



TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10 PICKS **TOP 10 PICKS** TOP 10 PICKS TOP 10

SHOUT

By Laurie Halse Anderson

“Laurie Halse Anderson invites readers not to speak but to shout in her new poetry memoir, a long-awaited follow-up to her bestselling YA novel *Speak*, which centers around a survivor of sexual assault. In *SHOUT*, Anderson shares memories from her young adulthood when she herself was raped and how she found the strength to keep going. Between autobiographical poems lie fierce rants about rape culture and censorship, as well as love letters and encouragement to survivors of sexual assault. *SHOUT* is a fist raised to the sky, arriving on the heels of #MeToo and urging readers to never be silenced. A must-read.”

—Mary Wahlmeier, Raven Book Store, Lawrence, KS



Find out more about this book and others at WWW.INDIEBOUND.ORG



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On the Come Up

By Angie Thomas

“For her sophomore book, Thomas gives us a heroine—Brienne—who is struggling against both her family’s expectations as well as those of white people as she tries to make her way doing what she loves: rapping. We follow her through ups and downs as she navigates racism at her school and the expectations of black girls in the music world. Excellently written and incredibly unputdownable, you will cheer and cry as Bri makes her way!”

—Melissa Fox, Watermark Books & Café, Wichita, KS



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To Night Owl From Dogfish

By Holly Goldberg Sloan, Meg Wolitzer

“If there is a word that perfectly sums up this book, it has to be ‘adorable.’ Bett and Avery are NOT friends, but when they discover their dads are dating and sending them to summer camp together, they conspire via e-mails and letters to split the dads up and get out of going to camp together. What ends up happening is much more than anyone could have imagined. This book is everything you want in a middle-grade novel: sweet, humorous, adventurous, and packed with wonderful characters. It is also just a beautiful story about families and relationships. Cuddle up with this one!”

—Nichole Cousins, White Birch Books, North Conway, NH



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Wicked Saints

By Emily A. Duncan

“*Wicked Saints* has everything I look for in a book: dark monsters, powerful magic, and a stunning atmosphere that permeates every page. Inspired by the story of Joan of Arc, *Wicked Saints* follows a gods-touched peasant girl raised to be the solution to a century-long war. When Nadya’s entire life is burned to the ground, she must work with the enemy and betray her gods to save them all. This book is lush and darkly romantic, perfect for fans of Maggie Stiefvater and Leigh Bardugo.

Duncan’s thrilling debut explores the ecstasy and heartbreaking tragedy of what it is to love a monster.”

—Laura Graveline, Brazos Bookstore, Houston, TX



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New Kid

By Jerry Craft

"*New Kid* tackles diversity and inclusion with humor and charm. Jordan Banks wants to go to art school, but his mother sends him to Riverdale, a predominantly white private school, to increase his opportunities. Jordan teams up with Liam and Drew and along the way starts to enjoy himself. Craft uses pop culture parody references to start each chapter and includes drawings by Jordan throughout the book. The graphic novel format is perfect for a kid who loves art and also serves to take the story deeper as the pictures add another layer. Highly recommended for new kids and old ones!"

—Kathy Burnette, The Brain Lair, South Bend, IN



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Caterpillar Summer

By Gillian McDunn

"This stunning debut from Gillian McDunn is guaranteed to warm any reader's heart. Cat and her brother, Chicken, who has special needs, have never met their mother's parents, but that all changes when their mom is called away to work and the kids need somewhere to go for the summer. Once the kids arrive at their grandparents' house on Gingerbread Island, old hurts are exposed and Cat has to navigate her family's complicated history. At the same time, Cat has to look after Chicken, who lands himself in sticky situations despite his best efforts. Mix in a new friend, a little bully, and a fishing competition, and that's one thrilling summer! Cat is a spirited, responsible young girl with a fierce sense of what is right. She is sure to win a lot of fans!"

—Michael Leali, Anderson's Bookshops, Naperville, IL



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The Devouring Gray

By Christine Lynn Herman

"When mutilated bodies start to show up in the small town of Four Paths in rural upstate New York, the townsfolk know it can only mean one thing: The Gray is back. Existing on an alternate plane, The Gray (not unlike the Demogorgon/Upside Down in *Stranger Things*) has been terrorizing the town since its inception but the founding families of Four Paths have always been able to keep it from crossing over. This time, dark familial secrets could allow The Gray to break through, and it's up to four teen descendants of the founders to set aside their differences to keep the terror at bay. Gripping and terrifying, *The Devouring Gray* will have you sleeping with one eye open, if at all."

—Javier Ramirez, The Book Table, Oak Park, IL



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Song for a Whale

By Lynne Kelly

"A great book about the importance of community, understanding, and the spirit of adventure, *Song for a Whale* follows a young deaf girl whose curiosity is piqued by the story of a whale that is singularly unable to communicate with other whales. As the only deaf member in a hearing family, Iris immediately recognizes the severe loneliness of this situation, and her surge of empathy leads her to embark on a quest of growth and catharsis. There are myriad reasons why it is wonderful to meet a deaf heroine in young adult literature, but more than that, Iris is a wholly delightful character: a whiz-kid who digs electronics, who has a hot temper, who loves her grandmother, and who is vastly more than her inability to hear. I hope other readers enjoy meeting her as much as I did."

—Amy Van Keuren, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT



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Sweetie

By Andrea Zuil

"Raise your hand if you're Sweetie! For all the oddballs, the freaks, the geeks, the nerds, the weirdos, the ones looking for their tribe: This is your picture book. Whether you're a child in truth or a child at heart, *Sweetie* will wrap you in a loud, enthusiastic hug and let you know that you are so very not alone."

—Billie Bloebaum, Third Street Books, McMinnville, OR



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A Piglet Named Mercy

By Kate DiCamillo, Chris Van Dusen (Illus.)

"Who hasn't wondered how Mercy Watson ended up with Mr. and Mrs. Watson? This picture book tells that serendipitous story, complete with input from Eugenia and Baby Lincoln. Chris Van Dusen's illustrations of Mercy as a piglet are absolutely adorable, and the looks of pure joy on the faces of Mr. and Mrs. Watson will remind parents of seeing their little ones for the first time. A lovely, lovely book."

—Kelli Gleiner, Blue Manatee Children's Bookstore, Cincinnati, OH



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STAFF PICK!



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