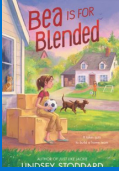


J  
STOD, L

Bea is for Blended  
Lindsey Stoddard

Soon after her mother marries a man with three sons, sixth-grader Bea Embers fights to form a girls' soccer team at school, despite discrimination and setbacks.



J  
STRO, A

The Chance to Fly  
Ali Stroker & Stacy Davidowitz

After moving across the country, thirteen-year-old Natalie auditions for her new school's play and overcomes her fears and insecurities about performing in a wheelchair.



J  
SUMN, J

One Kid's Trash  
Jamie Sumner

When his father moves them halfway across Colorado, eleven-year-old Hugo O'Donnell is surprised that his remarkable talent for garbology makes him popular for the first time in his life.



J  
YEE, L

Maizy Chen's Last Chance  
Lisa Yee

Eleven-year-old Maizy Chen visits her estranged grandparents, who own and run a Chinese restaurant in Last Chance, Minnesota; as her visit lengthens, she makes unexpected discoveries about her family's history and herself.



## MORE REALISTIC FICTION BOOKS:

Rick | J Gino

Chirp | J Messner

Ghost | J Reynolds

Land of the Cranes | J Salazar

Clean Getaway | J Stone

Other Words for Home | J Warga

Ways to Make Sunshine | J Watson

Before the Ever After | J Woodson



"These books aren't my thing!"

That's okay! We all read at our own pace and have our own likes and dislikes. A librarian can help you find a book that you will love. Ask us!

## Recommended Reads

# Realistic Fiction



Aurora  
Public  
Library  
District

**J  
ARLO, J**

Almost Flying  
Jake Maia Arlow



A week-long amusement park road trip becomes a true roller coaster of emotion when Dalia realizes she has more-than-friend feelings for her new bestie.

**J  
FARU, S**

A Place at the Table  
Saadia Faruqi & Laura Shovan



Sixth-graders Sara, a Pakistani American, and Elizabeth, a Jewish girl, connect in an after school cooking club and bond over food and their mothers' struggles to become United States citizens.

**J  
LUCI, A**

Recipe for Disaster  
Aimee Lucido



Hannah is Jew ... ish. She'd prefer to focus on baking delicious food! But when her best friend has a beyond-awesome Bat Mitzvah, Hannah starts to feel a little envious. Despite her parents firm no, Hannah knows that if she can learn enough about her own faith, she can convince her friends that the party is still in motion.

**J  
BURG, H**

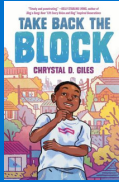
Miosotis Flores Never Forgets  
Hilda Eunice Burgos



When Miosotis Flores discovers that her sister Amarilis's fiancé is hurting her, she must decide how to help, while also caring for a rescue dog and pursuing better grades in school.

**J  
GILE, C**

Take Back the Block  
Chrystal D. Giles



Wes has the best style in sixth grade. That--and hanging out with his crew and playing video games--is what he wants to be thinking about at the start of the school year, not the protests his parents are always dragging him to. But when a real estate developer makes an offer to buy the neighborhood Wes has lived his whole life, everything changes.

**J  
MARK, J**

A Soft Place to Land  
Janae Marks



Twelve-year old Joy dreams of writing music for the movies, but first she has to survive her family's move into a small apartment when her father loses his job.

**J  
CISN, E**

Efrén Divided  
Ernesto Cisneros



While his father works two jobs, seventh-grader Efrén Nava must take care of his twin siblings, kindergartners Max and Mia, after their mother is deported to Mexico.

**J  
JOHN, V**

Playing the Cards You're Dealt  
Varian Johnson



Anthony Joplin is finally old enough to play in the spades tournament every Joplin Man before him seems to have won. But when he's forced to find another spades partner, Shirley, the new girl in his class, isn't exactly who he has in mind. He keeps it a secret from his dad and it turns out secrets are another Joplin Man tradition.

**J  
RESP, M**

How to Win a Slime War  
Mae Respicio



After moving to Sacramento to take over his grandparent's Filipino market, sixth-grader Alex seeks popularity by selling homemade slime at school, while his father insists he join a soccer team.

**J  
DAY, C**

The Sea in Winter  
Christine Day



After an injury sidelines her dreams of becoming a ballet star, Maisie is not excited for her blended family's midwinter road trip along the coast, near the Makah community where her mother grew up.

**J  
KELK, S**

American As Paneer Pie  
Supriya Kelkar



When a racist incident rocks her small Michigan town, eleven-year-old Lekha must decide whether to speak up or stay silent, even as she struggles to navigate her life at home, where she can be herself, and at school, where she is teased about her culture.

**J  
SAEE, A**

Omar Rising  
Aisha Saeed



Seventh-grader Omar must contend with being treated like a second-class citizen when he gets a scholarship to an elite boarding school in Pakistan.