THE PANDA BOOK AWARDS SHORTLISTS
2017-2018
Compiled by the Panda Awards Steering Committee

MATURE READERS (grades 9–12)

Chee, Traci.
The Reader.
Set in a world where reading is unheard-of, Sefia makes use of a mysterious object to track down who kidnapped her aunt Nin and what really happened the night her father was murdered.

Kaufman, Amie.
Illuminae.
The planet Kerenza is attacked, and Kady and Ezra find themselves on a space fleet fleeing the enemy, while their ship's artificial intelligence system and a deadly plague may be the end of them all.

Nguyen, Viet Thanh.
The Sympathizer.
A Viet Cong agent spies on a South Vietnamese army general and his compatriots as they start a new life in 1975 Los Angeles.

Niven, Jennifer.
All the Bright Places.
Told in alternating voices, when Theodore Finch and Violet Markey meet on the ledge of the bell tower at school, both teetering on the edge, it's the beginning of an unlikely relationship, a journey to discover the "natural wonders" of the state of Indiana, and two teens' desperate desire to heal and save one another.

Smith, Jennifer E.
Windfall.
Alice doesn't believe in luck—at least, not the good kind. But she does believe in love, and for some time now, she's been pining for her best friend, Teddy. On his eighteenth birthday—just when it seems they might be on the brink of something—she buys him a lottery ticket on a lark. To their astonishment, he wins $140 million, and in an instant, everything changes.

Tatsuta, Kazuto.
Ichi-F: A Worker's Graphic Memoir of the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant.
This is the story of a man who took a job. Kazuto Tatsuta was an amateur artist who signed onto the dangerous task of cleaning up the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant, which the workers came to call "Ichi-F."

Thomas, Angie.
The Hate U Give.
Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Uwiringiyimana, Sandra.
How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child.
This profoundly moving memoir is the remarkable and inspiring true story of Sandra Uwiringiyimana, a girl from the Democratic Republic of the Congo who tells the tale of how she survived a massacre, immigrated to America, and overcame her trauma through art and activism.

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trying to censor what the kids are reading.

from all across America to compete in the first ever LIBRARY OLYMPICS...but someone is

cafeteria come to light.

Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics.

she is drawn into an unlikely friendship with a drama queen and a saboteur.

Nervous about

Vivat, Booki.

brown, Peter.

figuratively, to reach his full potential.

Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times. There's

Crenshaw.

Applegate, Katherine.

to need all their skills for the challenge they've got in store . . . defending the Time

Museum, the last thing she expects is to be sent on time-traveling adventures with

an unlikely gang of kids from across the eons. From a cave-boy to a girl from the

Museum itself!

To the cat, and how perspective shapes what we see. When you see a cat, what

Wenzel, Brendan.

It's the first day of school at

Frederick Douglass Elementary and everyone's just a little bit nervous,

Rex, Adam.

An epic fantasy about a young

Don't Call Me Bear!

Pennypacker, Sara.

in an epic quest to find and rescue him.

prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen band together

Hello, Universe.

Kelly, Erin Entrada.

to make-believe, the two travel together on a fantastical journey that unlocks

an idea that seemed too big, too odd, too difficult. It is a story to inspire you to welcome

A Child of Books.

Jeffers, Oliver.

A little girl sails her raft across a sea of

A Child of Books.

Jeffers, Oliver.

in the gutter of the book, Bella calls for help. But when the helpers disappear

This Book Just Ate My Dog.

Byrne, Richard.

A policeman and his police dog fail to defuse a bomb, and the

Dog  Man.

Pilkey, Dav.

and makes him return the fox to the wild.

Pax.

Pennypacker, Sara.

Meet Warren, the koala. He might be

Don't Call Me Bear!

Blabey, Aaron.

Pax and Peter have been inseparable ever since Peter rescued

Pax.

Pennypacker, Sara.

an owl, puppy, bear, bunny, and pig wait for

Waiting.

Dyckman, Ame.

Catrina and her family have moved to the coast of Northern

Ghosts.

Telgemeier, Raina.

The lives of four misfits are intertwined when a bully's

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