

Amato, Mary. *Please Write in This Book.*

NY, Holiday House, c2006. When 4th grade teacher Ms. Wurtz leaves a blank book in the Writer's Corner with a note encouraging those who find it to "talk to each other" in its pages, the student's entries spark a classroom-wide battle.

**J AMATO**

Barrows, Annie.

*Ivy and Bean break the fossil record.*

San Francisco, Chronicle Books, c2007.

Everyone in second grade seems set on breaking a world record and friends Ivy and Bean are no exception, deciding to become the youngest people ever to discover a dinosaur skeleton.

**EJ BARROWS**

Bauer, Joan. *Close to famous.*

NY, Viking, 2011.

Twelve-year-old Foster McFee and her mother escape from her mother's abusive boyfriend and end up in the small town of Culpepper, West Virginia, where they use their strengths and challenge themselves to build a new life, with the help of the friends they make there.

**J BAUER**

Blume, Judy. *Tales of a fourth grade nothing.*

NY, Dutton Children's Books, c1972, [2002].

Life with his little brother, Fudge, makes Peter Hatcher feel like a fourth grade nothing. He's an almost three-year-old terror who gets away with everything, and Peter's had it up to here!

**J BLUME**

Bunting, Eve. *Nasty stinky sneakers.*

NY, HarperCollins, c1994.

Will ten-year-old Colin find his missing stinky sneakers in time to enter The Stinkiest Sneakers in the World contest?

**J BUNTING**

Clements, Andrew. *Lost and found.*

NY, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, c2008.

12-year-old identical twins Jay and Ray have long resented that everyone treats them as one person, and so they hatch a plot to take advantage of a clerical error at their new school and pretend they are just one.

**J CLEMENTS**

Connor, Leslie. *Crunch.*

NY, Katherine Tegen Books, 2010.

The oldest Mariss brother, fourteen-year-old Dewey, attempts to be the "embodiment of responsibility" as he juggles the management of the family's bicycle repair business while sharing the household and farm duties with his siblings after a sudden energy crisis strands their parents far from home.

**J CONNOR**

Coy, John. *Top of the order.*

NY, Feiwel and Friends, 2009.

10-year-old Jackson lives for baseball, but becomes distracted by the approach of middle school, his mother's latest boyfriend, and the presence of a girl--his good friend's sister--on his team.

**J COY**

Davies, Jacqueline. *The lemonade war.*

Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 2007.

Evan and his younger sister, Jessie, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. Includes mathematical calculations and tips for running a successful lemonade stand.

**J DAVIES**

DiCamillo, Kate. *Because of Winn-Dixie.*

Cambridge, MA, Candlewick Press, 2000.

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

**J DICAMILLO**

Erskine, Kathryn. *Mockingbird.*

NY, Philomel Books, c2010.

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

**J ERSKINE**

Friedman, Laurie B. *Back to school, Mallory.*

Minneapolis, MN : Carolrhoda Books, Inc., c2004.

After moving, eight-year-old Mallory struggles with being new at school, especially because her mother is now the music teacher and director of the third grade play.

**J FRIEDMAN**

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Pictures of Hollis Woods.*

NY, Wendy Lamb Books, c2002.

A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

**J GIFF**

Gorman, Carol. *Dork in disguise.*

NY, HarperCollins, c1999.

Starting middle school in a new town, brainy Jerry Flack changes his image from "dork" to "cool kid," only to discover that he'd rather be himself.

**J GORMAN**

Henson, Heather. *Dream of Night.*

NY, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2010.

Told from their different points of view, twelve-year-old Shiloh, a troubled foster child, Dream of Night, an abused former racehorse, and Jess, a woman who cares for both, find healing by helping one another through their pain.

**J HENSON**

Ignatow, Amy. *Popularity Papers*

NY, Amulet, 2013. Two best friends embark on a project to study the behavior and taste of the popular girls at their elementary school so that by the time they get to middle school they too will be in the right crowd.

**J IGNATOW**

Krulik, Nancy E.

*George Brown: World's worst wedgie.*

NY, Grosset & Dunlap, c2010.

Ten-year-old George Brown tries his best to earn money for a special toy he wants, but whether he is working in his mother's craft shop or setting up a backyard circus, the magic burps erupt at exactly the wrong time and foil his plans.

**J KRULIK**

Margolis, Leslie. *Boys are dogs.*

NY, Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2008.

When her mother gets a new boyfriend, sixth-grader Annabelle gets to cope with a new town, a new school, and a new puppy and, while training her puppy, she decides to apply some of the same techniques to tame the unruly boys that are making her middle-school life miserable.

**J MARGOLIS**

Peirce, Lincoln. *Big Nate : in a class by himself.*

NY, Harper, c2010, 2012.

Supremely confident middle-school student Nate Wright manages to make getting detention from every one of his teachers in the same day seem like an achievement.

**J PEIRCE**

Pennypacker, Sara.

*Clementine, Friend of the Week.*

NY, Disney-Hyperion Books, c2010.

With her kitten, Moisturizer, missing and having fought with her best friend, Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine finds it hard to concentrate on doing her best as her classmate's Friend of the Week.

**J PENNYPACKER**

Peschke, M. (Marci). *Kylie Jean, Drama queen.*

Mankato, MN. Picture Window Books, c2011.

It's the start of a new school year, and Kylie Jean wants to play the Queen of Hearts in her second grade class's production of Alice in Wonderland. She works on her lines with her family's bull dog, Ugly Brother (whose real name is Bruno), until she memorizes every last one for the tryouts. Unfortunately, the new girl at school, Paula, sets her sights on the same role.

**EJ PESCHKE**

Petersen, P. J. *Wild river.*

NY, Delacorte Press, c2009.

Considered lazy and unathletic, twelve-year-old Ryan discovers a heroic side of himself when a kayak trip with his older brother goes horribly awry.

**J PETERSEN**

Salisbury, Graham.

*Calvin Coconut : trouble magnet.*

NY, Wendy Lamb Books, c2009.

Nine-year-old Calvin catches the attention of the school bully on the day before he starts fourth grade, while at home, the unfriendly, fifteen-year-old daughter of his mother's best friend has taken over his room.

**J SALISBURY**

Schroeder, Lisa. *It's raining cupcakes.*

NY, Aladdin, 2010.

Twelve-year-old Isabel dreams of seeing the world but has never left Oregon, and so when her best friend, Sophie, tells her of a baking contest whose winners travel to New York City, she eagerly enters despite concerns about her mother, who is opening a cupcake bakery. Includes recipes.

**J SCHROEDER [Pacific Northwest Collection]**

Spinelli, Jerry. *Crash.*

New York : Laurel-Leaf Books, 2004, c1996.

Seventh-grader John "Crash" Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.

**J SPINELLI**

Urban, Linda. *The center of everything.*

Boston, Harcourt, c2013.

For Ruby Pepperdine, the center of everything is on the rooftop of Pepperdine Motors, stargazing from the circle of her grandmother Gigi's hug. That's how everything is supposed to be--until it goes spinning out of control. Now Ruby's best friend, Lucy, is mad at her. Her new friendship with Nero is pretty bumpy too. Worst of all, Ruby regrets what happened with Gigi. How Ruby didn't listen. And now it's too late to make things right. But Ruby has one last hope. It all depends on what happens on Bunning Day, when the entire town will hear her read her winning essay. And it all depends on her twelfth birthday wish-- unless she messes that up too.

**J URBAN**

Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Secret identity.*

NY, Knopf : Distributed by Random House, 2004.

Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd, tired of being called names by the class bully, has a secret identity--Shredderman!

**J VAN DRAANEN**

Viau, Nancy.

*Samantha Hansen has rocks in her head.*

NY, Amulet Books, c2008.

Ten-year-old Samantha Hanson must try to control her temper and get along with her older sister if she wants to go on a vacation to the Grand Canyon, but she has some bigger problems too, like figuring out why her mother will not talk about her father, who died when Sam was very young.

**J VIAU**

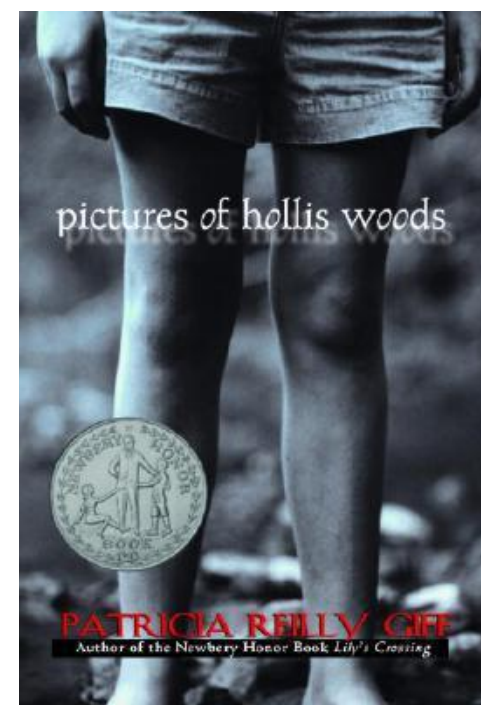
Winkler, Henry. *Niagara Falls, or does it?*

NY, Grosset & Dunlap, c2003.

Fourth-graders Hank, Ashley, and Frankie are excitedly preparing for a magic show at the Rock 'N Bowl when Hank's creative alternative to an English essay lands him in detention and grounded the week of the show.

**J WINKLER**

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