



### On Thin Ice

by Michael Northrop  
JF Northrop  
Targeted by the school bully because of his differences, a 12-year-old social outcast and son of a gambler organizes an innovative but risky venture to save his home while finding a creative place to belong.



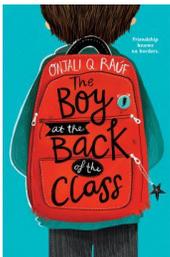
### The Best at What I Do at What It Does

by Maulik Pancholy  
JF Pancholy  
12-year-old Rahul Kapoor, an Indian-American boy growing up in small-town Indiana, struggles to come to terms with his identity, including that he may be gay.



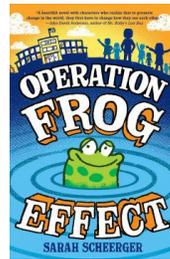
### Strange Birds: A Field Guide to Ruffling Feathers

by Celia C. Pérez  
JF Perez  
A budding journalist, a bookish foodie and a birdwatcher forge a friendship with a fourth misfit when they organize an alternative sisterhood troop to protest their community's scout traditions.



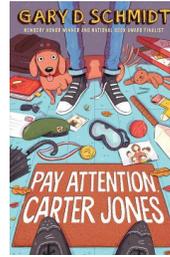
### The Boy at the Back of the Class

by Onjali Q. Raúf  
JF Rauf  
When a Syrian refugee boy joins their class, the determined students in Mrs. Kahn's schoolroom learn the newcomer's sad story before concocting a plan to reunite him with his loved ones.



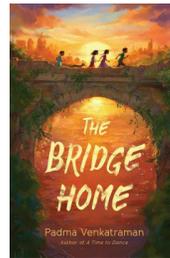
### Operation Frog Effect

by Sarah Lynn Scheerger  
JF Scheerger  
When eight students take an assignment too far, they must take responsibility for their actions.



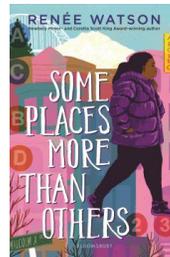
### Pay Attention, Carter Jones

by Gary D. Schmidt  
JF Schmidt  
When a mysterious English butler appears one morning to help his troubled family, young Carter struggles to navigate middle school under the watch of the newcomer.



### The Bridge Home

by Padma Venkatraman  
JF Venkatraman  
Two runaway sisters find shelter and friendship on an abandoned bridge with two homeless boys before an illness forces them to choose between survival and freedom.

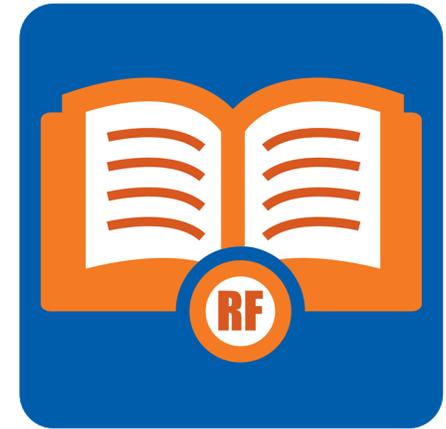


### Some Places More Than Others

by Renée Watson  
JF Watson  
Amara visits her father's family in Harlem for her twelfth birthday, hoping to better understand her family and herself, but New York City is not what she expected.

# Children

# Realistic Fiction



Real kids in real-life situations

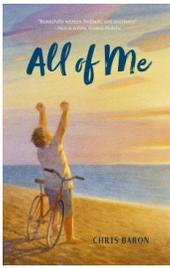


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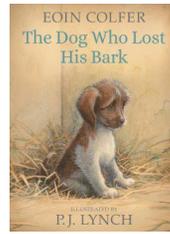


## All of Me

by Chris Baron

JF Baron

Moving across the country, a boy with body-image issues resulting from relentless bullying, makes new friends and struggles to manage his weight before realizations about his parents' failing marriage help him find healing.



## The Dog Who Lost His Bark

by Eoin Colfer

JF Colfer

Patrick always wanted a dog and now, with his father away, he longs for a canine friend more than ever. Meanwhile, in his short doggy life, Oz has struggled to survive and find a family. Maybe, when they find each other, Oz will learn to bark again.

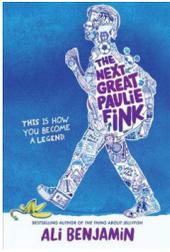


## Pie in the Sky

by Remy Lai

JF Lai

Feeling as out of place as if he landed on Mars when his family moves to Australia, Jingwen dreams about the cakes he would have baked with his late father, a hope that is challenged by his mother's strict kitchen safety rules.

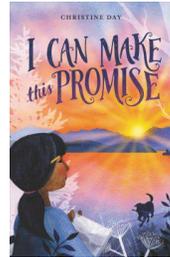


## The Next Great Paulie Fink

by Ali Benjamin

JF Benjamin

Caitlyn struggles to fit in at the new small school she's just moved to while listening to stories about a genius prankster class clown, who is conspicuously absent.



## I Can Make This Promise

by Christine Day

JF Day

In a story based on the author's real-life experiences, a girl uncovers a secret that connects her to her Native American heritage, throwing everything she believes about her family into question.



## Not If I Can Help It

by Carolyn Mackler

JF Mackler

Struggling with changes that are made difficult by her Sensory Processing Disorder, young Willa is thrown for a loop when her father reveals that he has been dating her best friend's mom.



## Each Tiny Spark

by Pablo Cartaya

JF Cartaya

A young girl who struggles with attention-deficit challenges finds her world further complicated when her father returns from deployment and shuts himself away from their family.



## Summer of a Thousand Pies

by Margaret Dilloway

JF Dilloway

Sent to live with the aunt she didn't know after a homeless childhood with her father in San Diego, Cady is challenged to help save her aunt's failing pie shop just as she is beginning to feel like she belongs.

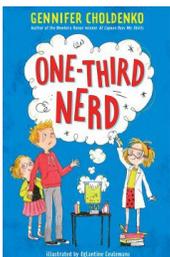


## Meena Meets Her Match

by Karla Manternach

JF Manternach

Third-grader Meena Zee navigates the triumphs and challenges of family, friendship and school while being diagnosed with epilepsy.



## One-Third Nerd

by Gennifer Choldenko

JF Choldenko

Ten-year-old Liam and his two younger sisters, Dakota and Izzy, who has Down syndrome, face the possibility of losing their beloved dog, Cupcake, who keeps urinating on their apartment's carpet.



## More to the story

by Hena Khan

JF Khan

A Muslim-American writer's ambition to win a national media contest is complicated by her family's relocation overseas and her sister's dangerous illness.



## Caterpillar Summer

by Gillian McDunn

JF McDunn

Helping to care for her beloved special-needs brother in the years after their father's passing, Cat suffers a personal setback that prompts her to visit the home of the grandparents she has never met, where she finds renewal in simply being able to be a kid.