# LocationAuthorTitleJ BALBalliett, BlueThe Danger Box

Left by his father on his grandparents' doorstep as a baby, Zoomy has grown up happily with them in a small Michigan town, despite the extreme nearsightedness that leaves him legally blind and the fact that he has no friends. He has never known his cruel, troubled, alcoholic father, who shows up early in the novel and leaves behind a mysterious box, probably stolen, for safekeeping. The box's contents set in motion a chain of challenging experiences, including an intellectually exciting puzzle, a devastating crime, a perplexing mystery, and a rewarding friendship.

SERIES Brege, K.B. Grudge of the Gremlins (Mick Morris Myth Solver)

MORRIS

This time there is only one way for Mick, Nathan and Sissy to figure out what's going wrong at America's Greatest History Attraction: The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan...and that is to sneak in at night! But terrifying things happen when they encounter the mischievous evil Gremlins!

### J CUR Curtis, Christopher Paul Bud, Not Buddy

It's 1936, in Flint, Michigan. Ten-year-old Bud may be a motherless boy on the run, but he's on a mission. His momma never told him who his father was, but she left a clue: posters of Herman E. Calloway and his famous band, the Dusky Devastators of the Depression! Bud's got an idea that those posters will lead him to his father. Once he decides to hit the road and find this mystery man, nothing can stop him.

# J CUR Curtis, Christopher Paul The Mighty Miss Malone

With love and determination befitting the "world's greatest family," twelve-year-old Deza Malone, her older brother Jimmie, and their parents endure tough times in Gary, Indiana, and later Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression.

Sometimes 10-year-old Kenny can't believe his own family. Sometimes they act so crazy he thinks they should be known as the Weird Watsons of Flint, Michigan. Between trying to understand his parents' humor and dealing with his too-cool older brother and crybaby-tattletale little sister, Kenny never has a dull moment. So, Kenny wonders, how will this wacky bunch survive when Momma and Dad load the whole family into the "Brown Bomber" for the long drive down to Birmingham, Alabama to visit Grandma Sands? With only a few brief rest stops along the way, the Watsons finally arrive in Birmingham, greeted by stifling heat and Grandma's strong hugs. Just when the family starts to settle into a comfortable Southern rhythm, tragedy strikes in Birmingham and changes all their lives forever.

## J CUR Curtis, Rebecca Charlotte Avery on Isle Royale

Set in the early 1870s, this story tells of a year in the life of Charlotte Avery, a young girl whose family moves from Chicago to Isle Royale in Lake Superior. Charlotte, full of wonderment, adapts easily to her new surroundings and, through the friendship of her schoolmate Claire, she and her two brothers discover the natural beauty and the rich folk heritage of this untamed part of the country. As her father works for the island mining operation, she learns the local history through interesting characters-Gram, the storyteller; Pierre, a French fisherman; and Yellow Bird, a Native American. She also learns a great deal about herself.

### J DAY Day, Karen No Cream Puffs

Madison is not your average 12-year-old girl from Michigan in 1980. She doesn't use lip gloss, but she loves to play sports, and joins baseball for the summer — the first girl in Southern Michigan to play on a boys' team. The press call her a star and a trailblazer, but Madison just wants to play ball. Who knew it would be so much pressure? Crowds flock to the games. Her team will win the championship — if she can keep up her pitching streak. Meanwhile, she's got a crush on a fellow player, her best friend abandons her for the popular girls, the "O" on her Hinton's uniform forms a bulls-eye over her left breast, and the boy she punched on the last day of school plans to bean her in the championship game.

# J DEC DeCamp, Alison My Near-Death Adventures (99% True!)

In 1895, twelve-year-old Stan decides to find his long-lost father in the logging camps of Michigan, documenting in his scrapbook his travels and encounters with troublesome relatives, his mother's suitors, lumberjacks, and more.

### J GIF Giff, Patricia Reilly Willow Run

Meggie Dillon's life has been turned upside down by World War II. Meggie's father has announced that they must help the war effort and move to Willow Run, Michigan, where he'll work nights in a factory building important war planes that will help fight the enemy in Europe. Willow Run will be the greatest adventure ever, Meggie thinks. There she meets Patches and Harlan, other kids like her from far-off places whose parents have come here to do their part in the war. And there she faces questions about courage, and what it takes to go into battle, like Eddie, and to keep hope alive on the home front.

### J JET Jeter, Derek The Contract

To help Derek achieve his career dream (playing shortstop for the New York Yankees), his parents draw up a "contract" of positive expectations, values, and rewards that the boy signs. Selected to play on Kalamazoo's Little League Tigers, Derek is disappointed when the coach's son is given the shortstop position. Derek's parents and the contract help him channel his frustration into team play, hard work, and excellence as a second baseman. When his math grades dip, he recognizes the need to improve and gets extra help. Derek's determination, positive attitude toward others, and exceptional athletic talent ensure his success.

## J NEL Nelson, William Harvey the Great Lakes Whale

The story is about a young whale named Harvey, who, while chasing a ship on the ocean became caught on the ship's rudder Harvey the whale is dragged through the St. Lawrence Seaway into the Great Lakes. Along the way he meets various fish. The fish are unable to free Harvey from the ship. Eventually, Harvey breaks free from the ship's rudder when he arrives in Lake Superior. He becomes a close friend with Tommy Trout and Gertrude the gossiping gull. They take Harvey on a tour of Lake Superior. Harvey the Great Lakes Whale eventually arrives in Marquette, Michigan where he spends the winter. He finds a home by a large rock formation in the lake near the town of Harvey, Michigan.

### J NYE Nye, Naomi Shihab The Turtle of Oman

When Aref, a third-grader who lives in Muscat, Oman, refuses to pack his suitcase and prepare to move to Michigan, his mother asks for help from his grandfather, his Siddi, who takes Aref around the country, storing up memories he can carry with him to a new home.

### J SOD Soderberg, Erin The Quirks: Welcome to Normal

With its cookie cutter houses, welcoming committees, and all-town competitions, Normal, Michigan, seems like a perfect fit for nine-year-old new resident Molly, the only non-magical person in her family.

# J TAY Taylor, Lori Holly Wild: Bamboozled on Beaver Island

Will Holly and Team Wild be able to keep their cool during a summer vacation on this unhurried, unspoiled island of creepy things, monsters, and snakes??!!

# J TAY Taylor, Lori Holly Wild: Let Sleeping Bear Dunes Lie

Ten-year old explorer, Holly Wild, travels with her team to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore where she follows the tracks of a ghost bear through the dunes to find what threatens the home of the legendary Sleeping Bear.

# J TAY Taylor, Lori Holly Wild: Packing for the Porkies! Holly has big footprints to fill as she enters the forest of the largest state park in Michigan.

## J WAR Wargin, Kathy-Jo Mitt the Michigan Mouse

Mitt, a white-footed mouse, lives in a mitten that is his only reminder of the family he once had, and when it is stolen, Mitt sets out for the city to find the owner of the dog that took his home.

# J WAR Wargin, Kathy-Jo Mitt and Minn at the Wisconsin Cheese Jamboree

Two white-footed mice, one who lives in Michigan and one in Minnesota, are both seeking home and family when they meet at a cheese-eating contest in Wisconsin.

#### J WHE Whelan, Gloria Once on This Island

Twelve-year-old Mary and her older brother and sister tend the family farm on Michigan's Mackinac Island while their father is away fighting the British in the War of 1812.

## J WHE Whelan, Gloria Farewell to the Island

In 1816, sixteen-year-old Mary O'Shea accepts her married sister's invitation to visit her in London and experiences much of the world beyond her beloved family farm on Mackinac Island.

### J WHE Whelan, Gloria Return to the Island

In 1818 Mary O'Shea must decide whether to remain on Michilmackinac Island and marry her dear Indian friend White Hawk or to accept the proposal of James, an English nobleman, and to go with him to London.

## J WHE Whelan, Gloria The Indian School

In 1839, newly orphaned eleven-year-old Mary goes to live with her missionary aunt and uncle who run a school for Indian children in northern Michigan.

# J WHE Whelan, Gloria Night of the Full Moon

When she sneaks away to visit her friend, a young girl living on the Michigan frontier is caught up in the forced evacuation of a group of Potawatomi Indians from their tribal land in the 1840s.

# J WHE Whelan, Gloria Next Spring an Oriole

In 1837, ten-year-old Libby and her parents journey by covered wagon to the Michigan frontier, where they make themselves a new home near friendly Indians and other pioneers.

### J WHI Whitsitt, Claudia Between the Lines

Hattie Percha is crushed when the Detroit race riots start on her tenth birthday, and when she must move away from her treasured childhood home and friends, attending public school for the first time, she's afraid her life is over. Then, she meets Beverly Jo Nichols, her first black friend, and Crackers, a fearless tomboy. Despite opposition from Hattie's mother and a racist teacher, the unlikely friends join forces. As the self-proclaimed Dream Girls, they challenge bigotry and intolerance, willing to do whatever it takes to hold onto what's most precious to them all, their friendship.

# J WHI Whitsitt, Claudia Beyond the Lines

Crackers has a dream. She has oodles of talent, can outshoot any guy, and she wants to be the first girl on the boys' basketball team. Everybody knows she's the best player at school. The problem is, the rules say: No girls allowed on the team. Ever. But the Dream Girls have challenged old-fashioned notions before, and they're not about to give up now. Beverly Jo rocks the world with an ingenious plan, Hattie sets the wheels in motion, and Crackers gives her all. For this threesome, nothing is impossible.

Last Updated: 1/13/2018