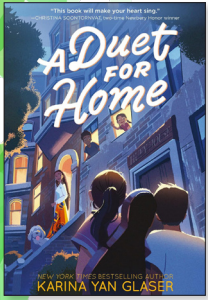




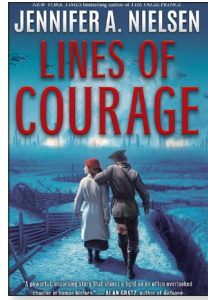
# 2024-2025 IOWA CHILDREN'S CHOICE AWARD



### A Duet for Home

Karina Yan Glaser

Two children living in a homeless shelter whose friendship grows over a shared love of classical music, June and Tyree, join forces to confront a new housing policy that puts homeless families in danger.



### Lines of Courage

Jennifer A. Nielsen

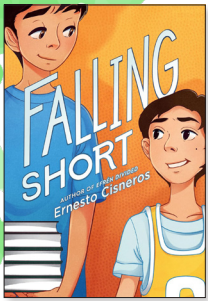
Five kids from different backgrounds and nations living through World War I hold the key to each other's futures...if they are lucky—and brave—enough to find each other.



### A Rover's Story

Jasmine Warga

Built to explore Mars, Resilience begins to develop human-like feelings as he learns from the NASA scientists who assembled him. Res quickly discovers that Mars is a dangerous place and he is tested as he navigates the difficult landscape.



### Falling Short

Ernesto Cisneros

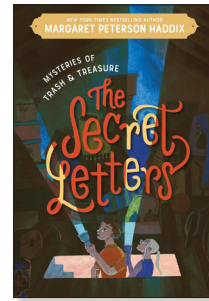
Friends Isaac and Marco face challenges in sixth grade—Isaac getting better grades, Marco winning a spot on the basketball team, and both seeing their efforts make a change in their family lives.



### Nic Blake and the Remarkables: The Manifestor Prophecy

Angie Thomas

All Nic wants is to be a powerful Manifestor like her dad. Before she can convince him to teach her the gift, a series of shocking revelations and terrifying events launch Nic and friends on a hunt for a powerful magic tool she's never heard of.



### Mysteries of Trash & Treasure: The Secret Letters

Margaret Peterson Haddix

Colin and Nevaeh, whose parents own rival junk-removal businesses, uncover mysteries hidden in attics and basements and discover how trash can become treasure.



### Finally Seen

Kelly Yang

When ten-year-old Lina Gao leaves China to live with her parents and sister after five years apart, she must reckon with her hurt, anger, and curiosity and find a way to get her bearings in America.



### Maizy Chen's Last Chance

Lisa Yee

In this humorous, heartwarming tale of food, fortune, and family history, Maizy must confront unexpected truths after she and her mother move to a small Minnesota town to help run her family's Chinese restaurant.



### Singing with Elephants

Margarita Engle

Lonely Cuban-born Oriol lives in Santa Barbara, where she enjoys caring for injured animals, but her budding friendship with Gabriela Mistral, the first Latin American winner of a Nobel Prize in Literature, emboldens Oriol, an aspiring writer, to create a world of words for herself.



### Home Away from Home

Cynthia Lord

Mia is spending the summer with her grandmother in a small town, expecting it to be an oasis of stability. But there is a new know-it-all boy next door and soon Mia finds herself competing with him in identifying an injured bird of prey—and most everything else.



### The Midnight Children

Dan Gemeinhart

When lonely Ravani Foster discovers his new friend Virginia and her six mysterious runaway companions are in danger, he must fight to keep them safe, or lose the only person who has ever understood him.



### Swim Team

Johnnie Christmas

Bree can't wait to start middle school—until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, the dreaded Swim 101. She's not a swimmer. However, she gets help from an unlikely mentor.



### Hummingbird

Natalie Lloyd

In this realistic story with elements of fantasy, a 12-year-old girl with brittle bone disease finds inner strength as she seeks a legendary magical hummingbird that can grant wishes.



### On Air with Zoe Washington

Janae Marks

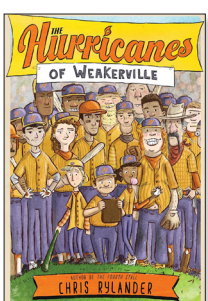
Zoe helped clear her birth father's name for a crime he didn't commit. Now, Marcus has been released from prison and has a dream of opening his own restaurant, and Zoe is determined to help him achieve it, with her as his pastry chef.



### Thirst

Varsha Bajaj

Minni, a heroic girl in the poorest part of Mumbai, where access to water is limited to a few hours a day and the communal taps have long lines, fights for her belief that water should be for everyone.



### The Hurricanes of Weakerville

Chris Rylander

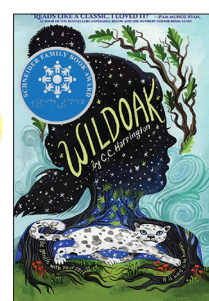
Alex has one passion—baseball. Specifically, the Hurricanes of Weakerville, Iowa—the scrappy independent-league team owned by his Grandpa Ira. When Ira passes away and leaves the role of manager to his grandson, can Alex save his team, his hometown, and his family legacy?



### Over and Out

Jenni L. Walsh

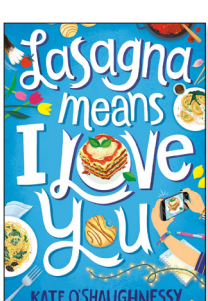
Sophie has spent her entire life behind the Berlin Wall, guarded by land mines, towers, and attack dogs. A science lover, Sophie dreams of becoming an inventor... but that's unlikely in East Berlin, where the Stasi, the secret police, are always watching.



### Wildoak

C.C. Harrington

Beset by a stutter, 12-year-old Maggie must learn to speak for others when she discovers, and tries to protect, a snow leopard cub that has been abandoned in a forest in Cornwall.



### Lasagna Means I Love You

Kate O'Shaughnessy

When 11-year-old foster kid Mo finds a cookbook filled with someone else's family recipes, she collects the stories behind them and builds a website to share them, secretly hoping a long-lost relative will find her and give her a family recipe all her own.



### Playing Through the Turnaround

Mylisa Larsen

Fourth period is the best time of day, because that's when Mr. Lewis teaches Jazz Lab. His students are devastated when their beloved teacher quits abruptly, perhaps due to budget cuts, and so they hatch a plan—stop the cuts, save their class.



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