

Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award 1991 Nominees

Anastasia On Her Own by Lois Lowry

Her family's new organized schedule for easy housekeeping makes thirteen-year-old Anastasia confident that she can run the household while her mother is out of town, until she hits unexpected complications.

Cracker Jackson by Betsy Byars

Cracker Jackson has a problem. A big, serious, adult problem. When he receives an anonymous note in the mail, he finds out that his old babysitter, Alma, is in danger. Cracker's the only one who can help her. But what can an eleven-year-old do in a situation that most adults couldn't cope with? Cracker will do anything to protect his beloved Alma. But the situation is already moving beyond his control...

Exploring the Titanic by Robert Ballard

Describes the large luxury liner which sank in 1912 and the discovery and exploration of its underwater wreckage.

Eyes of the Killer Robot by John Bellairs

At first, Johnny Dixon doesn't believe Professor Childermass's story about Evaristus Sloane, the insane inventor of a fiendish, baseball-pitching robot. Then Johnny sees faces at his window at night, and senses he's being followed. Old Sloane has invented a new, improved robot, and he only needs one thing to bring it to life—Johnny's eyes. A clown under the big top. Is one of the clowns really a criminal?

A Family Project by Sarah Ellis

Excited by the unexpected prospect of a baby, eleven-year-old Jessica and her family eagerly prepare for the changes the new arrival will bring to their lives.

Harry's Mad by Dick King-Smith

Harry's parents and friends think he's crazy because he acts out the rich fantasies of his 10-year-old imagination. And when his eccentric American uncle dies and leaves Harry a parrot named Madison (Mad), they're convinced of it.

Henry by Nina Bawden

Evacuated to the English countryside during World War II, a fatherless family tries to raise a baby squirrel that also lost its home.

Leaves in October by Karen Ackerman

What will life be like in a shelter for the homeless? That's what Livvy wonders after her father, "Poppy," loses his job and her mother leaves them. While their father looks for work, Livvy and her little brother, Younger, get to know the people in the shelter. Some are scary, while some are friendly. Before long Livvy finds a way to earn money to help Poppy buy a home. She can't stop believing in Poppy's promise "When the leaves in

October are red and gold, we'll be home." Then one day Poppy has good news and bad news. Will Livvy have to give up her dreams of living together as a family?

Locked in Time by Lois Duncan

It doesn't occur to Nore to take the dream-warning seriously. Her new stepmother and stepbrother seem nice. But why does Nore feel so uneasy around them? Maybe she should have listened . . .

Matilda by Roald Dahl

Matilda is a genius. Unfortunately, her family treats her like a dolt. Her crooked car-salesman father and loud, bingo-obsessed mother think Matilda's only talent is as a scapegoat for everything that goes wrong in their miserable lives. But it's not long before the sweet and sensitive child decides to fight back. Faced with practical jokes of sheer brilliance, her parents don't stand a chance.

Missing Since Monday by Ann Martin

Maggie's taking care of her four-year-old sister for a week. On Monday morning, she puts Courtenay on the bus to school. That afternoon, Courtenay doesn't come home. She never made it to school that day. She's missing. The detectives looking for Courtenay have hardly any clues. Then Maggie starts getting threatening phone calls...and she thinks she's being followed. Whoever took Courtenay is after her, too. One thing's for sure: If the police don't find Courtenay soon, Maggie will be the next one missing.

Racing the Sun by Paul Pitts

Being an American in ian wasn't something twelve-year-old Brandon Rogers liked to advertise. His father had left his Indian heritage behind when he went to college and Brandon had grown up in suburbia-just a regular kid. Who needed embarrassing mumbo-jumbo to make you look different? But then Brandon's Navajo grandfather moved off the reservation and into the lower bunk in Brandon's room! It wasn't easy having a roommate who chanted himself to sleep and got you out of bed before sunrise to race the sun. But now Brandon's learning lessons he'll never forget. Like how to take on the old ways without giving up the new. And how to grow up proud and strong ... with a heritage as real as an old man's love.

The Rookie Arrives by Thomas Dygard

Ted has always been a star on the field-but now he's riding the bench. When the Kansas City Royals draft Ted Bell right out of high school, he expects to be playing third base, hitting home runs, and winning games. Instead, he's stuck in the dugout, watching the Royals' veteran third baseman, Lou Mills. When Mills is injured, Ted finally gets his turn at bat-but does he have what it takes to win the starting slot?

The Secret Life of Dilly McBean by Dorothy Haas

After being orphaned at an early age and spending years in boarding schools, Dilly begins a new life in a real house in a small town, developing secret magnetic powers

under the tutelage of a kindly professor, until he is kidnapped by a madman who plans to control the world with a computer.

Silver by Norma Fox Mazer

Despite their different backgrounds, Sarabeth, a teenager living with her mother in a trailer and transferring to a new school, makes friends with Grant and her affluent friends, including troubled Patty who shares a painful secret about her uncle.

Three Dog Winter by Elizabeth Van Steenwyk

Sled-dog racing means everything to Scott McClure. It also helps keep his father's memory alive. Scott plans to form a new team of three sled dogs so that he can continue racing and become a champion like his dad. But life changes quickly when his mother remarries and they move from California to Montana. From the start, Scott has problems with his stepfather and his stepbrother, Brad. Scott won't let anything interfere with his dreams as he trains and races Kaylah, his Malamute, and the other dogs on the team. But Scott doesn't know the obstacles he must face.

Through the Hidden Door by Rosemary Wells

Barney's life is a mess. Everyone thinks he's a snitch. His former friends want to kill him. Even the headmaster of his school wants him gone. No one but secretive little Snowy Cobb will speak to him. But after Snowy and Barney discover the hidden cave deep below the earth, the promise of ancient treasures wipe away the threats from above. And when they uncover strange artifacts untouched for centuries, a web of unknowable danger begins to unravel-and Snowy and Barney may not survive.

Too Much Magic by Betsy Sterman

Two brothers have a grand time wishing for all sorts of things with the help of a magic cube the younger brother finds in the playground.

Volcano: The Eruption and Healing of Mt. St. Helens by Patricia Lauber

May 18, 1980, 8:32 A.M.: An earthquake suddenly triggered an avalanche on Mount St. Helens, a volcano in southern Washington State. Minutes later, Mount St. Helens blew the top off its peak and exploded into the most devastating volcanic eruption in U.S. history. What caused the eruption? What was left when it ended? What did scientists learn in its aftermath?

When the Dolls Woke by Marjorie Stover

Long neglected dolls come awake and help their new owner and her elderly aunt find a treasure hidden in their dollhouse years ago.

Where It Stops, Nobody Knows by Amy Ehrlich

Having unquestioningly abided by her mother's decisions to move frequently and remain aloof from outsiders, fourteen-year-old Nina begins to wonder about the reasons for their way of life.