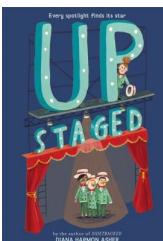


Finding Diverse Books for Kids 2022

GRADES 6-8

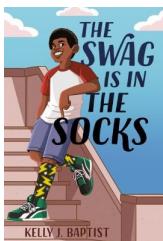


Asher, Diana Harmon

Upstaged

Painfully shy seventh-grader Shira Gordon is cast in a small role in *The Music Man* and also as understudy for the lead, played by diva Monica Manley, who becomes the victim of a prankster.

Religion: Jewish



Baptist, Kelly J.

The Swag Is in the Socks

Twelve-year-old Xavier Moon gets the courage to step out of the shadows when his great-uncle gives him some outlandish socks and some even stranger requests.

Race & Ethnicity: Black



Faruqi, Reem

Unsettled

Young Nurah reluctantly moves with her family from Karachi, Pakistan, to Peachtree City, Georgia, but, after some ups and downs, begins to feel at home.

Citizenship Status

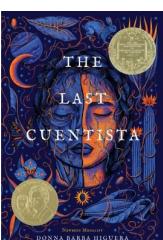


Florence, Debbie Michiko

Just Be Cool, Jenna Sakai

Jenna tries to keep her feelings bottled up after a breakup, until a personal essay assignment and a cute—but slightly annoying—boy force her to rethink her strategy.

Race & Ethnicity: Asian & Pacific Islander



Higuera, Donna Barba

The Last Cuentista

Twelve-year-old storyteller Petra Peña escapes the destruction of Earth on a cryogenic spaceflight and awakens hundreds of years in the future to discover she's the only person on the ship who remembers life before.

Race & Ethnicity: Latinx



Higuera, Donna Barba

Lupe Wong No Baila / Lupe Wong Won't Dance

Lupe Wong, who dreams of being the first female pitcher in Major League Baseball, risks a trip to meet her idol Fu Li Hernandez when she protests the square dancing requirement in her PE class.

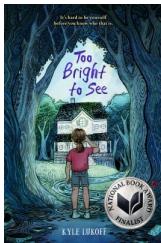
Language (Spanish)



Hopkins, Ellen
What About Will

Trace tries to cover for his beloved older brother, Will, after a brain injury during a football game—and an addition to pain medication—changes Will's mood and behavior.

Disability



Lukoff, Kyle
Too Bright To See

In the summer before middle school, eleven-year-old Bug must contend with best friend Moira suddenly caring about clothes, makeup, and boys; a ghost haunting; and the truth about Bug's gender identity.

Gender Identity & Sexuality



Mercado, Yehudi
Chunky

Hudi would rather practice his stand-up comedy routines, but (unsuccessfully) tries a variety of sports to address his doctor's concerns about his weight and live up to his athletic dad's expectations.

Intersectionality



Paulsen, Gary
How To Train Your Dad

Fed up with his dad's single-minded pursuit of off-the-grid living and worried about what his classmates think of him, Carl tries to change his dad's behavior using tips from a puppy-training manual.

Income Inequality



Siddiqui, Maleeha
Barakah Beats

After years of attending an Islamic school, Nimra has trouble adjusting to public school until she joins an eighth-grade Muslim boy band—despite the fact that her family's Islamic traditions forbid making music.

Religion: Muslim



Young, Brian
Healer of the Water Monster

Nathan, a seemingly ordinary Navajo boy, must save the life of a Water Monster—and help his uncle suffering from addiction—by discovering his own bravery and boundless love.

Race & Ethnicity: Indigenous


**e-book
available**


**audiobook
available**


**graphic
novel**


Spanish