

Randolph Caldecott Medal Award Winners



2024 Winner

Harrison, Vashti, written and illustrated. Big, 2023.

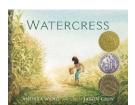
Praised for acting like a big girl when she is small, as a young girl grows, "big" becomes a word of criticism, until the girl realizes that she is fine just the way she is.



2023 Winner

Salati, Doug, written and illustrated. Hot Dog, 2022.

It's summer in the city, and this hot dog has had enough! Enough of sizzling sidewalks, enough of wailing sirens, enough of people's feet right in his face. When he plops down in the middle of a crosswalk, his owner endeavors to get him the breath of fresh air he needs. She hails a taxi, hops a train, and ferries out to the beach. With fluid art and lyrical text that have the soothing effect of waves on sand, Doug Salati shows us how to find calm and carry it back with us so we can appreciate the small joys in a day.



2022 Winner

Wang, Andrea, illustrated by Jason Chin. Watercress, 2021.

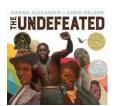
Gathering watercress by the side of the road brings a girl closer to her family's Chinese Heritage. Driving through Ohio in an old Pontiac, a young girl's parents stop suddenly when they spot watercress growing wild in a ditch by the side of the road. Grabbing an old paper bag and some rusty scissors, the whole family wades into the muck to collect as much of the muddy, snail covered watercress as they can. At first, she's embarrassed. Why can't her family get food from the grocery store? But when her mother shares a story of her family's time in China, the girl learns to appreciate the fresh food they foraged. Together, they make a new memory of watercress. Illustrated in an entirely new art style, inspired by Chinese painting techniques. An author's note in the back shares Andrea's childhood experience with her parents. (This book was named the Caldecott Medal winner and a Newbery Medal Honor book in 2022.)



2021 Winner

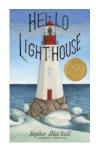
Lindstrom, Carole, Illustrated by Michaela Goade. We Are Water Protectors, 2020.

Water is the first medicine. It affects and connects us all... When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people's water, one young water protector takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource. Inspired by the many indigenous-led movements across North America, this bold and lyrical picture book issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption.



Alexander, Kwame, illustrated by Kadir Nelson. The Undefeated, 2019.

An ode to black American triumph and tribulation, which highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery, the faith and fire of the civil rights movement, and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest heroes. The text is also peppered with references to the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, and others, offering deeper insights into the accomplishments of the past, while bringing stark attention to the endurance and spirit of those surviving and thriving in the present. Robust back matter at the end provides valuable historical context and additional detail for those wishing to learn more.



2019 Winner

Blackall, Sophie, written and illustrated. Hello Lighthouse, 2018.

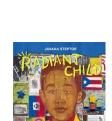
Transports readers to the seaside in timeless, nautical splendor! Watch the days and seasons pass as the wind blows, the fog rolls in, and icebergs drift by. Outside, there is water all around. Inside, the daily life of a lighthouse keeper and his family unfolds as the keeper boils water for tea, lights the lamp's wick, and writes every detail in his logbook. Step back in time and through the door of this iconic lighthouse into a cozy dollhouse-like interior.



2018 Winner

Cordell, Matthew, written and illustrated. Wolf in the Snow, 2017.

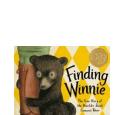
A girl is lost in a snowstorm. A wolf cub is lost, too. How will they find their way home? Paintings rich with feeling tell this satisfying story of friendship and trust. Here is a book set on a wintry night that will spark imaginations and warm hearts.



2017 Winner

Steptoe, Javaka, written and illustrated. Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, 2016.

Jean-Michael Basquiat and his unique, collage-style paintings rocked to fame in the 1980s as a cultural phenomenon unlike anything the art work had ever seen. But before that, he was a little boy who saw art everywhere: in poetry books and museums, in games and in the words that we speak, and in the pulsing energy of New York City. Vivid text and bold artwork echoing Basquiat's own introduce young readers to the powerful message--and art doesn't always have to be neat or clean and definitely not inside the lines--to be beautiful.



2016 Winner

Mattick, Lindsay, illustrated by Sophie Blackall. **Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear**, 2015.

The remarkable true story of the bear who inspired Winnie-the-Pooh. A woman tells her young son the true story of how his great-great-grandfather, Captain Harry Colebourn, rescued and learned to love a bear cub in 1914 as he was on his way to take care of soldiers' horses during World War I, and the bear became the inspiration for A.A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh.



Santat, Dan, written and illustrated. **The Adventures of Beekle, the Unimaginary Friend**, 2014.

An imaginary friend waits a long time to be imagined by a child and given a special name, and finally does the unimaginable--he sets out on a quest to find his perfect match in the real world. Combines classic storytelling with breathtaking art in an unforgettable tale about friendship, imagination, and the courage to find one's place in the world.



Floca, Brian, written and illustrated. Locomotive, 2013.

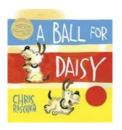
A rich and detailed sensory exploration of America's early railroads. It is the summer of 1869, and trains, crews, and family are traveling together, riding America's brand-new transcontinental railroad. These pages come alive with the details of the trip and the sounds, speed, and strength of the mighty locomotives; the work that keeps them moving; and the thrill of travel from plains to mountain to ocean. Come hear the hiss of the steam, feel the heat of the engine, watch the landscape race by. Come ride the rails, come cross the young country!



2013 Winner

Klassen, Jon, written and illustrated. This Is Not My Hat, 2012.

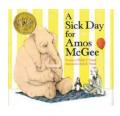
When a tiny fish shoots into view wearing a round blue topper hat (which happens to fit him perfectly), trouble *could* be following close behind. So it's a good thing that enormous fish won't wake up. And even if he does, it's not like he'll ever know what happened...



2012 Winner

Raschka, Chris, written and illustrated. A Ball for Daisy, 2011.

A nearly wordless story about love and loss. Any child who has ever had a beloved toy break will relate to Daisy's anguish when her favorite ball is destroyed by a bigger dog. Swirling, impressionistic illustrations and this affectionate story will particularly appeal to young dog lovers and teachers and parents who have children dealing with the loss of something special.



2011 Winner

Stead, Philip C., illustrated by Erin E. Stead. A Sick Day for Amos McGee, 2010.

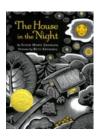
Friends come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. In Amos McGee's case, all sorts of species, too! Every day he spends a little bit of time with each of his friends at the zoo, running races with the tortoise, keeping the shy penguin company, and even reading bedtime stories to the owl. But when Amos is too sick to make it to the zoo, his animal friends decide it's time they returned the favor.



2010 Winner

Pinkney, Jerry, written and illustrated. **The Lion & the Mouse**, 2009.

In this wordless adaptation of one of Aesop's most beloved fables, an unlikely pair learn that no act of kindness is ever wasted. After a ferocious lion spares a cowering mouse that he'd planned to eat, the mouse later comes to his rescue, freeing him from a poacher's trap. Includes vivid depictions of the landscape of the African Serengeti and expressively drawn characters.



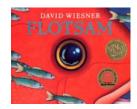
Swanson, Susan Marie, illustrated by Beth Krommes. **The House in the Night**, 2008. Inside the house are nighttime things both comforting and intriguing--a bed, many books-and outside, too, there are sources of light and joy--the moon, the sky--that reveal a reassuring order in the universe. This timeless bedtime tale takes readers through the house in the night, up into the sky, and back home again, all the while reminding us of the presence of love and wonder in our world.



2008 Winner

Selznick, Brian, written and illustrated. **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**, 2007.

Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks-like the gears of the clocks he keeps--with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life and his most precious secret are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery. Original drawings and combined elements of picture book, graphic novel, and film, create an entirely new reading experience.



2007 Winner

Wiesner, David, written and illustrated. Flotsam, 2006.

A beach day is the springboard to a wildly imaginative exploration of fantastical mysteries of the deep--and of human connections through time. A young boy comes to the beach eager to collect and examine flotsam--anything floating that has been washed ashore. But nothing among his usual finds compares with the discovery of a barnacle-encrusted underwater camera with its own secrets to share . . . and to keep. Meet unexpected undersea denizens and enter fascinating worlds within worlds in this entrancing celebration of imagination, creativity, and the impulse to share that which delights and amazes us.



2006 Winner

Juster, Norton. **The Hello, Goodbye Window**, 2005.

The kitchen window at Nanna and Poppy's house is, for one little girl, a magic gateway. Everything important happens near it, through it, or beyond it. The world for this little girl will soon grow larger and more complex, but never more enchanting or deeply felt. Her story is both a voyage of discovery and a celebration of the commonplace wonders that define childhood, expressed as a joyful fusion of text with evocative and exuberant art.



2005 Winner

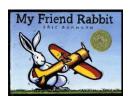
Henkes, Kevin, written and illustrated. Kitten's First Full Moon, 2004.

It is Kitten's first full moon, and when she sees it, she thinks it is a bowl of milk in the sky. And she wants it. Does she get it Well, no . . . and yes. What a night! Indefatigable Kitten is a role model for all ages--taking chances, picking herself up when she fails, trying out new strategies to get what she wants, and figuring out when enough is enough.



Gerstein, Mordicai, written and illustrated. **The Man Who Walked Between the Towers**, 2003.

In 1974, French aerialist Philippe Petit threw a tightrope between the two towers of the World Trade Center and spent an hour walking, dancing, and performing high-wire tricks a quarter mile in the sky. This picture book captures the poetry and magic of the event with a poetry of its own: lyrical words and lovely paintings that present the detail, daring, and-in two dramatic foldout spreads—the vertiginous drama of Petit's feat.



2003 Winner

Rohmann, Eric, written and illustrated. My Friend Rabbit, 2002.

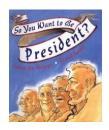
Something always seems to go wrong when Rabbit is around, but Mouse lets him play with his toy plane anyway because he is his good friend. Rabbit saves the day in a most ingenious way. Illustrated in robust, expressive prints.



2002 Winner

Weisner, David, written and illustrated. The Three Pigs, 2001.

A seemingly familiar tale of three pigs preparing to build houses of straw, sticks, and bricks. But when the Big Bad Wolf comes looking for a snack, he huffs and puffs the first little pig right out of the story . . . and into the realm of pure imagination! Dialogue balloons pepper a wide variety of illustration styles taking readers through a dazzling fantasy universe to the surprising and happy ending.



2001 Winner

St. George, Judith, illustrated by David Small. So You Want To Be President?, 2000.

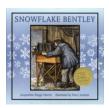
So you want to be President! Why not? Presidents have come in every variety. Presents the backroom facts, the spitfire comments, and the comical anecdotes that have been part and parcel of America's White House. Hilariously illustrated, this celebration shows us the foibles, quirks, and the humanity of forty-one men who have risen to one of the most powerful positions in the world. (Updated in 2012 to include more presidents.)



2000 Winner

Taback, Simms, written and illustrated. Joseph Had a Little Overcoat, 1999.

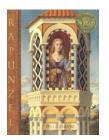
Joseph had a little overcoat, but it was full of holes--just like this book! When Joseph's coat got too old and shabby, he made it into a jacket. But what did he make it into after that? And after that? As children turn the pages of this book, they can use the die-cut holes to guess what Joseph will be making next from his amazing overcoat, while they laugh at the bold, cheerful artwork and learn that you can always make something, even out of nothing.



1999 Winner

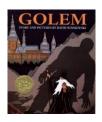
Martin, Jacqueline Briggs, illustrated by Mary Azarian. Snowflake Bentley, 1998.

The true story of Wilson Bentley and his singular fascination with snowflakes is rendered in rich prose and gorgeous artwork, perfect for the holidays, snow days, and every day.



Zelinsky, Paul O., written and illustrated. Rapunzel, 1997.

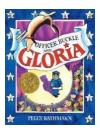
This retelling of **Rapunzel** reaches back beyond the Grimms to a late-seventeenth-century French tale by Mlle. Ia Force, who based hers on the Neapolitan tale **Petrosinella** in a collection popular at the time. The tower the sorceress gives Rapunzel here is not a desolate, barren structure of denial but one of esoteric beauty on the outside and physical luxury within. The world created through the paint palette, control of light, landscape, characters, architecture, interiors, costumes speaks to us not of an ugly witch who cruelly imprisons a beautiful young girl, but of a mother figure who powerfully resists her child's inevitable growth, and of a young woman and man who must struggle in the wilderness for the self-reliance that is the true beginning of their adulthood. Thrillingly shows us the events of the story while guiding us beyond them to the truths that have made it endure.



1997 Winner

Wisniewski, David, written and illustrated. Golem, 1996.

A saintly rabbi miraculously brings to life a clay giant who helps him watch over the Jews of sixteenth-century Prague. Retold from traditional sources and accompanied by unique cutpaper illustrations, Golem is a dramatic tale of supernatural forces invoked to save an oppressed people. It also offers a thought-provoking look at the consequences of unleashing power beyond human control. The afterword discusses the legend of the golem and its roots in the history of the Jews.



1996 Winner

Rathmann, Peggy, written and illustrated. Officer Buckle and Gloria, 1995.

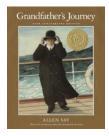
The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.



1995 Winner

Bunting, Eve, illustrated by David Diaz. Smoky Night, 1994.

When the Los Angles riots break out in the streets of their neighborhood, Daniel and his mother are forced to leave their apartment for the safety of a shelter and learn the values of getting along with others no matter what their background or nationality.



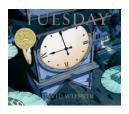
1994 Winner

Say, Allen, written and illustrated. Grandfather's Journey, 1993.

When he was a young man, Allen Say's grandfather left his home in Japan to explore the world. He began his journey by crossing the Pacific Ocean on a steamship, then wandered the deserts, farmlands, and cities of North America. Allen Say lovingly tells the story of his own family's cross-cultural history in elegant watercolor paintings and shares with it the feelings of being torn by a love for two different countries.



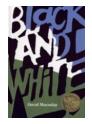
McCully, Emily Arnold, written and illustrated. **Mirette on the High Wire**, 1992. Mirette learns tightrope walking from Monsieur Bellini, a guest in her mother's boarding house, not knowing that he is a celebrated tightrope artist who has withdrawn from performing because of fear. And it is she who must teach him courage once again. Sweeping watercolor paintings carry the reader over the rooftops of nineteenth-century Paris and into an elegant, beautiful world of acrobats, jugglers, mimes, actors, and one gallant, resourceful little girl.



1992 Winner

Wiesner, David, written and illustrated. Tuesday, 1991.

The events of a delightfully unpredictable Tuesday invite readers to find the potential for the wondrousness in every day. It begins on Tuesday evening, when the frogs suddenly start to float. . . . Thrill to the humorous cascading adventures that follow in a celebration of possibility unbounded--and of unexpected cause and effect. From the genius of international superstar and three-time Caldecott Medalist David Wiesner, this entertaining, thought-provoking, and nearly-wordless tale unrolls with the precision and clarity of a silent movie. Engaging for all ages, this beloved and innovative classic is a perfect gift to enthrall the young and the young at heart.



1991 Winner

Macaulay, David, written and illustrated. Black and White, 1990.

Four brief "stories" about parents, trains, and cows, or is it really all one story? The author recommends careful inspection of words and pictures to both minimize and enhance confusion.



1990 Winner

Young, Ed, written and illustrated. Lon Po Po: a Red-Riding Hood Story from China, 1989. Three sisters staying home alone are endangered by a hungry wolf who is disguised as their grandmother. Vibrant, yet delicate, pastels and watercolors add drama to the deftly translated story.



1989 Winner

Ackerman, Karen, illustrated by Stephen Gammell. **Song and Dance Man**, 1988. Grandpa demonstrates for his visiting grandchildren some of the songs, dances, and jokes he performed when he was a vaudeville entertainer.



1988 Winner

Yolen, Jane, illustrated by John Schoenherr. **Owl Moon**, 1987.

On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl. Wordlessly the two companions walk along, for when you go owling you don't need words. You don't need anything but hope. Sometimes there isn't an owl, but sometimes there is. A gentle, poetic story that lovingly depicts humankind's close relationship to the natural world, complemented by soft, exquisite watercolor illustrations.



Yorinks, Arthur, illustrated by Richard Egielski. Hey, Al, 1986.

Al, a janitor, and his faithful dog, Eddie, live in a single room on the West Side. They eat together, they work together, they do everything together. So what's the problem? Their room is crowded and cramped; their life is an endless struggle. Al and Eddie are practically at each other's throats when a large and mysterious bird offers them a new life in paradise. After some debate, they decide to accept. Transported to a gorgeous island in the sky, Al and Eddie are soon living a life of ease and luxury. But they come to find that the grass can be a little too green on the other side. After a dramatic, nearly tragic escape from their paradise prison, both man and dog agree: there really is no place like home.



1986 Winner

Van Allsburg, Chris, written and illustrated. The Polar Express, 1985.

A young boy, lying awake one Christmas Eve, is welcomed aboard a magical train to the North Pole. The Polar Express makes its way to the city atop the world, where the boy will make his Christmas wish to Santa Claus, himself.



1985 Winner

Hodges, Margaret, illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. **Saint George and the Dragon**, 1984. Retells the segment from Spenser's The Faerie Queene, in which George, the Red Cross Knight, slays the dreadful dragon that has been terrorizing the countryside for years and brings peace and joy to the land, with glorious illustrations.



1984 Winner

Provensen, Alice and Martin, written and illustrated. The Glorious Flight: Across the Channel with Louis Blériot, 1983.

A biography of the man whose fascination with flying machines produced the Bleriot XI, which crossed the English Channel in thirty-seven minutes in the early 1900's.



1983 Winner

Cendrars, Blaise, illustrated by Marcia Brown. Shadow, 1982.

Discover this eerie poem about the rich history of African storytellers and shamans passing into memory. Stunning illustrations in collage, inspired by travels in Africa, evoke the atmosphere and drama of a life now haunted and enchanted by Shadow--the beliefs of the present and the spirits of the past.



1982 Winner

Van Allsburg, Chris, written and illustrated. Jumanji, 1981.

Left on their own for an afternoon, two bored and restless children find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical jungle adventure board game.



Lobel, Arnold, written and illustrated. Fables, 1980.

A pig flying through marshmallow clouds? A camel pirouetting through the desert? Where else could a reader find such marvelous things but in a fable? A collection of humorous, silly fables that will delight readers young and old.



Hall, Donald, illustrated by Barbara Cooney. Ox-Cart Man, 1979.



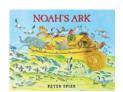
Thus begins a lyrical journey through the days and weeks, the months, and the changing seasons in the life of one New Englander and his family. The oxcart man packs his goods - the wool from his sheep, the shawl his wife made, the mittens his daughter knitted, and the linen they wove. He packs the birch brooms his son carved, and even a bag of goose feathers from the barnyard geese. He travels over hills, through valleys, by streams, past farms, and villages. At Portsmouth Market he sells his goods, one by one - even his beloved ox. Then, with his pockets full of coins, he wanders through the market, buying provisions for his family, and returns to his home. And the cycle begins again.



1979 Winner

Goble, Paul, written and illustrated. The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses, 1978.

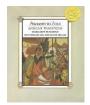
Though she is fond of her people, a girl prefers to living among the wild horses where she is truly happy and free.



1978 Winner

Spier, Peter, written and illustrated. Noah's Ark, 1977.

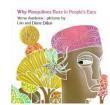
In this imaginative retelling, readers witness the danger and the grandeur of the terrifying flood but also the lighter moments: Noah's wife jumping on a crate to avoid the rats; Noah shooing all but two bees from a busy hive; and all the animal babies being born in the spring. It's an illustration feat that's both majestic and tender.



1977 Winner

Musgrove, Margaret, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. **Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions**, 1976.

This book explores traditions and customs of 26 African tribes beginning with letters from A to Z with art techniques of: Acrylics, watercolor and pastels combined to create soft yet vibrant images with glowing colors and rich earth tones.



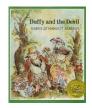
1976 Winner

Aardema, Verna, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. **Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears**, 1975.

This West African story reveals the meaning of the mosquito's buzz. Mosquito tells a story that causes a jungle disaster. This tall tale sets of a chain of mishaps, through the jungle grapevine.



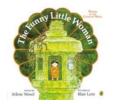
McDermott, Gerald, written and illustrated. **Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale**, 1974. This story is an adaptation of the Pueblo Indian myth which explains how the spirit of the Lord of the Sun was brought to the world of men. Art techniques used: Painted in gouache and ink. Bright palette with geometric shapes and patterns.



1974 Winner

Zemach, Harve, illustrated by Margot Zemach. Duffy and the Devil, 1973.

A Cornish version of Rumpelstiltskin. The spinning and knitting the devil agrees to do for her win Duffy the Squire's name and a carefree life until it comes time for her to guess the devil's name.



1973 Winner

Mosel, Arlene, illustrated by Blair Lent. The Funny Little Woman, 1972.

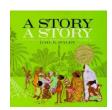
While chasing a dumpling, a little lady is captured by wicked creatures from whom she escapes with the means of becoming the richest woman in Japan. Based on The old woman and her dumpling by L. Hearn.



1972 Winner

Hogrogian, Nonny, written and illustrated. One Fine Day, 1971.

A humorous retelling of a favorite Armenian folktale. "One fine day a fox traveled through the great forest. When he reached the other side he was very thirsty." The jaunty red fox stole milk from an old farmwoman, lost his tail under the annoyed woman's knife, and spent the day bargaining to get it back.



1971 Winner

Haley, Gail E., written and illustrated. A Story, a Story: An African Tale, 1970.

Long, long ago there were no stories on earth for children to hear. All stories belonged to Nyame, the Sky God. Ananse, the Spider man, wanted to buy some of these stories, so he spun a web up to the sky to bargain with the Sky God. The price the Sky God asked was Osebo, the leopard-of-the-terrible-teeth, Mmboro the hornet-who-stings-like-fire, and Mmoatia the fairy-whom-men-never-see. Can Ananse capture these sly creatures and give the children of earth stories to tell?



1970 Winner

Steig, William, written and illustrated. Sylvester and the Magic Pebble, 1969.

One rainy day, Sylvester finds a magic pebble that can make wishes come true. But when a lion frightens him on his way home, Sylvester makes a wish that brings unexpected results. How Sylvester is eventually reunited with his loving family and restored to his own donkey self makes a story that is beautifully tender and perfectly joyful. The illustrations for this book are rendered in watercolor.



Ransome, Arthur, illustrated by Uri Shulevitz. **The Fool of the World and the Flying Ship**, 1968.

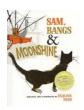
A retelling of the Ukrainian folk tale about a young man who tries to find a flying ship to give to the tsar in exchange for his daughter's hand in marriage. When the Czar proclaims that he will marry his daughter to the man who brings him a flying ship, the Fool of the World sets out to try his luck and meets some unusual companions on the way. Pen and brush in black and colored inks. Black line drawings with bright ink coloring.



1968 Winner

Emberley, Barbara, illustrated by Ed Emberley. Drummer Hoff, 1967.

Bold illustrations for this jaunty adaptation of a cumulative folk song about soldiers who build a magnificent cannon and Drummer Hoff, who fires it off.



1967 Winner

Ness, Evaline, written and illustrated. Sam, Bangs & Moonshine, 1966.

Samantha (known as Sam) is a fisherman's daughter who dreams rich and lovely dreams-moonshine, her father says. But when her tall stories bring disaster to her friend Thomas and her cat Bangs, Sam learns to distinguish between moonshine and reality.



1966 Winner

Leodhas, Sorche Nic, illlustrated by Nonny Hogrogian. Always Room for One More, 1965. Lachie MacLachlan, the generous hero of this enchanting tale, is the exception to the rule that the Scots are a thrifty lot. In his "wee house in the heather," Lachie lives with his family of twelve, and he welcomes to his hearth every weary traveler who passes by on a stormy night. "There's always room for one more," says Lachie, and how his grateful guests say a wonderful "thank you" provides a delightfully warm and tender ending to this hilarious tale of kindness. The story, derived from an old Scottish folk song, is reflected superbly in the charming illustrations of pen and ink line drawings over layers of pastels and color washes.



1965 Winner

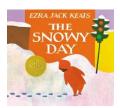
De Regniers, Beatrice Schenk, illustrated by Beni Montresor. May I Bring a Friend?, 1964. One day, a small boy receives a very special invitation--the King and the Queen have invited him to the castle for tea. He accepts, with one question: "May I bring a friend?" "Any friend of our friend is welcome here," says the King. But their guest's friend turns out to be someone they never expected! Rhythmic text and fantastical, jewel-like artwork.



1964 Winner

Sendak, Maurice, written and illustrated. Where the Wild Things Are, 1963.

When Max dresses in his wolf suit and causes havoc in the house, his mother sends him to bed. From there, Max sets sail to an island inhabited by the Wild Things, who name him king and share a wild rumpus with him. But then from far away across the world, Max smells good things to eat...



Keats, Ezra Jack, written and illustrated. The Snowy Day, 1962.

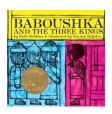
In 1962, a little boy named Peter put on his snowsuit and stepped out of his house and into the hearts of millions of readers. Universal in its appeal, this story beautifully depicts a child's wonder at a new world, and the hope of capturing and keeping that wonder forever. The quiet fun and sweetness of Peter's small adventures in the deep, deep snow is perfect for reading together on a cozy winter day.



1962 Winner

Brown, Marcia, written and illustrated. Once a Mouse..., 1961.

When a small mouse's life is threatened by large jungle predators, a kindly hermit uses magic to change him into a cat, a dog, and a majestic tiger. But the proud tiger must suffer the consequences when he becomes ungrateful and forgets his humble origins. Magical woodcuts bring this Indian fable **from the** *Hitopadesa* to life.



1961 Winner

Robbins, Ruth, illustrated by Nicolas Sidjakov. **Baboushka and the Three Kings**, 1960. A Russian folktale about an old woman who was too busy to travel with the Wise Men to find the Child now searches endlessly for Him each Christmas season.



1960 Winner

Ets, Marie Hall and Aurora Labastida, illustrated by Marie Hall Ets. **Nine Days to Christmas**, 1959.

The tale of a little Mexican girl's excitement at the approach of Christmas. Ceci eagerly awaits Las Posadas, the traditional nine-day series of yuletide celebrations. This year she'll lead the candlelight procession that reenacts Mary and Joseph's trek to Bethlehem. Meanwhile, Mother takes her to the old marketplace to choose her very first piñata. Ceci is dazzled by the colorful array of options, and after making her choice has second thoughts about the fate of her piñata once the posada takes place. Graced by evocative illustrations.



1959 Winner

Chaucer, Geoffrey, illustrated by Barbara Cooney. **Chanticleer and the Fox**, 1958. Adapted by Barbara Cooney from the 'Nun's Priest's Tale' from the Canterbury Tales. A sly fox tries to outwit a proud rooster through the use of flattery. King of the barnyard, Chanticleer struts about all day. When a fox bursts into his domain, dupes him into crowing, and then grabs him in a viselike grip, Chanticleer must do some quick thinking to save himself and his barnyard kingdom.



1958 Winner

McCloskey, Robert, written and illustrated. Time of Wonder, 1957.

The spell of rain, gulls, a foggy morning, the excitement of sailing, the quiet of the night, the sudden terror of a hurricane, and the peace of a Maine island as a family packs up to leave are shown in poetic language and vibrant, evocative pictures.



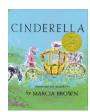
Udry, Janice, illustrated by Marc Simont. A Tree is Nice, 1956.

A classic tale about the beauty of the everyday world. Trees are beautiful. They fill up the sky. If you have a tree, you can climb up its trunk, roll in its leaves, or hang a swing from one of its limbs. Cows and babies can nap in the shade of a tree. Birds can make nests in the branches. A tree is good to have around. A tree is nice.



1956 Winner

Langstaff, John, illustrated by Feodor Rojankovsky. Frog Went A-Courtin', 1955. Illustrates the well-known American folk song about the courtship and marriage of the frog and the mouse.



1955 Winner

Perrault, Charles, illustrated by Marcia Brown. **Cinderella: Or, the Little Glass Slipper**, 1954.

A magical adaptation Charles Perrault's French classic. Even in rags, Cinderella is a hundred times more beautiful than her cruel stepsisters. And how she wishes to go to the prince's ball! But her sisters delight in telling her that people would only laugh at her at the palace. Fortunately, Cinderella is blessed with a fairy godmother who can turn pumpkins into golden coaches, lizards into footmen, and rags into riches. At the ball, Cinderella will have the most thrilling night of her life--until the stroke of midnight!



1954 Winner

Bemelmans, Ludwig, written and illustrated. Madeline's Rescue, 1953.

Nothing frightens Madeline--not tigers, not even mice. When Madeline falls into the river Seine and nearly drowns, a courageous canine comes to her rescue. Now Genevieve the dog is Madeline's cherished pet, and the envy of all the other girls. What can be done when there's just not enough hound to go around? Cheerful humor, and wonderful, whimsical drawings of Paris.



1953 Winner

Ward, Lynd, written and illustrated. The Biggest Bear, 1952.

Johnny goes hunting for a bearskin to hang on his family's barn and returns with a small bundle of trouble. Johnny Orchard brings home a playful bear cub that soon becomes huge and a nuisance to the neighbors.



1952 Winner

Will, and illustrated by Nicolas (Nicholas Mordvinoff). Finders Keepers, 1951.

Two dogs find one bone and have difficulty deciding which of them owns it. "Here is a perfect combination of rollicking story and pictures that have strength, life and humor in every line."--The Horn Book



Milhous, Katherine, written and illustrated. The Egg Tree, 1950.

A story of a Pennsylvania Dutch Easter. One Easter morning, Katy and Carl went on an egg hunt through Grandmom's house. Katy couldn't find anything until she went up to the attic. And there she discovered a very special set of eggs... Grandmom had painted them when she was a little girl. And now, she hung them from the branches of a tiny tree--an Egg Tree! So began a very special Easter tradition.



1950 Winner

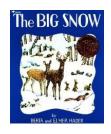
Politi, Leo, written and illustrated. Song of the Swallows, 1949.



Tells the famous story of the yearly return of the swallows to the Mission San Juan Capistrano through the eyes of a small child. Julian, the bell ringer of the Mission, tells Juan, a young boy who also lives at the Mission, the story of the swallows and how-without anyone really knowing why or how--they return each year from their winter home in South America to San Juan Capistrano in California. Thrilled by the story, Juan makes his own small garden in the hope that at least one family of swallows will nest there when they return. Also includes the music and lyrics for "La Golondrina," a song about the swallows that the author composed himself, and Spanish phrases are sprinkled throughout the story. This book provides a delightful introduction for young children California's centuries-old Latino heritage and Mission culture.

1949 Winner

Hader, Berta and Elmer, written and illustrated. The Big Snow, 1948.



When the geese begin to fly south, the leaves flutter down from the trees and the cold winds begin to blow from the north, the animals of the woods and meadows, big and small, prepare for the long, cold winter ahead when the countryside is hidden under a deep blanket of snow. They gather food and look for warm, snug places in the ground, trees, caves or thickets, where they can find protection against the icy winds. It might have been hard for the birds and animals of the hillside to survive when the Big Snow came if their good friends, who lived in the little stone house, had not remembered to put food out for them. Beautiful pictures how winter comes to the woodland as the busy animals make their preparations.

1948 Winner



Tresselt, Alvin, illustrated by Roger Duvoisin. White Snow, Bright Snow, 1947.

A neighborhood transformed by a delightful snowfall. When the first flakes fell from the grey sky, the postman and the farmer and the policeman and his wife scurried about doing all the practical things grown-ups do when a snowstorm comes. But the children laughed and danced, and caught the lacy snowflakes on their tongues. All the wonder and delight a child feels in a snowfall is caught in the pages of this book--the frost ferns on the windowsill, the snowman in the yard and the mystery and magic of a new white world. Soft blue half-tones with brilliant splashes of yellow and red emphasize the happiness and humor as well as the poetic quality of the text.



Brown, Margaret Wise, illustrated by Leonard Weisgard. The Little Island, 1946.

This beautifully moving story centers around a little island in the midst of the wide ocean, and the curious kitten who comes to visit. As the seasons pass, the island and the creatures who call it home witness an ever-changing array of sights, smells, and sounds--proving that, no matter how small, we are all an important part of the world. Full page gouache paintings printed in both color, and black and white.



1946 Winner

Petersham, Maud and Miska, written and illustrated. **The Rooster Crows: a Book of American Rhymes and Jingles**, 1945.

Beautifully rendered illustrations accompany well-known nursery rhymes, counting-out games, skipping-rope songs, finger games, and other schoolyard classics collected from across America.



1945 Winner

Field, Rachel, illlustrated by E.O. Jones. Prayer for a Child, 1944.

This is a prayer for boys and girls all over the world. It carries a universal appeal for all ages, brings to our hearts, and minds the deep responsibility of preserving for all times the faith and hopes of little children.



1944 Winner

Thurber, James, illustrated by Louis Slobodkin. Many Moons, 1943.

A wise tale of a little princess who wanted the moon and got it. "Grown-ups themselves will find the book hilariously funny. . . . The lovely, squiggly illustrations in color are exactly right."--The New Yorker



1943 Winner

Burton, Virginia Lee, written and illustrated. The Little House, 1942.

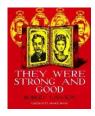
The little house first stood in the country, but gradually the city moved closer and closer. A little house is built in the country, but soon a city is built around it. The little house dreams of someday being out in the country again. Black and white watercolor images with highlights and small details in color.



1942 Winner

McCloskey, Robert, written and illustrated. Make Way for Ducklings, 1941.

Mrs. Mallard was sure that the pond in the Boston Public Gardens would be a perfect place for her and her eight ducklings to live. The problem was how to get them there through the busy streets of Boston. But with a little help from the Boston police, Mrs. Mallard and Jack, Kack, Lack, Mack, Nack, Ouack, Pack, and Quack arrive safely at their new home. Brilliantly illustrated, amusingly observed tale of Mallards on the move.



Lawson, Robert, written and illustrated. They Were Strong and Good, 1940.

Robert Lawson introduces us to his forefathers and with them we brave Caribbean storms, travel to the wharf markets of New York, and fight in the Civil War. Amidst these adventures Lawson's grandparents meet, marry, and raise a family, and later his parents follow the same cycle of life. But this book is more than just the story of one family; it's a social history of our country. It reminds us to be proud of our ancestors--who they were, what they did, and the effect that they had on the nation we live in today. None of them were great or famous, but they were strong and good. They worked hard and had many children. They all helped to make the United States the great nation that it now is. Let us be proud of them and guard well the heritage they have left us.



1940 Winner

D'Aulaire, Ingri and Edgar Parin, written and illustrated. **Abraham Lincoln**, 1939. From his humble beginnings in the Kentucky wilderness to the peak of his career as President, this picture biography brings Lincoln to life for first-time readers. Text and illustrations depict the life of a boy born on the Kentucky frontier who became one of the most beloved presidents.



1939 Winner

Handforth, Thomas, written and illustrated. **Mei Li**, 1938. After spending an eventful day at the fair held on the Chinese New Year's Eve, Mei Li arrives home just in time to greet the Kitchen God.



1938 Winner

Lathrop, Dorothy P., written and illustrated. **Animals of the Bible**, 1937. Thirty richly detailed black-and-white drawings illustrate the stories of the Creation, Noah's Ark, the first Christmas, and many others. The text is from the King James Bible.

January 2024