



SUMMER READING

Favorites & Classics

For Grades 5-6

Return to Sender by *Julia Alvarez*

After his family hires migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure, eleven-year-old Tyler befriends the oldest daughter, but when he discovers they may not be in the country legally, he realizes that real friendship knows no borders. | Lexile: 890

The Incredible Journey by *Sheila Burnford*

A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family. | Lexile: 1320

Lowriders in Space by *Cathy Camper*

Lupe, Flapjack, and Elirio customize their car into a low rider for the Universal Car Competition to win the cash prize that will enable them to buy their own garage. | Lexile: 430

Extra Credit by *Andrew Clements*

As letters flow back and forth — between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, across cultural and religious divides — sixth-grader Abby, ten-year-old Amira, and eleven-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other. | Lexile: 830

The Watsons Go To Birmingham - 1963 by *Christopher Paul Curtis*

The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963. | Lexile: 1000

The Search for WondLa by *Tony DiTerlizzi*

Living in isolation with a robot on what appears to be an alien world populated with bizarre life forms, a twelve-year-old human girl called Eva Nine sets out on a journey to find others like her. Features "augmented reality" pages, in which readers with a webcam can access additional information about Eva Nine's world. | Lexile: 760

The City of Ember by *Jeanne DuPrau*

In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions. | Lexile: 680

The Birchbark House by *Louise Erdrich*

Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847. | Lexile: 970

The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm by *Nancy Farmer*

In 2194 in Zimbabwe, General Matsika's three children are kidnapped and put to work in a plastic mine, while three mutant detectives use their special powers to search for them. | Lexile: 660

Harriet the Spy by *Louise Fitzhugh*

Eleven-year-old Harriet, who is a spy and plans to be an author, keeps a secret notebook filled with thoughts and notes on her schoolmates and people she observes on her afterschool spy route, but when some of her classmates read the notebook, they seek revenge. | Lexile: 760

Bandit's Moon by *Sid Fleischman*

Twelve-year-old Annyrose relates her adventures with Joaquín Murieta and his band of outlaws in the California gold-mining region during the mid-1800s. | Lexile: 690

Coraline by *Neil Gaiman*

Looking for excitement, Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others. | Lexile: 740

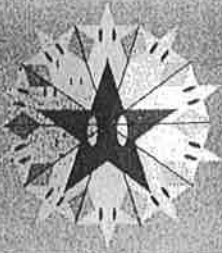
No More Dead Dogs by *Gordon Korman*

Eighth-grade football hero Wallace Wallace is sentenced to detention attending rehearsals of the school play where, in spite of himself, he becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well. | Lexile: 610

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by *C. S. Lewis*

Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter. | Lexile: 940





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Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis. | Lexile: 670

Anne of Green Gables by L. M.

Montgomery

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her. | Lexile: 850

The Borrowers by Mary Norton

Miniature people who live in an old country house by borrowing things from the humans are forced to emigrate from their home under the clock. | Lexile: 780

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself. | Lexile: 920

Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson

The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm. | Lexile: 810

Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes

In New Orleans' Ninth Ward, twelve-year-old Lanessa, who can see spirits, and her adopted grandmother have no choice but to stay and weather the storm as Hurricane Katrina bears down upon them. | Lexile: 470

Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression. | Lexile: 750

Fuzzy Mud by Louis Sachar

Two middle-grade kids take a shortcut home from school and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with the potential to wreak havoc on the entire world. | Lexile: 700

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia

In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp. | Lexile: 750

SERIES

The Chronicles of Prydain by Lloyd Alexander

Crispin trilogy by Avi

Poppy series by Avi

John Bellairs Mysteries by John Bellairs

The Penderwicks series by Jeanne Birdsall

The Dark is Rising series by Susan Cooper

The Unicorn Chronicles by Bruce Coville

The Moffats series by Eleanor Estes

Joey Pigza series by Jack Gantos

Shadow Children by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Redwall series by Brian Jacques

Diary of a Wimpy Kid series by Jeff Kinney

Regarding the.... series by Kate Klise

Dog Friday trilogy by Hilary McKay

The Kane Chronicles by Rick Riordan

Harry Potter series by J. K. Rowling

Septimus Heap series by Angie Sage

Enola Holmes Mysteries by Nancy Springer

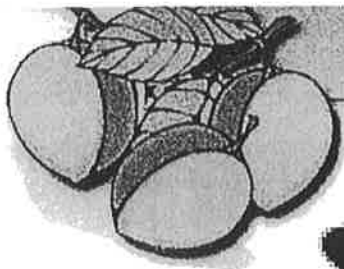
The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart

Sammy Keyes series by Wendelin Van Draanen

Adam Canfield series by Michael Winrip

Enchanted Forest Chronicles by Patricia Wrede

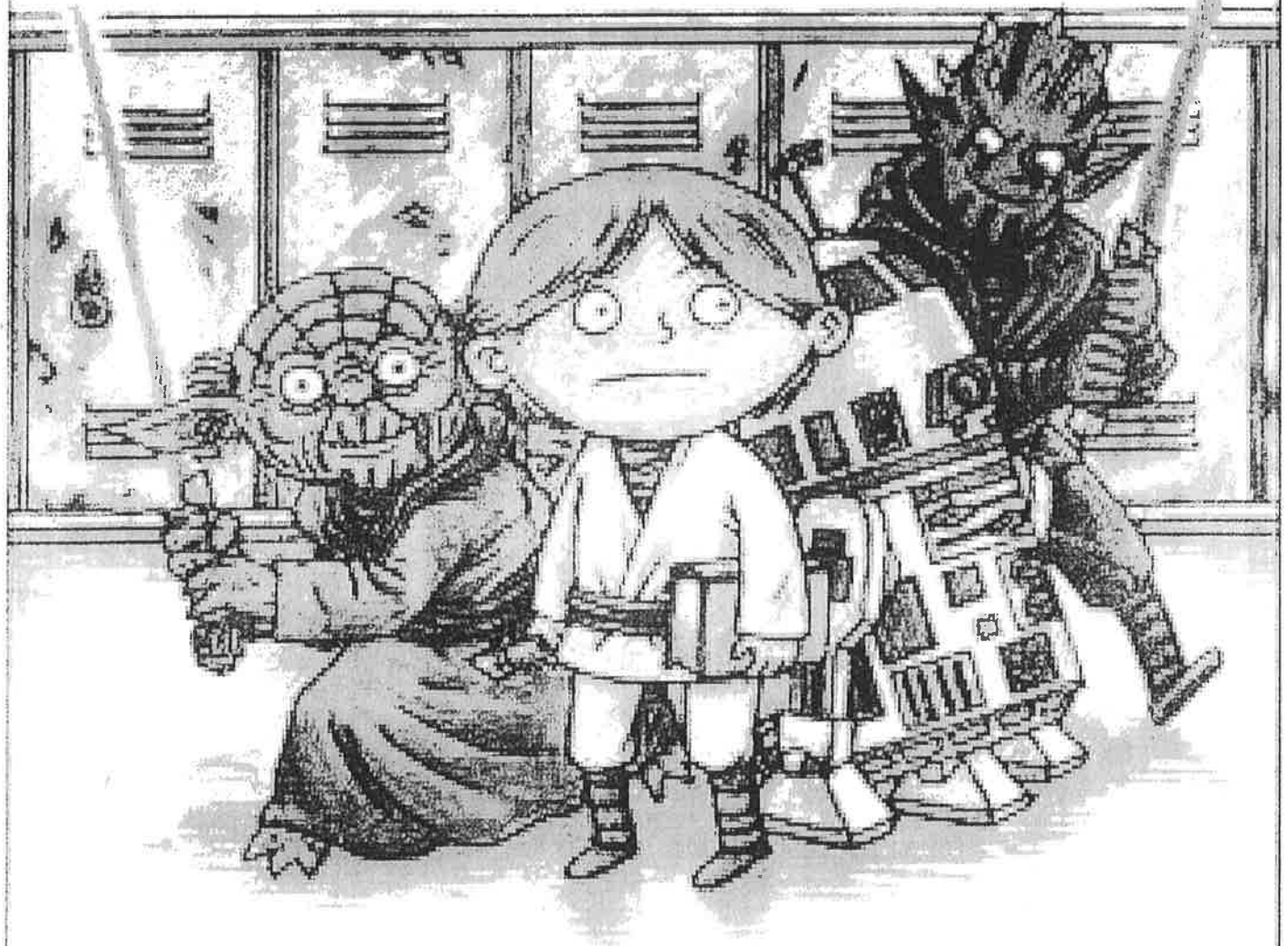
Dear America series by various authors



2016 Winner
(Elementary)

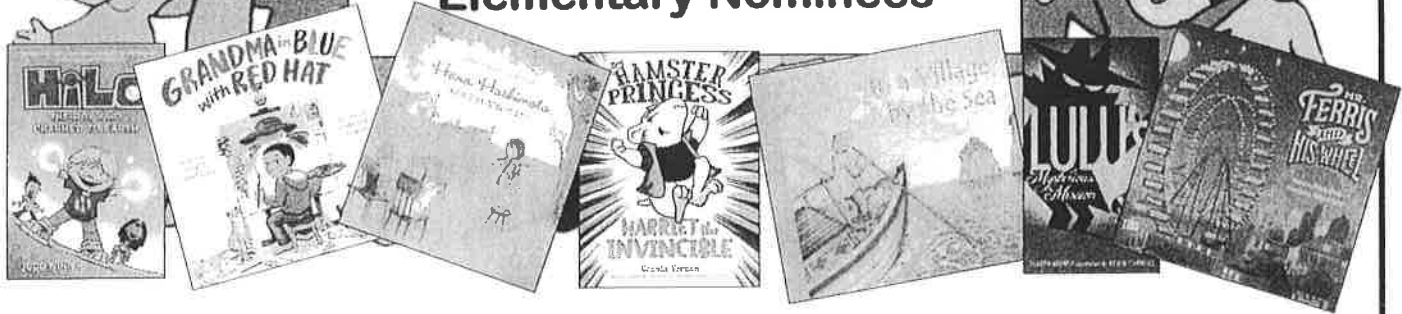
Nutmeg Book Award

STARWARS JEDI ACADEMY



By *New York Times* bestselling author
Jeffrey Brown

2017 Nutmeg Book Award Elementary Nominees



Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth by Judd Winick

DJ is just an ordinary kid until he finds Hilo, who crashed to Earth. Hilo does not remember where he came from or why he landed on Earth. Will Hilo remember his past in time to save Earth?

Grandma in Blue with Red Hat by Scott Menchin

After his teacher says that anything can be in an art exhibition, a young boy offers his special grandmother as an exhibit. But when he is told that the museum has a rule against accepting grandmas, the boy has a better idea.

Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin by Chieri Uegaki

What gift did Hana Hashimoto's grandfather give her that does not come in a box?

Hamster Princess: Harriet the Invincible by Ursula Vernon

A hamster that is a princess? Now, that's funny, isn't it? Be prepared to laugh as you read this hilarious adventure story about Princess Harriet Hamsterbone who tries to undo a spell that was cast by the Wicked Fairy Godmouse.

In a Village by the Sea by Muon Van

While a fisherman is at sea, his wife and child anxiously wait at home for his return. The family's yellow dog carefully watches the household activities to reveal another world inside the home.

Lulu's Mysterious Mission by Judith Viorst

When Lulu's parents announce they are going on vacation without her, she tries everything she can to get rid of Ms. Solinski, the babysitter. That is, until Ms. Solinsky reveals her secret identity, turning Lulu from a troublemaker into Ms. Solinsky's biggest fan.

Mr. Ferris and His Wheel by Kathryn Gibbs Davis

Step right up and into the dazzling creation of George Ferris for Chicago's 1893 World's Fair. Find out how this marvel of steel, the Ferris wheel, was first constructed, though many doubted it could ever happen.

One Plastic Bag by Miranda Paul

In Njau, Gambia, broken and discarded plastic bags were littering the streets and causing a huge problem. Isatou Ceesay found a way to recycle the bags, transform her community, and make a difference in our world.

Phineas L. MacGuire... Gets Cooking! By Frances O'Roark Dowell

When Phineas L. MacGuire, scientist extraordinaire, discovers that cooking is a lot like chemistry, he realizes his new chore may just be the key to winning the \$10,000 prize in the annual Bake Off contest. Meanwhile, the school bully has developed quite a liking for Phineas' brownie recipe. Will Phineas get cooking and handle it all?

Queen of the Diamond by Emily Arnold McCully

At a time when baseball was a man's game, Lizzie Murphy beat the odds! In this true story, Lizzie went from being a batboy to becoming the first person to play on both Major League All-Star Teams. Lizzie Murphy reminds all of us to persevere and follow our dreams!

Quinny & Hopper by Adriana Brad Schanen

Quinny makes friends easily and lives in a big city. Hopper is quiet, shy, and likes to draw. Read to find out if the most unlikely of friends remain friends.

Ranger in Time: Rescue on the Oregon Trail by Kate Messner

Ranger has been trained to be a search-and-rescue dog, but he never expected to be transported back to the Oregon Trail! Will he be able to help his new family complete their journey safely and figure out how to make it back to the place he's always called home?

Skateboard Party by Karen English

Richard is excited to show off his new skateboard trick at his friend's party, but when he falls behind on his school work and his parents find out, his punishment is no tv or video games for ten days, and no skateboard party. Richard wants to get his project done and make his teacher and parents happy, but with so many distractions, will he be able to focus on his work?

Star Stuff by Stephanie Roth Sisson

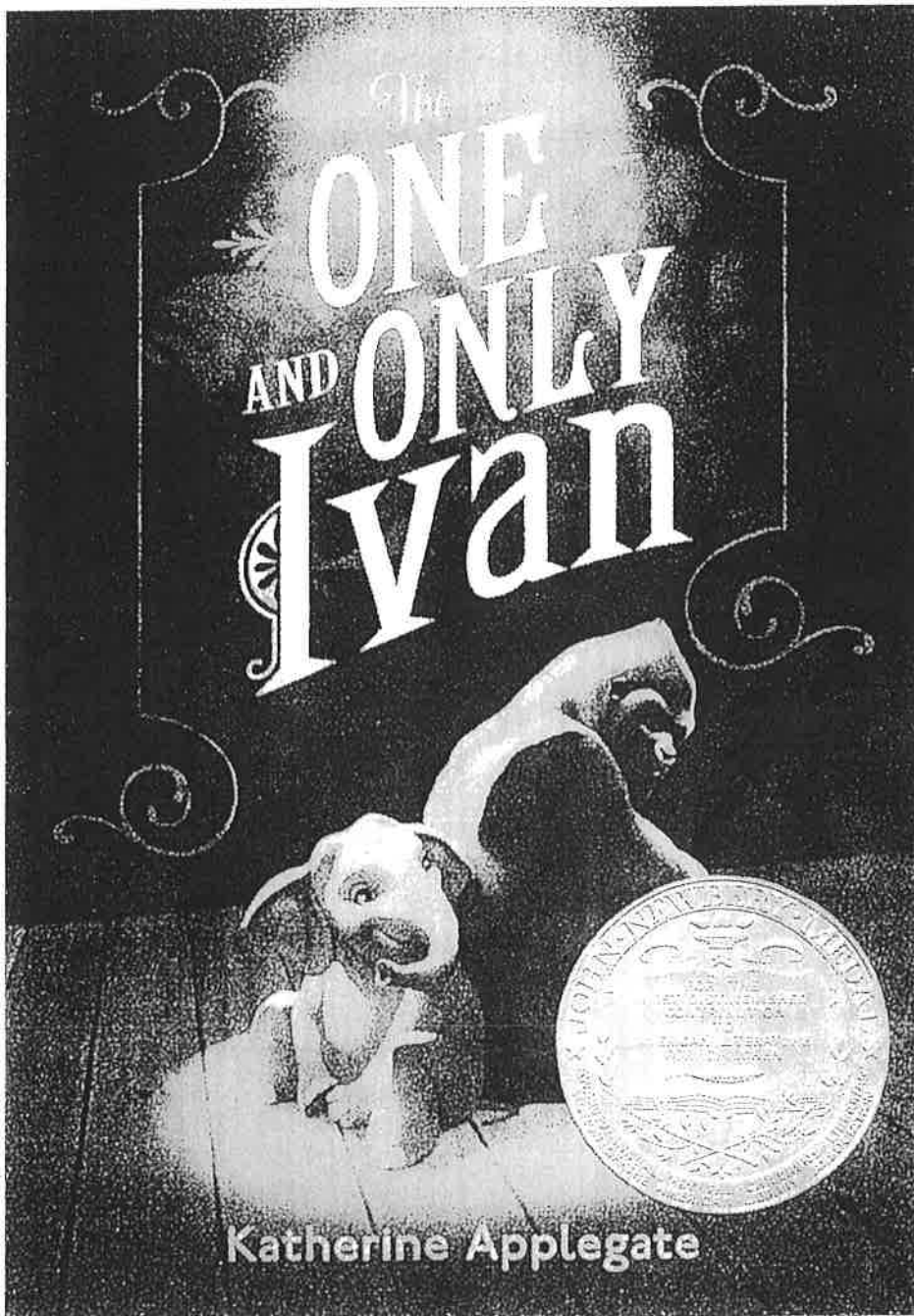
Have you ever looked up at a clear night sky and wondered about the stars that light up the universe? If so, you might grow up to be an astronomer like Carl Sagan! Read "Star Stuff" to learn more about this interesting man!

Winter Bees & Other Poems of the Cold by Joyce Sidman

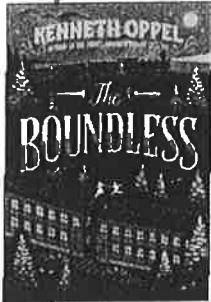
How do bees and beavers survive the winter? In this poetry book, you will learn about so many different animals and how they cope with the winter months.



The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate is the winner of the 2016 Nutmeg Book Intermediate Award.



2017 Nutmeg Book Award Intermediate Nominees



The Boundless by *Kenneth Oppel*

The Boundless, is a spectacle to behold. Her inaugural journey to the Pacific is wrought with danger. Will Everett has joined his father aboard the Boundless on her maiden passage. As soon as he steps aboard, his adventure begins. Witness to a murder, chased by villains, and stalked by creatures outside the train, Will must save the treasures aboard the Boundless before someone else winds up dead.



Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by *Chris Grabenstein*

Twelve year old Kyle Keeley and his friends are having a blast at the "library lock-in" to celebrate the opening of the new high tech Alexandriaville Public Library which is equipped with holograms, an IMAX theater, and hover ladders. Can they figure out eccentric billionaire, Luigi Lemoncello's many puzzles in time to win the grand prize?



Gaby, Lost and Found by *Angela Cervantes*

Forced to live with her inattentive father when her mother is deported to Honduras, Gaby finds comfort working at the local animal shelter where she meets a cat named Feather. When Feather's well-being is threatened, Gaby will fight to keep her safe, but who will fight for Gaby?



Masterminds by *Gordon Korman*

Serenity is a perfect town; it has no crime and no one ever lies. When Eli's best friend suddenly leaves town, Eli starts to suspect that something is very wrong in Serenity. He and his friends soon find out that life in Serenity isn't as it seems, everything they've been told is a lie and they can trust no one, especially not their parents.

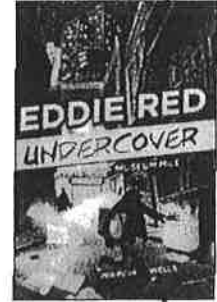


The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher by *Dana Alison Levy*

The Fletcher family is a force to be reckoned with—how could it not be with Dad, Papa, four boys, various animals, at least one imaginary friend, and a very cantankerous neighbor. There's a lot to love about this diverse family as they make new friends, learn new skills, and get into mischief wherever they go.

Eddie Red Undercover: Mystery on Museum Mile by *Marcia Wells*

Desperate times call for desperate measures, and the NYPD is desperate enough to recognize that sixth-grader Edmund Lonrot's photographic memory and his ability to out-sketch a police sketch artist will stop a gang of art thieves. Will going undercover and using code name, Eddie Red, be enough to keep him safe from the bad guys?



Red Berries, White Clouds, Blue Sky by *Sandra Dallas*

Tomi and her brothers are American. But after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1942, her family is separated and imprisoned in an internment camp for Japanese Americans in Colorado. Tomi tries to enrich the lives of her family and friends at the camp, while her own faith in the American dream begins to waiver.



Roller Girl by *Victoria Jamieson*

When Astrid signs up for roller derby camp but her best friend of twelve years doesn't, Astrid begins to realize she needs to roll on her own two feet. Will Astrid's quirky character see her through this summer of changes, challenges, bumps and bruises while staying true to herself?



A Snicker of Magic by *Natalie Lloyd*

Midnight Gulch is a cursed town that once shimmered with magic. When Felicity, her sister, and her nomadic mother arrive, Felicity discovers links to her past and meets a mysterious boy in a wheelchair who is more than he appears. Will the two of them be able to bring the magic back and finally find a place that Felicity can call home?



Space Case by *Stuart Gibbs*

Dash is a bored twelve year-old living on the moon with his scientist parents who are part of a team studying lunar activity. There isn't enough to do on Moon Base Alpha until Dr. Holtz, a top scientist on the verge of a major new discovery, is found dead and Dash doesn't think it's an accident.

