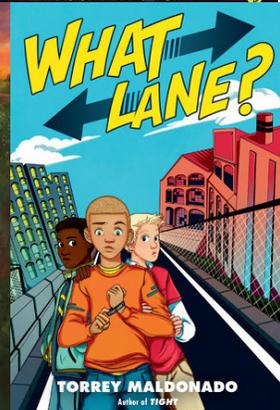
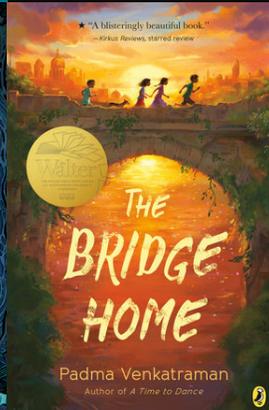
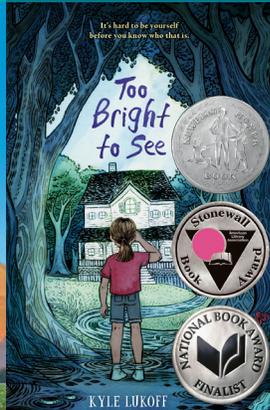
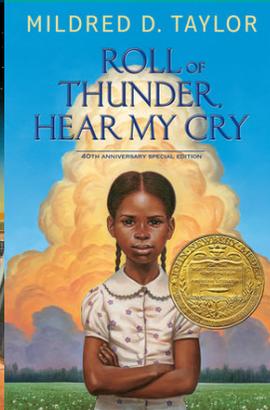
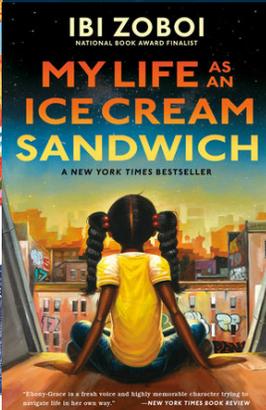
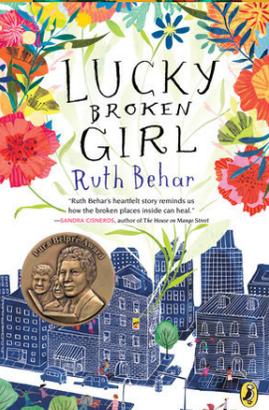
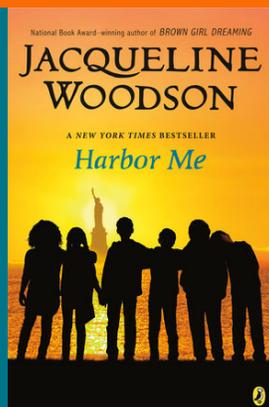
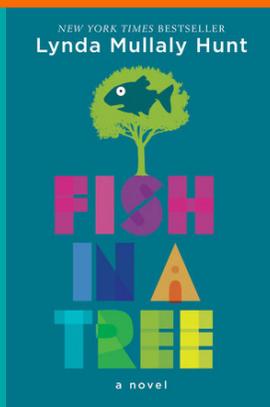
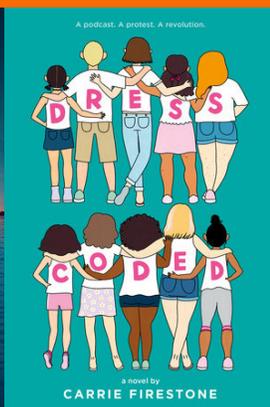
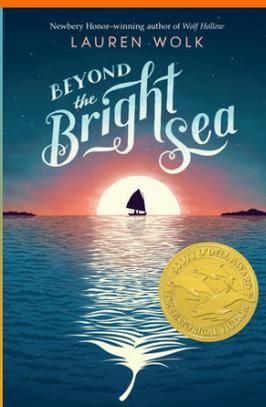
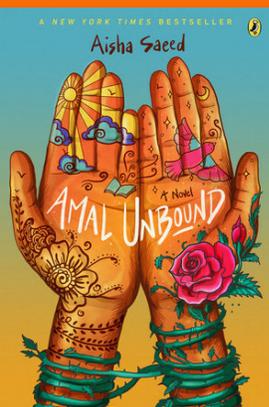


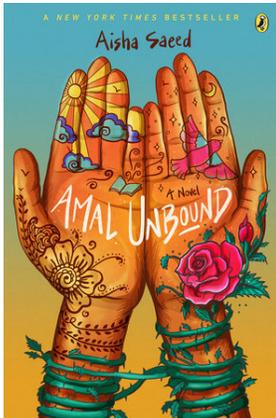
17 Books

Every 5th Grader Should Read



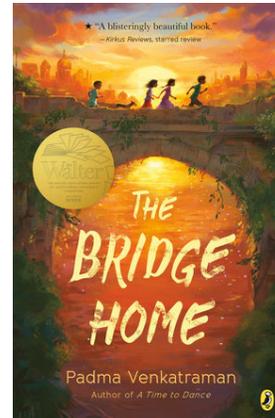
17 Books

Every 5th Grader Should Read

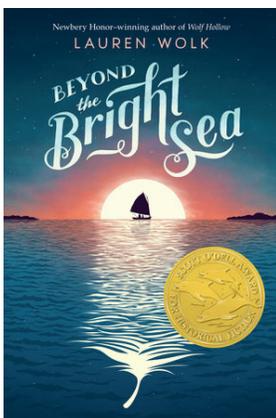


Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed. Twelve-year-old Amal's dream of becoming a teacher one day is dashed in an instant when she accidentally insults a member of her Pakistani village's ruling family. As punishment, she must leave her family behind and go work as

a servant for the ruling family. Amal realizes she is going to need to use all her courage if she plans to keep her family safe and win her freedom.

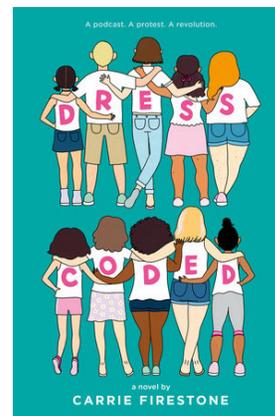


The Bridge Home by Padma Venkatraman. Four determined homeless children make a life for themselves on the streets of Chennai, India, in this beautifully written novel about young people who must use their instincts and grit to survive.



Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk. Twelve-year-old Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny, isolated piece of the starkly beautiful Elizabeth Islands in Massachusetts. When a mysterious fire appears across the water, the unspoken question of her own history forms

in her heart. Soon, an unstoppable chain of events is triggered, leading Crow down a path of discovery and danger.



Dress Coded by Carrie Firestone. A middle-grade girl-power friendship story. Perfect for fans of *Moxie*, an eighth grader starts a podcast to protest the unfair dress code enforcement at her middle school and sparks a rebellion.

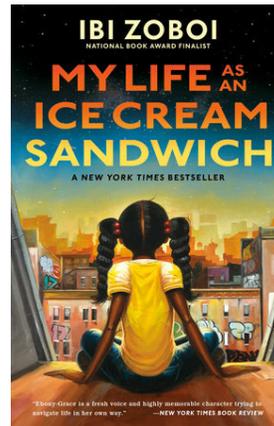


The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Pérez. A wry and heartfelt exploration of friendship, finding your place, and learning to rock out like no one's watching.

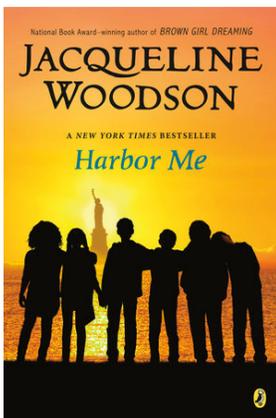


Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt. Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she can hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. Things change, however, when Ally's new teacher recognizes her dyslexia.

With his help, Ally sees that there's a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.

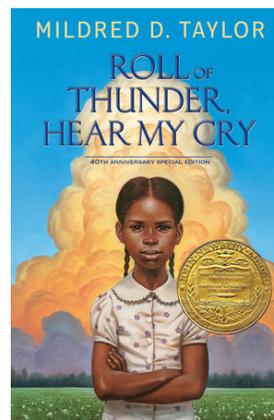


My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich by Ibi Zoboi. Twelve-year-old Ebony-Grace loves all things science fiction. In the summer of 1984, she goes to spend a few weeks with her father in Harlem. But soon, she realizes Harlem has more in common with her beloved sci-fi adventures than she ever thought possible.

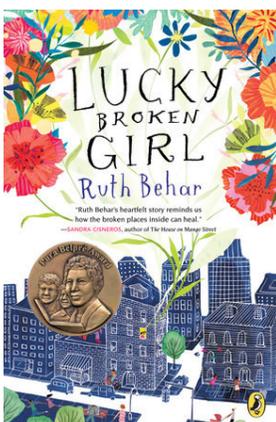


Harbor Me by Jacqueline Woodson. It all starts when six kids must meet for a weekly chat—by themselves, with no adults to listen in. When they are together, they can express the feelings and fears they must hide from the rest of the world. And together, they can grow braver and more ready for the rest of their lives.

and more ready for the rest of their lives.



Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor. Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, this is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice.

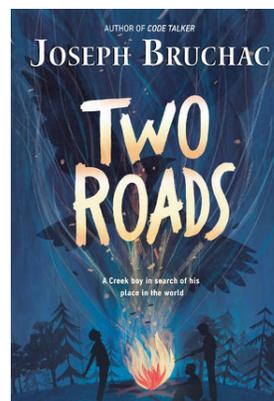


Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar. Based on the author's childhood in the 1960s—a young Cuban-Jewish immigrant girl is adjusting to her new life in New York City when her American dream is suddenly derailed. Ruthie's plight will intrigue readers, and her

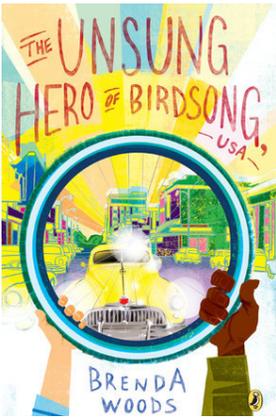
powerful story of strength and resilience, full of color, light, and poignancy, will stay with them for a long time.



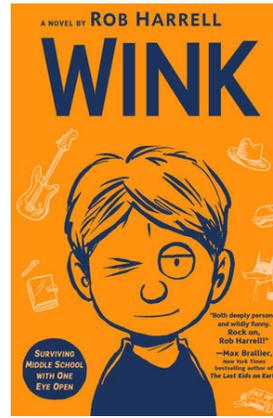
Stand Up, Yumi Chung! by Jessica Kim. One lie snowballs into a full-blown double life in this irresistible story about an aspiring stand-up comedian.



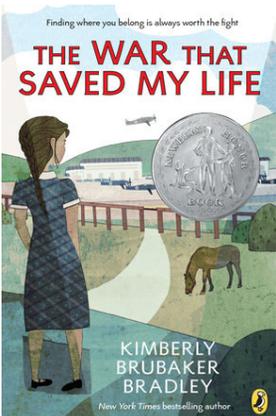
Two Roads by Joseph Bruchac. A boy discovers his Native American heritage in this Depression-era tale of identity and friendship.



[The Unsung Hero of Birdsong, USA](#) by Brenda Woods. The moving story of the friendship between a young white boy and a Black WWII veteran who has recently returned to the unwelcoming Jim Crow South.

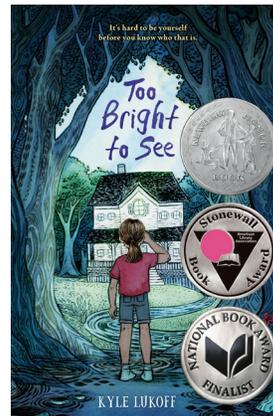


[Wink](#) by Rob Harrell. A hilarious and heart-wrenching story about surviving middle school—and an unthinkable diagnosis—while embracing life’s weirdness. Ross Maloy just wants to be a normal seventh grader. He doesn’t want to lose his hair, or wear a weird hat, or deal with the disappearing friends who don’t know what to say to “the cancer kid.” But with his recent diagnosis of a rare eye cancer, blending in is off the table.



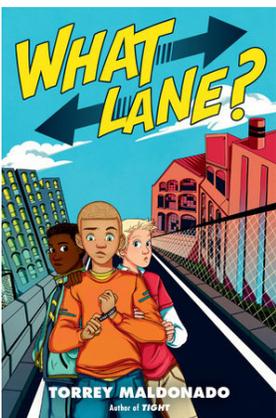
[The War That Saved My Life](#) by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley. Ten-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada’s twisted foot to let her outside. So, when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada

doesn’t waste a minute—she sneaks out to join him.



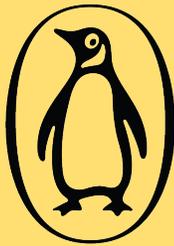
[Too Bright to See](#) by Kyle Lukoff. Bug’s haunted house has a new visitor and is trying to tell Bug something about friendship, identity, and family. This Newbery Honor and Stonewall Book Award-winner is a spooky and haunting ghost story about navigating grief,

growing up, and growing into a new gender identity.



[What Lane?](#) by Torrey Maldonado. Anything his friends can do, Stephen should be able to do too, right? So, when they dare each other to sneak into an abandoned building, he goes. Here’s the thing, though: *Can* he do *everything* his friends can? Lately, he’s not so sure. As a mixed

kid, he feels like he’s living in two worlds with different rules—and he’s been noticing that strangers treat him differently than his white friends . . .



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