



# Mark Twain Award

2022 Nominees

## **Raising Lumie** by Joan Bauer J BAU

Newly orphaned and living with the half sister she hardly knows, 12-year-old Olive rediscovers her hope when she starts training a puppy to be a guide dog. But only the best puppies continue on to become guide dogs, and what if Olive has to say goodbye?

## **The Blackbird Girls** by Anne Blankman J BLA

The nuclear reactor at Chernobyl has exploded, and before they know it, Valentina and Oksana find themselves on a train bound for Leningrad to stay with Valentina's estranged grandmother. How far would you go to save your new best friend's life? Would you risk your own?

## **Winterborne Home for Vengeance and Valor**

by Ally Carter J CAR

April didn't ask to go live in a big, creepy mansion with a bunch of orphans. But Winterborne House is full of secrets, and April and her friends are going to have to work together to unravel the mysteries of the only home they've ever known before it's lost forever.

## **When Stars Are Scattered**

by Victoria Jamieson J GN WHE

Omar and his nonverbal younger brother Hassan live in a refugee camp. When Omar has the opportunity to go to school, he knows it might be a chance to change their future. But it would also mean leaving behind his brother, the only family he has left, every day.

## **Wink** by Rob Harrell J HAR

After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, 12-year-old Ross discovers how music, art and true friends can help him push him through treatment and survive middle school.

## **War Stories** by Gordon Korman J KOR

Twelve-year-old Trevor loves playing war-based video games, and he idolizes his great-grandfather Jacob, a World War II hero. The pair travel to the French village that Jacob's unit liberated, and Trevor learns an important lesson: real war is not a video game, and valor and heroism aren't always so clear

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## **Millionaires for the Month** by Stacy McAnulty J MACA

After seventh graders Benji and Felix "borrow" \$20 from a lost wallet, the billionaire owner challenges them to spend over five million dollars in 30 days! But spending won't be as easy and fun as they thought it would be.

## **City Spies** by James Ponti J PON

Sara Martinez is facing years in juvenile detention for hacking into the foster care computer system to prove that her foster parents are crooks. But she gets a second chance when a mysterious man invites her to join a team of secret agents from around the world.

## **The Incredibly Dead Pets of Rex Dexter**

by Aaron Reynolds J REY

Rex Dexter is itching for a dog but ends up with a pet chicken. Soon enough, the chicken is run over by a steamroller, and now wild animals are haunting Rex's bedroom! Can Rex use his curse to solve a mystery at the zoo before more animals meet an untimely end?

## **The Elephant's Girl** by Celesta Rimington J RIM

Twelve-year-old Lexington, a foundling raised in a zoo, spends a summer cementing friendships, growing closer to the elephant that saved her life and learning about her family and herself.

## **A Wish in the Dark** by Christina Soontornvat J SOO

Pong escapes the prison in which he was born, but he is marked as a fugitive and can never truly be free. Nok, the prison warden's perfect daughter, is bent on tracking Pong down and restoring her family's good name. This new twist on "Les Misérables" is set in a Thai-inspired fantasy world.

## **Coop Knows the Scoop** by Taryn Souders J SOU

The whole town is talking about what's buried beneath the playground. And somehow, Coop's grandfather is taking all the blame! Will Coop and his friends get to the bottom of the mystery and clear Gramp's name before it's too late?



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