

*"The READING BEYOND list celebrates the power of books to lift and expand children's minds, providing reading experiences beyond levels and limits."*

- Susan Polos and Janet Wong, co-chairs of the ALA-CBC Joint Committee



*These books were chosen from over 600 submitted for evaluation by the ALA member librarians of the committee and were chosen for their content, quality, and variety of genre and format.*

**We suggest the following sites for more book titles:**

[www.cbcbooks.org](http://www.cbcbooks.org) / [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)

**Questions?** [cbc.info@cbcbooks.org](mailto:cbc.info@cbcbooks.org)

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## **for Children in Grades 4-5 reading at a 7th Grade level**

*Here are 25 books chosen by the American Library Association & Children's Book Council Joint Committee to provide guidance to parents, caregivers, teachers, librarians, and others interested in discovering books for children who read at an advanced level and are seeking more challenging, but still age-appropriate, books.*



**New for 2017-2018**

**The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**  
by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer  
Dial Books for Young Readers / Random House, 2016  
The memoir of William Kamkwamba, who created a windmill to bring lighting to his family home in Malawi. A true story about ingenuity from a pioneering spirit.

**Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot"**  
by Michael O. Tunnell  
Charlesbridge, 2010  
A US Air Force pilot drops candy to the children of blockaded West Berlin at the end of the European conflict during World War II.

**Earthrise: My Adventures as an Apollo 14 Astronaut**  
by Edgar Mitchell and Ellen Mahoney  
Chicago Review Press, 2014  
Recollections from the sixth man to ever walk on the Moon for young adult readers.

**\*Everland**  
by Wendy Spinale  
Scholastic, 2016  
In a London destroyed by a blitz of bombs and disease, Gwen Darling and her siblings find safety with a daredevil boy named Pete and his gang of Lost Boys.

**Falling Over Sideways**  
by Jordan Sonnenblick  
Scholastic, 2016  
When Claire's beloved father unexpectedly has a stroke in front of her, it changes everything.

**Girl Rising: Changing the World One Girl at a Time**  
by Tanya Lee Stone  
Wendy Lamb Books / Random House, 2016  
A compelling collection of stories of girls around the world who pursue their education, despite efforts to keep them from attending school.

**Gracefully Grayson**  
by Ami Polonsky  
Disney-Hyperion, 2014  
Grayson feels stuck in the wrong gender's body, but hopes to be cast as the female lead in the school play. Grayson's journey to self-discovery will move and inspire readers.

**Hour of the Bees**  
by Lindsay Eagar  
Candlewick Press, 2016  
What does it mean to be fully alive? Magic blends with reality in a stunning coming-of-age novel about a girl, a grandfather, wanderlust, and reclaiming your roots.

**The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog**  
by Adam Gidwitz  
Illustrated by Hatem Aly  
Dutton Children's Books / Random House, 2016  
A medieval tale, told from multiple points of view, about three children with extraordinary gifts on an incredible journey.

**Legends, Icons & Rebels: Music that Changed the World**  
by Robbie Robertson, et al.  
Tundra Books, 2013  
The lives of twenty-seven musicians are showcased in thoughtful biographies, gorgeous artwork, and CDs of their music.

**The Lightning Queen**  
by Laura Resau  
Scholastic, 2015  
Inspired by true stories derived from rural Mexico, *The Lightning Queen* offers a glimpse of the encounter between the Rom and the Mixtec Indians, while telling the heart-warming story of an unlikely friendship that spans generations.

**Lincoln's Grave Robbers**  
by Steve Sheinkin  
Scholastic, 2013  
Learn how a counterfeiting ring plotted to ransom Lincoln's body to secure the release of their imprisoned ringleader.

**Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95**  
by Phillip Hoose  
FSG Books for Young Readers / Macmillan, 2012  
National Book Award-winning author Phillip Hoose takes us around the hemisphere with the world's most celebrated shorebird.

**One Last Word: Wisdom from the Harlem Renaissance**  
by Nikki Grimes  
Bloomsbury USA, 2017  
Using the Golden Shovel poetic form, Nikki Grimes shares classic poetry and her own poems to bring the Harlem Renaissance to life for young readers.

**Pathfinders: The Journeys of 16 Extraordinary Black Souls**  
by Tonya Bolden  
Abrams, 2017  
A collection of sixteen mini-biographies of African-American trailblazers, brought to life with detailed histories and illustrations.

**Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution**  
by Ji-li Jiang  
HarperCollins, 1997  
This accessible autobiography is the true story of one girl's determination to hold her family together during a terrifying era in Chinese history.

**\*The Ruins of Gorlan (The Ranger's Apprentice #1)**  
by John Flanagan  
Scholastic Inc., 2007  
When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.

**Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story**  
by Caren Stelson  
Lerner / Carolrhoda, 2016  
In the aftermath of the bombing of her hometown of Nagasaki, survivor Sachiko Yasui seeks self-healing.

**Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune**  
by Pamela S. Turner  
Illustrated by Gareth Hinds  
Charlesbridge, 2016  
This stylish graphic adaptation of the Bard's romantic tragedy offers modern touches and a diverse cast that underscores the story's universality.

**Splendors and Glooms**  
by Laura Amy Schlitz  
Candlewick Press, 2012  
Newbery Medalist Laura Amy Schlitz brings her sorcery to a Victorian gothic thriller—an enthralling, darkly comic tale that would do Dickens proud.

**A Time to Dance**  
by Padma Venkatraman  
Nancy Paulsen Books / Penguin, 2014  
Veda lives and breathes dance, until an accident shatters her dreams. This inspiring story, told through verse, recounts her struggle to regain her passion and find peace.

**The Watch that Ends the Night: Voices from the Titanic**  
by Allan Wolf  
Candlewick Press, 2013  
The Titanic story told in verse through twenty-four distinct voices and extensive back matter, including coded messages to decipher and historical documents.

**This Same Sky: A Collection of Poems from Around the World**  
Edited by Naomi Shihab Nye  
Simon & Schuster, 1992  
Poems by poets from sixty-eight countries, reflecting a wide variety of experiences.

**Unidentified Suburban Object**  
by Mike Jung  
Scholastic, 2016  
A satirical but honest look at being both a bright, sensitive middle schooler, and a so-called "model-minority" in a decidedly not-diverse town... with a surprise twist!

**We Will Not Be Silent**  
by Russell Freedman  
Clarion / Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016  
The true story of the White Rose student resistance movement that defied Nazi Germany.