



Truman Readers Award

2025 Nominees

Free Throws, Friendship, and Other Things We Fouled Up by *Jenn Bishop*

J BIS

New to Cincinnati, where her father is now coach of the university basketball team, eighth-grader Aurora (called Rory) finds herself isolated by the heated team rivalries — especially when it turns out her father has a feud that threatens a new friendship.

It Found Us by *Lindsay Currie*

J CUR

Twelve-year old Hazel Woods has always had an unusual knack for sleuthing. So, when she not-so-accidentally overhears her brother Den planning to sneak into the cemetery at night for an epic game of hide-and-seek, she decides to secretly tag along. But the moment the game ends, Hazel realizes something is very wrong.

Good Different by *Meg Eden Kuyatt*

J KUY

Seventh-grader Selah Godfrey knows that to be normal she has to keep her feelings tightly controlled when people are around, but after hitting a fellow student, she needs to figure out just what makes her different — and why that is okay.

The Lost Year by *Katherine Marsh*

J MAR

In the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, 13-year-old Matthew discovers a shocking secret about his great-grandmother's past as he learns about her life during the Holodomor famine in Soviet Ukraine.

Once There Was by *Kiyash Monsef*

J MON

When 15-year-old Iranian American Marjan discovers her murdered father was secretly a veterinarian to magical creatures, she realizes she must take his mantle, despite the dangers.

The Wild Journey of Juniper Berry

by *Chad Morris and Shelly Brown*

J MOR

Eleven-year-old Juniper Berry lives off the grid in the California woods with her family, but when her brother gets sick, they have to leave to get help.

2025 Truman Reader Nominees

Iceberg by *Jennifer A. Nielsen*

J NIE

Twelve-year-old Hazel Rothbury stows away aboard the *Titanic* and, with the help of a porter named Charlie and a first-class passenger named Sylvia, she sets out to explore the great ship, uncovering a haunting mystery — until the ship hits an iceberg and she must fight to save herself and her friends.

The Fire, the Water, and Maudie McGinn

by *Sally J. Pla*

J PLA

At 13, neurodivergent Maudie spends an eventful summer in California with her father, but she struggles with wanting to share a terrible secret about her life with her mom and stepdad.

The Carrefour Curse by *Dianne K. Salerni*

J SAL

When 12-year-old Garnet finally gets to meet her magical extended family, she discovers they're all trapped in the ruins of their crumbling manor and Garnet must break a curse that has decimated three generations of Carrefours.

The Labors of Hercules Beal

by *Gary D. Schmidt*

J SCH

Herc Beal knows who he's named after — a mythical hero — but he's no superhero. He's the smallest kid in his class. So when his homeroom teacher at his new middle school gives him the assignment of duplicating the mythical Hercules' amazing feats in real life, he's skeptical.

What Happened to Rachel Riley?

by *Claire Swinarski*

J SWI

Thirteen-year-old Anna Hunt decides to make an investigative podcast about how fellow classmate Rachel Riley went from being the most popular girl to the most hated.

Nic Blake and the Remarkables

by *Angie Thomas*

J THO

All Nic Blake wants is to be a powerful Manifestor like her dad. But before she has a chance to convince him to teach her the gift, a series of shocking revelations and terrifying events launch Nic and two friends on a hunt for a powerful magic tool she's never heard of to save her father from imprisonment for a crime she refuses to believe he committed.



Daniel Boone Regional Library

www.dbrl.org