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## KPL Children's Books June 2017

### **My Beautiful Birds**

by Suzanne Del Rizzo

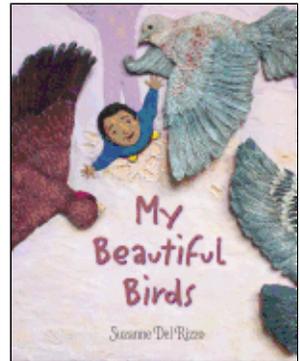
Published 2017 by Pajama Press

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781772780109

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

#### **Jacket Notes:**

Behind Sami, the Syrian skyline is full of smoke. The boy follows his family and all his neighbours in a long line, as they trudge through the sands and hills to escape the bombs that have destroyed their homes. But all Sami can think of is his pet pigeons--will they escape too? When they reach a refugee camp and are safe at last, everyone settles into the tent city. But though the children start to play and go to school again, Sami can't join in. When he is given paper and paint, all he can do is smear his painting with black. He can't forget his birds and what his family has left behind. One day a canary, a dove, and a rose finch fly into the camp. They flutter around Sami and settle on his outstretched arms. For Sami it is one step in a long healing process at last. A gentle yet moving story of refugees of the Syrian civil war, *My Beautiful Birds* illuminates the ongoing crisis as it affects its children. It shows the reality of the refugee camps, where people attempt to pick up their lives and carry on. And it reveals the hope of generations of people as they struggle to redefine home.



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### **Ring Bearer**

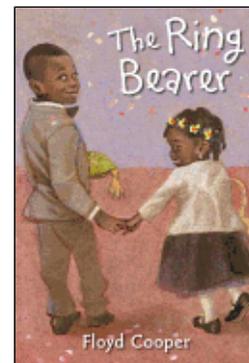
by Floyd Cooper

Published 2017 by Philomel Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780399167409

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

#### **Jacket Notes:**



**Mama's getting married, and Jackson has an important job to do! A story about love, weddings, and the special joy that is a blended family.**

Jackson's mama is getting married, and he gets to be the ring bearer. But Jackson is worried . . . What if he trips? Or walks too slowly? Or drops the rings? And what about his new stepsister, Sophie? She's supposed to be the flower girl, but Jackson's not sure she's taking her job as seriously as she should.

In a celebration of blended families, this heartwarming story, stunningly illustrated by the award-winning Floyd Cooper, is a perfect gift for any child who's nervous to walk down the aisle at a wedding, and shows kids that they can handle life's big changes.

### **Praise for *The Ring Bearer***

"Throughout, Cooper's softly textured mixed-media illustrations offer a warm, affirming depiction of this black family's life and love together . . . Readers will be joining the congregation in cheering for Jackson."--*Kirkus Reviews*

"Written with simplicity, immediacy, and warmth....Cooper creates beautiful effects with subtle colors, textures, and suffused light in the soft-focus paintings. A heartening, reassuring picture book."--*Booklist*

"Children will identify readily with Jackson's fears and enjoy the way he overcomes them. A solid purchase for any picture book collection."--*School Library Journal*

"Many children experience parental weddings, and these times are filled with joy and nervousness. Cooper captures each moment."--*Horn Book*

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## **Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Young Readers Edition**

by William Kamkwamba

Published 2015 by Dial Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780803740808

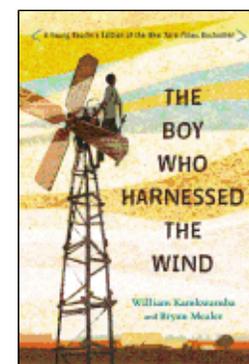
[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

### **Jacket Notes:**

**The *New York Times* bestselling memoir of the heroic young inventor who brought electricity to his Malawian village is now perfect for young readers**

When a terrible drought struck William Kamkwamba's tiny village in Malawi, his family lost all of the season's crops, leaving them with nothing to eat and nothing to sell. William began to explore science books in his village library, looking for a solution. There, he came up with the idea that would change his family's life forever: he could build a windmill. Made out of scrap metal and old bicycle parts, William's windmill brought electricity to his home and helped his family pump the water they needed to farm the land.

Retold for a younger audience, this exciting memoir shows how, even in a desperate situation, one boy's brilliant idea can light up the world. Complete



with photographs, illustrations, and an epilogue that will bring readers up to date on William's story, this is the perfect edition to read and share with the whole family.

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## **Wing & Claw #2: Cavern of Secrets** (Second book in the Wing & Claw series)

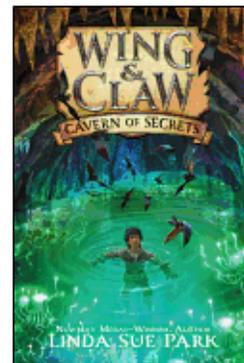
by Linda Sue Park

Published 2017 by HarperCollins

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780062327413

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

### **Jacket Notes:**



In the second installment of the spellbinding Wing & Claw series, Newbery Medal--winning author Linda Sue Park takes a young apothecary hero to new heights of danger, exciting adventure, and intriguing botanical magic.

Raffa Santana has spent all winter hiding in the harsh wilderness of the Sudden Mountains, and now it's time to return home. Home, where his parents will help him fight back against the vile Chancellor who has captured and altered the wild creatures of the Forest of Wonders. Home, where Raffa's beloved companion, Echo the bat, will recover from his mysterious sickness.

To get there, Raffa must make a treacherous journey across Obsidia. Along the way, he will discover a luminous plant that might be the key to saving the creatures stuck in the Chancellor's grasp... if only Raffa can unlock the plant's secrets and deliver the cure to the captive animals.

*Cavern of Secrets* masterfully explores one boy's responsibility to his friends, family, and the wider world.

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## **Only Road**

by Alexandra Diaz

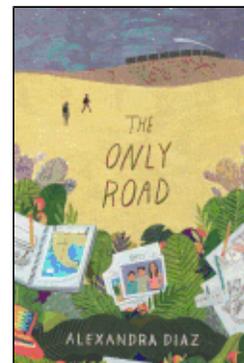
Published 2016 by Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781481457507

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

### **Jacket Notes:**

PURA BELPRE HONOR BOOK



## ALA NOTABLE BOOK

"Powerful and timely." --*Booklist* (starred review)

"An important, must-have addition to the growing body of literature with immigrant themes." --*School Library Journal* (starred review)

Twelve-year-old Jaime makes the treacherous and life-changing journey from his home in Guatemala to live with his older brother in the United States in this gripping and realistic middle grade novel.

Jaime is sitting on his bed drawing when he hears a scream. Instantly, he knows: Miguel, his cousin and best friend, is dead.

Everyone in Jaime's small town in Guatemala knows someone who has been killed by the Alphas, a powerful gang that's known for violence and drug trafficking. Anyone who refuses to work for them is hurt or killed--like Miguel. With Miguel gone, Jaime fears that he is next. There's only one choice: accompanied by his cousin Angela, Jaime must flee his home to live with his older brother in New Mexico.

Inspired by true events, *The Only Road* is an individual story of a boy who feels that leaving his home and risking everything is his only chance for a better life. It is a story of fear and bravery, love and loss, strangers becoming family, and one boy's treacherous and life-changing journey.

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