NONFICTION

Alexander, Kwame
*The Undefeated* (Caldecott award winner)
This award-winning poem is a love letter to Black life in the United States. It highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery, the faith and fire of the civil rights movement, and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world’s greatest heroes.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell
*Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America.*
Known as a carrier of the deadly typhoid fever, Mary Mallon was also a victim of civil rights violations and overly harsh treatment. Her nuanced biography reveals the true complexity of her infamous case.

Soontornvat, Christina
*All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys’ Soccer Team* (Newberry Honor Book)
This book relays the real-life rescue of the Thai Boys’ soccer team in 2018 by highlighting the teamwork of the cave divers and the drilling and medical teams which were crucial for the survival of the coach and the twelve boys. All Thirteen exemplifies superb narrative nonfiction writing.

****Can’t find these titles on the shelves? See if they’re in our eLibrary through the Libby app, Overdrive, or RB Digital. Go to mfrl.org and click on the eLibrary tab.****

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BOOKS TO TRY

Arnold Marie
*The Year I Flew Away*
Ten-year-old Gabrielle finds out that America isn’t the perfect place she imagined when she moves from Haiti to Brooklyn. With the help of a clever witch, Gabrielle becomes the perfect American — but will she lose herself in the process?

Barnhill, Kelly
*The Girl Who Drank the Moon*
An epic fantasy about a young girl raised by a witch, a Swamp Monster, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker
*The War That Saved My Life*
A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother. Winner of the Newberry Honor Award.

Cowll, Cressida
*The Wizards of Once (series)*
Young wizard prince Xar, who has no magic, and warrior princess Wish, an outcast, team up on an adventure that brings them to witches long believed to be extinct.

Hilton, Marilyn
*Full Cicada Moon*
Mimi Oliver, a half Japanese, half African American girl learns about fitting in and standing up for what’s right in this free verse novel.

Keller, Tae
*When you Trap a Tiger* (Newberry Medal winning book)
When Lily, her sister Sam, and their mother move in with her sick grandmother, Lily traps a tiger and makes a deal with him to heal Halmoni.

Leviathan, David
*The Mysterious Disappearance of David S.: (as told to his brother)*
Aidan disappeared for six days. Six agonizing days of searches and police and questions and constant vigils. Then, just as suddenly as he vanished, Aidan reappears. Where has he been? The story he tells is simply... impossible.

Stead, Rebecca
*The List of Things that Will Not Change*
Despite her parents' divorce, her father's coming out as gay, and his plans to marry his boyfriend, ten-year-old Bea is reassured by her parents' unconditional love, excited about getting a stepsister, and haunted by something she did last summer at her father's lake house.

Warga, Jasmine
*Other Words for Home*
Jude never thought she’d be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives...

Watson, Renee
*Some Places More Than Others*
Amara visits her father's family in Harlem for her twelfth birthday, hoping to better understand her family and herself, but New York City is not what she expected.

Woodson, Jacqueline
*Before the Ever After* (winner of Coretta Scott King Book Award)
ZJ’s friends Ollie, Darry and Daniel help him cope when his father, a beloved professional football player, suffers severe headaches and memory loss that spell the end of his career.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Bell, Cece
*Smell My Foot* (Giesel Winner)
Shares the interactions of the rule-following Chick and the absent-minded Brain, whose friendship is tested by miscommunications and misunderstandings about good manners.

Craft, Jerry
*Class Act*
Sequel to New Kid. Eighth grader Drew Ellis is no stranger to the saying “You have to work twice as hard to be just as good.” But what if he works ten times as hard and still isn’t afforded the same opportunities that his privileged classmates take for granted?

Jamieson, Victoria
*When Stars are Scattered*
Omar and his younger brother Hassan live in a refugee camp, and when an opportunity for Omar to get an education comes along, he must decide between going to school every day or caring for his nonverbal brother.

Vernon, Ursula
*Hamster Princess: Harriet the Invincible.*
A spunky retelling of Sleeping Beauty. Harriet, a hamster princess, embarks on many wild adventures until the curse on her backfires and she needs to save her parents.