

# Kingston Public Library



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## KPL Children's Books July 2017

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### Over and Under the Pond

by Kate Messner

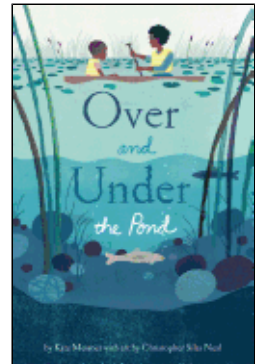
Published 2017 by Chronicle Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781452145426

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#### Jacket Notes:

In this gorgeous companion to the acclaimed *Over and Under the Snow* and *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt*, Kate Messner and Christopher Silas Neal bring to life a secret underwater world. In this book, readers will discover the plants and animals that make up the rich, interconnected ecosystem of a mountain pond. Over the pond, the water is a mirror, reflecting the sky. But under the pond is a hidden world of minnows darting, beavers diving, tadpoles growing. These and many other secrets are waiting to be discovered...over and under the pond.



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Publishers Weekly 02/20/2017

As day turns to night, a boy and his mother take in the sights above and below their rowboat in this contemplative follow-up to *Over and Under the Snow* and *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt*. Messner's elegant narrative, written from the boy's perspective, creates an intimate connection with the setting ("Over the pond we drift, heads tipped up to the sun. A woodpecker clings to a teetering pine, digging for ants"), and Neal's milky mixed-media images examine the pond and its inhabitants--moose, painted turtles, ospreys, and others--from virtually every angle, soaring high above the water and down into its depths to dazzling effect. Ages 5-8. *Author's agent: Jennifer Laughran, Andrea Brown Literary. Illustrator's agent: Stephen Barr, Writers House. (Mar.)*

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## Georgia Rules

by Nanci Turner Steveson

Published 2017 by HarperCollins

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780062374578

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

### Jacket Notes:



Perfect for fans of *One for the Murphys* and *The Penderwicks*, this poignant and moving middle grade novel tells the story of a girl who moves to a new town and meets an unforgettable family--one that will change her and her mother's lives forever.

Magnolia Grace never wanted to leave Georgia. She never wanted to move with her mama to the farm her daddy owned before he died. But now here she is, in a tiny Vermont town where everybody sings the praises of the father Maggie never knew.

Then Maggie meets the Parker family--two moms, six kids, plus a pony. The Parkers are loud and wild, ask lots of questions, and don't follow any of the rules Maggie grew up with in Georgia. Suddenly Maggie has questions too--questions about her father, and why Mama kept him away for so long. In her search for answers, Maggie will learn that families are like patchwork quilts, sewn together by love, and all the more beautiful for their different colors.

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Publishers Weekly 05/08/2017

A 12-year-old's attempt to learn about her recently deceased father while at odds with her conservative mother provides the framework for Steveson's well-crafted novel. Magnolia Grace Austin, aka Maggie, inherits a farm from her late father, whom she never really knew. In order to sell the farm, Maggie and her mother must live there for one year to satisfy the terms of the will, so the summer before seventh grade, Maggie and Mama move from Atlanta to Vermont. Small-town life proves to be a big adjustment for both, and Steveson (*Swing Sideways*) weaves divorce, same-sex relationships, adoption, disability, PTSD, and more into the story, forcing Maggie and Mama to rethink certain attitudes while also propelling the narrative. Maggie's developing friendships with the sprawling Parker family--made up of two mothers and biological, adopted, and foster children--become a catalyst for change in their lives. The strained relationship between Maggie and Mama is especially poignant as they try to find their way in uncharted territory. It's an inspiring story of opening eyes and expanding perceptions. Ages 8-12. Agent: Al Zuckerman, Writers House. (May)

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## Unnaturals #2: Escape from Lion's Head

by Devon Hughes

Published 2017 by Katherine Tegen Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780062257574

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

### Jacket Notes:



In the second book in the action-packed Unnaturals duology, perfect for fans of the Animorphs or Warriors series, the amazing hybrid animal heroes embark on a dangerous journey as they fight to find home.

K-07M0 has never had a name. As a fox-bat, she has lived her entire life silently hiding from the other hybrids and the scientists who created her...until the day a new animal gives her the name Kozmo and they help each other escape the underground lab.

In the outside world Kozmo meets a pack of hybrids just like her, led by a feisty eagle-dog named Castor. But Castor and his pack are being viciously pursued, and Kozmo is forced to do something she's never done before: trust others to survive. Kozmo will discover that Castor and his friends have unexpected human allies but can they uncover the truth about why the Unnaturals were created together?

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## Lucky Broken Girl

by Ruth Behar

Published 2017 by Nancy Paulsen Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780399546440

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

### Jacket Notes:

**"A book for anyone mending from childhood wounds."--Sandra Cisneros, author of *The House on Mango Street***



In this unforgettable multicultural coming-of-age narrative--based on the author's childhood in the 1960s--a young Cuban-Jewish immigrant girl is adjusting to her new life in New York City when her American dream is suddenly derailed. Ruthie's plight will intrigue readers, and her powerful story of strength and resilience, full of color, light, and poignancy, will stay with them for a long time.

Ruthie Mizrahi and her family recently emigrated from Castro's Cuba to New York City. Just when she's finally beginning to gain confidence in her mastery of English--and enjoying her reign as her neighborhood's hopscotch queen--a horrific car accident leaves her in a body cast and confined her to her bed for a long recovery. As Ruthie's world shrinks because of her inability to move, her powers of observation and her heart grow larger and she comes to understand how fragile life is, how vulnerable we all are as human beings, and how friends, neighbors, and the power of the arts can sweeten even the worst of times.

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Set in 1966, this strongly sketched novel, adult author Behar's first for children, focuses on a 10-year-old Cuban immigrant whose injury forces a prolonged convalescence and rehabilitation. The story begins with Ruthie Mizrahi moving up from the "dumb class" (where she learned English) to the "regular fifth grade class" at her school in New York City. However, a car accident leaves Ruthie so severely injured that she spends almost a year sequestered in her room in a body cast ("My bed is my island; my bed is my prison; my bed is my home"). Readers will get a powerful sense of the historical setting through Ruthie's narration, but the novel is perhaps defined even more by her family's status as immigrants and by its memorable multicultural cast. Some dialogue can ring false ("I am a bit of a hippie. I believe in peace, love, and flower power," explains the tutor sent to work with Ruthie), but Behar successfully juggles several engaging plot threads, and Ruthie's complicated relationship with her mother, given the demands of her care, is especially compelling. Ages 10-up. *Agent: Alyssa Eisner Henkin, Trident Media Group. (Apr.)*

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## Boat of Dreams

by Rogerio Coelho

Published 2017 by Tilbury House Publishers

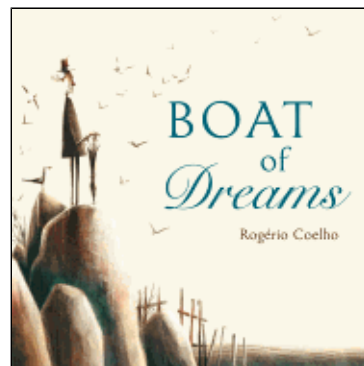
Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780884485285

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### Jacket Notes:

"First published in Brazil, 2015, by Editora Positivo Ltda"--Copyright page.

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Originally published in Brazil, Coelho's enigmatic wordless tale bridges picture book and graphic novel territory as it traces the surprising encounter between an elderly man in a ramshackle seaside cottage and a child in a distant city. After the wiry, mustachioed man discovers a note in a bottle, he's inspired to draw a fantastical flying machine, which resembles half of a sailing ship augmented with a nest of gears. The man sends his drawing back to sea, and the action shifts to the city, where a boy finds it in a letter in front of his home; how it got there from the bottle isn't revealed. After drawing himself (and his cat) into the picture, the boy sails the ship to meet the man in his dreams. Coelho (*Books Do Not Have Wings*) stages his story in dramatically lit, sharp-edged, and distinctly surreal panels and panoramas; his limited palette of blues and sepias conveys a strong sense of isolation, particularly in the boy's chilly, deserted city. It's a haunting story of inexplicable connections, and Coelho resists spelling out its mysteries, letting readers draw their own conclusions. Ages 7-up. (Jan.)

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