



2019 Nominees

For more information on the award, visit riteenbookaward.org. Please note, not every title is suitable for every reader.

***The 57 Bus*, by Dashka Slater:** One teenager in a skirt. One teenager with a lighter. Both from Oakland California, but from seemingly different worlds. One moment that changes both of their lives forever.

***Allegedly*, by Tiffany Jackson:** When Mary, a teenager living in a group home, becomes pregnant, authorities reexamine the crime for which Mary was convicted when she was nine years old.

***Education of Margot Sanchez*, by Lilliam Rivera:** Margot Sanchez is paying off debts by working in her family's grocery store, but she must make the right choices about friends, family and boys.

***Forest of a Thousand Lanterns*, by Julie C. Dao:** The stars say Xifeng is destined for greatness, meant to be Empress of Feng Lu, but only if she embraces the darkness within her and hurts the one she loves.

***The Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue*, by Mackenzi Lee:** Vowing to make his yearlong escapade across Europe his last hurrah before taking over the family estate, Henry 'Monty' Montague and his best friend Percy find themselves in the middle of a dangerous manhunt involving pirates and highwaymen.

***Girl in the Blue Coat*, by Monica Hesse:** In 1943 Nazi-occupied Amsterdam, Hanneke--a 'finder' of black market goods--is tasked with finding a Jewish girl who has seemingly vanished into thin air, and is pulled into the resistance activities and secrets as she attempts to solve the mystery and save the missing girl.

***The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas:** After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.

***I Believe in a Thing Called Love*, by Maurene Goo:** Desi Lee decides to tackle her romance disasters by watching Korean television dramas, where the hapless heroine always seems to end up with her true love. Desi goes after a moody artist -- utilizing boat rescues, love triangles, and staged car crashes.

***Kat and Meg Conquer the World*, by Anna Priemaza:** Kat's anxiety and Meg's ADHD makes it difficult for them to find and maintain friendships. Can a random science project pairing and the discovery of a mutual love of an online star help them get out of their heads find a real friend?

***The Language of Thorns*, by Leigh Bardugo:** In this short story collection, travel to a world of dark moonlit bargains, of haunted towns and hungry woods, of talking beasts and gingerbread golems, where a young mermaid's voice can summon deadly storms and where a river might do a love-struck boy's bidding but only for a terrible price.

***The Lie Tree*, by Frances Harding:** On an island off the coast of Victorian England, Faith investigates the death of her father. She discovers a tree that bears fruit only when she whispers a lie to it-- and the fruit, in turn, delivers a hidden truth. Does the tree hold the key to her father's murder?

***Lighter Than My Shadow*, by Katie Green:** A graphic memoir documenting the author's struggle with eating disorders and sexual abuse and her road to recovery.

***Long Way Down*, by Jason Reynolds:** As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know.

***Moxie: A Novel*, by Jennifer Mathieu:** In a small Texas town where high school football reigns supreme, Viv, sixteen, starts a feminist revolution using anonymously-written zines.

***My Sister Rosa*, by Justine Larbalestier:** When his father's business takes the family to New York City, a seventeen-year-old Australian boy must balance his desire to protect his ten-year-old sister, a diagnosable psychopath, from the world with the desperate need to protect the world from her.

***This is Our Story*, by Ashley Elston:** When a hunting accident claims a boy's life, his best friends all come under suspicion.

***Undeclared*, by Steve Sheinkin:** A great American sport and Native American history come together in this true story of how Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner created the legendary Carlisle Indians football team.

***Warcross*, by Marie Lu:** When teenage coder Emika Chen hacks her way into the opening tournament of the Warcross Championships, she glitches herself into the game as well as a sinister plot with major consequences for the entire Warcross empire.

***We Are Okay*, by Nina LaCour:** After leaving her life behind to go to college in New York, Marin must face the truth about the tragedy that happened in the final weeks of summer when her friend Mabel comes to visit.

***When Dimple Met Rishi*, by Sandhya Menon:** When Dimple Shah and Rishi Patel meet at a Stanford University summer program, Dimple is avoiding her parents' obsession with 'marriage prospects' but Rishi hopes to woo her into accepting arranged marriage with him

***Wonder Woman: Warbringer*, by Leigh Bardugo:** Diana, Princess of the Amazons, journeys to the World of Man in this coming-of-age young adult story

***Words on Bathroom Walls*, by Julia Walton:** Adam is a recently diagnosed schizophrenic and journals to his therapist about family, friends, and first loves as he undergoes a new drug trial for the mental illness that allows him to keep his secret for only so long.