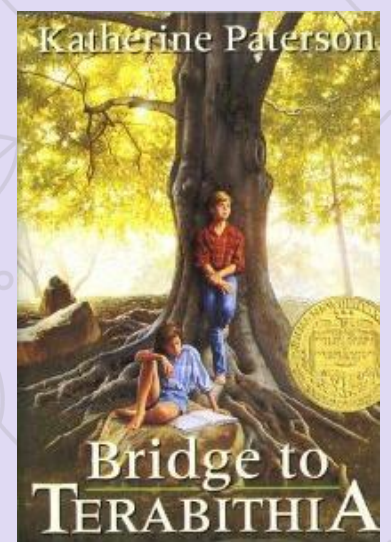
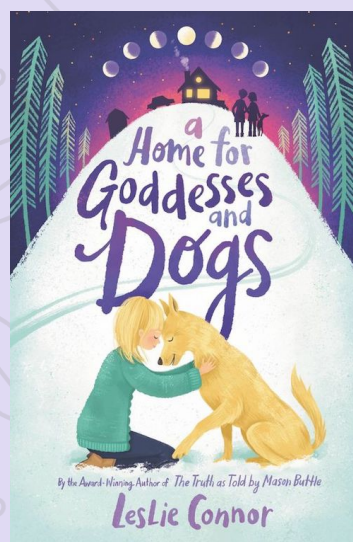
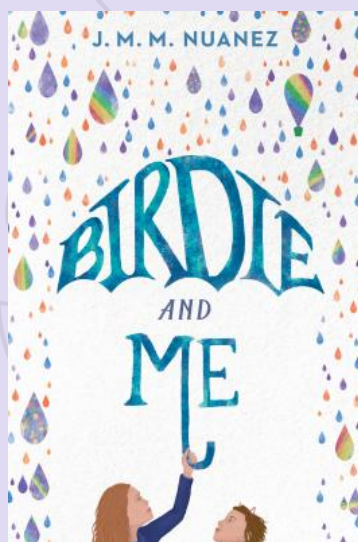
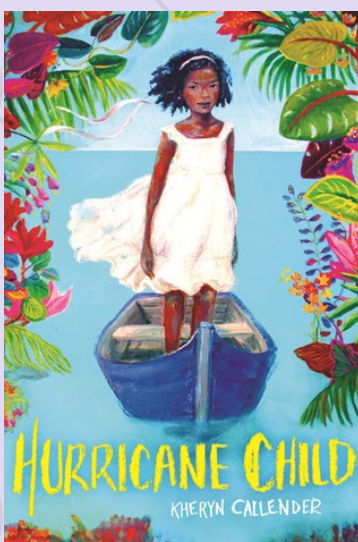
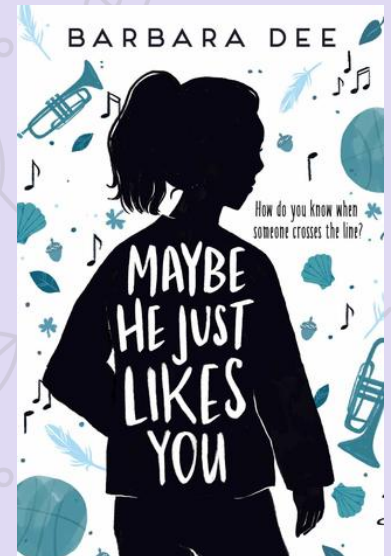
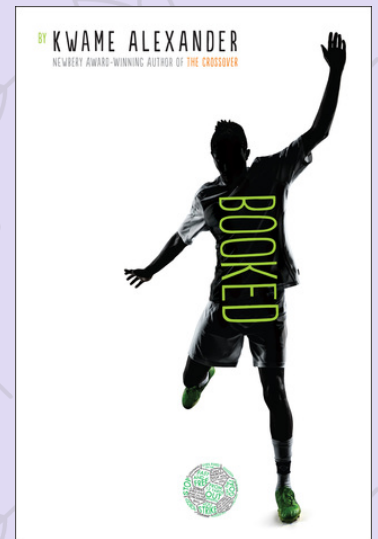
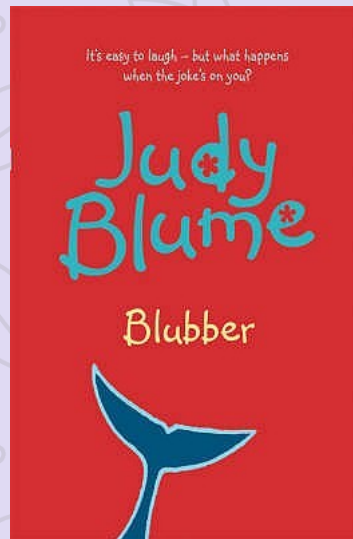
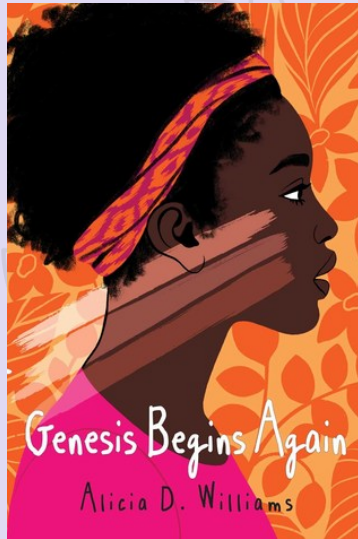
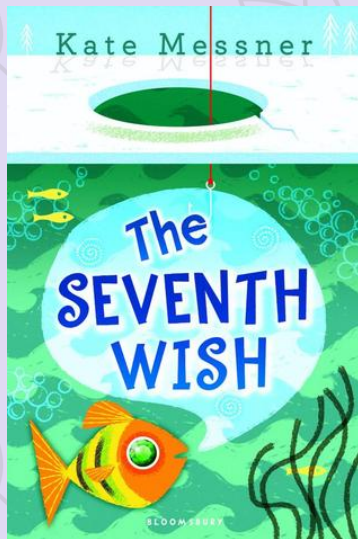


Tough Topics for Tweens



Book Descriptions

The Seventh Wish, Kate Messner –While Charlie is out ice fishing one day he discovers a fish that offers to grant a wish in exchange for its freedom. Charlie could use big wishes, as he wrestles with his sister's opioid addiction. (addiction)

Genesis Begins Again, Alicia Williams – This book follows thirteen-year-old Genesis and her struggle to overcome abuse from her family, internalized racism, and self-loathing. (bullying, racism, addiction)

Blubber, Judy Blume - Blubber: a name that becomes the bane of Linda's existence. This novel takes an honest and realistic view into the world of bullying in fifth grade. (bullying, self-esteem)

Booked, Kwame Alexander – Nick Hall is a gifted soccer player navigating the complexities of high school life as he deals with his parent's impending divorce. (divorce, bullying)

Blended, Sharon Draper - This relatable, engaging story explores the identity struggles that 11-year-old Isabella faces amid her parent's divorce. (divorce, racism)

The Great Treehouse War, Lisa Graff – An exciting read about a girl who is caught in the middle of her parent's divorce and custody battle. She spends each Wednesday living in a treehouse. (divorce)

Mockingbird, Kathryn Erskine - A moving, heartwarming story about a girl with Asperger's syndrome whose older brother dies in a school shooting, and how she finds closure. (grief, loss)

Maybe He Just Likes You, Barbara Dee – Starting middle school is nerve-racking enough, but Mila wrestles with confusion and self-doubt when she receives unwanted attention by boys at school. This powerful read explores consent and boundaries. (sexual harassment)

Hurricane Child, Kacen Callender – This magical story focuses on a young queer girl named Caroline - a "hurricane child," born during a hurricane. Lost in a sea of heartache and loneliness, she befriends a new student, Belinda, who gives her hope. (LGBTQ, bullying, grief)

Birdie and Me, J. M. M. Nuñez – A moving, relatable story that follows a girl named Jack and her gender creative little brother, Birdie, as they search for a new home after their mother's death. (LGBTQ, grief, loss)

A Home For Godesses and Dogs, Leslie Conner – An uplifting story about a girl who goes to live with her aunt and her wife, following her mother's death. (LGBT, loss, grief)

Bridge to Terabithia, Katherine Paterson - A adventurous story about two friends who create a magical world in the woods called Terabithia. (death, loss)