

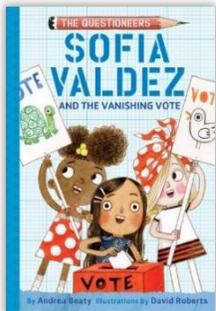
DID YOU KNOW...

That our [Facebook page](#) offers the latest news, CATS Virtual TitleTalks announcements, fun book-related holiday news, COVID-19 related updates, and much more? [Like us](#), and join in on the fun and informative news, such as the below!



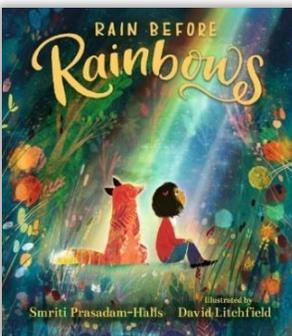
Several of our publishing partners have made the decision to extend their read-aloud permissions for libraries, many through the end of the year. Click [here](#) to see *SLJ*'s thorough recap of these updates.

BOOK RESOURCES AND EXTRAS



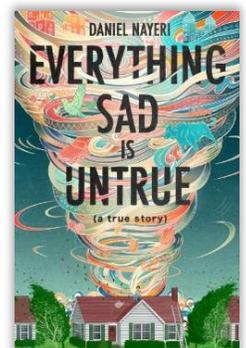
Did you know there's an election coming this fall? 😊 Just in time, the newest title in the bestselling chapter book series *The Questioners*, featuring Sofia Valdez, will get us ready; well, at least ready to choose the next class pet! Preorder *Sofia Valdez and the Vanishing Vote* (ISBN 9781419743504) and get ready to restore democracy in the classroom. Download fun activities that feature the series [here](#).

Next up, an important title that arrives on shelves this month comes to us from award-winning author Ibi Zoboi and prison reform activist Yusef Salaam of the Exonerated Five. *Punching the Air* (ISBN 9780062996480 HRD, 9780062996503 EBK) is a powerful novel in verse that unveils the story of a boy named Amal who is wrongfully incarcerated. Overcoming his despair and rage through art, Amal maintains his humanity and fights for the truth, in a system designed to strip him of both. [Listen](#) as Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam discuss the story behind the book, and download discussion questions and activities [here](#).



In October, Candlewick Press is publishing *Rain Before Rainbows*, (ISBN 9781536212839), a picture book by bestselling author Smriti Prasadam-Halls and illustrated by well-known artist David Litchfield. It aims to both raise awareness for Save the Children and offer a message of hope in dark times, making it quite relevant for kids in lockdown and preparing for a very different return to school. Preorder print copies now, and use [this link](#) to download the free ebook version through September 30th.

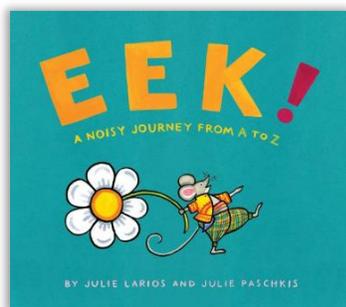
In the [video introduction](#) for *Everything Sad Is Untrue: A True Story* (ISBN 9781646140008 HRD, 9781646140022 EBK), Daniel Nayeri provides a moving description of his mom, featuring video, photos, and quotes from the book itself. This novel is based heavily on his own very true story of immigration from Iran to Oklahoma. Heralded as “A remarkable work that raises the literary bar in children’s lit” by *Booklist*, this is one you’ll want to add to your collection.





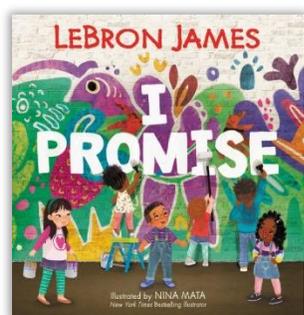
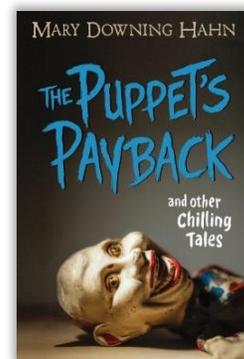
Moving on to an adaptation, ***Becoming a Good Creature*** (ISBN 9780358252108 HRD, 9780358252078 EBK) is the picture book version of Sy Montgomery and Rebecca Green’s best-selling ***How to Be a Good Creature***. Learn the many surprising lessons animals have to teach us about friendship, compassion, and how to be a better creature in the world. Check out Sy Montgomery’s wonderful [book trailer](#) and learn more about her inspiration for this book!

Want to announce your library’s addition of the latest Dog Man title, ***Dog Man: Grime and Punishment*** (ISBN 9781338535624 HRD, 9781338554274 EBK, 9781713700814 PBD) in a fun way? Look no further than this quick and thrilling [trailer](#). In this ninth installment, Dog Man does what his dog instincts tell him, and digs, which doesn’t thrill the mayor! Dog Man is going to need his entire pack to help him out of this one...



Julie Larios has written a picture book paired with folk art-inspired illustrations from Julie Paschke to produce ***EEK! A Noisy Journey from A to Z*** (ISBN 9781682631690). This alphabetic storybook features an adorable mouse who picks a pretty flower for a loved one and embarks on an alphabet journey involving a sneeze, a buzzing bee and a colorful parade of characters. Find a whole collection of storytime activities to tie-in to this fun title [here](#).

We’re excited to read legendary ghost story author Mary Downing Hahn’s latest work, ***The Puppet’s Payback and Other Chilling Tales*** (ISBN 9780358067320, 9780358067344 EBK) a collection of “scary but not too scary” tales featuring kids that get creepy, and otherworldly encounters. Share the [spooky trailer](#) with your young patrons – they’re sure to want to check it out!



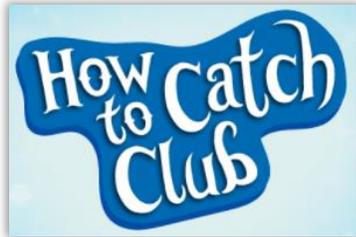
It couldn’t be the September issue without mentioning a title that’s perfect for back-to-school, be it in-person or remote. In ***I Promise*** (ISBN 9780062971067 HRD, 9780063017344 EBK), NBA champion and superstar LeBron James reminds us all that the key to a better future is to excel in school, do your best, and embrace your community. Adorable vibrant illustrations by Nina Mata complete the work; watch her read the book aloud [here](#).

LIBRARY/INDUSTRY NEWS

It’s hard to believe, but the time for the 2020 Children's and Teen Choice Book Awards Finalists has come! See all of the finalists in the four categories (K–2nd Grade, 3rd-4th Grade, 5th-6th Grade, and Teen) [here](#), and get your readers ready to start casting their votes starting on September 14 and ending on November 15 at the conclusion of Children’s Book Week. Winners will be announced in early December.



And speaking of Children's Book Week, which takes place from November 9th to 15th this year, you can download resources, including the poster designed by Carin Berger (seen left), at their [website](#). Book creator videos, a fun stuff section, and resource segments by market, including libraries, can be found on that site as well. Baker & Taylor will be hosting our first ever national Virtual CATS TitleTalk that week, too! Stay tuned for invite and more information.



Have you checked out the new [interactive website](#) for the bestselling How to Catch books, written by Adam Wallace and illustrated by Andy Elkerton? Games and activities, sneak peeks, storytime videos with the author, and more await young readers, and it's free! Plan a program around the series and share the club with parents. There's lots of fun to be had!

CONTEST NEWS

The winners of our annual Baker & Taylor/Random House Summer Reading contest have been selected. The grand prize, including original framed artwork from Emily Winfield Martin, and autographed copies of her books, went to Jenny Yergin of Anderson Public Library in Anderson, IN.

The runners-up, who received giclee prints of the artwork, and autographed copies of Ms. Martin's books, are:

Jennifer Reynard of Cuyahoga Falls Library in Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Stacy Hisle of Ray County Library in Richmond, MO

Anne Clark of Bay County Library System in Bay City, MI

Yvette Blandford of Louisville Public Library in Louisville, OH

Mollie Goodell of Sienna Branch Library - Fort Bend County Libraries in Missouri City, TX

Congratulations to the winners!



Don't forget to enter our current contests, for a chance to win a [12-copy display of *What We'll Build*](#) by Oliver Jeffers, or to win [an autographed copy of Kwame Mbalia's *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky*](#)! Check out our newest contest featured in the CATS Meow newsletter, too!

CAT TALE OF THE MONTH

This month, our mascots Baker and Taylor have a board book series to share with you, starting with ***Cat Can Fly*** (ISBN 9781800360006), written and illustrated by Rebecca Purcell. It arrives on shelves September 1st!



B and T: We've waited some time for an entire series of board books about a cat! The Cat's Adventures series features colorful, simple illustrations and short, rhyming sentences with picture clues! Aimed at encouraging a love of literacy in emergent readers, five titles will publish between September and January, one each month. Fly, Cat, Fly!

We look forward to welcoming fall with you. Happy reading!