

Asian & Pacific Islander Creators

Fiction and Graphic Novels

Fiction

Alkaf, Hanna. *Hamra and the Jungle of Memories*. When Hamra steals a magical fruit from a tiger hoping to cure her grandmother, she must repay her debt to the tiger by going on an extraordinary journey to make him human again. Also by Hanna Alkaf: *Queen of the Tiles*.

Badua, Tracy. *The Takeout*. Twelve-year-old Mia uses Filipino folk magic to take down the shady chef brothers who are threatening her family's food truck. Also by Tracy Badua: *Freddy vs. the Family Curse*.

Bajaj, Varsha. *Thirst*. Living in the poorest part of Mumbai, where water is a precious commodity, Minni starts work in a high-rise building where she discovers that water is plentiful and fights to bring it to everyone. Also by Varsha Bajaj: *Count Me In*.

Bilan, Jasbinder. *Tamarind and the Star of Ishta*. Tamarind has never met her Indian mother, Chinty, who died shortly after she was born. But when her father remarries, Tamarind is sent to India to stay with the family she has never met. Her arrival in India brings culture shock, secrets, and unanswered questions: What is the tension between her father and the family, and why will no one talk about her mother? Also by Jasbinder Bilan: *Asha and the Spirit Bird*.

Bowman, Akemi Dawn. *Where the Lost Ones Go*. Eliot is grieving Babung, her paternal grandmother who just passed away, and she feels like she's the only one. She's less than excited to move to her new house, which smells like lemons and deception, and is searching for a sign, any sign, that ghosts are real. Because if ghosts are real, it means she can find a way back to Babung. Also by Akemi Dawn Bowman: *Generation Misfits*.

Brown, Waka T. *Dream Annie Dream*. When she lands a big role in the production of *The King and I*, Japanese American seventh grader Annie, belittled by her mostly white classmates, must rise above racism while chasing her dreams.

Chadda, Sarwat. *City of the Plague God*. Thirteen-year-old Sikander Aziz has to team up with the hero Gilgamesh in order to stop Nergal, the ancient god of plagues, from wiping out Manhattan.

Chang, Victoria. *Love, Love*. Frances Chin, a 10-year old Chinese-American girl, struggles with bullies and loneliness at school, while also trying to help her sick older sister and busy parents.

Chapman, Elsie. *The Scroll of Chaos*. Twelve-year-old Astrid Xu stumbles upon an ancient Chinese scroll that she hopes is the key to curing her mother's depression, but when it transports her and her younger sister Marilla to a realm where Chinese legends are real, they suddenly find themselves caught in a war between good and evil. Also by Elsie Chapman: *All the Ways Home*.

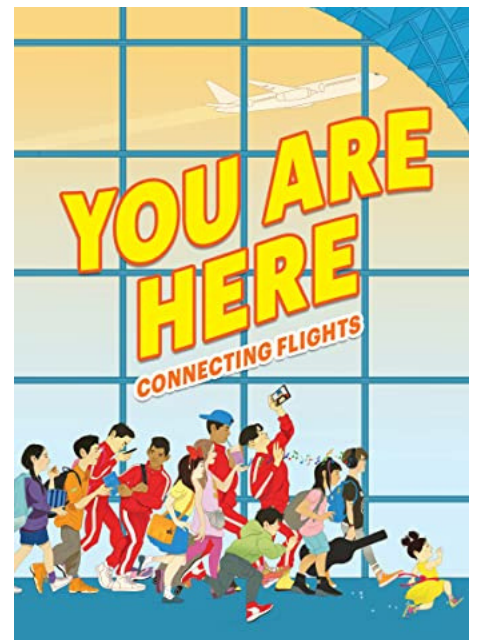
Cho, John. *Troublemaker*. On the first night of rioting in the wake of the Rodney King verdict, Jordan's father leaves to check on the family store, spurring twelve-year-old Jordan and his friends to embark on a dangerous journey through South Central and Koreatown to come to his aid, encountering the racism within their community as they go.

Chokshi, Roshani. *Aru Shah and the End of Time* (series). Telling fibs in order to fit in better with her wealthier peers, Aru Shah spends her school break at the Museum of Ancient Indian Art and Culture, where her decision to light a cursed lamp unwittingly releases an ancient demon.

Cohen, Emi Watanabe. *The Lost Ryū*. Running out of time to make his grandfather smile once again before it's too late, Kohei searches for a ryū—a dragon of legend—in this multigenerational story about the lengths to which we'll go to protect those we love.

DasGupta, Sayantani. *The Serpent's Secret* (series). Kiranmala considered herself an ordinary sixth-grader, but then her parents disappear and a drooling rakkhosh demon shows up. Soon she is swept into another dimension, full of magic, winged horses, talking birds, and cute princes.

Dilloway, Margaret. *Where the Sky Lives*. Struggling with grief over her uncle's death, twelve-year-old amateur astronomer Tuesday Beals makes a discovery that could save her favorite astronomy spots in Zion National Park from the threat of a new housing development. Also by Margaret Dilloway: *Five Things About Ava Andrews*.



Faruqi, Saadia. *A Thousand Questions*. Mimi, visiting her wealthy grandparents in Karachi, Pakistan, for the first time, and Sakina, daughter of the grandparents' cook, form an unexpected friendship. Also by Saadia Faruqi: *A Place at the Table*.

Florence, Debbi Michiko. *Sweet and Sour*. Eleven-year-old Mai has been contemplating revenge on her former best friend Zach ever since he humiliated her two years ago, but while spending time together for the summer, Mai has noticed a change in Zach, forcing her to decide if she can forgive him, even if she can never forget. Also by Debbi Michiko Florence: *Keep it Together*, *Keiko Carter* (series).

Glaser, Karina Yan. *A Duet for Home*. Two children living in a shelter whose friendship grows over a shared love of classical music join forces to confront a new policy that puts homeless families in danger. Also by Karina Yan Glaser: *The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street* (series).

Gourlay, Candy. *Bone Talk*. Samkad lives deep in the Philippine jungle. His world is utterly changed when he discovers the brother he never knew he had and learns of the people who are bringing war and destruction to their home.

Guerrero, Tanya. *Adrift*. Cousins Coral and Isa are so close that they're practically siblings. When Coral and her parents leave on a voyage amid the islands of Indonesia, the unthinkable happens, and Coral's boat capsizes at sea, where her parents vanish. Washed up on a deserted island, alone and wracked by grief, she must find the strength within to survive, and find her way back home to Isa. Also by Tanya Guerrero: *All You Knead is Love*.



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Fiction cont.

Guidroz, Rukhsanna. *Samira Surfs*. An eleven-year-old Rohingya refugee living in Bangladesh finds strength and sisterhood in a local surf club for girls.

Hamza, Nina. *Ahmed Aziz's Epic Year*. An Indian American boy endures a family move from Hawai'i to frigid Minnesota and, with the help of three life-changing books he reads in school, he learns to like reading, and ultimately, himself.

Hashimi, Nadia. *The Sky at Our Feet*. Jason has just learned that his Afghan mother has been living illegally in the United States since his father was killed in Afghanistan. Although Jason was born in the U.S., it's hard to feel American when he's terrified that his mother will be deported.

Hiranandani, Veera. *How to Find What You're Not Looking For*. Ariel Goldberg must find her own voice and define her own beliefs after her big sister elopes with a young man from India following the Supreme Court decision that strikes down laws banning interracial marriage. Also by Veera Hiranandani: *The Night Diary*.

Hoàng, Vãn. *Girl Giant and the Monkey King* (series). Thom Ngho is keeping a secret: she's super strong and it's making it impossible for her to fit in at her new middle school. In desperation, Thom makes a deal with the Monkey King and she's soon swept up in an ancient and fantastical world where demons, dragons, and Jade princesses actually exist.

Kadariusman, Michelle. *Berani*. A story from three perspectives: Malia, who is prepared to risk anything for her activism, Ari, who knows the right path but fears what it will cost, and Ginger Juice, the caged orangutan who still remembers the forest and her mother. Also by Michelle Kadariusman: *Girl of the Southern Sea*.

Kadohata, Cynthia. *A Place to Belong*. World War II has ended, and twelve-year-old Hanako feels lost because America, the only home she's ever known, imprisoned then rejected her and her family—and thousands of other innocent Americans—because of their Japanese heritage. Also by Cynthia Kadohata: *Checked*.

Kelkar, Supriya. *The Cobra's Song*. Ten-year-old Geetanjali doesn't mind singing, but she knows she'll never be as good as her mother or grandmother, famous classical singers from India. After freezing on stage during a concert, Geetanjali adds "fear of singing" to her fast-multiplying list of fears. Also by Supriya Kelkar: *That Thing About Bollywood*.

Keller, Tae. *Mihi Ever After* (series). When she and her new friends discover a portal to a fairy tale realm, Mihi Whan Park finally gets her shot at being a princess, but she must decide where her loyalties lie when her friends want to go home. Also by Tae Keller: *Jennifer Chan Is Not Alone*.

Kelly, Erin Entrada. *Those Kids From Fawn Creek*. The twelve kids in the seventh grade at Fawn Creek K-12 have been together all their lives, so when graceful Orchid Mason arrives, with exotic clothes and glorious hair, they do not know what to think. Also by Erin Entrada Kelly: *We Dream of Space*.

Khan, Hena. *Zara's Rules for Record-Breaking Fun* (series). Zara's nickname is "Queen of the Neighborhood" because she organizes the other children, sets the rules, and generally makes sure everyone has fun. But Naomi, the new girl across the street, has her own plans! Also by Hena Khan: *More to the Story*.

Khan, M.T. *Nura and the Immortal Palace*. After a mine collapse, Nura is transported to the glittering world of the jinn where she finds her best friend and other missing children and must help them all escape before they are trapped there forever.

Kim, Graci. *The Last Fallen Star* (series). Thirteen-year-old Hattie Oh casts a dangerous spell so her adopted sister, Riley, will get a share of her inherited magic, but then Riley must undertake a near-impossible quest to save Hattie from death.

Kim, Jessica. *Stand Up, Yumi Chung!* When eleven-year-old Yumi stumbles into a kids' comedy camp she is mistaken for another student, so she decides to play the part.

Kim, Patti. *It's Girls Like You, Mickey*. Mickey faces a lot of challenges when starting seventh grade, but an instant connection with new student Sun Joo improves her outlook. Also by Patti Kim: *I'm OK*.

Kuo, Jane. *In the Beautiful Country*. Arriving in America, the so-called beautiful country, Anna, a young Taiwanese girl, finds it anything but beautiful as she and her family struggle to make a place for themselves in this world and learn the true meaning of home.

Lại, Thanh Hà. *When Clouds Touch Us*. A novel in verse inspired by the author's experience follows Hà and her family, refugees from the Vietnam War, as they move to Texas for a new job. Despite not wanting to start over again, Hà discovers unwanted change can bring a good opportunity.

LaRocca, Rajani. *Mirror to Mirror*. Unable to find their rhythm, once-close twin sisters Maya and Chaya make a bet: they'll switch places at summer camp and whoever can keep the ruse going the longest will get to make a life-changing decision, which isn't as easy as it sounds. Also by Rajani LaRocca: *Red, White, and Whole*.

Lee, Julie. *Brother's Keeper* (series). Twelve-year-old Sora and her eight-year-old brother, Youngsoo, must try to escape North Korea's oppressive Communist regime on their own in 1950.

Lee, Lori. *Pahua and the Soul Stealer*. After an angry spirit steals her brother's soul, lonely 11-year-old Hmong girl Pahua Moua must find her way through the spirit worlds to save him—discovering her true destiny along the way.

Lee, Stacey. *Winston Chu vs. The Whimsies*. Twelve-year-old Winston Chu is supposed to learn impulse control at the cooking academy his mom enrolled him in, but learning to think before he acts won't happen overnight.

Lee, Yoon Ha. *Dragon Pearl* (series). Min, a thirteen-year-old girl with fox-magic, stows away on a battle cruiser and impersonates a cadet in order to solve the mystery of what happened to her older brother in the Thousand World Space Forces.

Lin, Grace. *Before the Sword*. When her sister is bitten by a poisonous spider, Mulan travels with a healer to find a flower from which the antidote can be made to save her sister's life.

Mandanna, Sangu. *Kiki Kallira Breaks a Kingdom* (series). Drawn into the mystical world she created, Kiki Kallira must battle against her fear and anxiety to save two worlds—the real and imagined—from the wrath of an ancient deity bent on total destruction.

Marr, Shirley. *All Four Quarters of the Moon*. Interwoven with Chinese mythology, this novel of love and resilience follows Peijing as she shoulders the burden of her fractured family while dealing with her own uncertainties and trying to find her place in the world of an ever-changing, constant moon. Also by Shirley Marr: *A Glasshouse of Stars*.

Nagai, Mariko. *Under the Broken Sky*. When Soviet troops invade Japanese-occupied Manchuria during the last days of World War II, twelve-year-old Natsu must care for her younger sister as they struggle to survive and return to Japan.

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Fiction cont.

Nayeri, Daniel. *The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams*. An exciting journey along the Silk Road with young Monk and his newfound guardian, Samir, the so-called "Seller of Dreams," who can talk his way into getting what he wants. While that talking did save Monk's life, it has left a lot of people furious with Samir—furious enough to hire assassins. Also by Daniel Nayeri: *Everything Sad is Untrue (A True Story)*.

Oh, Ellen. *You are Here: Connecting Flights*. An incident at a TSA security checkpoint sows chaos and rumors, creating a chain of events that impacts twelve young Asian Americans in a crowded and restless airport. Also by Ellen Oh: *Something Wicked*.

Pancholy, Maulik. *Nikhil Out Loud*. The voice actor for a hit animated series, 13-year-old Nikhil must find the courage to speak out about what's right when a group of conservative parents protest his openly gay status. Also by Maulik Pancholy: *The Best at It*.

Park, Linda Sue. *The One Thing You'd Save*. If your house were on fire, what one thing would you save? Explore different answers to this provocative question in linked poems that capture the diverse voices of a middle school class. Also by Linda Sue Park: *Prairie Lotus*.

Poulin, Andrée and Sonali Zohra. *Burying the Moon*. In Latika's village in rural India, there are no toilets, which means that girls leave school when they reach puberty and the women have to wait until night to do their business in a field, surrounded by scorpions, snakes and many germs. Latika petitions for the construction of public toilets, which would be safer for everybody.

Respicio, Mae. *How to Win a Slime War*. 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. Also by Mae Respicio: *Any Day with You*.

Riazi, Karuna. *A Bit of Earth*. Difficult child Maria Latif arrives in Long Island from Pakistan to live with the strange Clayborne family. There she discovers an off-limits garden that becomes a place where she finally feels at home.

Saeed, Aisha. *Grounded*. Four kids' lives are changed forever when their flights are delayed by bad weather following a Muslim convention. Also by Aisha Saeed: *Omar Rising*.

Shang, Wendy Wan-Long. *The Secret Battle of Evan Pao*. Evan Pao and his family move to Haddington, Virginia in hopes of keeping his father's notoriety a secret, but a small southern town is not an easy place for a Chinese American boy to fit in.

Shen, E.L. *The Comeback*. Maxine Chen is just trying to nail that perfect landing: on the ice, in middle school, and at home. The pressure builds when a gifted new skater arrives and a school bully targets Maxine because of her Chinese heritage.

Siddiqui, Maleeha. *Bhai for Now*. When Ashar and Shaheer meet, they quickly discover they're twins and will stop at nothing to get to know the parent they've been separated from, learning along the way that they may not like each other, but they definitely need each other. Also by Maleeha Siddiqui: *Barakah Beats*.

Soontornvat, Christina. *The Guardian Test: Legends of Lotus Island* (series). Young Plum is shocked to discover that she's been accepted to the Guardian Academy on Lotus Island, an elite school where kids learn how to transform into Guardians, magical creatures who are sworn to protect the natural world. Also by Christina Soontornvat: *The Last Mapmaker*.

Soundar, Chitra. *Mangoes, Mischief, and Tales of Friendship: Stories from India* (series). Can Prince Veera and his best friend, Suku, outsmart the king's trickiest subjects? Being a wise and just ruler is no easy task.

Tan, Susan. *Ghosts, Toasts, and Other Hazards*. Moving to a new town and trying to keep her family together, Mo must intervene when a mysterious spirit begins attacking her home, compelling Mo to search for the truth about the town's urban legend to figure out what's really going on. Also by Susan Tan: *Cilla Lee-Jenkins: Future Author Extraordinaire* (series).

Trehan, Meera. *The View From the Very Best House in Town*. Sam and Asha: their friendship is so long established, they take it for granted. But when Sam is accepted into an exclusive academy, he leaves Asha alone to navigate middle school and try to solve the mystery of a local mansion.

Tsang, Katie. *Dragon Mountain* (series). When 12-year-old Billy Chan finds out his parents are sending him to a language and culture camp in the middle-of-nowhere China, he can't imagine anything worse. He's not expecting to become friends with fellow campers and he's definitely not planning to meet any dragons! Also by Katie Tsang: *Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Ghosts* (series).



Venkatraman, Padma. *Born Behind Bars*. After spending his whole life in jail with his mother, who is serving time for a crime she did not commit, nine-year-old Kabir is suddenly released and has to figure out how to survive on his own in the outside world. Also by Padma Venkatraman: *The Bridge Home*.

Villanueva, Gail D. *Sugar and Spite*. Jolina can't take Claudine's bullying any longer! Though Jolina knows she's still in-training to use her grandfather's arbularyo magic, she sneaks into his potions lab to get her revenge. Also by Gail D. Villanueva: *My Fate According to the Butterfly*.

Wang, Andrea. *The Many Meanings of Meilan*. A family feud before the start of seventh grade propels Meilan from Boston's Chinatown to rural Ohio, where she must tap into her inner strength and sense of justice to make a new place for herself.

Yang, Kelly. *Finally Seen*. When ten-year-old Lina Gao leaves China to live with her parents and sister, after five years apart, she must reckon with her hurt, anger, and curiosity and find a way to get her bearings in this new country. Also by Kelly Yang: *Front Desk* (series).

Yun, Erin. *Pippa Park Raises Her Game* (series). Life is full of great expectations for Pippa Park. It seems like everyone, from her family to the other kids at school, has a plan for how her life should look. So when Pippa gets a mysterious basketball scholarship to Lakeview Private, she jumps at the chance to reinvent herself by following the "Rules of Cool."

Zhao, Xiran Jay. *Zachary Ying and the Dragon Emperor*. When he discovers he was born to host the spirit of the First Emperor of China for an important mission, Zachary Ying must seal the leaking portal to the Chinese underworld while trying to save his mother's soul.

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Graphic Novels

Agarwal, Veronica. *Just Roll With It*. Maggie, who struggles with anxiety and OCD, gets through her first year of middle school by making friends, finding the best after-school clubs, and using her twenty-sided dice to help her make decisions.

Ashwin, Kate. *The Night Marchers and Other Oceanian Stories: Cautionary Fables & Fairytales* (Nonfiction Graphic Novels, 398.2 ASH). Lesser known myths and well-known legends from the Philippines, New Zealand, Hawai'i, and beyond! It's a thrilling, funny, and totally new take on stories from the whole region.

Chanani, Nidhi. *Jukebox*. A jukebox, old vinyl records, and cryptic notes on music history are Shaheen's only clues to her father's disappearance. When the jukebox starts glowing, Shaheen and her cousin Tannaz are pulled into another time!

Chau, Alina. *Marshmallow & Jordan*. Jordan's days as star player for her school's basketball team ended when an accident left her paralyzed from the waist down. Her competition days seem to be behind her until an encounter with a mysterious elephant helps Jordan discover a brand new sport.

Fung, Rosena. *Living With Viola*. Livy is already struggling as the new girl at school, but also has to deal with Viola, her own anxiety brought to life as a shadowy twin. Only when Livy learns how to ask for help and face her anxiety does she finally figure out living with Viola.

Galligan, Gale. *Freestyle*. While preparing for the last major dance competition before they graduate from eighth grade and go to separate high schools in NYC, Cory must balance the expectations of his parents, school, crew and his new friend as pressure mounts from all sides.

Guojing. *Flamingo*. While on a beachy vacation with her Lao Lao, a little girl finds a beautiful flamingo feather in her grandmother's house that turns her visit into something wonderful and magical.

Heagerty, Mat and Tintin Pantoja. *Unplugged and Unpopular*. After Erin's parents ban her from using her phone, TV, Internet, and all her screens, she soon discovers mysterious, strange creatures and must foil their plot to take over Earth.

Jun, Nie. *My Beijing: Four Stories of Everyday Wonder*. Four short stories set in a residential alleyway of Beijing. Yu'er, her grandfather, and their eccentric neighbors experience the magic of everyday life.

Khor, Shing Yin. *The Legend of Auntie Po*. In a late-19th-century logging camp, Mei, a Chinese American girl, spins tall tales about Paul Bunyan—reinvented as Po Pan Yin (Auntie Po), an elderly Chinese matriarch. Mei must navigate racism, difficult work, and her growing romantic feelings for her friend Bee, the camp foreman's daughter.

LaMotte, Lily. *Measuring Up*. Having just moved to Seattle from Taiwan, twelve-year-old Cici enters a cooking competition to win money for her grandmother to visit, but she only knows how to cook Taiwanese food.

Liu, Marjorie. *Wingbearer*. When a sinister force threatens the life-giving magic of the Great Tree, Zuli and her guardian owl embark on an epic journey to find the truth.

Nguyen, Trang. *Saving Sorya: Chang and the Sun Bear*. Twelve-year-old Chang is accepted as a rescue center volunteer and is faced with her toughest challenge yet: returning the sun bear she raised from infancy to the wild where it belongs.

Santat, Dan. *A First Time for Everything: A True Story*. In this feel-good coming-of-age memoir, the best-selling author and Caldecott Medalist shares his life-changing middle school trip to Europe, during which he experiences a series of firsts, including his first love. Also by Dan Santat: *The Aquanaut*.

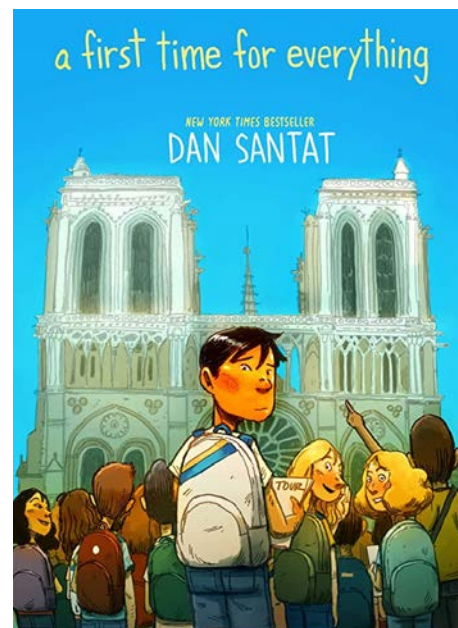
Shammas, Nadia. *Ms. Marvel Stretched Thin*. Having a hard time balancing everything in her life, Kamala Khan, aka Ms. Marvel, must pull herself together and learn to ask for help when a mysterious robot tries to infiltrate Avengers Towers.

Shiga, Jason. *Adventuregame Comics 1: Leviathan*. In a medieval coastal village, residents live in fear of a giant sea creature. Your goal as a reader is simple: chose your path through the book and defeat the Leviathan before it destroys the town!

Song, Mika. *Norma and Belly: Donut Feed the Squirrels* (series). Two squirrel best friends meet their match: a donut truck!

Soontornvat, Christina. *The Tryout*. When best friends Christina, one of the only Asian American kids in her small Texas town, and Megan, who is Iranian American, try out to become middle school cheerleaders so they can better fit in, they find their friendship tested by competition and rivalry.

Tamamo the Fox Maiden and Other Asian Stories: Cautionary Fables & Fairytales (Nonfiction Graphic Novels, 398.2 TAM). A collection of Asian folktales retold as comics include vengeful spirits, flying ogres, and trickster tigers from Japan, China, Tibet, India, Indonesia and beyond.



Tang, Betty C. *Parachute Kids*. After their two-week family tour of Los Angeles, ten-year-old Feng Li Lin and her older brother and sister learn they will remain in California while their parents return to Taiwan, forcing them to navigate a new school, a new language, bullies, racism, and the pressures of running a household.

Torres, J. *Stealing Home*. When a boy struggles after moving to a Japanese internment camp during WWII, baseball shows him another way to approach life. Also by J. Torres: *Lola: A Ghost Story*

Wang, Jen. *Stargazing*. Growing up in the same Chinese-American suburb, perfectionist Christine and artistic, confident, impulsive Moon become unlikely best friends, whose friendship is tested by jealousy, social expectations, and illness.

Xu, Ru. *Newsprints* (series). Blue is an orphan who disguises herself as a newsboy. There's a war going on, and girls are expected to help the struggling economy by selling cookies. But Blue loves living and working at the Bugle, the only paper in town that tells the truth.

Xu, Wendy. *Tidesong*. When she attempts to do magic on her own, young witch Sophie accidentally entangles herself with a water dragon named Lir whom she tricks into helping her get into the best magic school in the realm.

Yee, Reimena. *My Aunt is a Monster*. The reclusive Lord Whimsy plans to stop an old rival from uncovering the truth of a disappearance and blind Safia finds herself experiencing an adventure and parts of the world she had only dreamed about. Also by Reimena Yee: *Séance Tea Party*.

Young, Ethan. *The Dragon Path*. The Wong Clan must leave their ruined homeland for a better life in the mythical Old Land, but to get there they must follow the dragon path, where their sworn enemies, the Dragon Tribe, rule.