

## [A Soft Place to Land](#)

*By Janae Marks*

*J Fic Marks*

Joy always believed home is the house she lived in her entire life, but when her dad loses his job, home becomes a tiny apartment with thin walls and shared bedrooms. Plus, Joy's dreams of becoming a great pianist are put on hold.

## [Wonder](#)

*By R.J. Palacio*

*J Fic Palacio*

Auggie, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private school, which entails enduring taunting and fear as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

## [Junie B., First Grader At Last!](#)

*By Barbara Park*

*J Fic Park*

Junie B. thinks first grade is a flop when her kindergarten friend Lucille prefers the company of twins Camille and Chenille and Junie B. needs glasses.

## [The Labors of Hercules Beal](#)

*By Gary D. Schmidt*

*J Fic Schmidt*

Seventh-grader Hercules Beal has to figure out how to fulfill his teacher's assignment of performing the Twelve Labors of Hercules in real life, and discovers important things about friendship, community, and himself along the way.

## [Front Desk](#)

*By Kelly Yang*

*J Fic Yang*

Recent immigrants from China, Mia Tang and her parents help manage a rundown motel in Southern California, where Mia works the front desk and tries to cope with customers.

## [All's Faire in Middle School](#)

*By Victoria Jameison*

*J Graphic All's*

Homeschooled by Renaissance Fair enthusiasts, 11-year-old Imogene has a hard time fitting in when her wish to enroll in public school is granted.

## [The Baby-Sitter's Club](#)

*By Ann M. Martin*

*J Graphic Baby-sit*

Follow the adventures of Kristy and other members of the Baby-sitters Club as they deal with prank calls, uncontrollable two-year-olds, wild pets, and parents who do not always tell the truth.

## [Be Prepared](#)

*By Vera Brosgol*

*J Graphic Be*

A misfit girl and her brother attend summer camp, where they struggle with primitive plumbing, snob-by tentmates, and boys-versus-girls competitions.

## [Curlfriends](#)

*By Sharee Miller*

*J Graphic Curlfr*

Eager to make a good first impression at her new middle school, Charlie does her best to fit in until she meets a group of diverse Black girls who show her the importance of authenticity.

## [Real Friends](#)

*By Shannon Hale*

*J Graphic Hale*

Newbery Honor author Shannon Hale and New York Times bestselling illustrator LeUyen Pham join forces in this graphic memoir about how hard it is to find your real friends--and why it's worth the journey.

## [Invisible Emmie](#)

*By Terri Libenson*

*J Graphic Libenson*

This is the story of two totally different middle school girls, and how their lives unexpectedly intersect one day, when an embarrassing note falls into the wrong hands.

## [The Tryout](#)

*By Christina Soontornvat*

*J Graphic Tryout*

As one of the only Asian Americans in her school, Christina confronts both well-meaning ignorance and cruel racism, but when she and best friend Megan decide to tryout for the cheerleading squad, they are both excited and nervous.

# JUNIOR REALISTIC FICTION



### [The Line Tender](#)

*By Kate Allen*

*J Fic Allen*

Following a tragedy that alters the course of her life, 12-year-old Lucy decided to continue the shark research her marine biologist mother left unfinished when she died years earlier.

### [The Year My Life Went Down the Toilet](#)

*By Jake Maia Arlow*

*J Fic Arlow*

Twelve-year-old Al Schneider navigates an overprotective mother, growing apart from her best friend, and her first girl crush, all while her recent Crohn's diagnosis puts a knot in her stomach.

### [Ivy and Bean](#)

*By Annie Barrows*

*J Fic Barrows*

Ivy and Bean are sure they won't like each other. But a little mischief later, and their preconceptions don't stand a chance - suddenly they're best friends.

### [The Next Great Paulie Fink](#)

*By Ali Benjamin*

*J Fic Benjamin*

Led by new student, Caitlyn, seventh-graders at a tiny rural school in Vermont create a reality-show inspired competition to determine who will replace the school's legendary class clown, Paulie Fink.

### [Extra Credit](#)

*By Andrew Clements*

*J Fic Clements*

As letter flow back and forth between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, sixth-grader Abby, 10-year-old Amira, and 11-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other.

### [Amber Brown Goes Fourth](#)

*By Paula Danziger*

*J Fic Danziger*

Entering fourth grade, Amber is left best friendless when he moves away. Can Amber find a new best friend and survive shared custody following her parents divorce.

### [Figure it Out, Henri Weldon](#)

*By Tanita Davis*

*J Fic Davis*

Henri has attended a special school for her learning disability, dyscalculia, but when she is mainstreamed, she finds herself struggling to balance other parts of her life, including a family feud, drama on the soccer team, and a passion for poetry.

### [I Can Make This Promise](#)

*By Christine Day*

*J Fic Day*

When 12-year-old Edie finds letters and photos in her attic that change what she thought she knew about her Native American mother's adoption, she realizes she has a lot to learn about her family's history and her own identity.

### [The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise](#)

*By Dan Gemeinhart*

*J Fic Gemeinha*

Five years. That's how long twelve-year-old Coyote and her dad, River, have lived on the road in an old school bus, crisscrossing the nation. It's also how long ago Coyote lost her mom and two sisters.

### [Left Out](#)

*By Tim Green*

*J Fic Green*

Landon has always felt left out due to his deafness that affects his speech. He secures a spot on the 7th-grade football team, but when it is harder than he expected, Landon gets help from the star players who know all about being different.

### [Same Sun Here](#)

*By Silas House*

*J Fic House*

Meena and River have a lot in common: fathers who work away from home to make ends meet, grandmothers who mean everything, and faithful dogs. But Meena is an Indian immigrant girl living in New York City, and River is a Kentucky coal miner's son.

### [Fish in a Tree](#)

*By Lynda Mullaly Hunt*

*J Fic Hunt*

Ally is smart enough to fool lots of people by hiding her inability to read by creating distractions. However, her new teacher, Mr. Daniels, sees the bright, creative kid underneath and with his help, Ally learns that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of.

### [When the World Turned Upside-Down](#)

*By K. Ibura*

*J Fic Ibura*

Nobody expected a tiny virus to change the whole world, especially not Shayla, Liam, Ai, and Ben. But when school closes to keep everyone safe, their lives turn upside down. As they each struggle to adjust to quarantine, they discover their apartment building is full of people who need their help.

### [Get a Grip, Vivy Cohen!](#)

*By Sarah Kapit*

*J Fic Kapit*

Vivy Cohen is determined. She's had enough of playing catch in the park and is ready to pitch for a real baseball team.

### [Hello, Universe](#)

*By Erin Entrada Kelly*

*J Fic Kelly*

In one day, four lives weave together in unexpected ways. A bully's prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen must band together in an epic quest to rescue him.

### [Ungifted](#)

*By Gordon Korman*

*J Fic Korman*

When Donovan Curtis pulls a major prank at his middle school, he thinks he's finally gone too far. But thanks to a mix-up by one of the administrators, Donovan is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students.

### [The Sun Will Come Out](#)

*By Joanne Levy*

*J Fic Levy*

Twelve-year-old Bea Gelman and her best friend Frankie are planning the BEST SUMMER EVER at Camp Shalom. But at the last minute, Frankie bows out, leaving painfully shy Bea on her own.

### [For Black Girls Like Me](#)

*By Mariama Lockington*

*J Fic Lockingt*

Eleven-year-old Makeda dreams of meeting her African American mother, while coping with serious problems in her white adopted family, a cross-country move, and being homeschooled.