

2024 Mock Newbery Discussion #3
December 13, 2023

It's time to start taking a closer look at the children's books of 2023. Participating in the Mock Newbery is an opportunity to read the newest children's books and to discuss them with other passionate readers. A letter of participation is available for those applying the Mock Newbery program towards professional development. Program registration: <https://tinyurl.com/RInewbery24>

Mock Newbery Discussion #3 - Voting
Wednesday, January 17, 6:00 – 7:30 PM
Virtual Zoom Discussion, [Register](#)

2024 Mock Newbery Reading List #3

1. *Chinese Menu* by Grace Lin (**added December 6**)
2. *Dust* by Dusti Bowling (**added December 6**)
3. *Eb and Flow* by Kelly J. Baptist (**added December 6**)
4. *Enemies in the Orchard* by Dana VanderLugt (**added December 6**)
5. *The Eyes and the Impossible* by Dave Eggers (**added December 6**)
6. *A First Time for Everything* by Dan Santat
7. *How to Stay Invisible* by Maggie Rudd
8. *The Labors of Hercules Beal* by Gary D. Schmidt
9. *Leeva At Last* by Sara Pennypacker
10. *The Lost Library* by Rebecca Stead and Wendy Mass (**added December 6**)
11. *The Lost Year: A Survival Story of the Ukrainian Famine* by Katherine Marsh
12. *The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity* by Nicholas Day, illustrated by Brett Helquist (**added December 6**)
13. *The Puppets of Spelhorst* by Kate DiCamillo (**added October 18**)
14. *Race Against Death: The Greatest POW Rescue of World War II* by Deborah Hopkinson
15. *Simon Sort of Says* by Erin Bow
16. *Sunshine* by Jarrett J. Krosoczka (**added December 6**)

Dropped on December 6:

1. *Conjure Island* by Eden Royce
2. *The Ghosts of Rancho Espanto* by Adrianna Cuevas
3. *Ginny Off the Map* by Caroline Hickey
4. *Good Different* by Meg Eden Kuyatt
5. *Hope in the Valley* by Mitali Perkins (**added October 18**)
6. *The Song of Us* by Kate Fussner (**Added October 18**)
7. *What Happened to Rachel Riley?* by Claire Sinarski
8. *We Still Belong* by Christine Day (**added October 18**)
9. *When Sea Becomes Sky* by Gillian McDunn
10. *You Are a Story* by Bob Raczka, illustrated by Kristen and Kevin Howdshell (**added October 18**)
11. *A Work in Progress* by Jarrett Lerner

Dropped on October 19:

1. *Aniana del Mar Jumps In* by Jasminne Mendez
2. *Big Tree* by Brian Selznick
3. *A Bit of Earth* by Karuna Riazi
4. *Ebb and Flow* by Heather Smith (should have been *Eb and Flow* by Kelly J. Baptist, Heather Smith is Canadian making this book ineligible)
5. *Grounded* by Aisha Saeed
6. *Hands* by Torrey Maldonado
7. *Not an Easy Win* by Chrystal D. Giles

8. *Superpod: Saving the Endangered Orcas of the Pacific Northwest* by Nora Nickum
9. *The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams* by Daniel Nayeri
10. *When Clouds Touch Us* by Thanhà Lai
11. *The Windeby Puzzle* by Lois Lowry
12. *You Are Here: Connecting Flights* by Ellen Oh

Voting for a Rhode Island winner and honor books will take place on January 17, 2024 using the balloting procedures of the real committee.

The Newbery Medal is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published in the United States during the preceding year. The Award is restricted to authors who are citizens or residents of the United States.

Criteria

1. In identifying “distinguished contribution to American literature,” defined as text, in a book for children,
 - a. Committee members need to consider the following:
 - i. Interpretation of the theme or concept.
 - ii. Presentation of information including accuracy, clarity, and organization.
 - iii. Development of a plot.
 - iv. Delineation of characters.
 - v. Delineation of a setting.
 - vi. Appropriateness of style.

Note: Because the literary qualities to be considered will vary depending on content, the committee need not expect to find excellence in each of the named elements. The book should, however, have distinguished qualities in all of the elements pertinent to it.

- b. Committee members must consider excellence of presentation for a child audience.
 2. Each book is to be considered as a contribution to American literature. The committee is to make its decision primarily on the text. Other components of a book, such as illustrations, overall design of the book, etc., may be considered when they make the book less effective.
 3. The book must be a self-contained entity, not dependent on other media (i.e., sound or film equipment) for its enjoyment.

Note: The committee should keep in mind that the award is for literary quality and quality presentation for children. The award is not for didactic content or popularity.

See [Definitions](#) (pg. 11) and [Appendix B: Expanded Definitions and Examples](#) (pg. 57) in the [manual](#) for additional information about the criteria.

Adopted by the ALSC Board, January 1978. Revised, Midwinter 1987. Revised, Annual 2008. Revised, March 2023.