The Panda Book Awards Shortlists 2016-2017

Compiled by the Panda Awards Steering Committee

MATURE READERS (grades 9–12)

Anderson, M. T.
Symphony for the City of the Dead.
An account of how composer Dmitri Shostakovich and his Leningrad Symphony rallied their fellow citizens during the Siege of Leningrad.

Rowell, Rainbow.
Carry On: The Rise and Fall of Simon Snow.
Simon Snow's girlfriend broke up with him, he's terrible at magic, his nemesis Baz is missing, and on top of all this he has threatening magical creatures to deal with. It's going to be a tough final year at the Watford School of Magicks.

Ruby, Laura.
Bone Gap.
Eighteen-year-old Finn suffers from a disorder which means he can't distinguish between faces. When he is the only witness to the abduction of his classmate Roza, his disability makes it difficult for him to assist with the investigation—and only makes him more of an outsider in his quiet Midwestern town.

Sepetys, Ruta.
Salt to the Sea.
As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war's final dangers only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull.

Shusterman, Neal.
Challenger Deep.
Caden, a high-achieving high school senior, starts descending into mental illness while his family and friends try to figure out what is wrong with him.

Stevenson, Noelle.
Nimona.
Lord Ballister Blackheart seeks to bring down the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics with the aid of his new shapeshifting sidekick Nimona.

Van Wagenen, Maya.
Popular: Vintage Wisdom for a Modern Geek.
Unhappy with her social position at school, Maya Van Wagenen decides to conduct a social experiment: for one year, she will follow the advice of a 1950s popularity guide. She decides to follow the advice of a 1950s popularity guide. She decides to follow the advice of a 1950s popularity guide. She decides to follow the advice of a 1950s popularity guide. She decides to follow the advice of a 1950s popularity guide. She decides to follow the advice of a 1950s popularity guide.

Yoon, Nicola.
Everything, everything.
Madeline, literally allergic to the outside world, never leaves her room. But when a new boy moves in next door, she finds a complicated love that challenges everything she's ever known.

The Panda Book Awards initiative is the responsibility of the Panda Steering Committee, a group of international librarians in China. These professionals volunteer to read, review and discuss book titles submitted by other librarians or students. The goal of the Panda Book Awards initiative is to instill an enduring love of reading and to take students on an exciting reading adventure.

The Panda Book Awards initiative is now in its seventh year and its popularity has grown tremendously. During the first year, five international schools participated in voting. This year, over forty international schools joined the initiative, and over 5,700 students cast their votes.

In the fall, the Panda 2016-2017 books should be available at all participating schools. In the meantime, explore the hand-out and put the Panda titles on your summer reading list. Also visit the website http://pandabookawards.wikispaces.com/ for more details on the Panda reading initiative.
With the driver unconscious, it is up to her passengers to try to rescue each other and go for help. During a torrential rainstorm, a school bus goes off the road. Somebody on this bus is going to be famous.

Cheaney, J. B. and Cummings, Burgess, Matthew. To the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

Complete retellings. Fuller descriptions of the tales are included in the back matter, along with suggestions of where to read them.

Fish in a Tree. Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out that she still doesn't know how to read.

The Cleo Stories: The Necklace and the Present. A graphic novel adventure about a girl who discovers roller derby right as she and her best friend run away or been left behind, and all of which want to come home.

The Astounding Broccoli Boy. After Rory inexplicably turns green, he is sent to be studied by scientists. To make matters worse, he is stuck with his nemesis, the school bully Grim. Everyone is baffled except for Rory, who believes he and Grim have become superheroes.

The Imaginary. Rudger, an imaginary playmate, must find his real friend Amanda before he fades away and disappears.

My Life as a Gamer. Derek Fallon gets the chance of a lifetime when he is asked to test software for new video games. When wasps come to Steve in a dream offering to fix his sick baby brother, he thinks all he has to do is say yes. But yes may not mean what Steve thinks it means.

Stick & Stone. A picture book about a dorky bird who just wants to hang out with the cool birds.

Nerdy Birdy. A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

Goodbye Stranger. When wasps come to Steve in a dream offering to fix his sick baby brother, he thinks all he has to do is say yes. But yes may not mean what Steve thinks it means.

The Marvels. Billy Marvel is shipwrecked, rescued, and goes on to found a brilliant family of actors which flourishes in London until 1900. Nearly a century later, Joseph Jervis is captivated by the portraits and ghostly presences of his ancestor, the brilliant artist Billy Marvel.

The Cleo Stories 1: The Necklace and the Present. Meet Cleo, a memorable character created by Libby Gleeson. Cleo's playmates always find a way to have fun.

Chengdu Could Not, Would Not, Fall Asleep. A picture book about a dorky bird who just wants to hang out with the cool birds.

Nerdy Birdy. A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

The Thing about Jellyfish. Twelve-year-old Suzy Swanson investigates the rare jellyfish she is convinced was here rescued while on her way to care for horses during World War I. This real event became the inspiration for A.A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh.

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