



Newbery Award Winners

The Newbery Medal was named for eighteenth-century British bookseller John Newbery. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.

***Indicates age appropriateness**

2013 – The One and Only

Ivan – Katherine Applegate – When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

JF Applegate
***Ages 8-12**

2012 – Dead End in Norvelt

– Jack Gantos – In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.

JF Gantos
***Ages 10-14**

2011 - Moon Over Manifest

– Elizabeth George Speare – Abilene Tucker feels abandoned. Her father has put her on a train, sending her off to live with an old friend for the summer while he works a railroad job. Armed only with a few possessions and her list of universals, Abilene jumps off the train in Manifest, Kansas, aiming to learn about the boy her father once was.

JF Speare
***Ages 9-12**

2010 - When You Reach Me

– Rebecca Stead – As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1970s television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.

JF Stead
***Ages 9-12**

2009 - The Graveyard Book

– Neil Gaiman - Nobody Owens is a normal boy, except that he has been raised by ghosts and other denizens of the graveyard.

YA F Gaiman
***Ages 9-12**

2008 - Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village

– Laura Amy Schlitz – A collection of short one-person plays featuring characters, between ten and fifteen years old, who live in or near a thirteenth-century English manor.

J 812 Sch
***Ages 9-12**

2007 - The Higher Power of Lucky

– Susan Patron – Fearing that her legal guardian plans to abandon her to return to France, ten-year-old aspiring scientist Lucky Trimble determines to run away while also continuing to seek the Higher Power that will bring stability to her life.

JF Patron
***Ages 9-12**

2006 - Criss Cross – Lynne Rae Perkins – Teenagers in a small town in the 1960s experience new thoughts and feelings, question their identities, connect, and disconnect as they search for the meaning of life and love.

YA F Perkins
***Teens**

2005 - Kira-Kira – Cynthia Kadohata – Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

YA F Kadohata
***Teens**

2004 - The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread

– Kate DiCamillo – The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

JF DiCamillo
***Ages 9-12**

2003 - Crispin: The Cross of Lead

– Avi – Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

YA F Avi
***Ages 9-12**

2002 - A Single Shard

– Linda Sue Park – Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself.

YA F Park
***Ages 9-12**

2001 - A Year Down Yonder

— Richard Peck — In 1937, during the Depression, fifteen-year-old Mary Alice, initially apprehensive about leaving Chicago to spend a year with her fearsome, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois, gradually begins to better understand and admire her grandmother's unusual qualities.

YA F Peck
***Ages 9-12**

2000 - Bud, Not Buddy —

Christopher Paul Curtis — Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father—the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

JF Curtis
***Ages 9-12**

1999 - Holes — Louis Sachar —

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

JF Sachar
***Ages 9-12**

1998 - Out of the Dust —

Karen Hesse — In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

JF Hesse
***Teens**

1997 - The View from

Saturday — E.L. Konigsburg — Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, a paraplegic, who chooses them to represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.

JF Konigsburg
***Ages 9-12**

1996 - The Midwife's

Apprentice — Karen Cushman

— In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife, and in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she most wants: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world.

YA F Cushman
***Teens**

1995 - Walk Two Moons —

Sharon Creech — After her mother leaves home suddenly; thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

YA F Creech
***Ages 9-12**

1994 - The Giver — Lois Lowry

— Lowry's unforgettable tale introduces 12-year-old Jonas, who is singled out by the Community to be trained by The Giver. The Giver alone holds the memories of true pain and pleasure. Now it's time for Jonas to receive the truth.

JF Lowry
***Teens**

1993 - Missing May — Cynthia

Rylant — After the death of the beloved aunt who has raised her, twelve-year-old Summer and her uncle Ob leave their West Virginia trailer in search of the strength to go on living.

JF Rylant
***Ages 9-12**

1992 - Shiloh — Phyllis

Reynolds Naylor — When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.

JF Naylor
***Ages 9-12**

1991 - Maniac Magee — Jerry

Spinelli — After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.

JF Spinelli
***Ages 9-12**

1990 - Number the Stars —

Lois Lowry — In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

JF Lowry
***Ages 9-12**

1989 - Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices — Paul

Fleischman — A collection of poems describing the characteristics and activities of a variety of insects.

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***Ages 9-12**

1988 - Lincoln: A Photo

Biography — Russell Freedman — Photographs and text trace the life of the Civil War President.

J 92 Lincoln
***Ages 9-12**

1987 - The Whipping Boy —

Sid Fleischman — A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.

JF Fleischman
***Ages 9-12**

1986 - Sarah, Plain and Tall

— Patricia MacLachlan — When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.

JF MacLachlan
***Ages 9-12**

1985 - The Hero and the

Crown — Robin McKinley — Aerin, with the guidance of the wizard Luthe and the help of the Blue Sword, wins the birthright due her as the daughter of the Damarian king and a witchwoman of the mysterious, demon-haunted North.

JF McKinley
***Ages 12-14**

1984 - Dear Mr. Henshaw — Beverly Cleary — In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world.

JF Cleary
*Ages 9-12

1983 - Dicey's Song —

Cynthia Voigt — Now that the four abandoned Tillerman children are settled in with their grandmother, Dicey finds that their new beginnings require love, trust, humor, and courage.

JF Voigt
*Teens

1982 - A Visit to William Blake's Inn: Poems for Innocent and Experienced Travelers —

Nancy Willard — A collection of poems describing the curious menagerie of guests who arrive at William Blake's inn.

JF Willard
*Ages 9-12

1981 - Jacob Have I Loved

— Katherine Paterson — Feeling deprived all her life of schooling, friends, mother, and even her name by her twin sister, Louise finally begins to find her identity.

JF Paterson
*Teens

1980 - A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's

Journal, 1830-1832 — Joan W. Blos — The journal of a 14-year-old girl, kept the last year she lived on the family farm, records daily events in her small New Hampshire town, her father's remarriage, and the death of her best friend.

JF Blos
*Ages 9-12

1979 - The Westing Game —

Ellen Raskin — The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.

JF Raskin
*Ages 9-12

1978 - Bridge to Terabithia

— Katherine Paterson — The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm.

JF Paterson
*Ages 9-12

1977 - Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry —

Mildred D. Taylor — A black family living in Mississippi during the Depression of the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand.

JF Taylor
*Ages 8-12

1976 - The Grey King —

Susan Cooper — A strange boy and dog remind Will Stanton that he is an immortal, whose quest is to find the golden harp which will rouse others from a long slumber in the Welsh hills so they may prepare for the ultimate battle of Light versus Dark.

YA F Cooper
*Teens

1975 - M.C. Higgins, the

Great — Virginia Hamilton — As a slag heap, the result of strip mining, creeps closer to his house in the Ohio hills, fifteen-year-old M.C. is torn between trying to get his family away and fighting for the home they love.

JF Hamilton
*Ages 9-12

1974 - The Slave Dancer —

Paula Fox — Kidnapped and on an Africa-bound ship, thirteen-year-old Jessie discovers to his horror that he is on a slaver and his job is to play music for the exercise periods of the human cargo.

JF Fox
*Ages 9-12

1973 - Julie of the Wolves —

Jean Craighead George — While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.

JF George
*Ages 8-12

1971 - Summer of the

Swans — Betsy Byars — A teen-age girl gains new insight into herself and her family when her mentally retarded brother gets lost.

JF Byars
*Ages 9-12

1970 - Sounder — William H. Armstrong — Angry and humiliated when his sharecropper father is jailed for stealing food for his family, a young black boy grows in courage and understanding by learning to read and through his relationship with his devoted dog Sounder.

JF Armstrong.
*Ages 9-12

1969 - The High King —

Lloyd Alexander — In this final part of the chronicle of Prydain the forces of good and evil meet in an ultimate confrontation, which determines the fate of Taran, the Assistant Pig-Keeper who wanted to be a hero.

JF Alexander
*Ages 9-12

1968 - From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E.

Frankweiler — E.L. Konigsburg — Having runaway with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, twelve-year-old Claudia strives to keep things in order in their new home and to become a changed person and a heroine to herself.

JF Konigsburg
*Ages 9-12

1964 - It's Like This, Cat —

Emily Neville — Story of a fourteen-year-old New York boy and his relationships with a stray tomcat, an eccentric old woman, a troubled older boy, the first girl with whom he has been friends, and his father.

JF Neville
*Ages 9-12

1963 - A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L'Engle – Thirteen-year-old Meg Murry, her little brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin are guided by unearthly strangers as they go on a journey through space and time to search for Meg's and Charles' scientist father who disappeared while experimenting with a new form of space travel. Includes related readings and study questions.
JF L'Engle
***Ages 9-12**

1962 - The Bronze Bow – Elizabeth George Speare – A young boy seeks revenge against the Romans for killing his parents, but is turned away from vengeance by Jesus.
JF Speare
***Ages 9-12**

1961 - Island of the Blue Dolphins – Scott O'Dell – Left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, a young Indian girl spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.
JF O'Dell
***Ages 9-12**

1959 - The Witch of Blackbird Pond – Elizabeth George Speare – In 1687 in Connecticut, Kit Tyler, feeling out of place in the Puritan household of her aunt, befriends an old woman considered a witch by the community and suddenly finds herself standing trial for witchcraft.
JF Speare
***Ages 9-12**

1957 - Miracles on Maple Hill – Virginia Sorensen – After her father returns from the war moody and tired, Marly's family decides to move from the city to Maple Hill Farm in the Pennsylvania countryside where they share many adventures which help restore their spirits and their bond with each other.
JF Sorensen
***Ages 9-12**

1956 - Carry On, Mr. Bowditch – Jean Lee Latham – After finding a way to teach the ship's crew members to understand navigation, Nat, a self-taught mathematician and astronomer in eighteenth-century Salem, Massachusetts, writes down his explanations and compiles them into "The American Practical Navigator," also known as the "Sailors' Bible."
JF Latham
***Ages 9-12**

1955 – The Wheel on the School – Meindert DeJong – Why do the storks no longer come to the little Dutch fishing village of Shora to nest? It was Lina, one of the six schoolchildren who first asked the question, and she set the others to wondering. And sometimes when you begin to wonder, you begin to make things happen.
JF DeJong
***Ages 9-12**

1953 – Secret of the Andes – Ann Nolan Clark – An Indian boy who tends llamas in a hidden valley in Peru learns the traditions and secrets of his Inca ancestors.
JF Clark
***Ages 9-12**

1949 - King of the Wind – Marguerite Henry – Follows the adventures of the Arabian stallion brought to England to become one of the founding sires of the Thoroughbred breed and the mute Arab stable boy who tended him with loyalty and devotion all his life.
JF Henry
***Ages 9-12**

1948 - The Twenty-One Balloons – William Pene du Bois – After leaving San Francisco in a balloon to fly across the Pacific, Professor Sherman is picked up in the Atlantic clinging to wreckage.
JF du Bois
***Ages 9-12**

1945 – Rabbit Hill – Robert Lawson – New folks are coming to live in the Big House. The animals of Rabbit Hill wonder if they will plant a garden and thus be good providers.
JF Lawson
***Ages 9-12**

1944 - Johnny Tremain – Esther Forbes – After injuring his hand, a silversmith's apprentice in Boston becomes a messenger for the Sons of Liberty in the days before the American Revolution.
JF Forbes
***Ages 9-12**

1942 – The Matchlock Gun – Walter Edmonds – In 1756, during the French and Indian War in upper New York state, ten-year-old Edward is determined to protect his home and family with the ancient, and much too heavy, Spanish gun that his father had given him before leaving home to fight the enemy.
JF Edmonds
***Ages 9-12**

1941 - Call It Courage – Armstrong Sperry – By the time he is twelve years old, Mafatu can bear it no longer. He must conquer his fear alone . . . even if it means certain death.
JF Sperry
***Ages 9-12**

1938 – The White Stag – Kate Seredy – Retells the legendary story of the Huns' and Magyars' long migration from Asia to Europe where they hope to find a permanent home.
F Seredy
***Ages 9-12**

1937 – Roller Skates – Ruth Sawyer – *Roller Skates* is a delightful story of old New York, and about a tomboy who could not help being a lady at the same time.
JF Sawyer
***Ages 9-12**

1936 – Caddie Woodlawn – Carol Ryrie Brink – 1 Chronicles the adventures of eleven-year-old Caddie growing up with her six brothers and sisters on the Wisconsin frontier in the mid-nineteenth century.
JF Brink
***Ages 9-12**

1934 – Invincible Louisa: The Story of the Author of Little Women – Cornelia Meigs – Biography tracing the fascinating life of Louisa May Alcott from her happy childhood in Pennsylvania and Boston to her success as a writer of such classics as *Little Women*.
92 Alcott
***Ages 9-12**

1933 – Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze – Elizabeth

Lewis – In the 1920's a Chinese youth from the country comes to Chungking with his mother where the bustling city offers adventure and his apprenticeship to a coppersmith brings good fortune.

JF Lewis
***Ages 9-12**

1929 – The Trumpeter of Krakow – Eric

P. Kelly – A Polish family in the Middle Ages guards a great secret treasure and a boy's memory of an earlier trumpeter of Krakow makes it possible for him to save his father.

JF Kelly
***Ages 9-12**

1926 – Shen of the Sea –

Arthur Bowie Chrisman – Sixteen original stories reflecting the spirit of Chinese life and thought.

JF Chrisman
***Ages 9-12**

1923 – The Voyages of

Doctor Dolittle – Hugh Lofting, Retold by Kathleen Olmstead – An abridged retelling of the story in which Dr. Dolittle sets off with his assistant, Tommy Stubbins, his dog, Jip, and Polynesia the parrot on an adventurous voyage over tropical seas to floating Spider monkey Island.

JF Olmstead
***Ages 9-12**

1922 – The Story of

Mankind – Hendrik Willem Van Loon – This classic history first published in 1921 and winner of the first Newbery Medal was illustrated in pen and ink by the author. This version has incorporated recent events to make it an up-to-date world history.

909 Van Loon
***Ages 9-12**