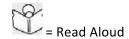
Best Children's Books of the Year

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

*= Outstanding Merit



(5-8) = Suggested Age Range





Miracle on 133rd Street

by Sonia Manzano, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman (Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-0-689-87887-9 It's Christmas Eve. Everyone is grumpy and the roast won't fit in the oven. Will José's solution be the Christmas miracle everyone needs? Colorful gouache illustrations. (5-8)

Oskar and the Eight Blessings

by Richard Simon and Tanya Simon, illustrated by Mark Siegel

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-949-8

Sent to America for his safety after Kristallnacht, a boy walks up Broadway on Hanukkah to his aunt's apartment and encounters caring strangers. Soft watercolor and pencil illustrations. (5-8)

Over the River & Through the Wood: A Holiday **Adventure**

by Linda Ashman, illustrated by Kim Smith (Sterling Children's Books/Sterling Publishing, \$14.95) 978-1-4549-1024-4

Four diverse families make their way to grandma's house by various means of transportation, but they all end up getting there the old-fashioned way. A contemporary take on the classic song. Colorful digital art. (6-8)

The Parakeet Named Dreidel

by Isaac Bashevis Singer, illustrated by Suzanne Raphael

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-30094-4

The rescue, on a cold, snowy Hanukkah, of a Yiddishspeaking parakeet results in an unexpected, happy match. Gentle cartoon watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

Humor

*Buddy and Earl

by Maureen Fergus, illustrated by Carey Sookocheff (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$16.95) 978-1-55498-712-2

A dog and a hedgehog forge a joyous friendship and banish boredom using their imaginations. Exuberant watercolors. (5-7)

I Don't Want to Be a Frog

by Dev Petty, illustrated by Mike Boldt (Doubleday BFYR/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-385-37866-6

A humorous dialogue between a young dissatisfied frog and a bespectacled adult frog comes delightfully to life with mixed-media illustrations. (4-8)

*It's Only Stanley

written and illustrated by Jon Agee (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-3907-9 It's very late, and the Wimbledon family keeps being awakened by strange sounds. It's only their dog, Stanley, but what is Stanley really doing? Humorous watercolors. (5-8)



written and illustrated by Ryan T. Higgins (Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-3088-1 When eggs produce goslings, Bruce, the bear, has a problem. Humorous illustrations. (5–8)

My Family Adventure (Sofia Martinez series)

by Jacqueline Jules, illustrated by Kim Smith (Picture Window Books/Capstone, P \$4.95) 978-1-4795-5790-5

Sofia, an outgoing seven-year-old, makes every day memorable. Three stories recount her adventures with simple Spanish words interwoven into the text. Colorful, cheerful illustrations. (5–7)