

NCCBA 2012 JUNIOR BOOK NOMINATIONS

Angleberger, Tom. *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*. NY: Amulet Books. 2010.

Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their weird classmate Dwight, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future. Includes instructions for making Origami Yoda.

Appelt, Kathi. *Keeper*. New York : Atheneum Books for Young Readers. 2010.

On the night of the blue moon when mermaids are said to gather on a sandbar in the Gulf of Mexico, ten-year-old Keeper sets out in a small boat, with her dog BD and a seagull named Captain, determined to find her mother, a mermaid, as Keeper has always believed, who left long ago to return to the sea.

Bemis, John Claude. *The Nine Pound Hammer*. NY: Random House. 2009.

Drawn by the lodestone his father gave him years before, twelve-year-old orphan Ray travels south, meeting along the way various characters from folklore who are battling against an evil industry baron known as the Gog.

Gidwitz, Adam. *A Tale Dark and Grimm*. New York : Dutton Children's Books. 2010.

Follows Hansel and Gretel as they walk out of their own story and into eight more tales, encountering such wicked creatures as witches, along with kindly strangers and other helpful folk. Based in part on the Grimms' fairy tales Faithful Johannes, Hansel and Gretel, The seven ravens, Brother and sister, The robber bridegroom, and The devil and his three golden hairs.

Kehret, Peg. *Runaway Twin*. NY: Dutton Children's Books. 2009

Thirteen-year-old Sunny, accompanied by a stray dog, takes advantage of a windfall to travel from her Nebraska foster home to Enumclaw, Washington, to find the twin sister from whom she was separated at age three.

Law, Ingrid. *Scumble*. New York : Dial Books for Young Readers. 2010.

Mibs's cousin Ledge is disappointed to discover that his "savvy"--the magical power unique to each member of their family--is to make things fall apart, which endangers his uncle Autry's ranch and reveals the family secret to future reporter Sarah.

Lord, Cynthia. *Touch Blue*. NY: Scholastic Press. 2010.

When the state of Maine threatens to shut down their island's one-room schoolhouse because of dwindling enrollment, eleven-year-old Tess, a strong believer in luck, and her family take in a trumpet-playing foster child to increase the school's population.

Scieszka, Jon. *Spaceheadz*. NY: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. 2010.

On his first day at Brooklyn's P.S. 858, fifth-grader Michael K. is teamed with two very strange students, and while he gradually comes to believe they are aliens who need his help, he has trouble convincing anyone else of the truth.

Singer, Marilyn. *Mirror mirror : a book of reversible verse*. NY: Dutton Children's Books. 2010

A collection of short poems which, when reversed, provide new perspectives on the fairy tale characters they feature.

Van Cleve, Kathleen. *Drizzle*. NY: Dial Books for Young Readers. 2010.

When a drought threatens her family's magical rhubarb farm, eleven-year-old Polly tries to find a way to make it rain again.

Vanderpool, Clare. *Moon Over Manifest*. New York : Delacorte Press. 2010.

Twelve-year-old Abilene Tucker is the daughter of a drifter who, in the summer of 1936, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, Kansas, where he grew up, and where she hopes to find out some things about his past.

Wiles, Deborah. *Countdown*. New York : Scholastic. 2010.

Franny Chapman just wants some peace. But that's hard to get when her best friend is feuding with her, her sister has disappeared, and her uncle is fighting an old war in his head. Her saintly younger brother is no help, and the cute boy across the street only complicates things. Worst of all, everyone is walking around just waiting for a bomb to fall...