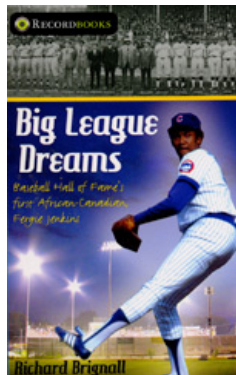


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GOLDEN OAK™ 2014 NOMINATED TITLES



Big League Dreams: Baseball Hall of Fame's first African-Canadian, Fergie Jenkins

Richard Brignall

James Lorimer & Company

This is a history of black major league baseball players and the crumbling of the colour barrier in sport, and the story of how Fergie Jenkins rose to the top to become Canada's first inductee into the American Baseball Hall of Fame.

Fergie Jenkins grew up in the era when Jackie Robinson became the first black man to play major league baseball, and Willie O'Ree became the first black NHL player. Inspired by these professional athletes, and with doors now opening for young men like himself, Fergie went on to have a remarkable career in major league baseball.

Former sports journalist Richard Brignall traces the ups and downs in Fergie's career, from his humble roots in Chatham, Ontario, to his time with the Phillies, the Cubs, the Red Sox, and the Rangers. Along the way, Brignall examines what it meant for a man to be black in the United States versus Canada in the 1960s and 70s.

Contingency Plan

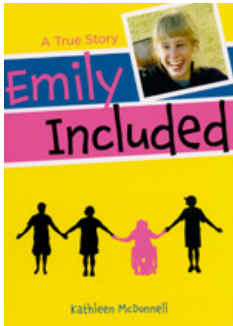


Lou Allin

Orca Book Publishers

When Sandra Sinclair, recently widowed and the mother of twelve-year-old Jane, meets wealthy lawyer Joe Gillette, he wins her over with his kind and conscientious attitude. Falling in love faster than she ever thought possible, Sandra agrees to marry. But soon after they move into their new home, things begin to change, and Joe's controlling behavior causes her to question her decision. When her new husband becomes seriously abusive, Sandra decides that she and Jane must leave.

When Joe makes it clear that he will not just let her walk away, Sandra discovers that it's quite likely that he arranged his first wife's death, and that she is now part of his "contingency plan." She soon realizes that even the law is no defense against this meticulous and egotistical man. Fleeing to an old family cabin on a remote lake, mother and daughter prepare to live off the grid. And when Joe tracks them down, Sandra must come up with a contingency plan of her own.



Emily Included

Kathleen McDonnell

Second Story Press

A Regular School -

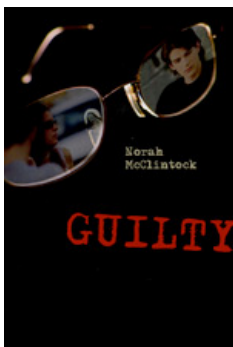
Emily Eaton was born with cerebral palsy. She couldn't communicate or control her movements like other kids, and she used a wheelchair. But that did not stop her from wanting to be a kid like everyone else, including going to a regular school.

A Fight to be Included -

But when some important people decided that Emily should leave and go to a special school for disabled children, Emily and her family were upset. They decided that they would fight for Emily to stay in her class and stay with her friends.

All the Way to the Supreme Court!

Emily's battle not to be forced out of her school was long, hard – and history-making. The fight took her to the highest court in the country. Emily and her family would let nothing stand in the way of her being included, wherever she wants to go



Guilty

Norah McClintock

Orca Book Publishers

Tracie crumples and falls to the ground. My dad twists around to look at her. He bellows. He lunges at the man again.

Blam!

Blam!

A second person falls to the ground.

Only my dad is left standing.

Why would a murderer return to the scene of the crime? And why would he kill again?

Finn watches in horror as his stepmother is gunned down in front of his house. His father reacts and kills the gunman. When Finn learns that the killer is the same man who admitted to killing his birth mother years before, he

is shocked and wants to know if this is more than a terrible coincidence. At the police station, he meets Liia, daughter of the killer, and they strike up a wary friendship. Both of them are desperate to find the truth. What they discover hints at a much larger conspiracy.



My Name is Parvana

Deborah Ellis

Groundwood Books

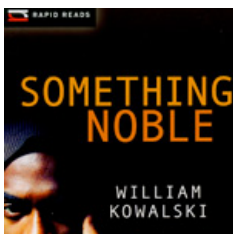
Shortlisted for the IODE Violet Downey Book Award and the Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award, selected for the USBBY Outstanding International Book List, the CCBC Choices List, the Bank Street College of Education's Book of the Month, the Bankstreet College Best Children's Books of the Year 2013, and the Capitol Choices Noteworthy Titles for Children and Teens List.

On a military base in post-Taliban Afghanistan, American authorities have just imprisoned a teenaged girl found in a bombed-out school. The army major thinks she may be a terrorist working with the Taliban. The girl does not respond to questions in any language and remains silent, even when she is threatened, harassed and mistreated over several days. The only clue to her identity is a tattered shoulder bag containing papers that refer to people named Shauzia, Nooria, Leila, Asif, Hassan -- and Parvana.

In this long-awaited sequel to The Breadwinner Trilogy, Parvana is now fifteen years old. As she waits for foreign military forces to determine her fate, she remembers the past four years of her life. Reunited with her mother and sisters, she has been living in a village where her mother has finally managed to open a school for girls. But even though the Taliban has been driven from the government, the country is still at war, and many continue to view the education and freedom of girls and women with suspicion and fear.

As her family settles into the routine of running the school, Parvana, a bit to her surprise, finds herself restless and bored. She even thinks of running away. But when local men threaten the school and her family, she must draw on every ounce of bravery and resilience she possesses to survive the disaster that kills her mother, destroys the school, and puts her own life in jeopardy.

A riveting page-turner, Deborah Ellis's new novel is at once harrowing, inspiring and thought-provoking. And, yes, in the end, Parvana is reunited with her childhood friend, Shauzia.



Something Noble

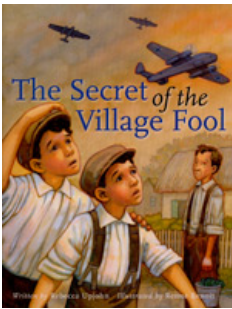
William Kowalski

Orca Book Publishers



Linda is a young, hardworking single mom struggling to get by from paycheck to paycheck. When she learns that her son Dre needs a kidney transplant, her family's already precarious financial situation takes a turn for the worst. Then she discovers that the only one who can help Dre is his half-brother LeVon, a drug-dealing gangbanger who thinks only of himself. Somehow Linda must get through to LeVon in order to save her son.

Though she is deathly afraid of LeVon and the world he lives in, Linda knows she must conquer her fear and meet him on his own turf if she is to have any hope of success. Linda is finally able to teach LeVon the value of doing something noble with his life. And to her surprise, she learns she has room in her heart for one more kid, a boy from the streets who never had a chance.



The Secret of the Village Fool

Rebecca Upjohn, Renné Benoit

Second Story Press

Munio and his younger brother Milek live in a sleepy village in Poland where nothing exciting seems to happen. One of their neighbors is a poor man named Anton, who is so gentle that he won't eat meat and he won't harm so much as a fly. While the rest of the town makes fun of Anton, the boys' mother is kind to him, often sending her reluctant sons with soup and clothing for the "fool" that no one respects.

When war comes to their country, everything changes. The Nazi soldiers come marching into the town and begin to round up Jewish boys like Milek and Munio. Anton worries about them and their parents, and comes up with a plan to hide the family in his own home, putting his life at risk without a thought.

Anton's courage and kindness shine through, proving that fierce bravery can come from the most gentle of people.



The Stamp Collector

Jennifer Lanthier, François Thisdale

Fitzhenry & Whiteside

A city boy finds a stamp that unlocks his imagination; a country boy is captivated by stories. When they grow up, the two boys take different paths—one becomes a prison guard, the other works in a factory—but their early childhood passions remain. When the country boy's stories of hope land him in prison, the letters and stamps sent to him from faraway places intrigue the prison guard and a unique friendship begins.