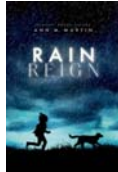




**Rules** by Cynthia Lord  
Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve year old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a paraplegic.

**Rain Reign** by Ann M. Martin  
Struggling with Asperger's, Rose shares a bond with her beloved dog. When the dog goes missing during a storm, Rose is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels, even if it means leaving her routines in order to search for her pet.



**Wonder** by R. J. Palacio  
Ten-year-old Auggie, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a middle school in Manhattan. He endures the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

**Freak the Mighty** by W.R. Philbrick  
At the beginning of eighth grade, learning disabled Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.

**Small Steps** by Louis Sachar  
Three years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is trying hard to keep his life on track, but when his old pal X-Ray shows up with a tempting plan to make some easy money scalping concert tickets, Armpit reluctantly goes along.



**Saraswati's Way** by Monika Schroder  
Leaving his village in India to find a better education, mathematically gifted twelve-year-old Akash ends up at the New Delhi train station, where he relies on Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of knowledge, to guide him as he negotiates life on the street, resists the temptations of easy money, and learns whom he can trust.



**Wonderstruck** by Brian Selznick  
Having lost his mother and his hearing in a short time, twelve-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he never knew in New York City. When there he meets Rose, who is also longing for something missing from her life.



**Counting by 7's** by Holly Goldberg Sloan  
Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.

**So B. It** by Sarah Weeks  
After spending her life with her mentally retarded mother and agoraphobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada to New York to find out who she is.



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# FACING CHALLENGES



If you enjoyed the book **Wonder** by R.J. Palacio, you will love these books!

All of the books found in this brochure can be found in the children's chapter book collection alphabetical by the author's last name.

# WHO ARE YOU BECOMING?

## **Danger Box** by Blue Balliett

In small town Michigan, twelve-year-old Zoomy and his new friend Lorrol, investigate the journal found inside a mysterious box and find family secrets and a more valuable treasure, while a dangerous stranger watches and waits.

## **Anything But Typical** by Nora Raleigh Baskin

Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make a sense of his world.

## **Ruby on the Outside** by Nora Raleigh Baskin



Eleven-year-old Ruby Danes has a real best friend for the first time ever, but agonizes over whether or not to tell her a secret she has never shared with anyone-- that her mother has been in prison since Ruby was five.

## **War That Saved My Life** by Kimberly Brubaker

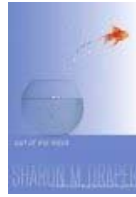
A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

## **London Eye Mystery** by Siobhan Dowd

When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye Ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together. Ted, with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.



## **Out of My Mind** by Sharon M. Draper



Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

## **Mockingbird** by Kathryn Erskine

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

## **Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key** by Jack Gantos

Joey is a warm-hearted kid who knows that he is "wired bad" which causes him to make bad choices like sticking his finger in the pencil sharpener and swallowing his house key. This funny and entertaining book is a great portrait of a kid dealing with hyperactivity.



## **George** by Alex Gino

When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. George thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever.

George really wants to play Charlotte the spider in her class play, but the teacher says she can't even try out for the part...because she's a boy. With the help of her best friend, Kelly, George comes up with a plan. Not just so she can be Charlotte--but so everyone can know who she is, once and for all.

## **Half a World Away** by Cynthia Kadohata

Twelve-year-old Jaden, an emotionally damaged adopted boy fascinated by electricity, feels a connection to a small, weak toddler with special needs in Kazakhstan, where Jaden's family is trying to adopt a "normal" baby.

## **Fish in a Tree**

by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read.



## **Eight Keys** by Suzanne LaFleur

When twelve-year-old Elise, orphaned since age three, becomes disheartened by middle school with its bullies, changing relationships, and higher expectations, keys to long-locked rooms and messages from her late father help her cope.



## **Inside Out and Back Again**

by Thanhha Lai

Ten year old Ha' and her family flee Vietnam in 1975 and find a new home in America. This excellent novel, told in a series of poems, details the struggles and triumphs of her life in a new country.

## **Also Known as Harper** by Ann Haywood Leal

Writing poetry helps fifth-grader Harper Lee Morgan cope with her father's absence, being evicted, and having to skip school to care for her brother while their mother works. Things look even brighter after she befriends a mute girl and a kindly disabled woman.