

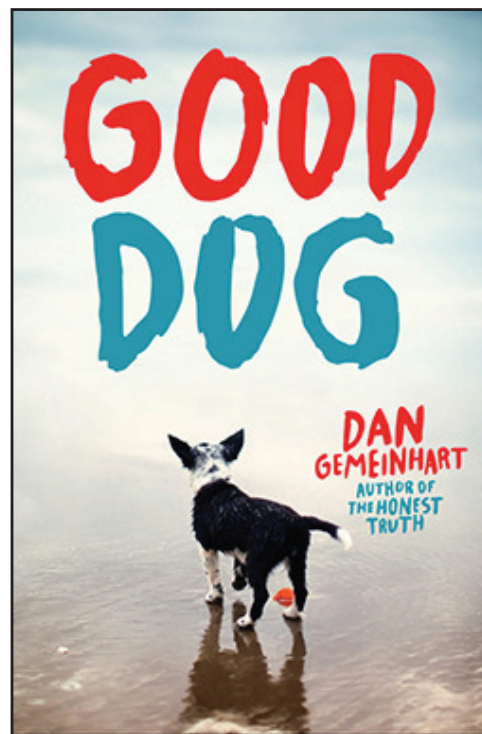
Booktalk!

Good Dog

by Dan Gemeinhart

Booktalk!

Brodie is a dog who's looking for someone who used to be in his life. He can barely remember night, day, hunger, or people, but in a split second, like fire in his thoughts, he remembers the boy ... his boy! Brodie can now taste, smell, and feel the words boy, need, help, and danger. Can he find his way out of this odd place? Brodie remembers: The boy's name is Aiden. Brodie must go back! Aiden is where the people are, and if he can help his boy find true peace, then maybe he can find peace, too. But Brodie wonders, can Aiden see a spirit?



Best for Grades 6-8

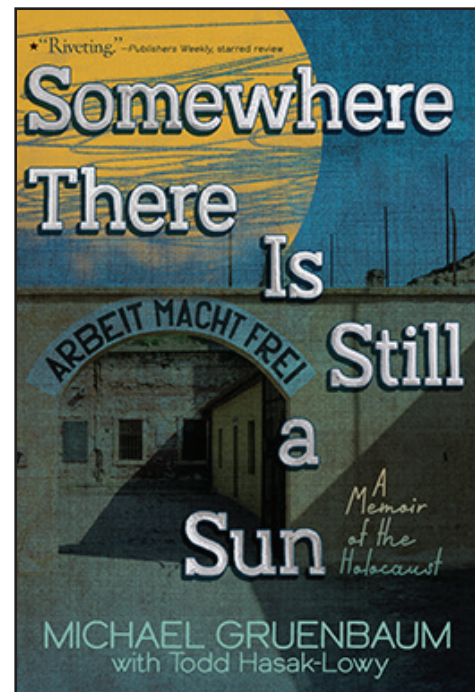


Somewhere There Is Still a Sun: A Memoir of the Holocaust

by Michael Gruenbaum with Todd Hasak-Lowy

Booktalk!

On March 15, 1939, the Nazis infiltrated Michael “Misha” Gruenbaum’s hometown of Prague, Czechoslovakia, and forced him and his family into the Jewish Ghetto. On September 8, 1941, his father was seized by the Germans, and Misha never heard from him again. On November 21, 1942, Misha was transported, along with his mother and sister Marietta, to the Terezin concentration camp, where they awaited their fate. He was just nine years old. Misha was a Jew, like the star said he was, and though he was told to never forget, he believed that a person had to know something before he could pledge to remember it. This is his story.



Best for Grades 6-8



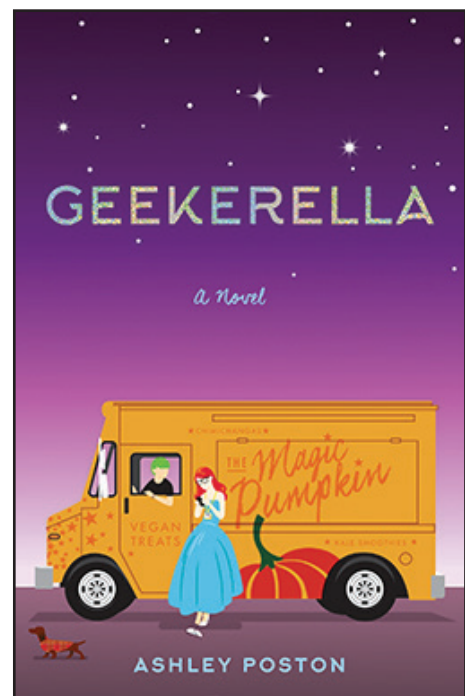
Booktalk!

Geekerella

by Ashley Poston

Booktalk!

Elle, a popular blogger, feels like she needs a ticket to another universe so she can truly be whoever she wants. Her stepmonster refuses to remember that Elle's father was once alive, and her stepsisters consider her a friendless little worm. Her dream is to attend the masquerade ball where she can meet Darien, the star of the upcoming *Starfield* movie and actor in her favorite show. But first she must enter the cosplay contest and dress up as a *Starfield* character for the chance to win tickets to the ball. If Elle can earn enough money from her job at the vegan food truck for a costume, then she might just have a chance. Can living in a fantasy land open up a better world for Elle?



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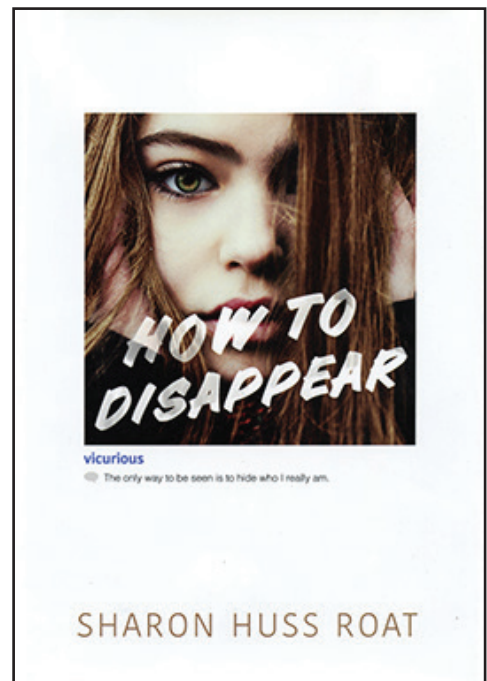


How to Disappear

by Sharon Huss Roat

Booktalk!

Vicky has only one friend — other than that, she hasn't spoken to anyone else in months. So, when her one friend moves to another state, Vicky's left completely alone. She keeps a secret list of anything that terrifies her or makes her nervous, and she hides in the bathroom when the freshman class photo is taken. But thanks to her genius photo-editing skills, she can place pictures of herself into other people's pictures—and lives! After opening a social media account, Vicky realizes she can become someone else from the comfort of her own room. Thousands of people follow her posts, but will Vicky ever learn that a real smile is better than a picture of one?



Best for Grades 6-8



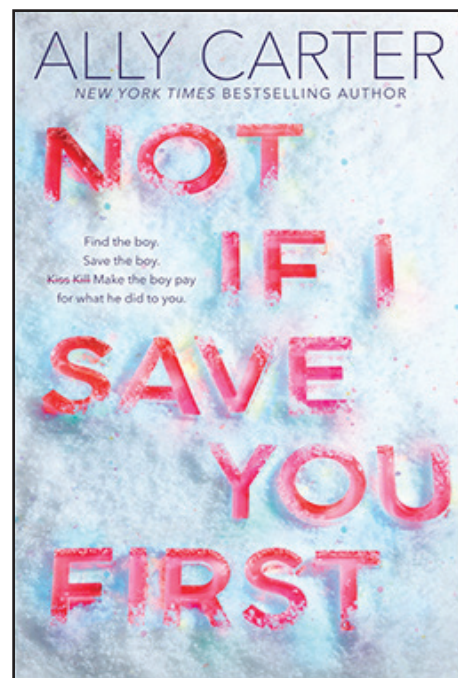


Not If I Save You First

by Ally Carter

Booktalk!

Maddie and Logan were best friends with a strong connection. At just 10 years old, they both knew what it was like to be different from other American kids. After all, Logan was the president's son, and Maddie's father was the head of the Secret Service. But an attack from a foreign enemy separates the two, and Maddie ends up living in a remote cabin in the Alaskan wilderness, while Logan continues to cause trouble at the White House. Six years later, Logan is sent to Alaska as punishment and the friends are reunited. Can Maddie and Logan save each other when enemies strike again?



Best for Grades 5-8



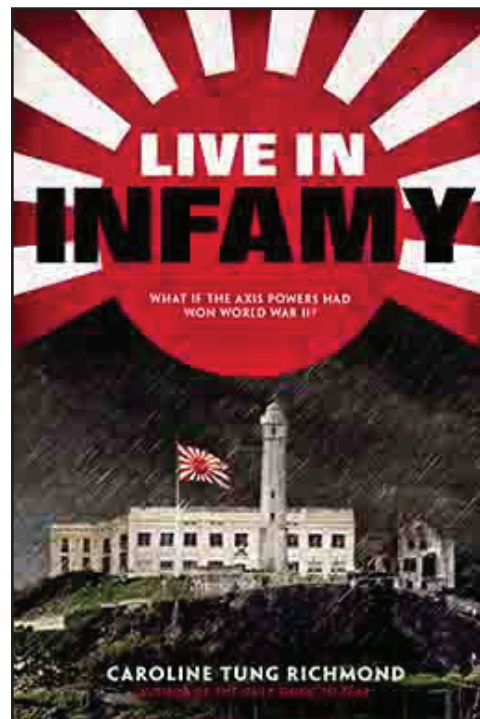


Live in Infamy

by Caroline Tung Richmond

Booktalk!

By the time he was 16, Chinese-American Ren Cabot had witnessed three executions. He knew that his family could be killed at any time, and he also knew that his father expected him to someday run the illegal anti-Imperial Japan newspaper that he and Ren's mother publish. Ren had never been ashamed of his identity, but he does get tired of enemy soldiers always asking, "What are you anyway?" Eighty years have passed since World War II ended, and the Second Revolutionary War has begun. If Ren decides to help overthrow the present government, it could lead to his death!



Best for Grades 6-8



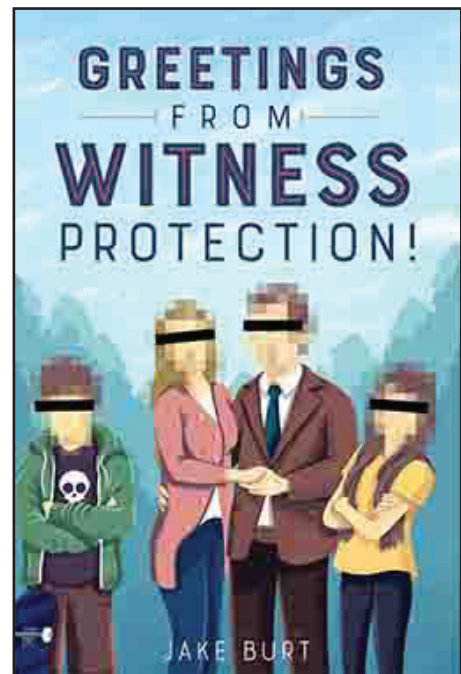


Greetings from Witness Protection!

by Jake Burt

Booktalk!

It's called sticking. Lucky kids stick with their foster families. Thirteen-year-old Nicki Demere hasn't stuck before — she's lived with five families in the five years she has been at the Center. But that situation could change quickly when two U.S. marshals appear at the Center to meet her. They need her help because a powerful family wants Nicki as their daughter, and she would have to assume a new identity. It's a matter of life and death, and it means that all records of Nicki's former life must be destroyed!



Best for Grades 5-8



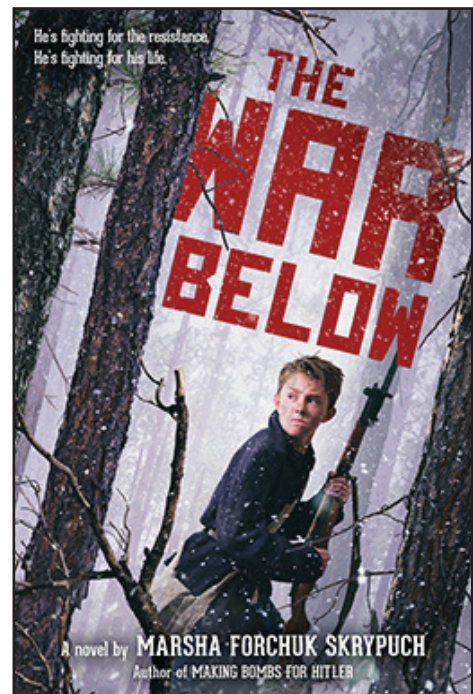


The War Below

by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch

Booktalk!

A German slave labor camp producing munitions is bombed by the Allies and 13-year-old Luka escapes by hiding among a truck full of corpses. He must leave his friend Lida behind but promises to find her when the war is over. Luka also vows to find his father, who has been taken from their home in the Ukraine to a Siberian work camp. To survive, Luka must evade capture by both the Nazis and Russian agents. He eventually joins the underground Ukrainian Insurgent Army, but will he survive long enough to fulfill his promises?



Best for Grades 6-8





R.I.P. Eliza Hart

by Alyssa Sheinmel

Booktalk!

Ellie thinks she should wear a sign that says, “Class freak!” After all, it’s easy to get all A’s when you have no friends at school. She also wonders how long she can keep her claustrophobia a secret. Then there’s Eliza Hart, a rich princess who is popular, beautiful, and a model student. Ellie can’t understand why Eliza Hart thinks she’s a liar and a stalker—how could she hate her so much when they used to be best friends? When Eliza Hart’s dead body is found, Ellie dreads talking to the police because she worries if lies can be a motive for murder! It’s Ellie’s word against the words from a dead princess, and secrets can be fatal!



Best for Grades 6-8



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