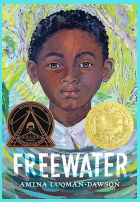


2023 THE AWARD WINNER IS...



NEWBERY - *Freewater* by Amina Luqman-Dawson



After fleeing the plantation where they were enslaved, siblings Ada and Homer discover the secret community of Freewater, and work with freeborn Sanzi to protect their new home from the encroaching dangers of the outside world.

CALDECOTT - *Hot Dog* by Doug Salati



A summery picture book about mindfulness, featuring an overheated--and overwhelmed-- canine in need of sea, sand, and fresh air.

MONARCH - *Are You a Cheeseburger?* by Monica Arnoldo



Grub is a lonely raccoon rumbling in the trash for food. Seed is a seed patiently waiting in the trash, hoping someone will plant it. When the two finally meet, they realize they might be able to help each other! Grub wonders what Seed will grow, and is hoping it's Grub's favorite food, mouthwatering cheeseburgers.

BLUESTEM - *Twins* by Varian Johnson



In graphic novel format, Varian Johnson brings us Maureen and Francine Carter, who are twins and best friends. They participate in the same clubs, enjoy the same foods, and are partners on all their school projects. Before sixth grade, Maureen and Francine start growing apart. Are sisters really forever? Or will middle school change things for good?

CAUDILL - *When Stars Are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson



In this touching graphic novel, Omar and his younger brother Hassan live in a refugee camp. When an opportunity for Omar to get an education comes along, he must decide between going to school or caring for his nonverbal brother in this intimate portrayal of family and daily life in a refugee camp.