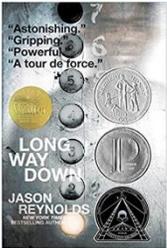
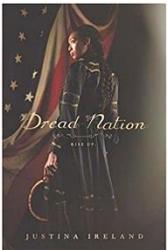


One Book One Community Finalists 2020



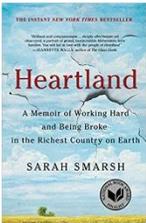
Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds. Atheneum Books, 2017

Will has two choices when he steps into the elevator. And he's got 8 floors and seconds to decide. After his brother is shot and killed, Will has to decide if he'll follow the rule of taking revenge against the person responsible. But as the elevator descends from his eighth-floor apartment, Will is greeted by different ghosts who all share their views of the rule. This gripping novel is told in verse, where Reynolds deals with themes such as love, revenge, and the cycle of violence.



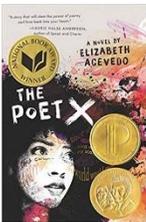
Dread Nation by Justina Ireland. Balzer + Bray, 2018

Jane McKeene wasn't born long before the dead rose during the Battle of Gettysburg—an event that ended the Civil War and changed America forever. Jane is nearing the end of her education—a mix of etiquette and weaponry so she can protect the upper tier of society. In this new America, the safety of people falls to the shoulders of a few—where laws place minority children into combat schools to learn how to dispose of the dead. When families and people start to go missing, Jane finds herself caught up in mishaps, and finds herself fighting for her life against enemies. This is a novel where race, humanity, and adventure come together.



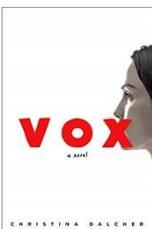
Heartland: a Memoir of working Hard and Being Broke In the Richest Country on Earth by Sarah Smarsh. Scribner, 2018.

People usually think of the heartland of the United States as a bounty of agriculture and a place where comfort abounds. This memoir traces the life of Sarah among the life of the working poor. Intergenerational poverty and life choices affect the lives of this Kansas farm family.



Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo. Harperteen, 2018

Xiomara Batista has learned to use her fists to do her talking. Xiomara does have plenty to say and pours herself into her poetry. But she is at a crossroad. She loves to write poetry, and aspires to compete in slam poetry, but finds the pressure of her mom's vision of her being a good Catholic girl and working in her twin brother's shadow to be a challenge. When she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, X must decide how to maneuver the intersection of her mother's vision of her while trying to discover her own vision of herself. A coming of age story told in poetic verse about love and discovering oneself.



VOX. Berkley Publishing, 2018

A decree is put out by the government that women are not allowed to speak more than 100 words daily. If they go over that limit, they are wearing a device that gives them an electric shock. This is only the beginning...Dr. Jean McClellan, a linguist who explores how the brain produces language, is given a chance to change this as she works with a team of scientists to overturn a brain injury to the President's brother.