

# Scarlet Ibis Making Connections

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## BRYCE ELIANNA

*Our First Book - Fine Taxidermy* Open Road Media

A Michael L. Printz Honor Book Charlie Bucktin, a bookish thirteen year old, is startled one summer night by an urgent knock on his bedroom window. His visitor is Jasper Jones, an outcast in their small mining town, and he has come to ask for Charlie's help. Terribly afraid but desperate to impress, Charlie follows him into the night. Jasper takes him to his secret glade, where Charlie witnesses Jasper's horrible discovery. With his secret like a brick in his belly, Charlie is pushed and pulled by a town closing in on itself in fear and suspicion. He locks horns with his tempestuous mother, falls nervously in love, and battles to keep a lid on his zealous best friend. In the simmering summer where everything changes, Charlie learns why the truth of things is so hard to know, and even harder to hold in his heart.

*All Fall Down* Penguin

Now a Showtime limited series starring Ethan Hawke and Daveed Diggs Winner of the National Book Award for Fiction From the bestselling author of *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*, *Deacon King Kong* (an Oprah Book Club pick) and *The Color of Water* comes the story of a young boy born a slave who joins John Brown's antislavery crusade—and who must pass as a girl to survive. Henry Shackelford is a young slave living in the Kansas Territory in 1856—a battleground between anti- and pro-slavery forces—when legendary abolitionist John Brown arrives. When an argument between Brown and Henry's master turns violent, Henry is forced to leave town—along with Brown, who believes Henry to be a girl and his good luck charm. Over the ensuing months, Henry, whom Brown nicknames Little Onion, conceals his true identity to stay alive. Eventually Brown sweeps him into the historic raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859—one of the great catalysts for the Civil War. An absorbing mixture of history and imagination, and told with McBride's meticulous eye for detail and character, *The Good Lord Bird* is both a rousing adventure and a moving exploration of identity and survival.

*Mrs. Flowers* Simon and Schuster

The first in an epic trilogy, Amitav Ghosh's *Sea of Poppies* is "a remarkably rich saga . . . which has plenty of action and adventure à la Dumas, but moments also of Tolstoyan penetration—and a drop or two of Dickensian sentiment" (*The Observer* [London]). At the heart of this vibrant saga is a vast ship, the *Ibis*. Her destiny is a tumultuous voyage across the Indian Ocean shortly before the outbreak of the Opium Wars in China. In a time of colonial upheaval, fate has thrown together a diverse cast of Indians and Westerners on board, from a bankrupt raja to a widowed tribeswoman, from a mulatto American freedman to a free-spirited French orphan. As their old family ties are washed away, they, like their historical counterparts, come to view themselves as jahaj-bhais, or ship-brothers. The vast sweep of this historical adventure spans the lush poppy fields of the Ganges, the rolling high seas, and the exotic backstreets of Canton. With a panorama of characters whose diaspora encapsulates the vexed colonial history of the East itself, *Sea of Poppies* is "a storm-tossed adventure worthy of Sir Walter Scott" (*Vogue*).

*How I Live Now* Scholastic

Ashamed of his younger brother's physical handicaps, an older brother teaches him how to walk and pushes him to attempt more strenuous activities.

**2 B R O 2 B** OUP Oxford

"The next best thing to not having a brother (as I do not) is to have Brothers." —Gay Talese Here is a tapestry of stories about the complex and unique relationship that exists between brothers. In this book, some of our finest authors take an unvarnished look at how brothers admire and admonish, revere and revile, connect and compete, love and war with each other. With hearts and minds wide open, and, in some cases, with laugh-out-loud humor, the writers tackle a topic that is as old as the Bible and yet has been, heretofore, overlooked. Contributors range in age from twenty-four to eighty-four, and their stories from comic to tragic. Brothers examines and explores the experiences of love and loyalty and loss, of altruism and anger, of competition and compassion—the confluence of things that conspire to form the unique nature of what it is to be and to have a brother. "Brother." One of our eternal and quintessential terms of endearment. Tobias Wolff writes, "The good luck of having a brother is partly the luck of having stories to tell." David Kaczynski, brother of "The Unabomber": "I'll start with the premise that a brother shows you who you are—and also who you are not. He's an image of the self, at one remove . . . You are a 'we' with your brother before you are a 'we' with any other." Mikal Gilmore refers to brotherhood as a "fidelity born of blood." We've heard that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. But where do the apples fall in relation to each other? And are we, in fact, our brothers' keepers, after all? These stories address those questions and more, and are, like the relationships, full of intimacy and pain, joy and rage, burdens and blessings, humor and humanity.

**The Summer People** Farrar, Straus and Giroux

In 1851, thirteen-year-old Cecilia has her eyes opened to the horrors of slavery when she accompanies her ornithologist uncle on an expedition in search of the rare "Scarlet Ibis," and watches as he shows slaves the way to the Underground Railroad.

*Marcelo in the Real World* Wendy Lamb Books

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • At once an incredible adventure narrative and a penetrating biographical portrait—the bestselling author of *River of the Gods* brings us the true story of Theodore Roosevelt's harrowing exploration of one of the most dangerous rivers on earth. "A rich, dramatic tale that ranges from the personal to the literally earth-shaking." —*The New York Times* The River of Doubt—it is a black, uncharted tributary of the Amazon that snakes through one of the most treacherous jungles in the world. Indians armed with poison-tipped arrows haunt its shadows; piranhas glide through its waters; boulder-strewn rapids turn the river into a roiling cauldron. After his humiliating election defeat in 1912, Roosevelt set his sights on the most punishing physical challenge he could find, the first descent of an unmapped, rapids-choked tributary of the Amazon. Together with his son Kermit and Brazil's most famous explorer, Cândido Mariano da Silva Rondon, Roosevelt accomplished a feat so great that many at the time refused to believe it. In the process, he changed the map of the western hemisphere forever. Along the way, Roosevelt and his men faced an unbelievable series of hardships, losing their canoes and supplies to punishing whitewater rapids, and enduring starvation, Indian attack, disease, drowning, and a murder within their own ranks. Three men died, and Roosevelt was brought to the brink of suicide. The River of Doubt brings alive these extraordinary events in a powerful nonfiction narrative thriller that happens to feature one of the most famous Americans who ever lived. From the soaring beauty of the Amazon rain

forest to the darkest night of Theodore Roosevelt's life, here is Candice Millard's dazzling debut. Look for Candice Millard's latest book, *River of the Gods*.

*Jasper Jones* Ryan Dooley Mysteries

A collection of poems by Susan Hahn that use the image of the ibis to explore a wide range of topics, including slavery, ancient Egypt, individuality, and courage.

**Birds of the Photo Ark** Dramatic Publishing

"This ... celebration of birds from around the world unites ... animal portraits from Joel Sartore's ... National Geographic Photo Ark project with ... text by up-and-coming birder Noah Strycker. It includes hundreds of species, from tiny finches to charismatic eagles; brilliant toucans, intricate birds of paradise, and perennial favorites such as parrots, hummingbirds, and owls also make colorful appearances"--Amazon.com.

**The Good Lord Bird (National Book Award Winner)** CreateSpace

One of the best-selling young adult books of all time, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Paul Zindel. John Conlan is nicknamed "The Bathroom Bomber" after setting off firecrackers in the boys' bathroom 23 times without ever getting caught. John and his best friend, Lorraine, can never please their parents, and school is a chore. To pass the time, they play pranks on unsuspecting people and it's during one of these pranks that they meet the "Pigman." In spite of themselves, John and Lorraine soon get caught up in Mr. Pignati's zest for life. In fact, they become so involved that they begin to destroy the only corner of the world that has ever mattered to them. Can they stop before it's too late?

*Scarlet Ibis* Scholastic Inc.

Through her friendship with Mrs. Flowers, a cultured and gentle Black woman, Marguerite develops self-esteem and an appreciation for great literature.

**Elements of Literature, Grade 9** Hachette Books

From one of America's most popular short story writers and an Academy Award nominee: the O. Henry Award-winning tale that inspired the movie *The Hunt*. A subject of mysterious rumors and superstition, the deserted Caribbean island was shrouded in an air of peril. To Sanger Rainsford, who fell off a yacht and washed up on its shores, the abandoned isle was a welcome paradise. But unknown to the big-game hunter, a predator lurked in its lush jungles—one more dangerous than any he had ever encountered: a human. First published in 1924, this suspenseful tale "has inspired serial killers, films and stirred controversy in schools. A century on, the story continues to thrill" (*The Telegraph*). "[A] tense, relentless story of man-against-man adventure, in which the hunter Sanger Rainsford learns, at the hands of General Zaroff, what it means to be hunted." —*Criterion*

**Sea of Poppies** Bantam

"Jaap Sinke and Ferry van Tongeren are dedicated to showing the beauty of nature through their flamboyant compositions of Fine Taxidermy. In the seventeenth century, the great painters of the Golden Age set out to portray the wonder of exotic animals brought back to Europe for the first time. Today, Sinke and van Tongeren have reclaimed that power to amaze, creating taxidermy art in homage to the skill and passion of the Old Masters and to their muse -- the naturalist, Charles Darwin."--Publisher's description

*The Things a Brother Knows* Knopf Books for Young Readers

As a troubled teen struggles to free himself from his past and the implications of the present conspiracies that surround him, Dooley tries to prove his innocence in a suicide that looks like murder.

*Scarlet Ibis* Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

Red and Scarlet dream of one day flying across the ocean to Trinidad, where thousands of scarlet ibis fill the sky. When they're split up and sent to live with different foster families, Scarlet resolves to do whatever it takes to get her brother back. A beautiful and deeply moving new story from the acclaimed author of *Sky Hawk*.

*The Most Dangerous Game* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

From the moment he was born, Andrew Bridge and his mother Hope shared a love so deep that it felt like nothing else mattered. Trapped in desperate poverty and confronted with unthinkable tragedies, all Andrew ever wanted was to be with his mom. But as her mental health steadily declined, and with no one else left to care for him, authorities arrived and tore Andrew from his screaming mother's arms. In that moment, the life he knew came crashing down around him. He was only seven years old. Hope was institutionalized, and Andrew was placed in what would be his devastating reality for the next eleven years--foster care. After surviving one of our country's most notorious children's facilities, Andrew was thrust into a savagely loveless foster family that refused to accept him as one of their own. Deprived of the nurturing he needed, Andrew clung to academics and the kindness of teachers. All the while, he refused to surrender the love he held for his mother in his heart. Ultimately, Andrew earned a scholarship to Wesleyan, went on to Harvard Law School, and became a Fulbright Scholar. Andrew has dedicated his life's work to helping children living in poverty and in the foster care system. He defied the staggering odds set against him, and here in this heartwrenching, brutally honest, and inspirational memoir, he reveals who Hope's boy really is.

**Dooley Takes the Fall** Lannoo Publishers

"Every war has turning points and every person too." Fifteen-year-old Daisy is sent from Manhattan to England to visit her aunt and cousins she's never met: three boys near her age, and their little sister. Her aunt goes away on business soon after Daisy arrives. The next day bombs go off as London is attacked and occupied by an unnamed enemy. As power fails, and systems fail, the farm becomes more isolated. Despite the war, it's a kind of Eden, with no adults in charge and no rules, a place where Daisy's uncanny bond with her cousins grows into something rare and extraordinary. But the war is everywhere, and Daisy and her cousins must lead each other into a world that is unknown in the scariest, most elemental way. A riveting and astonishing story.

**Will in Scarlet** Anchor

When a fire leaves twelve-year-old Scarlet in a different foster home than her autistic little brother, she tracks a bird to find her way back to him in this deeply moving illustrated novel from the author of *Wild Wings*. Scarlet doesn't have an easy life. She's never known her dad, her mom suffers from depression, and her younger brother Red has Asperger's and relies heavily on her to make the world a safe place for him. Scarlet does this by indulging Red's passion for birds, telling him stories about the day they'll go to Trinidad and see all the wonderful birds there (especially his beloved Scarlet Ibis), saving her money to take him to the zoo, helping him collect bird feathers, and even caring for a baby pigeon who is nesting outside his window. But things with her mom are getting harder, and after a dangerous accident, Scarlet and Red are taken into foster care and separated. As Scarlet

struggles to cope with the sudden changes in her life and her complex feelings towards her mom, the one thing she won't give up on is finding Red. Nothing is going to get in her way—even if it might destroy the new possibilities offered to her by her foster family.

*Hunger of Memory* Simon and Schuster

Marcelo Sandoval, a seventeen-year-old boy on the high-functioning end of the autistic spectrum,

faces new challenges, including romance and injustice, when he goes to work for his father in the mailroom of a corporate law firm.

*Socks* Holt McDougal

Angry and rebellious, eighteen-year-old Franklin Crabbe skips his final exams and disappears into the Canadian wilderness, where a woman with her own reasons for hiding teaches him how to survive, as well as how to live.