



## *Youth Staff Picks*

**November 2021**

### *Norman Didn't Do It! (Yes, He Did.)*

By Ryan T. Higgins – E Hig | ebook on [HOOPLA](#) | Picture Book | Humor

Norman, a porcupine, and his best friend, Mildred, a tree, do everything together until a new tree shows up that threatens their friendship. Will their friendship ever be the same again? An amusing book! (EM)

### *Busy, Busy Moose*

by Nancy Van Laan; illustrated by Amy Rusch – JE Blue Van | Beginning Reader | Animals | audiobook on [HOOPLA](#)

Fall is here, and Moose is spreading the news! Much to his surprise, all his animal friends are already busy preparing for winter. Moose unexpectedly finds himself busy, too—and again in the winter, spring, and summer—in this charming beginning reader with five short chapters. (PS)

### *Scaredy Squirrel in a Nutshell*

By Melanie Watt – j Graphic Novel Wat | Humor

There's a new way to enjoy Scaredy Squirrel: in a graphic novel! Scaredy is his usual cautious self in this new collection of stories. As always, it is fun to read about his attempts to keep his tree safe. In this installment, he tries vacuuming and even meets a new friend (maybe). Not easy for a scaredy squirrel. There is plenty of hand sanitizer available. (LD)

### *Sunny Makes a Splash*

by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm – j Graphic Novel Hol | Graphic Novel | Historical Fiction

In this latest graphic novel in the Sunny series, Sunny gets a job at the local pool's concession stand, where the new friends she makes only seem interested in crushes and dating. Sunny, on the other hand, is more concerned with building up courage to jump off the pool's high diving board. Will she take the leap? Read the book to find out! (SP)

### *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*

by Kevin Maillard – j 641.59 Mai | audiobook and movie on [HOOPLA](#) | Families | Indians of North America

At Thanksgiving, it is important to think about Native Americans, their culture, the land stolen from them, and their impact on America today. Maillard weaves a beautiful narrative (and recipe!) revolving around fry bread and Native American culture. This is a must-read in every household this Thanksgiving! (MG)

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### ***There's No Ham in Hamburgers***

By Kim Zachman – j 641.3 Zac | Non-Fiction | History

In this interesting book about the origins of some of America's favorite foods, you will read lots of facts about food that may surprise you. An early version of hamburgers may have come from the time of Genghis Khan. Who knew that hamburgers were actually an ancient food? In addition to interesting history and facts are some recipes. (LD)

### ***In My Dreams I Can Fly***

By Eveline Hasler – E Has | Picture Book | Insects

A grub, two worms, a beetle, and a caterpillar are ready for winter. The friends' homes are all connected by tunnels. As they wait for Spring to arrive, they gather regularly to play cards, but one evening the caterpillar doesn't come. Spring brings some interesting surprises in their lives! (LD)

### ***Hello, Star***

By Stephanie V.W. Lucianovic – E Luc | Picture Book

After a little girl finds a supernova outside her window, she becomes inspired to reach the star before it dies. Readers follow her journey from childhood to adulthood; and during that time, she never forgets the supernova she's claimed as her own. Will she make it before it's too late? (MG)

### ***Thanksgiving in the Woods***

by Phyllis Alsdurf – E Als | Picture Book | Thanksgiving | Families

Most families at Thanksgiving eat around the kitchen table, but this family eats in the woods! They bring guitars, tons of food (enough for over 200 neighbors and friends!), tents, tarps, and firewood to keep them warm. Learn more about this unique Thanksgiving celebration, and some ideas for how to celebrate your own, by reading this book! (MG)

### ***The Runaway Pea***

By Kjartan Poskitt – E Pos | Picture Book | Humor

After a pea escapes the dinner plate, it embarks on an adventurous journey throughout the house landing in the dog's water bowl, the toaster, the mousetrap, the fish tank, and many more places. A silly book! (EM)

### ***The Cat Encyclopedia for Kids***

By Merriam Garcia – j 636.8 Gar | Nonfiction | Cats | ebook on [HOOPLA](#)

For anyone who is a cat lover, this encyclopedia covers over 50 different cats including facts about their history, appearance, and behavior. Great photos! (EM)



### ***The Longest Storm***

by Dan Yaccarino – E Yac | Picture Book

A single dad and his three kids are stuck in their house while a long-lasting storm rages outside their house. The vibrant illustrations show the family's growing frustration with one another, a phenomenon to which families who have had to quarantine together will relate. They come together to pick up the pieces, both figuratively and literally, once the storm finally ends. (SP)

### ***See Zip Zap***

by David Milgrim – JE Yellow Mil | Beginning Reader | Humor

Zip is an alien magician who likes to zap. Bip is a baby alien who likes to nap. Zip's zaps won't wake Bip from his naps. This beginning reader book uses common sight words and rhymes to encourage kids who are learning to read. Its hilarious story and simple, effective illustrations are sure to excite new readers. (SP)

### ***A Place to Hang the Moon***

by Kate Albus – j Alb | Historical Fiction | audiobook on [HOOPLA](#)

Three siblings are evacuated from London during WWII. Left without a guardian when their grandmother dies, they get some unusual advice from the family lawyer: take advantage of the situation and find a permanent home. Will anyone want three “forever” children? The harsh realities of wartime life and people’s responses to them make for compelling reading. (PS)

### ***Clues to the Universe***

by Christina Li – j Li | Historical Fiction | ebook on [OVERDRIVE](#)

On Nov. 11, 1983, Ro and her dad watched the *Columbia* shuttle launch together and planned to launch their own model rocket. A year later, her dad is dead but the rocket dream isn't. Benjie's dad isn't dead—just long gone. Benjie thinks he has clues to his dad's whereabouts, thanks to the *Spacebound* comic books. Alternating points of view allow readers to see what happens when these two kids make a pact to fulfill their deepest dreams. It's a terrific book about loss and the power of friendship. (PS)

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### ***Super Dweeb and the Pencil of Destiny***

By Jess Bradley – j Graphic Novel Bra v.1 | Graphic Novel

Andy loves to draw but ends up in a strange situation when his pencil falls into some blootonium on a field trip to Fallout Island. Things that he draws start coming to life. This turns out to be pretty useful until his little brother accidentally uses the pencil. (LD)



### *Click*

by Kayla Miller – j Graphic Novel Mil | Graphic Novel

Fifth grader, Olive, is great at making friends from all different cliques. When Mr. Florez announces the fifth grade variety show, she can't wait to join her friends in an act, any act! Except there's just one problem: none of her friends seem to want to invite her to be part of their group. What will Olive do to become part of the show? (MG)

### *Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker*

by Patricia Hruby Powell – j 921 Baker | Nonfiction | Biography

Since so much of Josephine Baker's life was spent on a stage, her biography is split into theatrical acts with acrylic painted illustrations. Lyrical free verse poetry tells the story of her life, from her teenage years when she was considered too light-skinned to dance in the Black vaudeville circuit, to her adulthood in Paris as a superstar with a pet cheetah. (SP)

### *Stowaway*

by John David Anderson – j And | Science Fiction

After their ship is attacked by the Djarik, Leo's father, who is a scientist, is kidnapped and Leo is tricked by his brother into stowing away on a pirate's spaceship to get help. Meanwhile, Leo has a hard time deciding who he can trust and has hopes that the pirates will help him rescue his father. Along the way, he begins to wonder who the good guys are and who are the bad. Those who like Star Wars, aliens, and robots will like this one! (EM)

### *The Last Rabbit*

by Shelley Moore Thomas; illustrations by Julie Mellan – j Tho | Fantasy

Once, four human girls were sent to a lonely island to live with a Magician and turned into rabbits (the Magician didn't do it!). Now three of them have left the island and become girls again; but Albie, the last rabbit, doesn't want to change back. Alas, the island is sinking—so Albie sets out with the mysterious Boy to find her sisters and to find a place where, perhaps, she also will become a girl again. This generously illustrated tale is an enchanting mixture of magic and myth, philosophy and adventure. (PS)