

New Children's & Young Adult Literature ICN Booktalk

Books for Grades 9-12

February 24, 2010

Kathrine Rogers, Youth Services Librarian, Bettendorf Public Library, Bettendorf, Iowa

krogers@hotmail.com

<http://newyoungadultpicks.blogspot.com/>

AWARD WINNERS

Barnes, John. **Tales of the Madman Underground: An Historical Romance, 1973.** Viking, \$18.99

Kurt Shoemaker determines to be "normal" despite his alcoholic mother in the therapy group dubbed the Madman Underground (Printz Honor Book)

Bray, Libba. **Going Bovine.** Delacorte Press, \$17.99

Cameron Smith sets off on a road trip with dwarf he meets in the hospital in an attempt to find a cure after being diagnosed with Creutzfeldt Jakob's disease, aka mad cow. (Printz Winner)

Fleming, Candace. **The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P. T. Barnum.** Schwartz & Wade Books, \$18.99. This is a biography of expert humbugger and relentless curiosity seeker. (YALSA Award for Excellence in NF for YA Finalist)

Heiligman, Deborah. **Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith.** Henry Holt and Co, \$18.95

Darwin's ideas caused scientific vs. religious debates which continue to present day. (YALSA Award for Excellence in NF for Young Adults Winner, (Printz Honor Book)

Huntley, Amy. **The Everafter.** Balzer & Bray, \$16.99

17 year old Maddy finds a way to revisit moments in her life by using objects that she lost while she was alive and the meaning of her existence. (William C. Morris YA Debut Award Finalist)

LaCour, Nina. **Hold Still.** Dutton Children's Books, \$17.99

Three months after her best friend's suicide, Caitlin finds Ingrid's journal instead of a note hidden under Caitlin's bed. (The William C. Morris YA Debut Award Finalist)

Rapp, Adam. **Punkzilla.** Candlewick Press, \$16.99

"Punkzilla" is on a mission to see his older brother before he dies of cancer. He sees a sketchier side of America throughout his trip. (Printz Honor Book)

FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION/TIME TRAVEL

Fitzpatrick, Becca. **Hush, Hush.** Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99

High school sophomore Nora has always been very cautious in her relationships, but when Patch, enrolls at her school. She is drawn to him despite warnings from friends and her gut feelings.

Grossman, Lev. **The Magicians: A Novel.** Viking, \$26.95

Quentin Coldwater is admitted to a very secret college of magic where he will learn the craft of modern sorcery. He discovers a fantasy world is real and more dangerous than he imagined.

Kate, Lauren. **Fallen.** Delacorte Press, \$17.99

Suspected in the death of her boyfriend, 17 year old Luce is sent to a reform school where she meets 2 boys and learns the truth about the strange shadows that have always haunted her.

Malkin, Nina. **Swoon.** Simon Pulse, \$17.99

In rural Connecticut, when seventeen-year-old Dice tries to exorcise a seventeenth-century man who possesses her cousin Pen, she inadvertently makes him corporeal and irresistible.

Mantchev, Lisa. **Eyes Like Stars: Theatre Illuminata, Act I.** Feiwel & Friends, \$16.99

Thirteen-year-old Bertie strives to save Theater Illuminata, the only home she has ever known, but is hindered by the Players who magically live on there, especially Ariel, who is willing to destroy the Book at the center of the magic in order to escape into the outside world.

Verday, Jessica. **The Hollow.** Simon Pulse, \$17.99

High-school junior Abbey struggles with the loss of her best friend Kristen, who vanished on a legendary bridge, but her grief is eased by Caspian, an attractive and mysterious stranger she meets in the Sleepy Hollow cemetery.

Vincent, Rachel. **My Soul to Take.** Harlequin Teen, \$9.99

Kaylee has become a "soul screamer"--she knows when someone is going to die and is compelled to scream, as if in warning. But her classmates keep dying!

Whitman, Emily. **Radiant Darkness.** Greenwillow Books, \$16.99

Persephone runs off to the Underworld with Hades, with whom she has fallen in love, but when her mother Demeter threatens to destroy the earth to save her, Persephone finds a way to come back once a year, bringing spring.

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Alexander, Jill. **The Sweetheart of Prosper County.** Feiwel & Friends, \$16.99

14 year-old Austin sets out to win a ride in the next parade in a small East Texas town largely ruled by prejudices and bullies.

Bachorz, Pam. **Candor.** Egmont USA, \$16.99

Oscar Banks has been secretly sabotaging the subliminal messages that program the behavior of the residents of Candor, Florida. A rebellious new girl threatens to expose his subterfuge.

Bradley, Alan. **The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie.** Delacorte Press, \$23.00

Eleven-year-old Flavia de Luce, an aspiring chemist with a passion for poison, must exonerate her father of murder. Armed with more than enough knowledge to tie two distant deaths together and examine new suspects, she begins a search that will lead her all the way to the King of England himself.

Dessen, Sarah. **Along for the Ride.** Viking, \$19.99

Auden moves in with her father, stepmother, and new baby sister the summer before she starts college. She learns to ride a bike and starts dating while dealing with her family situation.

Han, Jenny. **The Summer I Turned Perfect.** Simon & Schuster, \$16.99

At the beach house where she has spent every summer since childhood, 16 year old Belly finds that this is the summer of many changes.

Seraji, Mahbod. **Roof Tops of Tehran.** New American Library, \$15.00

17 year old Pasha falls in love with Zari as revolution spins toward Iran. Violent consequences awaken Pasha to the reality of life under the rule of a powerful despot (Historical Fiction)

Smith, Andrew. **In the Path of Falling Objects.** Macmillan/Feiwel and Friends, \$17.99

16 year old Jonah leaves home to find his father, who is being released from an Arizona prison, but soon finds himself hitching a ride with a violent killer in 1970. (Historical Fiction)

Stork, Francisco X. **Marcelo in the Real World.** Arthur A. Levine Books, \$17.99

Marcelo Sandoval, a 17 year old boy on the high-functioning end of the autistic spectrum, faces romance and injustice when he goes to work for his father in a corporate law firm.

Walls, Jeanette. **Half Broke Horses: A True-Life Novel.** Scribner, \$26.00

Lily Casey Smith survived weather disasters and the Great Depression. Despite a life of hardscrabble drudgery she remained a woman of indomitable spirit.

Wiess, Laura. **How it Ends.** Pocket Books/MTV Books, \$14.00

16 year old Hanna learns about life when she finally starts dating the boy she has had a long-time crush on, and when she discovers the complicated truth about her beloved Gran.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Black, Holly. **Kith.** Graphix, \$16.99

While 16 year old Rue Silver travels into the faerie realm to find her mother, faerie creatures are entering the human world and wreaking havoc. Rue ponders where her loyalty should lie.

Lemire, Jeff. **The Nobody**. Vertigo, \$19.99

The Nobody takes "The Invisible Man" by H.G. Wells into a modern small town. He explores themes of identity, fear, and paranoia as the town destroys even the most pure of friendships.

Pyle, Kevin C. **Katman**. Henry Holt, \$12.99

Kit is a 16 year old who starts feeding stray cats with artistic Jess. Her friends make fun of him but Kit doesn't care—especially after Jess draws him an anime-style avatar named Katman.

Ottaviani, Jim. **T-Minus: The Race to the Moon**. Aladdin, \$12.99

The whole world followed the countdown to sending the first men to the moon. This is the story of the people who made it happen, both in the rockets and behind the scenes.

LIONS & TIGERS & BEARS (oh my... I mean) WEREWOLVES, DEVILS, ZOMBIES & VAMPS OH MY

Brennan, Sarah Rees. **Demon's Lexicon**. Margaret K. McElderry Books, \$17.99

Sixteen-year-old Nick and his family have battled magicians and demons for most of his life, but when his brother, Alan, is marked for death while helping new friends Jamie and Mae, Nick's determination to save Alan leads him to uncover a devastating secret.

Connolly, John. **The Gates: A Novel**. Atria Books, \$24.00

11 year old Samuel Johnson experiences good and evil, physics and fantasy. With help of others this quirky and eccentric boy stands up to a demonic power.

Fantaskey, Beth. **Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side**. Harcourt Children's Books, \$17.00

Seventeen-year-old Jessica, adopted and raised in Pennsylvania, learns that she is descended from a royal line of Romanian vampires and that she is betrothed to a vampire prince, who poses as a foreign exchange student while courting her.

Francis, Melissa. **Bite Me**. HarperTeen, \$8.99

AJ, a teenage vampire, hides her identity from her new step family which includes her ex-boyfriend. Now she must investigate the secrets of her heritage.

Grahame-Smith, Seth. **Pride and Prejudice and Zombies**. Quirk Books, \$12.95

A plague has fallen upon the village of Meryton and the dead are returning to life! Elizabeth Bennet is determined to wipe out the zombie menace, but she's distracted by Mr. Darcy.

Jinks, Catherine. **The Reformed Vampire Support Group**. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$17.00

15 year old vampire Nina has been stuck for fifty-one years in a boring support group for vampires until one of them is murdered and the others must try to solve the crime.

Lowe, Ehrich Van. **Never Slow Dance with a Zombie**. Tor Teen, \$8.99

When most of their classmates turn into flesh-eating zombies, Margot and best friend Sybil see an opportunity to finally become popular and find boyfriends as long as they stay alive.

MacCullough, Carolyn. **Once a Witch**. Clarion Books, \$16.00

Born into a family of witches, 17 year old Tamsin is raised believing that she alone lacks a magical "Talent," but when her sister is taken Tamsin discovers her true destiny.

Nayeri, Daniel. **Another Faust**. Candlewick Press, \$16.99

5 siblings enroll at Marlowe an elite prep school in Manhattan with secret advantages allows them to edge out the competition.

Patterson, James. **Witch and Wizard**. Little Brown Books for Young Readers, \$17.99

Siblings Wisty and Whit are thrown into prison. They rediscover their supernatural powers in order to save themselves, their parents, and the world.

St. Crow, Lili. **Strange Angels**. Penguin/Razorbill, \$9.99

16 year old Dru's psychic abilities helped her father battle creatures of the "Real World," but now she and her friends must learn who murdered her parents and why.

Stiefvater, Maggie. **Shiver**. Scholastic, \$17.99

In all the years she has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been drawn to one wolf who, in his turn, has been watching her with increasing intensity.

ON THE RUN ~ MILK CARTON FACES

Abrahams, Peter. **Reality Check.** HarperTeen, \$16.99

After a knee injury destroys 16 year old Cody's college hopes, he drops out of high school, but when his ex-girlfriend disappears from her Vermont boarding school, Cody searches for her.

Dowd, Siobhan. **Solace of the Road.** David Fickling Books, \$17.99

Holly considers her early life with her Irish mother whom she is now trying to reach while running away from a London foster home just before her 15th birthday.

Northrop, Michael. **Gentlemen.** Scholastic, \$16.99

3 teenaged boys suspect their English teacher is responsible for their friend's disappearance as they read Dostoevsky's "Crime and punishment" before learning the truth.

Strasser, Todd. **Wish You Were Dead.** EgmontUSA, \$16.99

Madison tries to solve the disappearance of her friends, popular students mentioned in the posts of an anonymous blogger. At the same time she is being stalked online and in-person.

PHYSICAL/ EMOTIONAL ANGST & DEATH

Borris, Albert. **Crash into Me.** Simon Pulse, \$16.99

Four suicidal teenagers go on a "celebrity suicide road trip" to visit the graves of famous people who have killed themselves with the intention of ending their lives in Death Valley, California.

Brown, Jennifer. **Hate List.** Little Brown and Co, \$16.99

16 year old Valerie struggles to cope with integrating herself back into high school life after her boyfriend Nick committed a school shooting at the end of their junior year.

Echols, Jennifer. **Going Too Far.** MTV, \$11.00

Forced to spend spring break in a Birmingham, Alabama, 17 year-old Meg rides along with an attractive rookie police officer on the night shift and finds herself falling unexpectedly in love.

Efaw, Amy. **After.** Viking Juvenile, \$17.99

Straight-A student and star athlete Devon Davenport is in complete denial that she is pregnant. Devon is accused of attempted murder after leaving her baby in the trash to die.

Fahy, Thomas. **Sleepless.** Simon and Schuster, \$15.99

Terrified by the gruesome nightmares and unexplained bouts of sleepwalking affecting students at Saint Opportuna High, Emma suspects that something is causing them to kill in their sleep.

Forman, Gayle. **If I Stay.** Dutton Children's Books, \$16.99

Mia is a talented musician with a great boyfriend and family. It all gets taken away when the rest of her family is killed in a car crash that leaves her clinging to life.

Hoban, Julia. **Willow.** Penguin Group/ Dial Books, \$16.99

Willow uses self-mutilation to deal with losing her parents to a car crash. Soon, a guy named Guy enters her life and helps her to deal with her issues.

Larbalestier, Justine. **Liar.** Bloomsbury USA Children's Books, \$16.99

Compulsive liar Micah promises to tell the truth after revealing that her boyfriend has been murdered.

McDaniel, Lurlene. **Breathless.** Delacorte Press, \$10.99

High school diving champion Travis Morrison develops bone cancer in this story told from the points of view of the diver, his best friend, his sister, and his girlfriend.

Myers, Walter Dean. **Dope Sick.** Amistad, \$16.99

17 year old "Lil J" flees into a house in Harlem after a drug deal goes awry and meets a weird man who shows different turning points in Lil J's life when he could have made better choices.

Smith, Alexander Gordon. **Lockdown: Escape from Furnace.** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$14.99
When 14 year old Alex is sent to Furnace Penitentiary, where boys who disappear in the middle of the night sometimes return weirdly altered, and escape might just be possible.

Sparks, Nicholas. **The Last Song.** Grand Central Publishing, \$24.99
17 year old Ronnie Miller's life was turned upside-down when her parents divorced. She and her younger brother spent the summer in Wilmington, North Carolina with their father.

SCHOOL DAYS AND SPORTS

Harmon, Michael. **Brutal.** Knopf Books for Young Readers, \$16.99
Forced to leave Los Angeles for life in a quiet California wine town with a father she has never known, rebellious sixteen-year-old Poe Holly rails against a high school system that allows elite students special privileges and tolerates bullying of those who are different.

Johnson, LouAnne. **Muchacho.** Random House/Knopf, \$15.99
Living in a neighborhood of drug dealers and gangs in New Mexico, high school junior Eddie Corazon, a juvenile delinquent-in-training, falls in love with a girl who inspires him to rethink his life and his choices.

Korman, Gordon. **Pop.** HarperTeen, \$16.99
Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high-school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him, but whose childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water.

SEQUELS/SERIES

Armstrong, Kelley. **The Awakening.** HarperCollins, \$17.99
15 year old necromancer Chloe, having escaped from Lyle House finds herself imprisoned in a laboratory run by a sinister organization determined to control her and her supernatural friends.

Beddor, Frank. **Looking Glass Wars: Archenemy.** Dial Books, \$17.99
Virtuous Queen Alyss, who has lost the power of imagination, and her murderous aunt Redd battle for control of Wonderland.

Cabot, Meg. **Being Nikki.** Point, \$16.99
Emerson Watts learns startling news about the family of Nikki Howard, the teen supermodel into whose body Emerson's brain was transplanted by the nefarious Stark Corporation. (Airhead #2)

Cashore, Kristin. **Fire.** Dial Books, \$17.99
Fire is the last human-shaped monster, with the ability to control the minds, but even with these gifts she cannot escape the strife that overcomes her world. (Prequel to Graceling)

Marr, Melissa. **Fragile Eternity.** Bowen Press, \$16.99
Aislinn and Seth struggle with the unforeseen consequences of Aislinn's transformation from mortal girl to faery queen as the world teeters on the brink of cataclysmic violence.

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. **Front and Center.** Houghton Mifflin, \$16.00
In this conclusion to the Dairy Queen trilogy, D.J. Schwenk returns to her small-town high school. Everyone seems to know what her future plans *should* be.

Noël, Alyson. **Blue Moon: The Immortals #2.** St. Martin's Griffin, \$20.85
Eager to learn everything she can about her new abilities as an Immortal, but just as her powers are increasing his are in decline. Now she searches for a way to save him.

Perez, Marlene. **Dead is So Last Year.** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$7.99
In the beach town of Nightshade, California the Giordano sisters find summer employment and uncover mysteries involving doppelgangers and oversized football players.

St Croix, Lili. **Betrayals.** Razorbill, \$20.85
For her own protection, 16 year old Dru is taken to a secret training facility that feels more like a prison, but she faces great danger there and learns that a traitor Dru dead.

Stoker, Dacre. **Dracula The Un-Dead.** Dutton Adult, \$26.95

One by one, the band of heroes that defeated Dracula a quarter-century ago is being hunted down. Could it be that Dracula somehow survived their attack and is seeking revenge?

NON-FICTION

Conley, Erin Elisabeth. **Crap: How to Deal with Annoying Teachers, Bosses, Backstabbers, and Other Stuff that Stinks.** Zest Books, \$9.99. Life can be “crappy” but it doesn’t have to wreck your day.

Cooper, Martha. **Subway Art: 25th Anniversary Edition.** Chronicle Books, \$40.00

This 25th Anniversary edition features 70 never-before-seen photographs along with all-new introductions that explore the prolific and sometimes tension-filled rise of graffiti, from gritty train yards to galleries worldwide. 150 full-color photos.

Dickey, Colin. **Cranioklepty: Grave Robbing and the Search for Genius.** Unbridled Books, \$25.95

Cranioklepty takes us on an extraordinary history of a peculiar kind of obsession. This is a fascinating history of ideas carried along on the guilty pleasures of real-after-life gothic tales.

Drape, Joe. **Our Boys: A Perfect Season on the Plains with the Smith Center Redmen.** Henry Holt, \$25.00

This is an inspirational depiction of an extraordinary high school football team on their quest for a perfect season.

Engle, Margarita. **Tropical Secrets: Holocaust Refugees in Cuba.** Henry Holt, \$16.99

Escaping from Nazi Germany to Cuba in 1939, a Jewish refugee befriends a local girl with painful secrets and discovers that the Nazi darkness is never far away.

Gray, Amy. **How to Be a Vampire: A Fangs-on Guide for the Newly Undead.** Candlewick/Weldon Owen Inc., \$14.99

This is a comprehensive guide to the vampire lifestyle that quenches newcomers’ thirst for lore and includes tasteful tips.

Hardwicke, Catherine. **Twilight Director's Notebook: The Story of How We Made the Movie.** Little Brown, \$17.99

Readers will follow director Catherine Hardwicke through the creative process that went into transforming Stephanie Meyer’s novel into box office gold.

Hopper, Jessica. **The Girl's Guide to Rocking.** Workman Pub, \$13.95

This is an informational guide for girls with dreams of becoming a rock star.

Komanoya, Rico. **Gothic Lolita Punk: Draw like the Hottest Japanese Artists.** Collins Design, \$24.99

Enjoy a showcase of artists from Japan’s Gothic Lolita Punk movement.

Palladini, Doug. **Vans: Off the Wall: Stories of Sole from Vans Originals.** Abrams, \$24.95

All the art and dirt on Vans you could want. This book features photography by the top action sports and lifestyle photographers in the world.

Patterson, James. **The Murder of King Tut.** Little Brown and Company, \$26.99

Patterson accounts of the life and death of King Tut from evidence. The result is an exhilarating true crime tale of intrigue, passion, and betrayal that casts fresh light on the oldest mystery of all.

Reynolds, Jason. **My Name is Jason. Mine Too.** Joanna Cotler Books, \$12.99

Two young men named Jason, one black and one white, use poetry and art to communicate their different perspectives.

Smith, Larry and Fershleiser, Rachel. **I Can't Keep My Own Secrets: Six-word Memoirs by Teens Famous and Obscure.**

Harper Collins/HarperTeen, \$8.99. True tales of love, loss, and friends filled the first book in the six-word memoir series titled *Not Quite What I Was Planning*. The editors decided to create a collection of memoirs written entirely by brash teenagers.

Turner, Tracey. **Deadly Perils: and How to Avoid Them.** Walker & Company, \$9.99

Here are solutions to perils such as being struck by frozen toilet waste and more.