



SPRING '15 Top Ten Kids' Next



The Walls Around Us

by **Nova Ren Suma**

"*The Walls Around Us* shares the stories of two very different girls—Amber, imprisoned for a terrible crime for so long that she can't remember what the world outside is like, and Violet, a Julliard-bound dancer with a dark and terrible secret that threatens her at every turn. A third girl, Orianna, connects Amber and Violet in ways that none of them understands and that may be the key to setting everyone free. This deep, tense mystery spurs the reader on at every turn, leading down long, winding tunnels of regret and self-loathing, threatening to expose the characters' most private selves, and keeping the pages turning late into the night."

—Emily Hall, Main Street Books, St. Charles, MO



Find out more about this book and others at WWW.INDIEBOUND.ORG



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An Ember in the Ashes

by **Sabaa Tahir**

"I devoured this fast-paced thriller that tells the tale of conflicted Martial Empire soldier Elias, who is wrestling with his destiny, and rebel Scholar girl Laia, who longs for nothing more than to save her older brother from the death grip of the Empire. In this story, readers experience the love, courage, cunning, and true bravery of both Elias and Laia. Brilliant foes and terrifying plot twists will have readers racing to the end of this excellent debut!"

—Kelsy April, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT



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Red Queen

by **Victoria Aveyard**

"Mare Barrow is despised as a Red in a kingdom ruled by Silvers. The Silvers have special powers and treat the Reds with scorn and contempt, making them fight their wars and live in poverty while the Silvers enjoy lives filled with wealth and luxury. Soon, it is discovered that Mare is not like other Reds. She also has powers, but to keep her family safe she must play a dangerous game of deception. With danger, intrigue, and a touch of romance, this book is sure to keep readers enthralled and anxiously waiting for the next installment."

—Lisa Nehs, Books & Company, Oconomowoc, WI



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Red

A Crayon's Story, by Michael Hall

"It says 'Red' on his label, but the crayon Red cannot make strawberries or fire engines or combine with yellow to make orange. Even with all types of advice from fellow crayons, like 'press harder,' 'apply yourself,' and 'give yourself time,' Red fails. Then a purple boat asks Red to make a blue ocean, which turns out perfect. From then on Red turns out blue jeans, blue birds, and blueberries all of which are beautiful. Finally, Red is accepted for what he can achieve, not for what is written on his label. A timeless and true tale for all ages to share and enjoy."

—Karen Briggs, Great Northern Books & Hobbies, Oscoda, MI



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Mosquitoland

by David Arnold

"Debut author Arnold is a magician, a sage, and a warrior who lays his voice bare on the page. His magic resides in the heroine of *Mosquitoland*, Mim, and all of the ways she manages to change her future and rewrite her own destiny. Arnold's wisdom speaks to every reader as they hop a Greyhound bus with Mim as she sets out on a path in search of her better self. The fight and the sacrifice of the warrior are felt at every turn, as this brave young woman lets nothing and no one stand in the way of her quest to find her mother, escape her father, calm the beautiful anger inside of her, and protect her adopted companions."

—Katie Capaldi, Between the Covers, Harbor Springs, MI



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Home

by Carson Ellis

"*Home* is a poignant and lovely reminder of the very primal need to have a place—that is one's own. The homes portrayed in her gorgeous collection are widely varied, from castle to cabin, wagon to wigwam. Some homes float in water, others sit in trees. Locations and climates all over the world are included, showcasing a stunning variety. More important than the myriad differences, however, is the one binding connection: whatever or wherever home is, it is a place of vital refuge."

—Christopher Rose, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA



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We All Looked Up

by Tommy Wallach

"This confident debut novel follows four very different teenagers as they reevaluate their lives and identities in the shadow of Ardor, the asteroid on an unavoidable path towards Earth. The global fear of the impending collision is balanced with the emotional struggles of the characters, so that one beautifully highlights the other. *We All Looked Up* reads like *The Breakfast Club* for a new generation of lovers of dystopian fiction!"

—Mary-Catherine Breed, Brazos Bookstore, Houston, TX



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Echo

by Pam Muñoz Ryan

"*Echo* is an incredible story following the lives of three children—Friedrich Schmidt in Germany in 1933, Mike Flannery in Philadelphia in 1935, and Ivy Lopez in California in 1942—during the time they are blessed with the possession of a certain magic harmonica. Each child faces challenges, from rescuing a father to protecting a brother, until their lives become intertwined with the path of the harmonica. An amazing story combining history with the loving bonds of family, *Echo* is a must-read!"

—Jannike Caspari, Out West Books, Grand Junction, CO



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Nightbird by Alice Hoffman

"Sidwell, Massachusetts, is known for three things: sweet pink apple pie, the curse of a witch, and Sidwell's very own monster. Twelve-year-old Twig knows this all too well and carries a very big secret—a secret that has kept her family isolated from the rest of the town. When the descendants of the notorious witch move in next door, everything changes. Hoffman shares a summer of magic, sweet herbs, friendship, and mystery in her first book for middle-graders. Readers will discover the beauty of her writing as they uncover the secrets of Sidwell in this spellbinding tale of friendship and magic."

—Hannah Moushabeck, Odyssey Bookshop, South Hadley, MA

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Wolfie the Bunny by Ame Dyckman, Zachariah OHora (illus.)

"A baby wolf ends up on the stoop of a family of rabbits. Mama and Papa rabbit are smitten from the beginning, but of course big sister Dot says 'He'll eat us all!' As Wolfie and his appetite grow, Dot plays at friends' houses without him, while Wolfie just wants to hang out with his big sister. Then, one day they are shopping together and run into a bear, and both Dot and Wolfie learn what it means to be a family. Families are made in all different ways and their adventures together can test their strength, but your big sister will always be there to protect you!"

—Anna Brindley, Blue Phoenix Books, Alpena, MI

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