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Dog Driven

By Terry Lynn Johnson
Adventure



McKenna Barney is trying to hide her worsening eyesight and has been isolating herself for the last year. But at the request of her little sister, she signs up for a commemorative mail run race in the Canadian wilderness; a race she doesn't know if she can even see to run. Winning would mean getting her disease and her sister's national media coverage, but it would also pit McKenna and her team of eight sled dogs against racers from across the globe for three days of shifting lake ice, sudden owl attacks, snow squalls, and bitterly cold nights. A page-turning adventure about living with disability and surviving the wilderness, Dog Driven is the story of one girl's self-determination and the courage it takes to trust in others.



The Strangers

By Margaret Peterson Haddix
Mystery, Science Fiction



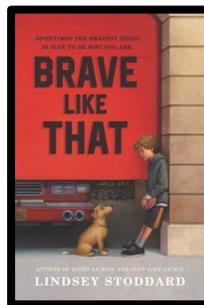
Something strange is going on in the Greystone household. Chess, Emma, and Finn come home from school one day to find their mother in despair over a news story about a bizarre kidnapping—bizarre because the 3 children who were taken share the names, ages, and birthdays as them. Then Mrs. Greystone is called suddenly out of town, leaving her kids in the care of a stranger, with nothing but questions and a coded letter. Convinced their mother's in danger, the kids and Natalie set out to crack the code and save Mrs. Greystone. The kidnapping alone could have made a compelling mystery, but the author throws in secret rooms, alternate realities, and a cliffhanger ending to raise the stakes.

Dress Coded

By Carrie Firestone
Realistic Fiction



In this debut middle-grade girl-power friendship story, an 8th grader starts a podcast to protest the unfair dress code enforcement at her middle school and sparks a rebellion. Molly Frost is FED UP... Because Olivia was yelled at for wearing a tank top... Because Liza got dress coded and Molly didn't, even though they were wearing the exact same outfit... Because when Jessica was pulled over by the principal and missed a math quiz, her teacher gave her an F... Because it's impossible to find shorts that are longer than her fingertips... Because middle school is hard enough. So, Molly starts a podcast where girls can tell their stories, and before long, her small rebellion swells into a revolution and now the girls are standing up for what's right, and they're not backing down. *(Recommended for Grades 7 & 8)*



Brave Like That

By Lindsey Stoddard
Realistic Fiction



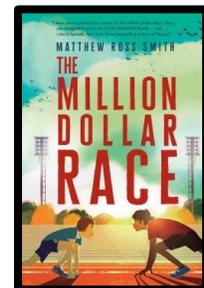
Find yourself. Find your place. Find your brave. Cyrus Olson's dad is a hero--Northfield's former football star and now one of their finest firefighters. Everyone expects Cyrus to follow in his dad's record-breaking footsteps, and he wishes they were right--except he's never been brave like that. But this year, with the help of a stray dog, a few new friends, a little bit of rhythm, and a lot of nerve, he may just discover that actually... he is.

The Barren Grounds

By David A. Robertson
Fantasy



Morgan and Eli, two Indigenous children forced away from their families and communities, are brought together in a foster home in Winnipeg, Manitoba. They each feel disconnected, from their culture and each other, and struggle to fit in at school and at their new home--until they find a secret place, walled off in an unfinished attic bedroom. A portal opens to another reality, Aski, bringing them onto frozen, barren grounds, where they meet Ochek (Fisher). The only hunter supporting his starving community, Misewa, Ochek welcomes the human children, teaching them traditional ways to survive. But as the need for food becomes desperate, they embark on a dangerous mission. Accompanied by Arik, a sassy Squirrel they catch stealing from the trapline, they try to save Misewa before the icy grip of winter freezes everything--including them.



The Million Dollar Race

By Matthew Ross Smith
Sports Fiction



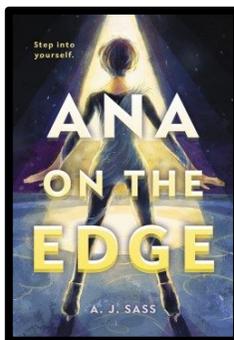
Grant Falloon isn't just good at track; he's close to breaking the world record 100-meter time for his age group. So when the mega-rich Babbemoney sneaker company announces an international competition to find the fastest kid in the world, he's desperate to sign up. But not so fast. Nothing's ever that easy with the eccentric Falloon family. Turns out, his parents never got him a legal birth certificate. He can't race for the United States. If he wants to compete, he may just have to invent his own country. Even if that plan works, winning gold will mean knocking his best friend--and biggest competitor--Jay, out of the competition. As unexpected hurdles arise, Grant will have to ask not only if winning is possible, but what he's willing to sacrifice for it.

We Dream of Space

By Erin Entrada Kelly
Historical Fiction



Cash, Fitch, and Bird Thomas are 3 siblings in 7th grade together in Park, Delaware. In 1986, as the country waits expectantly for the launch of the Space Shuttle Challenger, they each struggle with their own personal anxieties. Cash, who loves basketball but has a newly broken wrist, is in danger of failing 7th grade for the 2nd time. Fitch spends every afternoon playing Major Havoc at the arcade. Bird, his twin, dreams of being NASA's first female shuttle commander. The children exist in their own orbits, circling a tense and unpredictable household, with little in common except their teacher. As the launch of the Challenger approaches, their teacher assigns a project; they are separated into spacecraft crews and must create and complete a mission. When the fated day finally arrives, it changes all of their lives and brings them together in unexpected ways.



Ana On The Edge

By A. J. Sass
Sports Fiction, Realistic Fiction

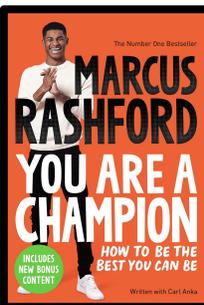


Twelve-year-old Ana-Marie Jin, the reigning US Juvenile figure skating champion, is not a frilly dress kind of kid. So, when Ana learns that next season's program will be princess themed, doubt forms fast. Still, Ana tries to focus on training and putting together a stellar routine worthy of national success. Once Ana meets Hayden, a transgender boy new to the rink, thoughts about the princess program and gender identity begin to take center stage. When Hayden mistakes Ana for a boy, Ana doesn't correct him and finds comfort in this boyish identity when he's around. As their friendship develops, Ana realizes that it's tricky juggling two different identities on one slippery sheet of ice. With a major competition approaching, Ana must decide whether telling everyone the truth is worth risking years of hard work and sacrifice. *(Recommended for Grades 7 & 8)*

**Astronauts :
Women On The Final Frontier**
By Jim Ottaviani
Graphic Novel, Nonfiction



The U.S. may have put the first man on the moon, but it was the Soviet space program that made Valentina Tereshkova the first woman in space. It took years to catch up, but soon NASA's first female astronauts were racing past milestones of their own. The trailblazing women of Group 9, NASA's first mixed gender class, had the challenging task of convincing the powers that be that a woman's place is in space, but they discovered that NASA had plenty to learn about how to make space travel possible for everyone.



You Are a Champion: How to Be the Best You Can Be
By Marcus Rashford
Nonfiction



Marcus Rashford is famous for his skills both on and off the soccer field - but before he was a Manchester United and England soccer player, and long before he started his inspiring campaign to end child food poverty, he was just a kid from Wythenshawe, South Manchester, England. Now he wants to show YOU how to achieve your dreams, in this positive and inspiring guide for life. You Are a Champion is packed full of stories from Marcus's own life, brilliant advice and top tips. It will show you how to be the very BEST that you can be: - Be comfortable with who you are - Dream big - Practice like a champion - Get out of your comfort zone and learn from your mistakes - Navigate adversity in a positive way - Find your team - Use your voice and stand up for others - Never stop learning.

