

2023 BATTLE OF THE BOOKS at MERRIWEATHER



HOWARD COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM
Public Education for All



What is Battle of the Books?

- A+ Partners in Education (HCLS and HCPSS) academic competition for Howard County 5th grade students
- Teams include:
 - Five students from the same school
 - One adult coach
- Teams read 12 pre-determined books
- All participants receive certificates.



Goals for Students

- Build teamwork skills
- Learn good sportsmanship skills
- Read different genres (example, science fiction, graphic novels, nonfiction, etc.)
- Increase reading comprehension
- Have fun!

Registration

Coaches need the following information to register:

1. For each team member:
 - student name
 - parent phone number
 - parent email address that is checked regularly
2. For each coach:
 - coach name
 - phone number
 - email address that is checked regularly
 - mailing address
3. Team name
4. School name

Registration

- Each team can have up to 5 members to register. Alternates not permitted.
- In order to compete, at least 3 team members must participate in the Battle.
- Each team receives one set of books to keep.



Coaches

- Build team spirit and encourage good sportsmanship among your team members
- Set up regular meetings with your team
- Encourage and reward students
- Convey information from HCLS to team members and their parents
- Respond to communications from HCLS in a timely manner

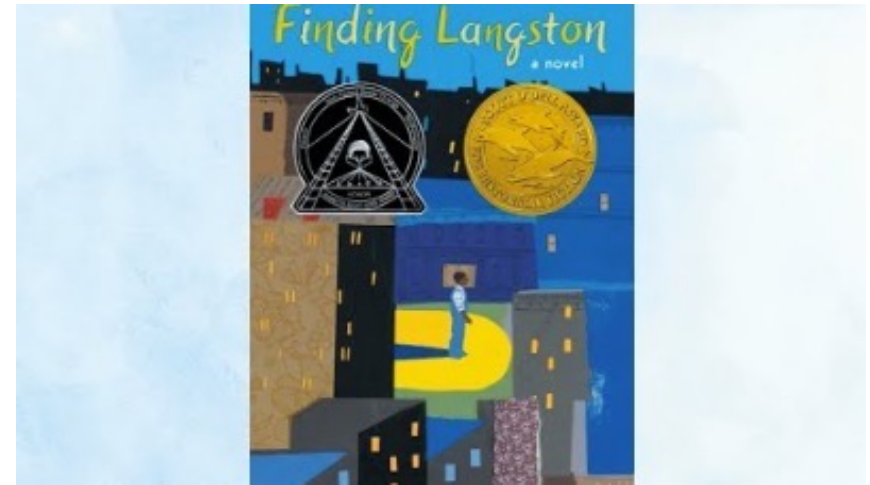
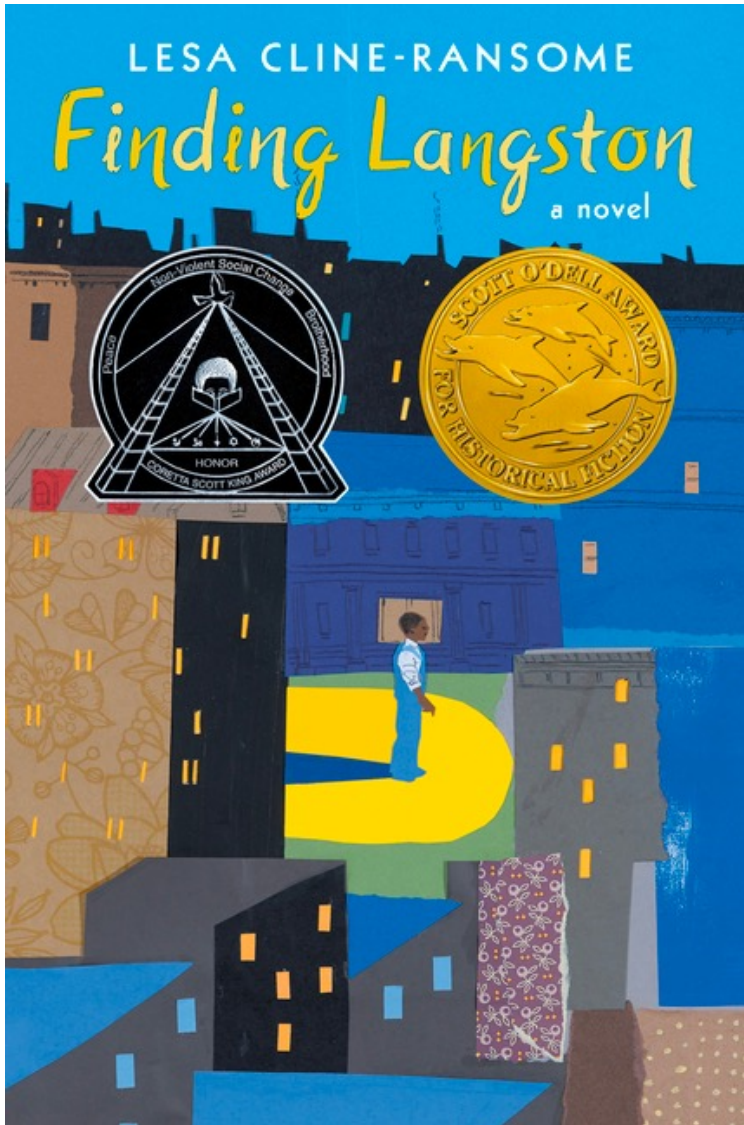


How does it work?

- Moderator asks questions about the books.
- The Battle includes at least one question about each book.
- Teams have 30 seconds to discuss their answer.



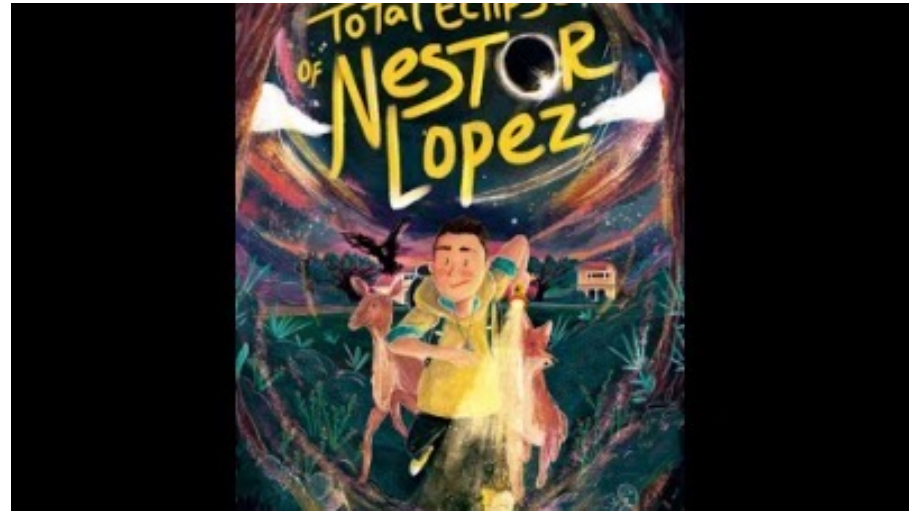
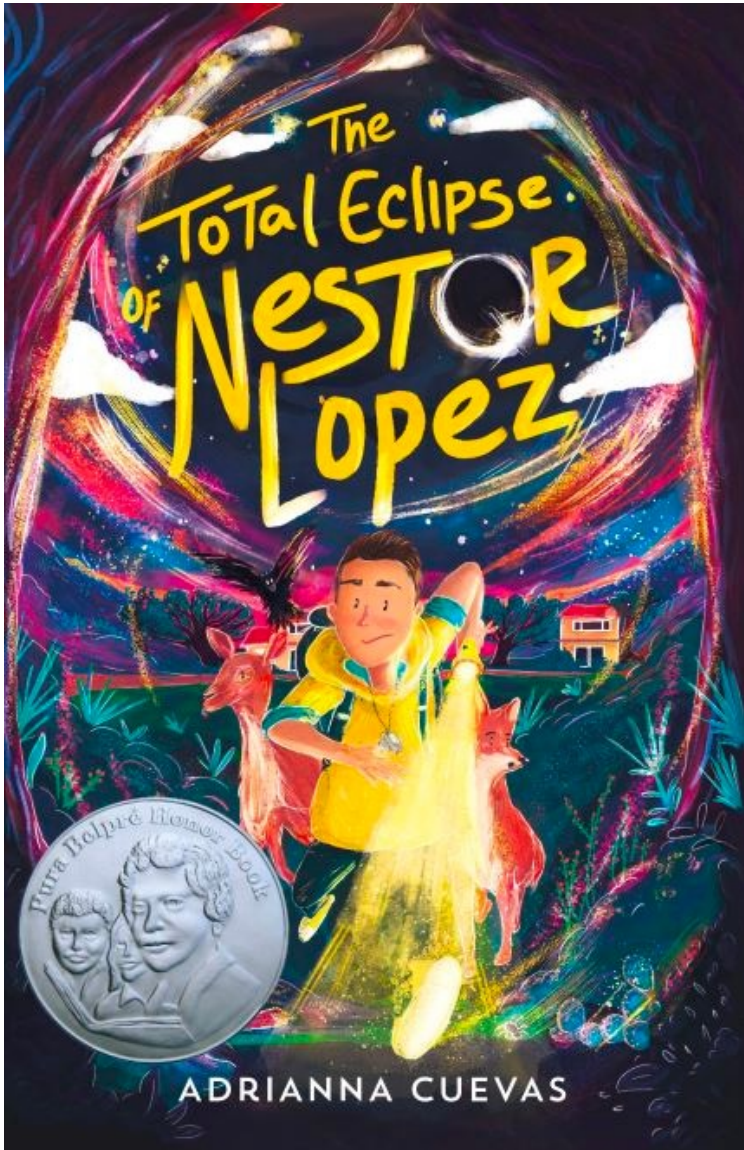
2023 Titles



Finding Langston

By Lesa Cline-Ransome

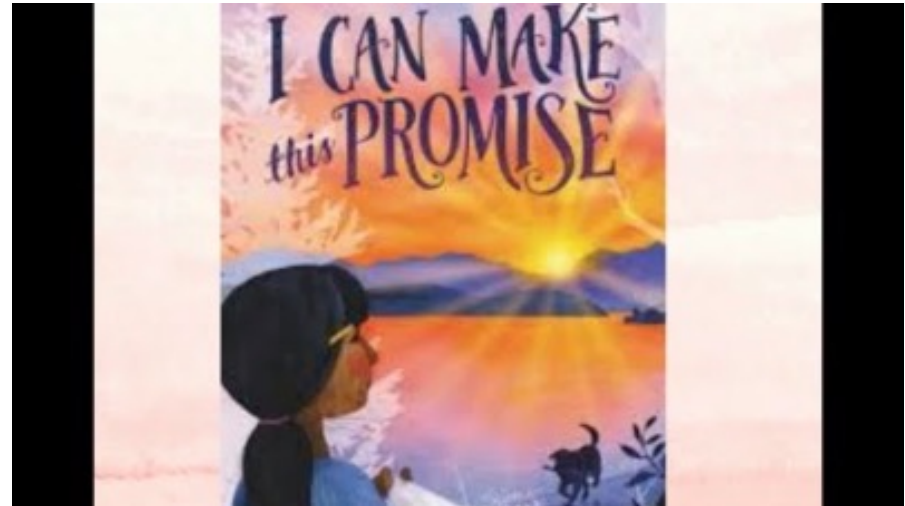
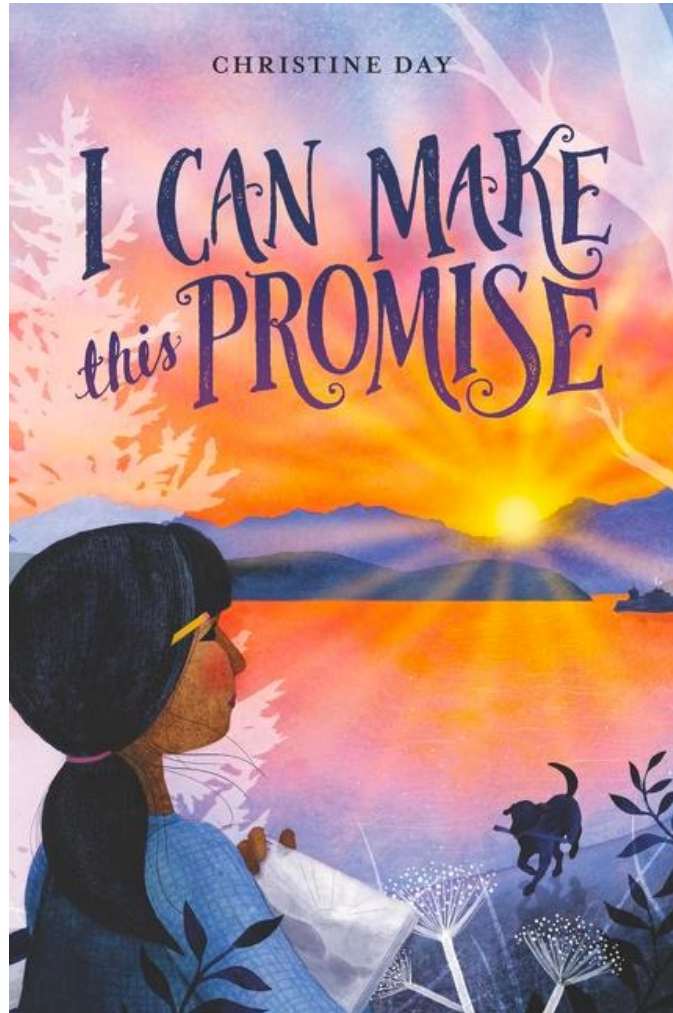
2023 Titles



The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez

By Adrianna Cuevas

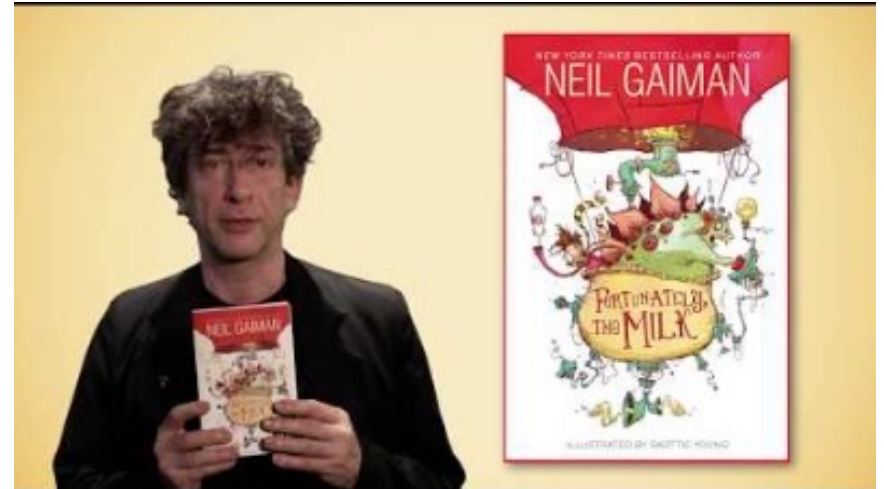
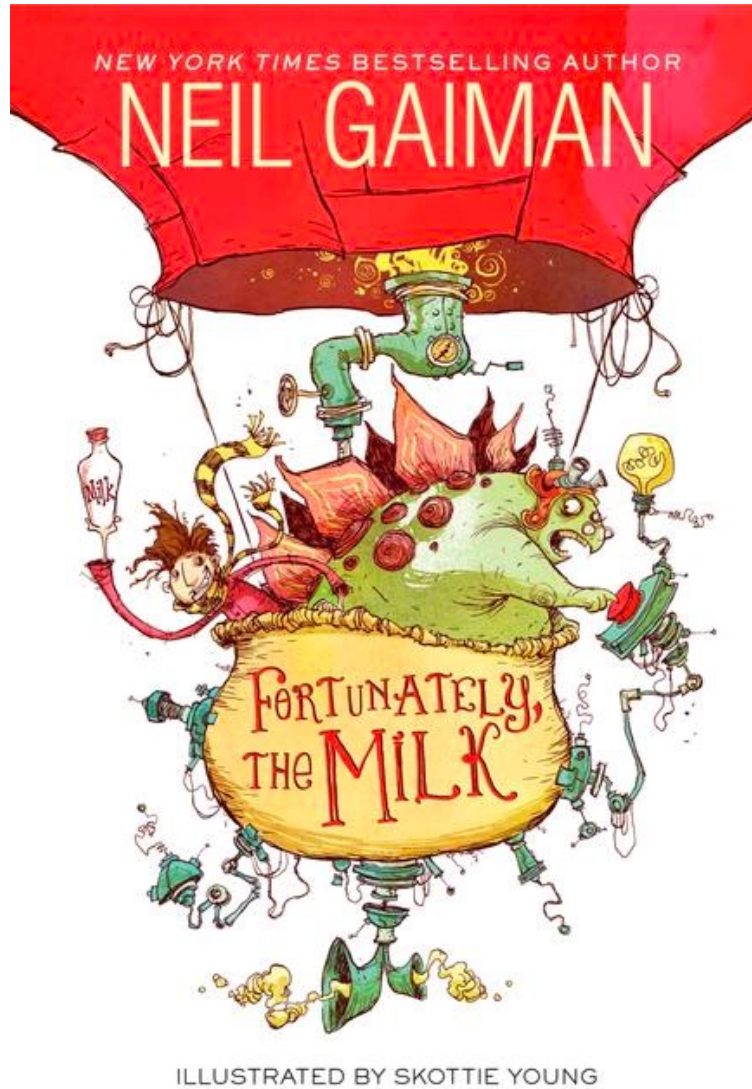
2023 Titles



I Can Make this Promise

By Christine Day

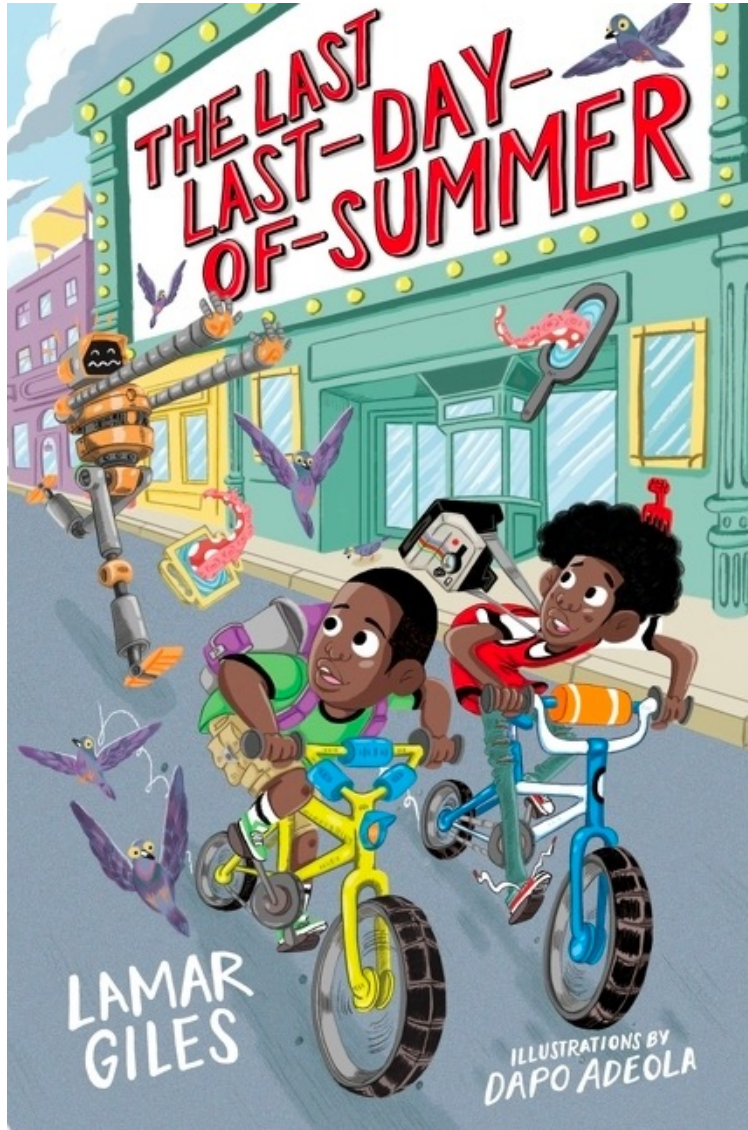
2023 Titles



Fortunately, the Milk

By Neil Gaiman

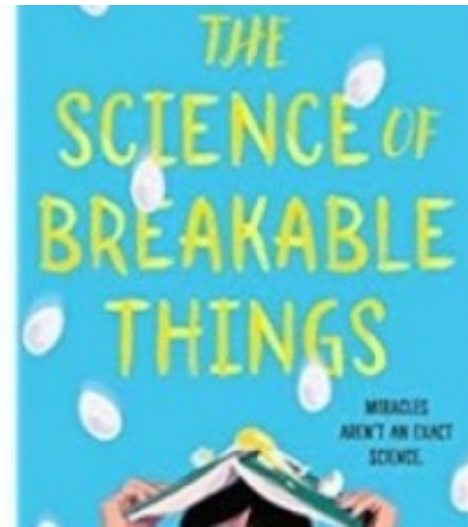
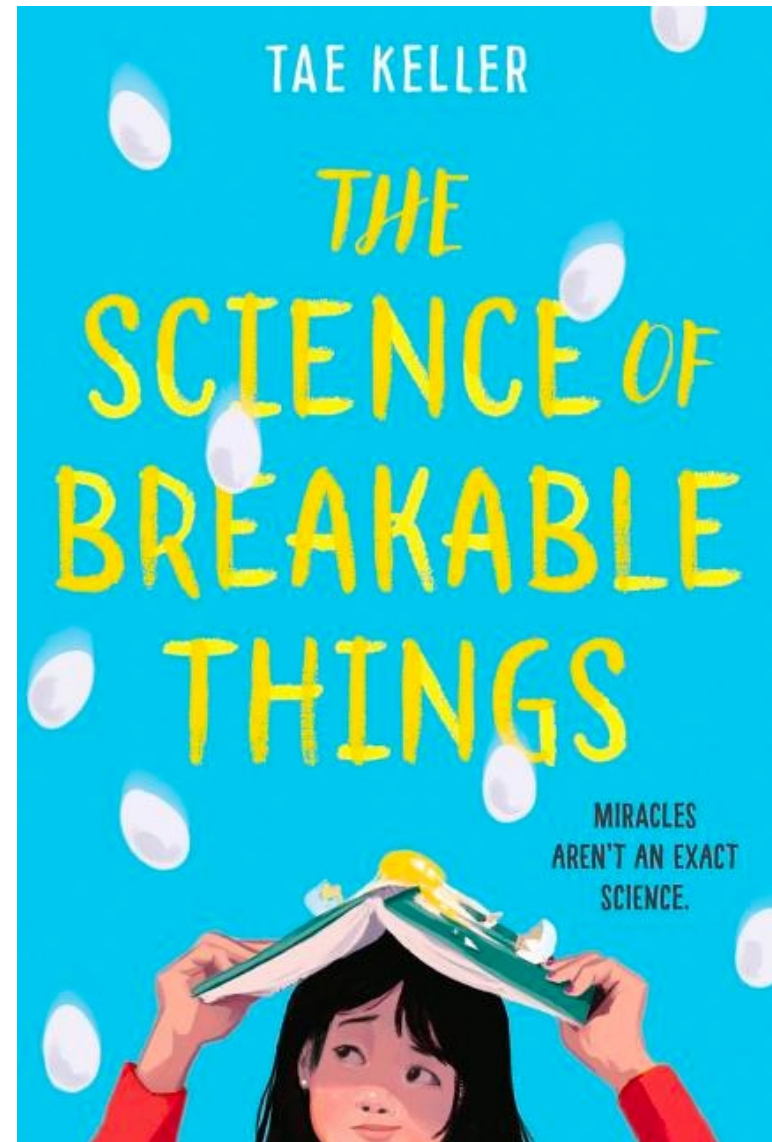
2023 Titles



The Last Last-Day-of-Summer

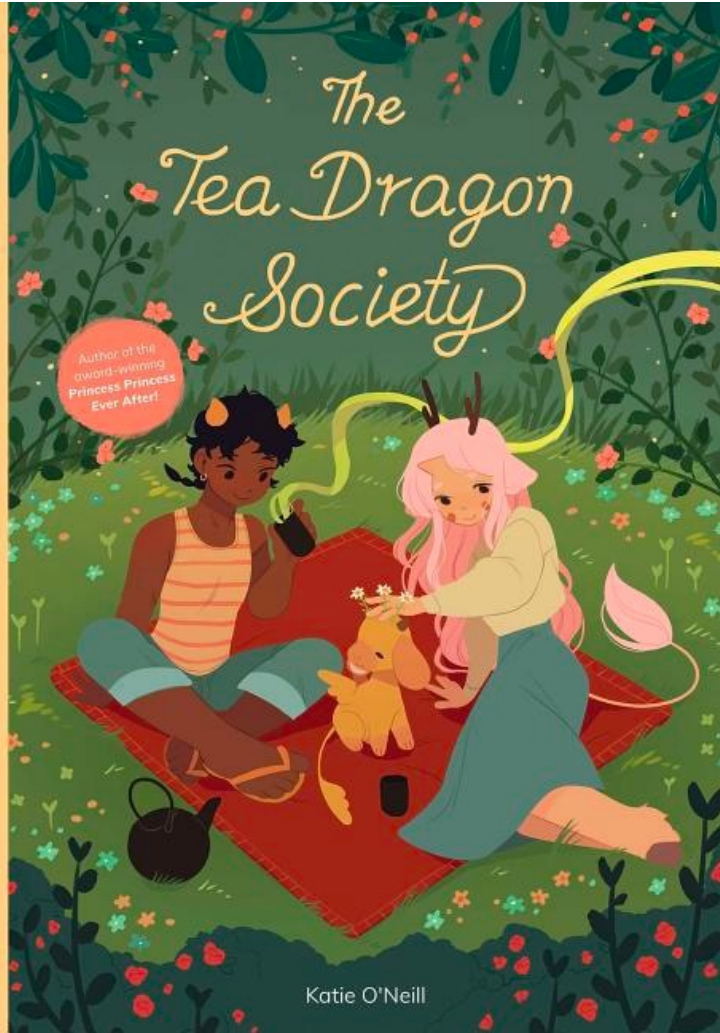
By Lamar Giles

2023 Titles



The Science of Breakable Things

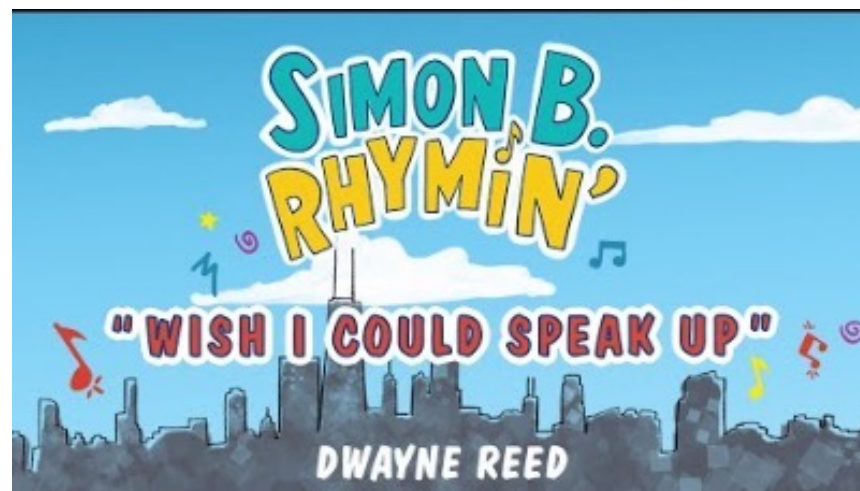
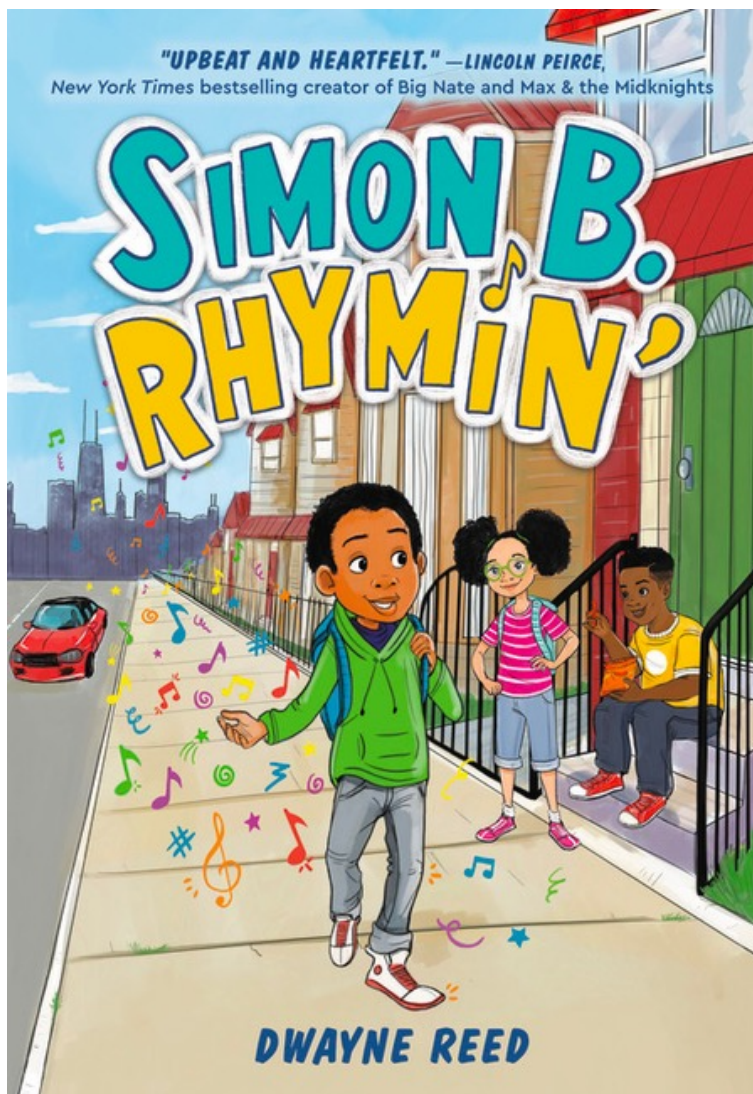
By Tae Keller



The Tea Dragon Society

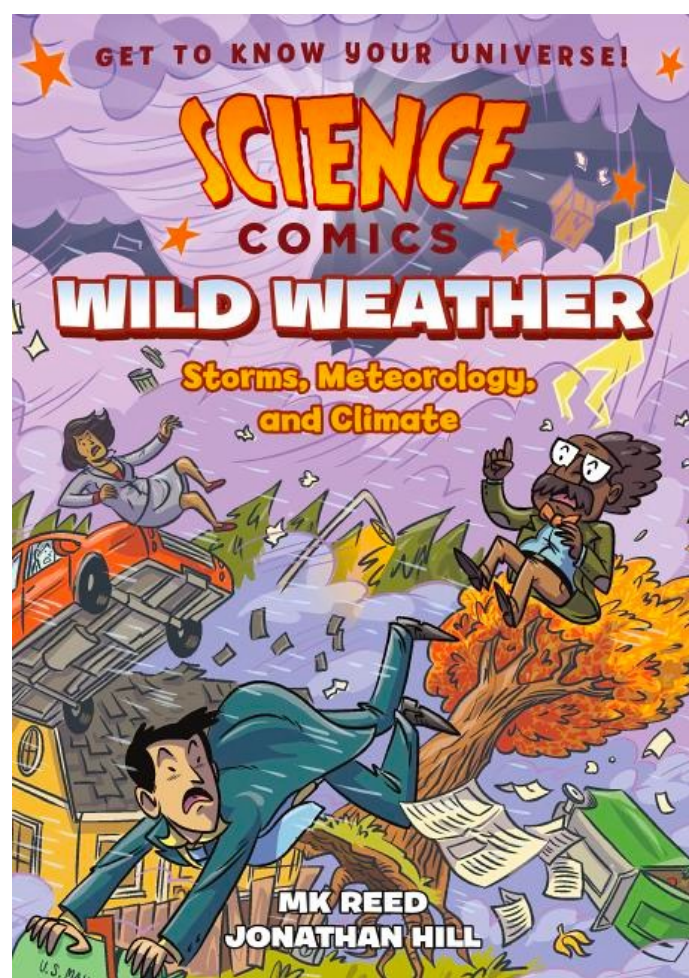
By Katie O'Neill

2023 Titles



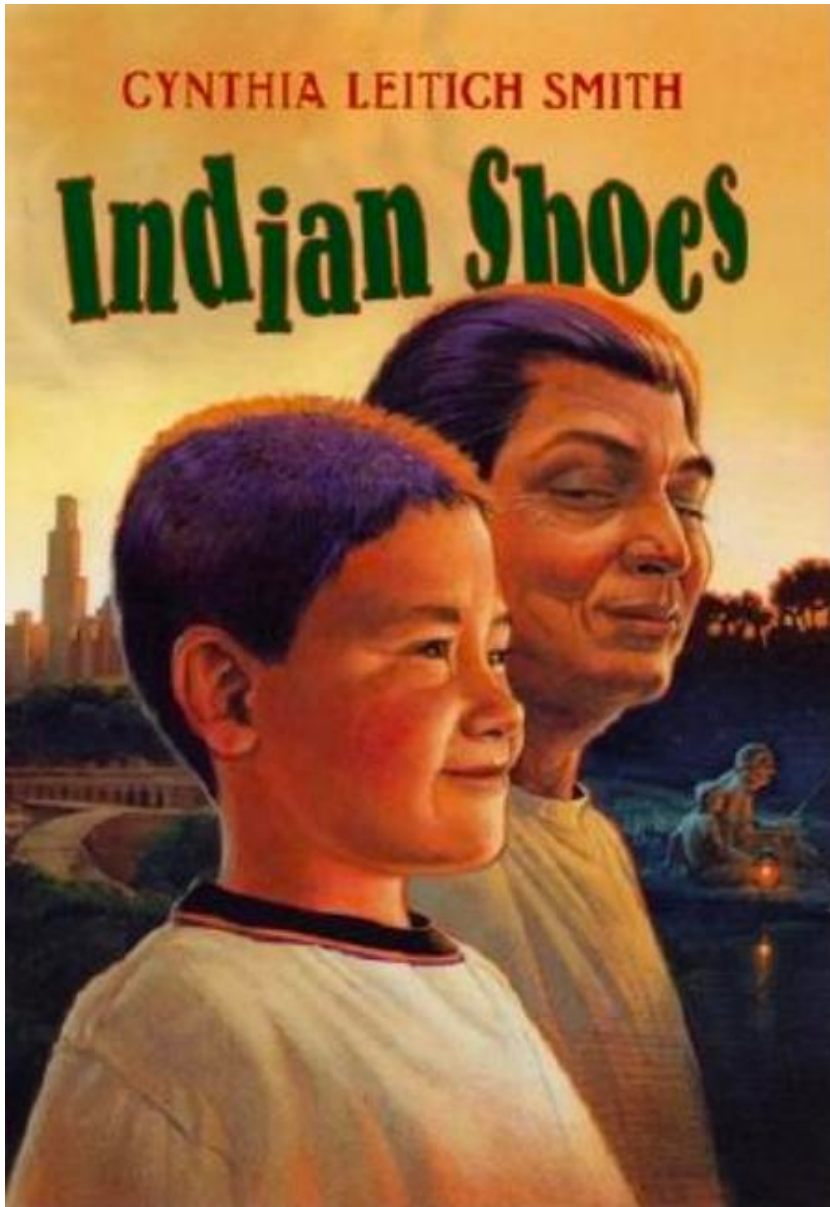
Simon B. Rhymin'

By Dwayne Reed



Wild Weather

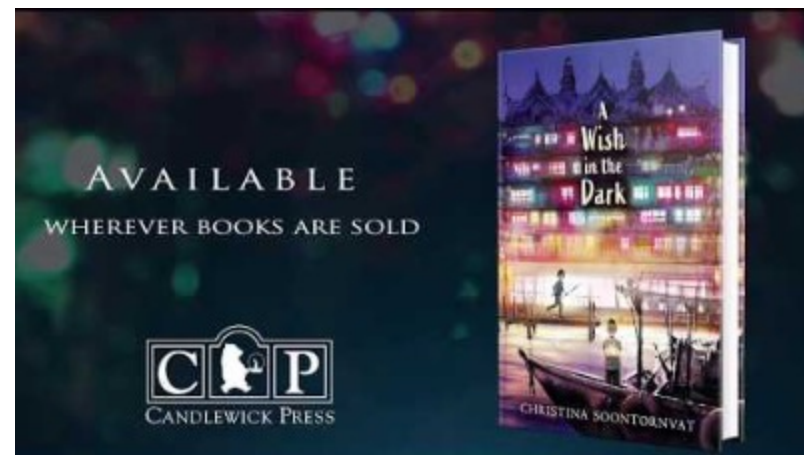
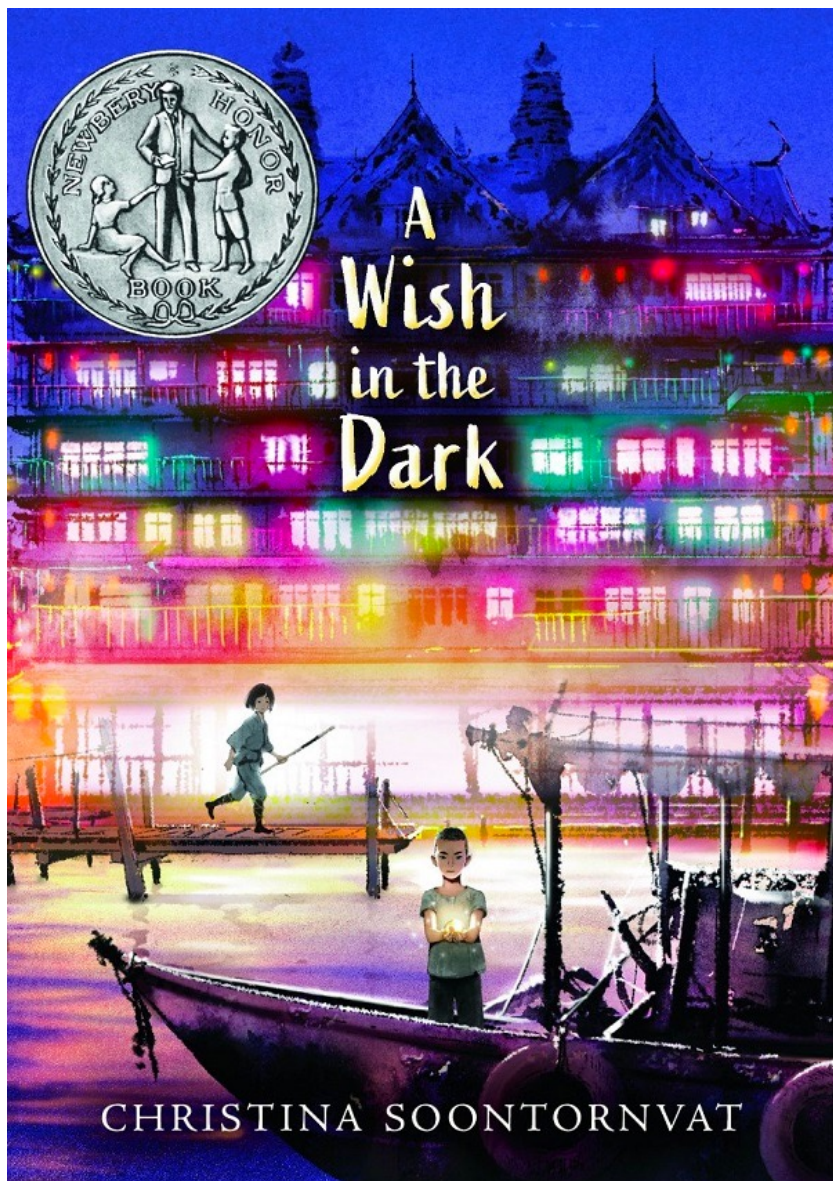
By M.K. Reed



Indian Shoes

By Cynthia Leitich Smith

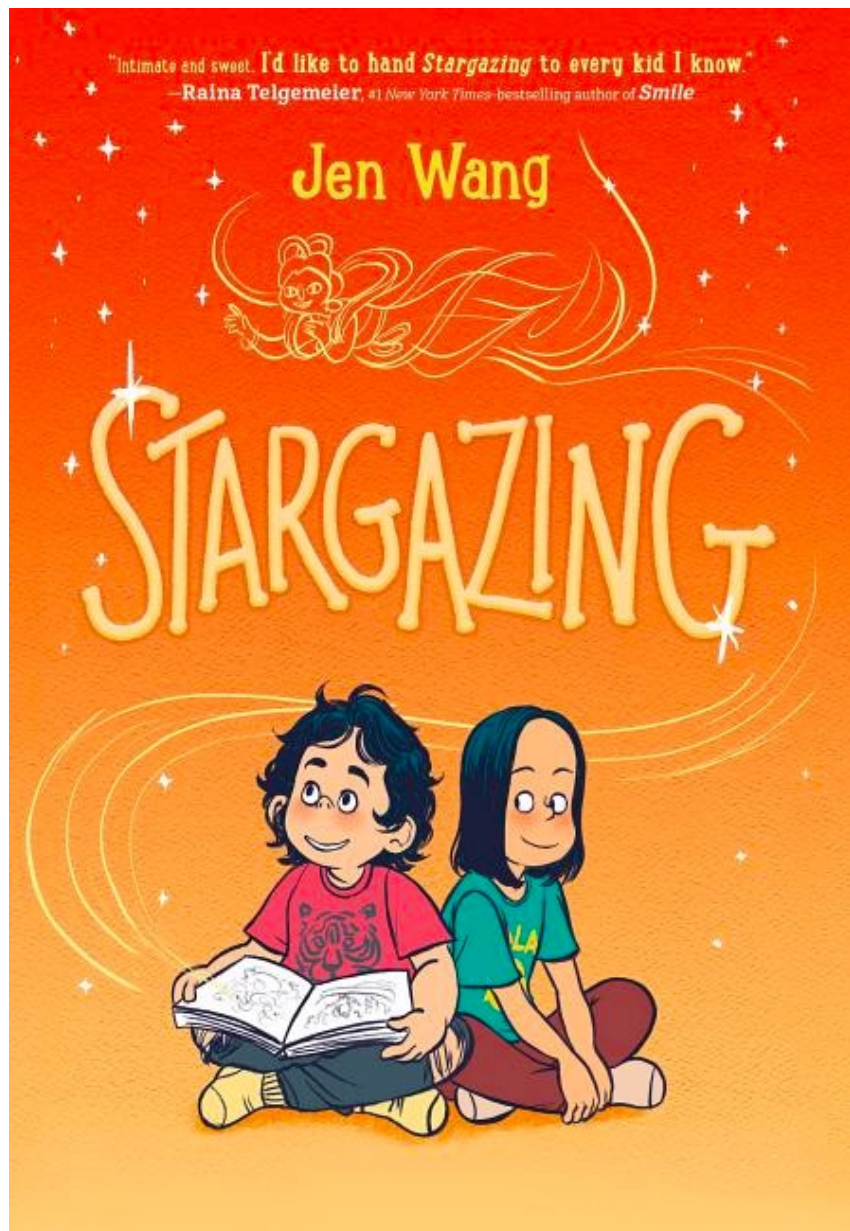
2023 Titles



A Wish in the Dark

By Christina Soontornvat

2023 Titles



[Stargazing](#)

By Jen Wang

Important Dates

Oct 24 – Nov 6

Online registration at hclibrary.org/battle-of-the-books

- *Registration closes Nov 6 or when capacity is reached, whichever comes first.*

Nov 15 at 7 pm

Mandatory coach meeting via Zoom

Nov 16 at 7 pm

Mandatory coach meeting in person at Miller Branch

Nov 16 from 7 pm – 9 pm, Nov 18 from 5 – 7 pm, and Nov 19 from 11 am – 1 pm

Pick up book sets - teams keep all books

February 6

Permission forms due

March 2023 (date TBD)

Mandatory logistics meeting via Zoom

April 2, 2023

Digital team poster uploads are due

April 28, 2023 (back-up date April 14, 2023)

Battle of the Books at Merriweather Post Pavilion

Sponsors

*Thanks to our generous sponsors who make
Battle of the Books possible:*

Presenting Sponsor

Josephine B. Scheffenacker Education Trust



Additional Sponsors (as of Oct. 12)

Downtown Columbia Arts and Culture Commission

Friends & Foundation of HCLS

Howard County Public School System



Register at
hclibrary.org/battle-of-the-books