

**Hidden by Helen Frost**

When Wren Abbott and Darra Monson are eight years old, Darra's father steals a minivan, unaware that Wren is hiding in the back. The days that follow change the lives of both girls. Six years later, the girls meet for the first time at a summer camp. They can finally learn the truth – that is, if they're willing to reveal to each other the stories that they've hidden for so long. 147 p. Grades 5 – 8. 67OL

**Chomp by Carl Hiaasen**

When the arrogant star of a reality television show disappears while filming an episode in the Florida Everglades using animals from the wildlife refuge run by Wahoo Crane's family, Wahoo and classmate Tuna Gordon set out to find him while also hiding from Tuna's abusive father. "A finely tuned mix of satire and madcap adventure." – Booklist. 290 p. Grades 5 – 8. 80OL

**Titanic: Voices from the Disaster by Deborah Hopkinson**

This nonfiction book weaves together the voices and stories of real Titanic survivors and witnesses to the disaster--from the stewardess Violet Jessop to Captain Arthur Rostron of the Carpathia, who came to the rescue of the sinking ship. 289 p. Grades 6 – 8. 104OL

**See You at Harry's by Jo Knowles**

12-year-old Fern feels invisible in her family, where grumpy 18-year-old Sarah is working at the family restaurant, 14-year-old Holden is struggling with school bullies and his emerging homosexuality, and adorable, 3-year-old Charlie is always the center of attention. When tragedy strikes, the fragile bond holding the family together is stretched almost to the breaking point. 310 p. Grades 6-8. 60OL

**Camo Girl by Kekla Magoon**

Ella's friend Z has always been "the weird kid." Z's oddities were okay in 3rd grade, but by now their other friends have ditched them both. Z doesn't care, but Ella longs to be part of a group of friends, even though most of the class makes fun of her. She's the only black kid in sixth grade, until cool Bailey moves to town. He befriends Ella, and invites her into a wider circle of friends - but only if she stops hanging out with Z. Should Ella remain loyal to the boy who has been her best and only friend for years, or become one of the popular kids that she has always longed to be? 218 p. Grades 5 – 8. 60OL

**Cinder by Marissa Meyer**

As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, observed by a ruthless lunar people, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world. A futuristic take on the Cinderella story that is full of twists and turns. 390 p. Grades 7 – 8. 79OL

**Monster Calls by Patrick Ness**

Thirteen-year-old Conor awakens one night to find a monster outside his bedroom window – but not the one from the recurring nightmare that began when his mother became ill. This monster is an ancient, wild creature that wants him to face truth and loss. "There's no denying it: this is one profoundly sad story. But it's also wise, darkly funny and brave. A potent piece of art." – The New York Times 204 p. Grades 7 – 8. 73OL

**Shadow on the Mountain by Margi Preus**

After Nazi Germany invades and occupies Norway, Espen is swept up in the Norwegian resistance movement. During five years under the Nazi regime, Espen becomes a spy, gains and loses friends, falls in love, and makes one small mistake that threatens to catch up with him as he finally sets out to escape on skis over the mountains to Sweden. 286 p. Grades 5 – 8. 73OL

**May B. by Caroline Starr Rose**

When a failed wheat crop nearly bankrupts the Betterly family, Pa pulls 12-year-old May from school and hires her out to a couple new to the Kansas frontier. Then the unthinkable happens: May is abandoned by her employers. Trapped in a tiny snow-covered sod house, isolated from family and neighbors, May must prepare to survive on her own for the oncoming winter. 231 p. Grades 4 – 6. 68OL

**The Rithmatist by Brandon Sanderson**

As Wild Chalkings threaten the American Isles and Rithmatists are humanity's only defense, Joel can only watch as Rithmatist students learn the magical art that he would do anything to practice. Then students start disappearing. Assigned to help the professor who is investigating the crimes, Joel and his friend find themselves on the trail of an unexpected discovery – one that will change their world forever. A *Harry Potter* read-alike. 378 p. Grades 6 – 8. 68OL

**Lincoln's Grave Robbers by Steve Sheinkin**

A nonfiction account of the 1875 attempt to steal the 16th president's body describes how a counterfeiting ring plotted to ransom Lincoln's body to secure the release of their imprisoned ringleader and how a fledgling Secret Service and an undercover agent conducted a daring election-night sting operation. 214 p. Grades 5 – 8. 93OL

**Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin by Liesl Shurtliff**

In a magic kingdom where your name is your destiny, 12-year-old Rump is the butt of everyone's joke. But when he finds an old spinning wheel, his luck seems to change. Rump discovers he has a gift for spinning straw into gold. His best friend, Red, warns him that magic is dangerous, and she's right. With each thread he spins, he weaves himself deeper into a curse. 264 p. Grades 4 – 6. 66OL

**Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan**

Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now. Suddenly Willow's world is tragically changed when her parents die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world, in search of a surrogate family. 380 p. Grades 5 – 8. 77OL

**Golden Boy by Tara Sullivan**

Born albino in a Tanzanian village, Habo suffers virulent prejudice, even from his own family. At 13, he runs away to the city of Dar-es-Salaam, where he finds a home as an apprentice to a blind sculptor. But Habo is being pursued by a poacher who wants to kill him and sell his body parts on the black market to superstitious buyers in search of luck. To survive, Habo must not only run, but find a way to love and accept himself. 354 p. Grades 7 – 8. 82OL

☐ ***The President Has Been Shot! The Assassination of John F. Kennedy***

by James L. Swanson

This nonfiction account will transport readers back to one of the most shocking, sad, and terrifying events in American history. In a "you are there" style, the story of President Kennedy's assassination is told with a riveting, ticking-clock pace, an eye for dramatic details and impeccable historical accuracy. 270 p. Grades 6 - 8. 1080L

☐ ***Three Times Lucky*** by Sheila Turnage

As a baby, Mo washed ashore in Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, 11 years ago during one of the meanest hurricanes in history--and she's been making waves ever since. Now, Mo helps out at the café run by her adoptive parents, the Colonel and Miss Lana, and continues her search for her Upstream Mother. But when the café's crankiest customer turns up dead and a city-slick lawman shows up asking questions, Mo and her best friend Dale set out to save those they love and solve a mystery of epic proportion. 312 p. Grades 4 - 7. 560L

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## Past Caudill Award Winners

- 2014 - ***Wonder*** by R.J. Palacio
- 2013 - ***Smile*** by Raina Telgemeier
- 2012 - ***Powerless*** by Matthew Cody
- 2011 - ***The Hunger Games*** by Suzanne Collins
- 2010 - ***All the Lovely Bad Ones***  
by Mary Downing Hahn
- 2009 - ***The Lightning Thief*** by Rick Riordan
- 2008 - ***Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie***  
by Jordan Sonnenblick
- 2007 - ***So B. It*** by Sarah Weeks
- 2006 - ***Eragon*** by Christopher Paolini
- 2005 - ***Hoot*** by Carl Hiaasen
- 2004 - ***Stormbreaker*** by Anthony Horowitz
- 2003 - ***Fever, 1793*** by Laurie Halse Anderson
- 2002 - ***Holes*** by Louis Sachar

Visit the Rebecca Caudill website at:

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# Rebecca Caudill Reading List 2016

## Can you read them all?

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The Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award was developed to encourage young people to read for personal satisfaction. Winners are chosen by Illinois children in grades 4-8, after reading books from a list of 20 titles. Books recommended for grades 6 & up have more mature content.

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☐ ***This Journal Belongs to Ratchet***  
by Nancy Cavanaugh

Ratchet is an 11-year-old girl who knows more about spark plugs than sleepovers. Homeschooled by her mechanic father, Ratchet keeps a journal about her efforts to make friends, save a park, remember her mother, and find her own definition of "normal." 307 p. Grades 4 - 6. 830L

☐ ***Will in Scarlet*** by Matthew Cody

In England during the late 1100s, 13-year-old Will, the future Lord of Shackley, is exiled to Sherwood Forest, where he meets Robin Hood and the Merry Men and bands with them to try retake Shackley Castle. A gritty, thoughtful, adventure story. 260 p. Grades 6 - 8. 840L

☐ ***Mountain Dog*** by Margarita Engle

When his mother is sent to jail in Los Angeles, eleven-year-old Tony goes to live with his forest ranger great-uncle in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, where Tony experiences unconditional love for the first time through his friendship with a rescue dog. "The details about search and rescue, the Pacific Coast trail, and dogs and bears keep the book's action high and will appeal to wilderness fans." -Booklist. 215 p. Grades 4 - 6. 1050L

☐ ***Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25***  
by Richard Paul Evans

To everyone at his high school, 14-year-old Michael Vey is nothing special. But in truth, Michael is extremely special--he has electric powers. When he discovers that a cheerleader named Taylor has the same mysterious powers, Michael, his friend Ostin, and Taylor set out to discover the origin of their powers. Their investigation brings them to the attention of a group of vicious criminals who wants to control the electric teens - and through them, the world. 326 p. Grades 7 - 8. 500L