**Read in NYC**

* compiled by Ms. Balas for Rising 3&4*

**A Properly Unhaunted Place**, by William Alexander
Rosa and Jasper live in the only town unhaunted in the world—and must spring to action when they realize the ghosts are lying in wait to take the town back.

**How Tia Lola Came to Stay**, by Julia Alvarez

* 3rd All Grade Novel*
Although ten-year-old Miguel is at first embarrassed by his colorful aunt, Tia Lola, when she comes to Vermont from the Dominican Republic to stay with his family after his parents’ divorce, he learns to love her.

**Chickadee**, by Louise Erdrich
In 1866, Omakayas’s son Chickadee is kidnapped by two ne'er-do-well brothers from his own tribe and must make a daring escape, forge unlikely friendships, and set out on an exciting and dangerous journey to get back home.

**A Boy Called Bat**, by Elana Arnold
This sweet and thoughtful novel chronicles Bat’s hope to keep an orphaned baby skunk while dealing with challenges at school with friends and teachers and at home with his sister and divorced parents.

**Cici’s Journal**, by Joris Chamblain
Cici wants to be a writer and she assembles clues in this graphic novel about the odd and wonderful people she’s discovered, even as she struggles to understand her family and friends.

**The Year of the Book**, by Andrea Cheng
In this charming, realistic novel, Anna turns to books when she needs company, but she will have to look elsewhere if she wants to find a true best friend in fourth grade.

**Wishtree**, by Katherine Applegate

* 4th All Grade Novel*
In this hopeful novel, an old red oak tree tells how he and his crow friend, Bongo, help their human neighbors get along after a threat against an immigrant family is carved into the tree’s trunk.

**How Tia Lola Came to Stay**, by Julia Alvarez

* 3rd All Grade Novel*
Although ten-year-old Miguel is at first embarrassed by his colorful aunt, Tia Lola, when she comes to Vermont from the Dominican Republic to stay with his family after his parents’ divorce, he learns to love her.

**Jasmine Toguchi: Mochi Queen**, by Debbi Michiko Florence
Eager to do something her big sister has not done first, Jasmine Toguchi, age eight, decides to pound mochi with the men and boys when her family gets together for New Year’s.

**Oona Finds an Egg**, by Adele Griffin
Oona Oodlethunk is just an ordinary cavegirl until she finds a giant egg and brings it back to West Woggle to care for it, and see what hatches—but others in the cave want to claim her egg, particularly the nasty Bruce Brute.
**Hazy Bloom and the Tomorrow Power**, by Jennifer Hamburg
When third-grader Hazel "Hazy" Bloom begins having visions of trouble that will come within twenty-four hours, she finds that this mysterious power provides her the ability to make things worse.

**Beatrice Zinker Upside Down Thinker**, by Shelley Johannes
It's the beginning of third grade and Beatrice is afraid she is losing her best friend - so she uses her topsy-turvy way of thinking to get things looking up.

**Skunked**, by Jacqueline Kelly
In this historical novel, Travis discovers an abandoned baby skunk, and he can't help but bring it home and take care of it. His older sister Callie, an aspiring vet, helps him but things get complicated when he finds a second kit.

**Grilled Cheese and Dragons**, by Nancy Krulik
Princess Serena (or as she prefers, Prince Pulverizer) doesn't want to be a princess--she wants to be knight! But she must first go on a Quest of Kindness and perform good deeds to prove that she truly deserves to go to knight school. Can she complete her quest and discover what it really takes to be a hero?

**The Adventures of Miss Petitfour**, by Anne Michaels
In this magical adventure, the utterly irresistible Miss Petitfour loves baking and making and dancing with her cats, but most of all she loves to fly. All she has to do is pick up a favorite tablecloth, catch the breeze, and she swooshes off on an adventure--with her many cats dangling paw-to-tail behind her.

**Best Buds Under Frogs**, by Leslie Patricelli
For Lily, it's the worst first day of school ever. Who would want to be friends with the new girl, whose debut act is to throw up on the playground (on somebody's shoes!)? Fortunately, quirky Darby comes to the rescue. But before you can say "BFF," Darby's former best friend, mean-spirited Jill -- who had moved to London -- returns unexpectedly.

**Wedgie and Gizmo**, by Suzanne Selfors
While his human Elliot adjusts to his new home and stepfamily, Gizmo, an evil genius guinea pig, searches for a new evil lair where he can plot to take over the world, but Gizmo is constantly thwarted by Wedgie (a Corgi superhero and Gizmo's nemesis).

**A Dragon's Guide to the Care and Feeding of Humans**, by Laurence Yep
Crusty dragon Miss Drake's new pet human, precocious ten-year-old Winnie, not only thinks Miss Drake is her pet, she accidentally brings to life her "sketchlings" of mysterious and fantastic creatures hidden in San Francisco, causing mayhem among its residents.