

## TRIPLE CROWN AWARDS 2007-2008

CROWN GALLERY AWARD  
CHILDREN'S CROWN AWARD  
LAMPLIGHTER AWARD

### K-2 CROWN GALLERY NOMINEES

1. *The Best Time of Day*, by Eileen Spinelli & illus. by Bryan Langdo. 0-15-205051-5, RL 3, Gulliver Books, \$16.00, 32 p. Farmer Fred, various members of his family, and his neighbors each has a favorite time of day.
2. *Diary of a Spider*, by Doreen Cronin & illus. by Harry Bliss. 0-06-000154-2, RL 2.5, Harper Collins, \$16.99, 32 p. A young spider discovers, day by day, that there is a lot to learn about being a spider, including how to spin webs and avoid vacuum cleaners.
3. *Don't Ever Cross that Road: an Armadillo Story*, by Conrad J. Storad & illus. by Nathaniel P. Jensen. 1-891795-08-2, RL 4.7, RGU Group, \$ 15.95, 26 p. A teacher armadillo teaches his class all about how to be an armadillo. But one student in a red cap isn't listening, or is he? Includes glossary of terms and a brief fact page about armadillos.
4. *Imagine a Day*, by Sarah. L. Thompson & illus. by Rob Gonsalves. 0-689-85219-3, RL 3.4, Atheneum, \$16.95, 32 p. A book of breathtaking paintings that encourages the reader to imagine a day when the ordinary becomes extraordinary ... a day when anything is possible.
5. *Leaf Man*, by Lois Ehlert. 0-15-205304-2, RL 1, Harcourt, \$16.00, 36 p. A man made of leaves blows away, traveling wherever the wind may take him.
6. *Merry Christmas, Merry Crow*, by Kathi Appelt & illus by Jon Goodell. 0-15-202651-7, RL 2.1, Harcourt, \$16.00, 28 p. A busy crow flies around town picking up all kinds of discarded items and uses them to create a beautiful Christmas tree.
7. *The Milkman*, by Carol Foscett Cordsen & illus. by Douglas B. Jones. 0-525-47208-8, RL 1.5, Dutton. \$15.99, 32 p. In the early, early morning, the milkman makes his rounds, helping his neighbors in a variety of ways.
8. *Nora's Ark*, By Natalie Kinsey-Warnock & illus. by Emily Arnold McCully. 0-06-029517-1, RL 3.8, Harper Collins, \$16.89, 32 p. During the Vermont flood of 1927, a girl and her grandparents share their new hilltop house with neighbors and animals.
9. *Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburg Pirates*, by Jonah Winter & illus. by Raul Colon. 0-689-85643-1, RL 4.5, Atheneum, \$16.99, 32 p. Biography of Roberto Clemente, born in Puerto Rico, who became one of the most admired major league baseball players of all time.
10. *Two Dogs Swimming*, by Lynn Reiser. 0-06-008648-3, RL 2.5, Greenwillow, \$16.89, 24 p. When two dogs, Whistle and Spot, play at running and jumping, sometimes one wins and sometimes the other one does, but until Spot learns to swim, Whistle always beats him across the pond.

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### 3 – 5 CHILDREN'S CROWN NOMINEES

1. *Abby Takes a Stand*, by Patricia C. McKissack & illus. by Gordon C. James. 0-670-06011-9, RL 3.6, Viking, \$14.99, 104 p. Gee recalls for her grandchildren what happened in 1960 in Nashville, Tennessee, when she, aged ten, passed out flyers while her cousins and other adults held sit-ins at restaurants and lunch counters to protest segregation.
2. *Ask Albert Einstein*, by Lynne Barasch. 0-374-30435-1, RL 3.6, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$16.00, 32 p. In 1952, a young girl writes a letter to Albert Einstein, the most famous mathematician and scientist of the day, to request help for her fifteen-year-old sister, Annabel, in solving a very important math problem. A fictionalized story based on an actual event that appeared in *The New York Times* in May 1952.
3. *Anne Frank*, by Josephine Poole & illus. by Angela Barrett. 0-375-96242-9, RL 5.1, Alfred E. Knopf, \$17.95, 32 p. A biography of Anne Frank, written and illustrated for younger children.
4. *A Bear Named Trouble*, by Marion Dane Bauer. 0-618-51738-3, RL 5.0, Clarion, \$14.00, 120 p. In Anchorage, Alaska, two lonely youngsters make a connection – a brown bear injured just after his mother sends him out on his own, and a human whose father is the new keeper at the Alaska Zoo and whose mother and sister are still in Minnesota.
5. *B is for Bookworm: A Library Alphabet*, by Anita C. Prieto & illus. by Renee Graef. 1-58536-145-3, RL 6.1, Sleeping Bear Press, \$16.95, 32 p. A guided A – Z tour through the institution called the “library”, including its earliest forms, systems and practices, famous booklovers and librarians, and even definitions of basic book components.
6. *The Crazy Man*, by Pamela Porter. 0-88899-694-2, RL 4.3, Greenwood Books, \$15.95, 214 p. The story, written in verse, of a young girl growing up in Saskatchewan in the 1960's recovering, both physically and emotionally, from a farming accident, with the help of some unusual people – a stern teacher, a shy classmate, and a patient from the local mental hospital.
7. *Dad, Jackie, and Me*, by Myron Uhlberg & illus. by Colin Bootman. 1-56145-329-3, RL 3.8, Peachtree, \$16.95, 32 p. In Brooklyn, New York, in 1947, a young boy learns about discrimination and tolerance as he and his deaf father share their enthusiasm over baseball and the Dodger's first baseman, Jackie Robinson.
8. *A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray*, by Ann. M. Martin. 0-439-71559-8, RL 5.1, Scholastic, \$16.99, 182 p. Squirrel, a young puppy, tells her story, from her nurturing mother and brother to making her own way in the world, facing busy highways, changing seasons, and humans both gentle and brutal.

9. *Friendship According to Humphrey*, by Betty G. Birney. 0-399-24264-3, RL 4.0, Putnam, \$14.99, 150 p. When Humphrey returns to Mrs. Brisbane's class after the winter break, a new class pet and some other surprises give him the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of friendship. Sequel to *The World According to Humphrey*.
10. *The Journey of the One and Only Declaration of Independence*, by Judith St. George & illus. by Will Hillenbrand. 0-399-23738-0, RL 5.4, Philomel Books, \$16.99, 46 p. The true story of the many journeys, by horseback, sailing vessel, mail truck, railroad car, and military tank of one of America's most important documents.
11. *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margaret and H. A. Rey*, by Louise Borden & illus. by Allan Drummond. 0-618-33924-8, RL 6.1, Houghton Mifflin, \$17.00, 72 p. The true story of the harrowing escape of the authors of the Curious George books from Paris, during the Nazi invasion in 1940.
12. *The Liberation of Gabriel King*, by K.L. Going. 0-399-23991-X, RL 4.5, Putnam, \$15.99, 151 p. In Georgia, during the summer of 1976, Gabriel, a white boy who is being bullied, and Frita, an African American girl who is facing prejudice, decide to face their fears together as they enter the fifth grade.
13. *Lunch Money*, by Andrew Clements & illus. by Brian Selznick. 0-689-86683-6, RL 5.2, Simon & Schuster, \$15.95, 222 p. Twelve-year old Greg, who always has been good at moneymaking projects, is surprised to find himself teaming up with his lifelong rival, Maura, to create a series of comic books to sell at school.
14. *My Librarian is a Camel: How Books are Brought to Children Around the World*, by Margreit Ruurs. 1-59078-093-0, RL 6.3, Boyd Mills Press, \$16.95, 32 p. Inspiring stories of how librarians and volunteers around the world deliver books to remote areas, often by unusual means such as boat, train, donkey and even wheelbarrow.
15. *The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs*, by Betty G. Birney & illus. by Matt Phelan. 0-689-87136-8, RL 4.8, Atheneum, \$16.95, 210 p. Eben McAllister searches his small town to see if he can find anything comparable to the real Seven Wonders of the World.
16. *Shanghai Messenger*, by Andrea Cheng & illus. by Ed Young. 978-1-58430-238-4, RL 3.7, Lee & Low Books, \$17.95, 36 p. A free-verse novel about an eleven-year old Xiao Mei's visit with her extended family in China, where the Chinese-American girl finds many differences but also the similarities that bind a family together.
17. *Show Way*, by Jacqueline Woodson and illus. by Hudson Talbott. 0-399-23749-6, RL 3.8, Putnam, \$16.99, 42 p. The making of "Show ways" or quilts which once served as secret maps for freedom-seeking slaves, is a tradition passed from mother to daughter in the author's family.

18. *We Asked for Nothing: The Remarkable Journey of Cabeza de Vaca*, by Stuart Waldman & illus. by Tom McNeely. 1-931414-07-6, RL 6.5, Mikaya Press, \$19.95, 46 p. An account of the travels of the Spanish explorer Cabeza de Vaca through Texas and Mexico from 1528 through 1536, looking particularly at his relations with the native peoples with whom he shared his journeys.
19. *Willow Run*, by Patricia Reilly Giff. 0-385-90096-1, RL 4.2, Wendy Lamb Books, \$15.95, 149 p. During World War II, after moving with her parents to Willow Run, Michigan, when her father gets a job in the B-24 bomber-building factory, eleven-year-old Meggie learns about different kinds of bravery from all of the people around her.
20. *Young Thomas Edison*, by Michael Dooling. 0-8234-1868-5, RL 3.5, Holiday House, \$16.95, 32 p. Foreshadowing his amazing career as an inventor, Edison made his first laboratory in his family's cellar in Ohio when he was just nine years old. This is among the interesting pieces of information Dooling offers about the young Al, as he was called.

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## 6-8 LAMPLIGHTER AWARD NOMINEES

1. *Beyond the Valley of Thorns*, by Patrick Carman. 0-439-70094-9, RL 6.2, Orchard, \$11.99, 221 p. When thirteen-year-old Alexa embarks on a mysterious quest, she finds her old friends Yipes, the little man, Murphy, the squirrel, Odessa, the wolf, and Squire, the hawk have been designated to help her.
2. *Dickens: His Work and his World*, by Michael Rosen & illus. by Robert Ingpen. 0-7636-2752-6, RL 6.3, Candlewick Press, \$19.99, 95 p. A spirited look at one of our greatest novelists, Charles Dickens, with beautiful illustrations and discussions of some of his greatest works.
3. *The Door Within*, by Wayne Thomas Batson. 1-4003-0659-0, RL 5.8, Tommy Nelson, \$16.99, 316 p. Three ancient scrolls beckon high school student Aidan Thomas to enter a realm of knights, kings, and unusual creatures, but he must rely on instinct and his latent athletic ability to deal with the terror, tempest, and treason offered by this new world.
4. *Hidden Child*, by Isaac Millman. 978-0-374-33071-2, RL 5.2, Farrar Straus & Giroux, \$18.00, 72 p. The author details his difficult experience as a young Jewish child living in Nazi-occupied France during the 1940's.
5. *Listening for Lions*, by Gloria Whelan. 0-06-058175-1, RL 5.7, Harper Collins, \$16.89, 194 p. Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1918, thirteen-year-old Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, where her only dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital.
6. *My Nights at the Improv*, by Jan Siebold. 0-8075-5630-0, RL 4.1, Albert Whitman & Company, \$14.95, 98 p. A freshman is afraid of taking risks at her new school, but as she secretly observes an improvisational theater class week after week, she begins to apply its principles to her own life.
7. *Not Exactly Normal*, by Devin Brown. 0-8028-5283-1, RL 5.5, Eerdmans Books, \$15.00, 234 p. A sixth-grader at St. Luke's Episcopal School in rural New England sets out to have a mystical experience and learns valuable lessons about himself and the world along the way.
8. *Project Mulberry*, by Linda Sue Park. 0-618-47786-1, RL 4.3, Clarion, \$16.00, 225 p. While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia, a Korean American girl, and her friend Patrick learn not just about silkworms, but also about tolerance, prejudice, friendship, patience, and more. Between the chapters are short dialogues between the author and main character about the writing of the book.

9. *The Secret of the Swamp King*, by Jonathan Rogers. 0-8054-3132-2, RL 5.7, Broadman & Holman, \$15.99, 229 p. In this fantasy based very loosely on the biblical story of King David, teenaged Aidan has become the triumphant, giant-slaying hero of the court of King Darrow of Corenwald. Darrow, increasingly paranoid and depressed, sends Aidan on an impossible quest to retrieve the mysterious frog orchid, whose essence is the cure for melancholia. He must travel to the depths of the Feechiefen Swamp—a journey from which no Corenwelder has ever returned.
10. *Whittington*, by Alan Armstrong & illus. by S.D. Schindler. 0-375-92864-2, R L 4.9, Random House, \$14.95, 191 p. Whittington, a feline descendant of Dick Whittington's famous cat of English folklore, appears at a rundown barnyard plagued by rats and restores harmony while telling his ancestor's story.