

## 2020-2021 Kentucky Bluegrass Award Master List for 6-8

**Ali Cross** / James Paterson / Little, Brown and Company, 2019.

When his best friend Abraham is reported missing, Ali Cross sets out to find him, but he soon learns that being a kid sleuth isn't easy and clues aren't always what they seem.

**The Benefits of Being an Octopus** / Ann Braden / Sky Pony Press, 2018. Seventh-grader Zoey Albro focuses on caring for three younger siblings and avoiding rich classmates at school until her fascination with octopuses gets her on the debate team and she begins to speak out.

**The Bridge Home** / Padma Venkatraman / Nancy Paulsen Books, 2019.

Four determined homeless children make a life for themselves in Chennai, India.

**Charlie Hernandez and the league of shadows (Charlie Hernandez, Book 1)** / Ryan Calejo / Aladdin, 2018.

Steeped in Hispanic folklore since childhood, middle schooler Charlie Hernandez learns the stories are true when, shortly after his parents' disappearance, he grows horns and feathers and finds himself at the heart of a battle to save the world.

**City of ghosts (City of Ghosts, Book 1)** / Victoria Schwab / Scholastic Press, 2018.

Ever since her near-fatal drowning, Cassidy has been able to pull back the "Veil" that separates the living from the dead and see ghosts, not that she wants to, and she was really looking forward to a ghost-free summer at the beach; however her parents are going to start filming a TV series about the world's most haunted places, starting with Edinburgh with its graveyards, castles, and restless phantoms--and Cass and her personal ghost companion, Jacob, are about to find out that a city of old ghosts can be a very dangerous place indeed.

**Look both ways : a tale told in ten blocks** / Jason Reynolds / Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2019.

Jason Reynolds conjures ten tales (one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one wickedly funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life.

**The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise** / Dan Gemeinhart / Henry Holt and Company, 2019.

Five years. That's how long twelve-year-old Coyote and her dad, River, have lived on the road in an old school bus, criss-crossing the nation. It's also how long ago Coyote lost her mom and two sisters. Coyote hasn't been home in all that time, but when she learns that the park in her old neighborhood is being demolished--the very same park where she, her mom, and her sisters buried a treasured memory box--she devises an elaborate plan to get her dad to drive 3,600 miles back to Washington state . . . without him realizing it. On the way, they'll pick up an eclectic group of folks. Lester has a lady love to meet. Salvador and his mom are looking to start over. Val needs a safe place to be herself. Coyote will learn that going home can sometimes be the hardest journey of

all, but that with friends, she just might be able to turn her 'once upon a time' into a 'happily ever after.'

**Stepsister** / Jennifer Donnelly / Scholastic Press, 2019.

Based on: Cinderella. Isabelle is one of Cinderella's ugly stepsisters, who cut off her toes in an attempt to fit into the glass slipper; but there is more to her story than a maimed foot, for the Marquis de la Chance is about to offer her a choice and the opportunity to change her fate--there will be blood and danger, but also the possibility of redemption and triumph, and most of all the chance to find her true self.

**Unsinkable : from Russian Orphan to Paralympic Swimming World Champion** /

Jessica Long / HMH Books for Young Readers, 2018.

Born in Siberia with fibular hemimelia, Jessica Long was adopted from a Russian orphanage at thirteen months old and has since become the second most decorated U.S. Paralympic athlete of all time. Now, Jessica shares all the moments in her life--big and small, heartbreaking and uplifting--that led to her domination in the Paralympic swimming world. This photographic memoir, filled with photographs, sidebars, quotes, and more, will thrill her fans and inspire those who are hearing her story for the first time.

**Unteachables** / Gordon Korman -- Balzer + Bray, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2019.

'The Unteachables' never thought they'd find a teacher who had a worse attitude than they did. And Mr. Kermit never thought he would actually care about teaching again. Over the course of a school year, though, room 117 will experience mayhem, destruction--and maybe even a shot at redemption.