

PCPL 2017 Booktalks

*Grades are for the end of the 2016-17 school year.

*5th & Up

The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle – Janet S. Fox

The Ark Plan (The Edge of Extinction#1) – Laura Martin

Feathers – Jorge Corona (Graphic Novel)

Ghost – Jason Reynolds

The Girl Who Drank the Moon – Kelly Regan Barnhill

Lily and Dunkin – Donna Gephart

March – John Lewis

Mighty Jack – Ben Hatke

The Nameless City – Faith Erin Hicks

One Half from the East – Nadia Hashimi

Pink is for Blobfish – Jess Keating

Snow White – Matt Phelan

The Best Man – Richard Peck

The Inquisitor's Tale – Adam Gitwitz

When the Sea Turned to Silver – Lin Grace

*6th & Up

The Crown's Game – Evelyn Skye

Heartless – Marissa Meyer

Labyrinth Lost – Zoraida Córdova

The Lie Tree – Frances Hardinge

Saving Montgomery Sole – Mariko Tamaki

*7th & Up

The Passion of Dolssa – Julie Berry

Salt to the Sea – Ruta Sepetys

Scythe – Neal Shusterman

The Serpent King – Jeff Zentner

Strange the Dreamer – Laini Taylor

The Sun is Also a Star – Nicola Yoon

Send Nicole an email at nozanich@pocolibrary.org for any of the full booktalks listed above.

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Lily and Dunkin by Donna Gephart

Dunkin is new to Florida and worried that his past troubles have followed him. He's finally in charge of taking his own bipolar medications, but still feels like his life is out of his control. When Dunkin comes across the path of a pretty girl with shimmering blue eyes one summer day, he has a sliver of hope that 8th grade won't be so bad.

Lily Jo McGrother loves to wear dresses and paint her nails. But, if she looked like this in school, she'd be afraid of what the Neanderthals in her 8th grade class would do to her. They already shove her into her locker, call her cruel names, and tease her for being "gay," though it's not the truth. Lily is simply a girl born into a boy's body, and most everyone knows her as Tim.

When a cute, tall boy walks past Lily's house and smiles at her, she's encouraged that someday she may be allowed to be her true self.

"I lift my arm and wave, entirely aware that I'm wearing my mom's red dress and sandals. Hello, Idiot.

From the corner of my eye, I see the vein in Dad's temple pulse.

The boy notices me waving. He stops grooving and looks my way, surprised. What does he see? A girl stuck in a boy's body or a boy stuck in a girl's dress? Probably the latter. I expect his features to twist into pure revulsion. My mind shuffles through every way this can go horribly wrong. In front of Dad. What was I thinking?

But the boy smiles. At me. Outside in bright daylight, while I'm wearing my mom's dress and sandals. Maybe he thinks I'm a girl. I am a girl. Unfortunately, not everyone understands that yet." (8)

Lily and Dunkin start off 8th grade with a flawed friendship. Dunkin likes having "Tim" as a friend, but is elated that the Neanderthals want him on their basketball team. That is, until he forgets to take his medication.

Lily is desperate for the hormone blockers that she should be starting, but her father may never allow it to happen.

Amidst all their internal struggles, will Lily and Dunkin find a way to be true friends? Read this endearing story of two determined kids who will make you chuckle, snuffle, and crave donuts!