominee

Laura Marx Fitzgerald

Grandpa Jack's dying words were "look under the egg." Now Theo and her quirky friends are chasing clue to clue across New York City, trying to uncover the riddle Grandpa Jack left behind.

## Fantasy

### Ascendance Trilogy: The False Prince

Jennifer A. Nielsen

In this first book, an orphan is forced into a twisted game with deadly stakes. Choose to lie...or choose to die. **Also *Runaway King & Shadow*.**

### The Beastkeeper

Cat Hellisen

Sarah's mother walks out and her father, unable to function, leaves Sarah with her grandmother in a creepy crumbling castle where she discovers the beastly curse that was placed upon her family. Can she break the curse or will it claim her, too?

### Brotherband Chronicles: The Outcasts—a series

John A. Flanagan

A companion to the *Ranger's Apprentice* series. Full of seafaring adventures and epic battles. **Also *The Invaders, The Hunters, Slaves of Socorro, Scorpion Mountain & Ghostfaces*.**

### Five Kingdoms: Sky Raiders—a series

Brandon Mull

**Written by former Rochambeau student & author of the *Fablehaven & Beyonders* series!** Cole was just trying to have a fun time with his friends on Halloween. But when a spooky haunted house turns out to be a portal to something much creepier, Cole finds himself on an adventure on a whole different level. **Also *Rogue Night, Crystal Keepers, & Death Weavers*.**

### Lockwood & Co.: The Screaming Staircase—a series

Jonathan Stroud

The British Isles have become plagued with ghostly Visitors and three teens have formed a company to help rid them from the country—for a fee. **Also *The Whispering Skull, The Hollow Boy, Creeping Shadow, & The Empty Grave* September 2017 publication.**

### Magisterium: The Iron Trial—a 2017 Nutmeg & series

Black & Clare

Despite his father's warnings to stay away, Callum and his friends are heading deep into the magical world where twisted, sinister adventures and enemies await them. **Also *The Copper Gauntlet, The Bronze Key & The Silver Mask* August 2017 publication.**

### Serafina and the Black Cloak

Robert Beatty

In 1899, 12 year-old Serafina lives with her father in the basement of the Vanderbilts' estate. When children begin disappearing, she and Braeden Vanderbilt decide to solve the mystery, and in the process Serafina discovers secrets of her past.

## **Great Middle School Stories of Growing Up**

### **Counting By 7s—2016 Nutmeg Winner**

**Holly Goldberg Sloan**

An intensely moving middle grade novel about being an outsider, coping with loss, and discovering the true meaning of family.

### **Gaby, Lost and Found—2017 Nutmeg Nominee**

**Angela Cervantes**

Forced to live with her inattentive father when her mother is deported to Honduras, Gaby finds comfort working at the local animal shelter where she meets a cat named Feather. When Feather's well-being is threatened, Gaby will fight to keep her safe; but who will fight for Gaby?

### **Kinda Like Brothers—2018 Nutmeg Nominee**

**Coe Booth**

Jarrett doesn't trust Kevon. But he's got to share a room with him anyway. It was one thing when Jarrett's mom took care of foster babies who needed help. But this time it's different...

### **The Last Dragonslayer—2015 Nutmeg Nominee**

**Jasper Fforde**

In a world where magic may be fading away, Jennifer may be the newest and final Dragonslayer.

### **Goodbye Stranger—2018 Nutmeg Nominee**

**Rebecca Stead**

Friends struggle with the changes middle school and family issues bring to their lives. Three girls are best friends with one rule: No fighting. Can it get them through seventh grade?

### **Ms. Bixby's Last Day**

**John Anderson**

A sixth grade class finds out that their wonderful teacher has cancer. Three boys decide to let her know what she means to them. Told with heart and humor.

### **Fish in a Tree—2018 Nutmeg Nominee**

**Lynda Mullaly Hunt**

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the troublemaker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.

### **The Best Man**

**Richard Peck**

Archer Magill has three grown-up role models: his grandpa, his dad, and his Uncle Paul. These are the three people he wants to be like. Then he finds a fourth—Mr. McLeod, a teacher; the first male teacher in his school. But middle school and puberty start to change things as he is introduced to a gay teacher and gay marriage.

### **The Distance From Home**

**Jen Bishop**

Told in then-and-now chapters, Quinnen struggles with the loss of her older sister and roots for the minor league in her town.

### **Savvy**

**Ingrid Law**

The Beaumont family has a magical secret. They each possess a "savvy", a special supernatural power that strikes when they turn thirteen. Grandpa Bomba moves mountains, her older brothers create hurricanes and spark electricity . . . and now it's the eve of Mibs's big day...

### **A Snicker of Magic—2017 Nutmeg Nominee**

**Natalie Lloyd**

Felicity arrives in Midnight Gulch and learns from her mama that there used to be magic there. Magic is a bonus for Felicity, who longs to stay in one place so she can make a friend. She finds one in wheelchair-bound Jonah, and he fills in Felicity on the town's magical history and its people.

### **Slacker**

**Gordon Korman**

Gamer Cameron Boxer starts a pretend service club to order to get his parents off his back and convince them that he does more than just play online interactive games. But that all becomes too real when a classmate asks his service club to take action against a local issue. Funny story!

**Keep Thinking & Writing**

**...All Summer Long!**

If I waited  
for perfection,  
I would never write  
**A WORD.**

-Margaret Atwood

## **Sometimes it is hard to get started with writing!**

If you feel stuck, or want great ideas for starting points, check out these possibilities from the website *Sharing Our Notebooks*.

Some of these might sound great to you, while others might not. Pick and choose the ones that inspire you to get writing!

**Take 15 minutes at the end of each day to jot down answers to these 3 questions: What surprised you today? What moved or touched you? What inspired you?**

Go to a public place and write about what you see. Don't worry about what people are thinking, just observe and record.

You're stuck in traffic at a long red light or in a construction zone. Look around you. Who else is on the road? Observe the license plates. Often, they tell us a lot about the person inside the car. Try deciphering the code on the plate, and then write a brief character sketch about the person in the car. Who are they? Where are they going? What are they hiding? What are they famous for? What makes them unique, important, or unusual?

Begin with the day's weather! Go out in the weather and write about it. Poems, short phrases, longer paragraphs...what can you do with your words (and maybe illustrations, too!) to bring to life all the wonders the weather has to offer?

**Stick things into your notebook: tickets, receipts, restaurant bills, pictures cut from a brochure, any of the little paper things around you when you go out in public.**

**Tape one of these down onto a page, and write a few notes about what you were doing, who was with you, what you were thinking about, why you were there.**

So often we are asked, especially in school, to write about what we “love”-- a favorite place, a beloved pet, etc. Sometimes, thinking about things we don’t love--or, better yet, things we wished we loved, but don’t--provides just as much, if not more, fodder for writing. So, what do you have to say about those things you don’t love? Or some things you wish you loved?

*Pay attention to the words that others say. Listen to interesting phrases, and gather them into your own notebook. You might sit in a public place and listen for interesting snips of stranger-conversation or you might copy down words spoken by those you know. Keep these in your own notebook-- they may come in handy for future projects.*

Sometimes all we have to do is walk about and ideas for writing will find us. Try taking a walk about your home or your backyard. Explore your world, and write what you notice. You never know what will turn up to write about!

Do you have a collection of any sort? Objects from nature like shells, or other kinds of objects like Pokemon cards?

Choose an object and write its story.

Where were you? Who were you with? What were you doing?  
What were you feeling?

For more ideas, visit the website:

<http://www.sharingournotebooks.amylv.com/p/summer-notebooking-try-it.html>

With special thanks to Ann, Greg, Stacey, Gretta, Shawna, Melanie, Kiesha, Elizabeth and Gretchen for their suggestions.

## Sample Notebook Entrees

### *Summer Camp Talent Show*

*"Come on. Don't be nervous. We signed up for the talent show because we have talent!" Sarah laughed. But inside, I definitely didn't feel like I had talent.*

*"Okay, Jill. This is simple. Just one note after the other. Super easy. Just 34 notes. 34 long dreadful notes." They were spinning through my head like a windmill in a tornado. I wasn't sure if I was excited or I if just wanted to run away. It was too late.*

*"And next up we have Jill and Sarah playing the flute!" The announcer boomed.*

*I heard screams and cheers. Then clapping. I heard it, but I couldn't see it. The lights burned into my pupils.*

*"Ready?" Sarah asked.*

*"More than ever," I said sarcastically.*

*"One, two, three," she whispered.*

*Note after note, the sound of the flute duet we were playing pulled me into a trance. I forgot about the 400 people watching. I forgot about everything but the music. I smiled.*

*"Yes," I whispered to myself. "I did it"*

### Observing Nature

I saw a family of birds today. They didn't see me watching. The dad perched at the edge of the nest, poking at the baby birds. The momma bird was in the grass. They called back and forth to each other. Dad poked some more. Then one of those babies climbed up to the edge of the nest and called out to his mom. He leaned and stretched and then, WOW! He jumped and soared to the grass below to stand next to his mom. WOW! Such beauty in nature!

### Practicing the Piano

Like anything you want to be good at, playing piano takes practice - a lot of practice. There just isn't any way around this. One thing that is super important to practice is scales. Ideally, you've got a metronome next to the piano that is easily set to different tempos. Set the tempo to a speed at which you can comfortably practice scales with both hands at least two octaves; then see-- are you able to do it? If you're playing jazz, it is important to the set the metronome to beats two and four-- not one and three. Practicing with the beats set to offbeats will increase your "feel" for swing, a common jazz style.



## Reading in Fun Formats

### **Addie on the Inside**

**James Howe**

As seventh grade progresses, Addie's not so sure anymore about who she is. It seems her tough exterior is just a little too tough and that doesn't help her deal with the turmoil she feels on the inside as she faces the pains of growing up. Told in elegant, accessible verse.

### **Harry Potter and the Cursed Child**

**J.K. Rowling**

Using time travel, Albus Snape Potter tries to fix a future event that he created in the past.

### **Hazardous Tales: Alamo All-Stars**

**Nathan Hale**

The history of the Alamo in an award-winning graphic novel.

### **The Marvels**

**Brian Selznick**

From the author of *Wonderstruck* & *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*: Two stories that connect—one told in pencil drawings, one with words. A history of the Marvels, a theater family connects into that of a boy and his uncle who live in a strange house and discover the power of story.

### **Olympians—a series**

**George O'Conner**

Graphic novel series based on mythology. The gods interfere in the lives of the humans and the demi-gods as we watch the story unfold. *Odysseus: Escaping Poseidon's Curse*; *Perseus: The Hunt for Medusa's Head*; *The Trojan Horse: The fall of Troy*; *Hercules: The Twelve Labors*; *Apollo: The Brilliant One*; *Ares: Bringer of War*.

### **The Tapper Twins go to War—a 2018 Nutmeg Nominee & series**

**Geoff Rodkey**

What's wrong with a little pranking among siblings? Things couldn't possibly escalate, could they? Also *The Tapper Twins Tear Up New York, ...Run for President, & ...Go Viral*.

### **Who Done It?**

**Jon Scieszka**

An anthology of alibis—80 YA authors, and suspects in the murder of Herman Mildew, share their alibis...but they are all liars and have something to hide...

## Inspired by True Life Experiences

### **All of the Above**

**Shelly Pearsall**

James, Rhondell, Sharice, and Marcel attend the same inner-city school. Their teacher, Mr. Collins, challenges these diverse students to build the world's biggest Sierpinski tetrahedron in an after-school club. Based on a true story.

### **The Boys in the Boat**

**Daniel Brown**

The true story of an American team's epic journey to win gold at the 1936 Olympics. The inspiring story of The University of Washington's underdog crew team that beat all of the big East Coast teams and went on to win the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.

### **The Boys Who Challenged Hitler**

**Phillip Hoose**

When the Germans took over Denmark in 1940, two brothers thought their country gave in too easily and decided to fight back. The boys formed a group of saboteurs to bring havoc on the Germans.

### **Towers Falling**

**Jewell Parker Rhodes**

Deja's class studies home and community, including all about the two tall towers that were once visible outside their classroom window, Deja can't help but feel confused. She sets off on a journey of discovery, and learns about who she is, what America means, and how communities can grow (and heal). She uncovers new questions, too—like, why does Pop get so angry when she brings up anything about the towers?

## **Sports—Mike Lupica and MORE!**

### **The Final Four—2015 *Nutmeg Nominee***

**Paul Volponi**

It's the semifinal game of March Madness—as the teams race to find victory, the stories of how each player arrived there are revealed.

### **Throwing Strikes: The Quest for the Perfect Knuckleball.**

**R.A. Dickey**

An inspiring true story about one of the most respected pitchers in the game—R.A. is proof that with hard work and devotion, anyone can overcome whatever life throws at him.

### **John Feinstein**

**Triple Threat—a series:** *The Walk On*

**The Sports Beat Series:** *Last Shot: Mystery at the Final Four, Vanishing Act: Mystery at the US Open, Cover-Up: Mystery at the Super Bowl, Change-Up: Mystery at the World Series, The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game.*

### **Tim Green**

**Football Genius Series:** *Football Genius, Football Hero, Football Champ, The Big Time, Deep Zone and Perfect Season.*

**Baseball Great Series:** *Baseball Great, Best of the Best, Pinch Hit and Rivals.*

**Other Novels:** *Unstoppable, Pinch Hit, Force Out, New Kid, Lost Boy, and Left Out.*

### **Dan Gutman**

**The Baseball Card Adventures—a series:** *Babe & Me, Honus & Me, Jackie & Me, Shoeless Joe & Me, Mickey & Me, Ted & Me, Willie & Me, Satch & Me, Roberto & Me, Ray & Me, Abner & Me, Jim & Me.*

**Million Dollar series:** *Million Dollar Catch, Million Dollar Kick, Million Dollar Putt, Million Dollar Shot, Million Dollar Strike, Million Dollar Goal.*

**Other Books:** *Casey Back at Bat, Gymnastics: the Trials, the Triumph, the Truth* (nonfiction).

### **Mike Lupica**

**Game Changers Series:** *Game Changers, Play Makers, and Heavy Hitters.*

**Comeback Kid Series:** *Two-Minute Drill, Hot Hand, Safe at Home, Long Shot and Shoot Out. Travel Team, Summer Ball* (sequel).

**Home Team Series:** *The Only Game, The Extra Yard.*

**Other Novels:** *True Legend, Hero, Underdogs, Million-Dollar Throw, Batboy, Miracle on 49th Street, The Big Field, QB1, Fast Break and Last Man Out.*

## **Mystery**

### **All Fall Down—an *Embassy Row* series**

**Ally Carter**

Someone killed Grace's mother; now she wants to keep him from striking again. Grace lives with her grandfather, a US Ambassador, and gets other embassy kids to help. **Also *How They Run.***

### **FunJungle: Belly Up—a series**

**Stuart Gibbs**

12 year-old Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt Fitzroy has murder on his hands and trouble on his tail. He believes that Henry, the hippopotamus at the brand-new FunJungle, has been murdered. The zoo's top brass claim the hippo went belly up the natural way, but Teddy and his feisty friend Summer McCracken have other ideas. The deeper Teddy and Summer dig, the more danger they're in! **Also *Poached, Big Game, & Panda-Monium.***

### **Mo & Dale Mysteries—a series & 2016 *Nutmeg***

**Sheila Turnage**

Mo LoBeau is no typical sixth grader. She and her best friend Dale open the Desperado Detective Agency in their tiny town of Tupelo Landing, in hopes of solving some of the mysteries and injustices that find their way there. Clever, fun, and fast-paced novels. **See *Three Times Lucky, The Ghosts of Tupelo Landing, & The Odds of Getting Even.***

### **PK Pinkerton—a *mystery series***

**Caroline Lawrence**

PK is a twice orphan who wants to be a detective. Set in the 1800s, these books stand alone with fun, clever characters and nonstop action. **Enjoy *PK Pinkerton & the Petrified Man, ... & the Deadly Desperados, ... & the Pistol-Packing Widows, The Case of the Bogus Detective.***

## Science Fiction

### The Accelerati Trilogy: Tesla's Attic

Shusterman & Elfman

A story of teenagers versus mad scientists: action-packed adventure. Also *Edison's Alley & Hawking's Highway*.

### Don't Turn Around—a 2015 *Nutmeg Nominee* & series

Michelle Gagnon

When computer genius, Noa, wakes up in a warehouse with an IV in her arm and no memory of how she got there, she starts to wish that she had someone on her side...Also *Don't Look Now & Don't Let Go*.

### The Eleventh Plague

Jeff Hirsch

With America's landscape ravaged and two-thirds of the population left dead from a vicious strain of influenza, fifteen-year-old Stephen and his family were among the few that survived and became salvagers, roaming the country in search of material to trade. Then tragedy strikes and Stephen is left to make decisions that will change their lives forever.

### Insignia—2015 *Nutmeg Nominee* and series

S.J. Kincaid

An elite military academy recruits Tom Raines to train to become a soldier in outer space, and he can't believe his good fortune. As his training begins, though, Tom finds he might have to sacrifice more than he'd thought in order to succeed. Also *Vortex & Catalyst*.

### The Missing—a series

Margaret Haddix

Jonah and his friend Chip begin receiving ominous messages declaring that they are among "the missing" and that someone is coming to find them. Frightened, yet intrigued, the boys begin a search for their real identities. Enjoy the series: *Found, Sent, Sabotaged, Torn, and Caught*.

### The Wild Robot

Peter Brown

Robot Roz lands on a remote island after the container ship she was being transported on sinks. Otters accidentally power her up and she begins to become part of the local animal world.

### Zodiac Legacy: Convergence—a series

Stan Lee

Two teens try and harness the power of the Chinese zodiac in hopes of ruling the world.

## 2018 Nutmeg Nominees

### Book Scavenger

Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

An online game goes viral and kids everywhere are solving puzzles to find books all over the world. When the game's creator goes missing, Emily and James try to figure out what happened before the attackers come for them.

### Gabriel Finley and the Raven's Riddle

George Hagen

When Gabriel rescues a baby raven, he discovers that people in his family can bond with ravens in fantastic ways. He and three friends go on a quest with his raven, in an attempt to rescue his missing father, solving riddles and escaping flocks of vicious birds along the way.

### Ratscalibur

Josh Lieb

Joey finds himself transformed into a rat after he is bitten by one. In his new form, he is chosen for a quest that has him battling crows to try to save his new rat friends.

### Took: A Ghost Story

Mary Dowling Hahn

Daniel is new in town and won't be fooled by the kids trying to scare him with creepy ghost stories. When Daniel's little sister starts acting strange and distant, eventually disappearing into the woods, Daniel knows something is terribly wrong. Could the ghost stories be true? Has Erica been "took"?

### A Whole New Ballgame

Phil Bildner

5th grade is exciting and unpredictable for best friends Rip and Red. Their new teacher, Mr. Acevedo prefers eccentric out-of-the-box assignments that prove to be the opposite of boring test prep. When Mr. Acevedo turns out to be their new basket ball coach, too, the boys realize they are in for a wild ride.

## History With a Dash of Fiction

### **Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot" Michael Tunnell**

The story of C-54 cargo pilot, Lt. Gail S. Halvorsen, who in 1948 led an international candy campaign in bombed-out post-World War II Berlin.

### **Full of Beans**

**Jennifer Holm**

The New Dealers arrive in Key West in the middle of the Great Depression and plan to turn it into a tourist destination. Beans just wants to make a dime or two and his plans keep going awry. **Also *Turtle in Paradise*.**

### **Gold Seer Trilogy: Walk on Earth a Stranger—a series Rae Carson**

Leah has an extraordinary talent to sense when gold is near. When her parents are robbed and murdered and she disguises herself as a boy and leaves the only home she's ever known to join a wagon train for a new gold rush in California. Can she keep her identity a secret and survive this new adventure? **Also *Like a River Glorious & Into the Bright Unknown*** October 2017 publication.

### **Iron Thunder**

**Avi**

Thirteen-year-old Tom Carroll finds work at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on a secret project that may benefit the Northern armies during the Civil War. Pursued by spies from the South, he ends up in the middle of a sea battle. Will he find the courage to survive?

### **Lincoln's Grave Robbers**

**Steve Sheinkin**

The plan: grab Lincoln's body from its Springfield tomb, stash it in the sand dunes near Lake Michigan, and demand, as a ransom, the release of Ben Boyd --and \$200,000 in cash. Follow the story of the conspirators, the Secret Service agents on their trail, and the undercover agent moving back and forth between the two groups.

### **Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story**

**Nora Baskin**

Two days before 9-11, four kids in different parts of the country are going about their lives. Sergio, who lives in Brooklyn, is struggling to come to terms with the absentee father he hates and the grandmother he loves. Will's father is gone, too, killed in a car accident that has left the family reeling. Naheed has never before felt uncomfortable about being Muslim, but at her new school she's getting funny looks because of the head scarf she wears. Aimee is starting a new school in a new city and missing her mom, who has to fly to New York on business. These four don't know one another, but their lives are about to intersect in ways they never could have imagined.

### **One Crazy Summer**

**Rita Williams-Garcia**

Set during a pivotal moment in African American history, this vibrant novel shows the subtle ways that political movements affect personal lives. **Also *P.S. Be Eleven & Gone Crazy in Alabama*.**

### **Red Berries, White Clouds, Blue Sky**

**Sandra Dallas**

Tomi and her brothers are American, but after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1942, her family is separated and imprisoned in an interment camp for Japanese Americans in Colorado. Tomi tries to enrich the lives of her family and friends at the camp while her own faith in the American dream begins to waiver.

### **The Red Umbrella**

**Christina Gonzalez**

When Castro comes to power, teenage Lucia wants nothing to do with the revolution; she is more worried about what to wear to the school dance. Then she witnesses the horrifying public hanging of her father's boss, and her parents send her and her little brother to safety in the U.S., where a church places them in a kind foster home in Nebraska where everything is strange and different.

### **The War That Saved My Life—a 2018 *Nutmeg* Nominee Kimberly Bradley**

Born with a twisted foot, Ada has never been allowed to leave her small London apartment. As the threat of bombs looms over London during WWII, Ada and her little brother Jamie escape to the countryside. Ada's world opens up as she gains confidence and learns to trust those around her...but is trust enough to keep her family safe?

Cover art by Ava Sedensky