



## 2023 Nominees

For more information about the award, please visit [www.riteenbookaward.org](http://www.riteenbookaward.org)

### ***Ace of Spades* by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé**

Devon and Chiamaka score coveted leadership positions at school, but secrets get out and their positions are jeopardized. Someone is out to get them both.

### ***All These Bodies* by Kendare Blake**

Sixteen bloodless bodies. Two teenagers. One impossible explanation. What really happened the night that the Carlsons were killed? And why is one girl in the middle of it all?

### ***Blackout* by Dhonielle Clayton**

A summer heatwave blankets New York City in darkness. But as the city is thrown into confusion, a different kind of electricity sparks as several stories weave together.

### ***The Corpse Queen* by Heather M. Herrmann**

Orphaned seventeen-year-old Molly Green is eager to start a new life in her aunt's lucrative business selling corpses to medical students, but she quickly becomes entangled in a murderer's plans.

### ***A Cuban Girl's Guide to Tea and Tomorrow* by Laura Taylor Namey**

Seventeen-year-old Lila Reyes, furious when her parents send her to the English countryside to recover from grief and heartbreak, unexpectedly falls in love with a tea shop clerk--and England, itself.

### ***The Darkness Outside Us* by Eliot Schrefer**

Ambrose wakes up on a spaceship with no memory of a launch. There's more that doesn't add up, but nothing will stop Ambrose from making his mission succeed--not when he's rescuing his own sister.

### ***Donuts and Other Proclamations of Love* by Jared Reck**

Oscar decides his future is working with his grandfather on their food truck Hej Hej!, but when Oscar unexpectedly gets his first taste of adulthood he realizes his plans may be half-baked.

### ***An Emotion of Great Delight* by Tahereh Mafi**

Shadi is named for joy, but she's haunted by sorrow. She tries to navigate her crumbling world by soldiering through, saying nothing, until finally, one day, everything changes. She explodes.

### ***Fallout: Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Showdown* by Steve Sheinkin**

After World War II, the U.S. and the Soviet Union emerged as the two greatest world powers, on extreme opposites of the political spectrum, bringing the world to the brink of the third world war.

### ***Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley**

Daunis, who is part Ojibwe, defers attending the University of Michigan to care for her mother and reluctantly becomes involved in the investigation of a series of drug-related deaths.

### ***The Girls I've Been* by Tess Sharpe**

When seventeen-year-old Nora O'Malley, the daughter of a con artist, is taken hostage in a bank heist, every secret she is keeping close begins to unravel.

### ***Himawari House* by Harmony Becker**

When Nao returns to Tokyo to reconnect with her Japanese heritage, she books a yearlong stay at the Himawari sharehouse. There she befriends Hyejung and Tina, as they all forge their own paths.

### ***Home Is Not a Country* by Safia Elhillo**

Nima feels like an outsider and can't help wishing her parents had chosen a different path for her. But when that imagined other life starts creeping into Nima's reality, she has to fight for what she has.

### ***House of Hollow* by Krystal Sutherland**

Something happened to Iris Hollow and her two older sisters Grey and Vivi when they were children, leaving them with identical scars. When Grey goes missing, Iris has to revisit their childhood mystery.

### ***In Deeper Waters* by F.T. Lukens**

Sixteen-year-old Prince Tal is on his long-awaited coming-of-age tour when he meets the intriguing and roguish Athlen, and when he is kidnapped by pirates, Athlen is his only hope of escape.

### ***Kneel* by Candace Buford**

Russell has a goal: to get a college scholarship and play football nationally. But when his best friend is unfairly arrested and kicked off the team, Rus faces an impossible choice: speak up or live in fear.

### ***Not My Problem* by Ciara Smyth**

Aideen has plenty of problems she *can't* solve. But she stumbles into the role of "fixer" for other people's problems. Now, if she could just solve her own!

### ***Nubia: Real One* by L.L. McKinney**

Nubia has amazing powers, but keeps them hidden for fear the world will see her not as a hero, but a threat. When her community is attacked, she finds the strength to be their own Wonder Woman..

### ***The Passing Playbook* by Isaac Fitzsimmons**

After starting over in a liberal private school where he is passing, transgender athlete Spencer must decide between fighting for his right to play on the boys' soccer team and staying stealth.

### ***Take Me With You When You Go* by David Levithan and Jennifer Niven**

Ezra's sister Bea has run away from home. He's not surprised she left; he's angry she didn't take him with her. Via email, the siblings unpack their past in hopes of making a safer future..

### ***Today Tonight Tomorrow* by Rachel Lynn Solomon**

Rowan and Neil have been in competition with one another since freshman year. But in the last twenty-four hours of high school, the two learn they share something much deeper than a rivalry.

### ***What I Carry* by Jennifer Longo**

Muir has just one year left before she ages out of the foster care system. One year to avoid anything--or anyone--that could get in her way. And then everything changes.