



## Nebraska Golden Sower Award 2008-2009 Nominees

Sponsored by Nebraska Library Association's  
School, Children's, and Young People's Section

The GSA nominee list is developed by selection committees of volunteer readers representing classroom teachers, media specialists, and librarians in Nebraska. Each list is created from nominated titles sent in by participating libraries and schools from across the state.

Local library or school officials are responsible for selecting books from these lists they feel are appropriate for the needs and interest of their patrons or students. Voting eligibility requires readers to have read or heard a minimum of **four** of the current nominees from the category in which they will be voting, Primary, Intermediate, or Young Adult.

### 2008-2009 Primary Nominees

Brett, Jan. *HONEY, HONEY—LION!: A STORY OF AFRICA.*

Illustrated by the author. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. ISBN 0399244638

After working together to obtain honey, the African honey badger always shares it with his partner, the honeyguide bird, until one day when the honey badger becomes greedy and his feathered friend decides to teach him a lesson.

George, Jean Craighead. *LUCK.*

Illustrated by Wendell Minor. Laura Geringer Books, 2006. ISBN 0060082011

Luck, a young sandhill crane, finds his place in the ancient crane migration from northern Canada to the Platte River.

Hills, Tad. *DUCK AND GOOSE.*

Illustrated by the author. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2006. ISBN 037583611X

Duck and Goose learn to work together to take care of a ball, which they think is an egg.

Knudsen, Michelle. *LIBRARY LION.*

Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Candlewick Press, 2006. ISBN 0763622621

A lion starts visiting the local library but runs into trouble as he tries to both obey the rules and help his librarian friend.

O'Connor, Jane. *FANCY NANCY.*

Illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser. HarperCollins, 2006. ISBN 0060542098

A young girl who loves fancy things helps her family to be fancy for one special night.

Palatini, Margie. ***THE THREE SILLY BILLIES.***

Illustrated by Barry Moser. Simon & Schuster, 2005. ISBN 0689858620

Three billy goats, unable to cross a bridge because they cannot pay the toll, form a car pool with the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood, and Jack of beanstalk fame to get past the rude Troll.

Raven, Margot Theis. ***LET THEM PLAY.***

Illustrated by Chris Ellison. Sleeping Bear Press, 2005. ISBN 1585362603

This book tells the true story of spirit and determination from America's early civil rights history and the Cannon Street all-stars who were not allowed to play in the Little League World Series game.

Reynolds, Aaron. ***CHICKS AND SALSA.***

Illustrated by Paulette Bogan. Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2005. ISBN 158234972X [paperback ISBN 1599900998]

Soon after the chickens tire of their feed and decide to make tortilla chips and salsa, all the other animals on Nuthatcher Farm start to crave southwestern cuisine.

Van Dusen, Chris. ***IF I BUILT A CAR.***

Illustrated by the author. Dutton Children's Books, 2005. ISBN 0525474005 [paperback ISBN 0142408255]

Jack describes the kind of car he would build—one with amazing accessories and with the capability of traveling on land, in the air, and on and under the sea.

Wood, Douglas. ***NOTHING TO DO.***

Illustrated by Wendy Anderson Halperin. Dutton Children's Books, 2006. ISBN 0525476563

This book celebrates many ways of enjoying a day when the calendar is blank—no homework, no soccer practice, no anything—from building a fort to lying down and watching the clouds change shape.

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## Nebraska Golden Sower Award 2008-2009 Intermediate Nominees

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Armstrong, Alan W. **WHITTINGTON.**

Illustrated by S. D. Schindler. Random House, 2005. ISBN 0375828648 [paperback ISBN 0375828656]

Whittington, a feline descendant of Dick Whittington's famous cat of English folklore, appears at a run-down barnyard plagued by rats and restores harmony while telling his ancestor's story.

Auch, Mary Jane. **WING NUT.**

Henry Holt & Co., 2005. ISBN 0805075313

When twelve-year-old Grady and his mother relocate yet again, they find work taking care of an elderly man, who teaches Grady about cars, birds, and what it means to have a home.

Clements, Andrew. **ROOM ONE: A MYSTERY OR TWO.**

Illustrated by Chris Blair. Simon & Schuster Books, 2006. ISBN 0689866860

Ted Hammond, the only sixth grader in his small Nebraska town's one-room schoolhouse, searches for clues to the disappearance of a homeless family.

Gutman, Dan. **SATCH AND ME.**

HarperCollins, 2006. ISBN 0060594918

With his ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe takes Flip with him to find out whether Satchel Paige really was the fastest pitcher ever.

Hart, Alison. **ANNA'S BLIZZARD.**

Peachtree, 2005. ISBN 1561453498

Having never excelled at schoolwork, twelve-year-old Anna discovers that she may know a few things about survival when the 1888 Children's Blizzard traps her and her classmates in their Nebraska schoolhouse.

Hicks, Betty. ***OUT OF ORDER***.

Roaring Brook Press, 2005. ISBN 1596430613 [paperback ISBN 0312373554]

Four youngsters, ages nine to fifteen, narrate one side of the story of their newly blended family's adjustment, interwoven with grief and loss.

Lord, Cynthia. ***RULES***.

Scholastic Press, 2006. ISBN 0439443822

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

Lowry, Lois. ***GOSSAMER***.

Houghton Mifflin, 2006. ISBN 0618685502 [paperback ISBN 0385734166 – January 2008]

While learning to bestow dreams, a young dream giver tries to save an eight-year-old boy from the effects of both his abusive past and the nightmares inflicted on him by the frightening Sinisteeds.

Whelan, Gloria. ***LISTENING FOR LIONS***.

HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN 0060581743 [paperback ISBN 006058176X]

Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1919, thirteen-year-old Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, where her only dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital.

Wiles, Deborah. ***EACH LITTLE BIRD THAT SINGS***.

Harcourt Children's Books, 2005. ISBN 0152051139 [paperback ISBN 0152056572]

Comfort Snowberger is well acquainted with death since her family runs the funeral parlor in their small southern town, but even so the ten-year-old is unprepared for the series of heart-wrenching events that begins on the first day of Easter vacation with the sudden death of her beloved great-uncle Edisto.

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## Nebraska Golden Sower Award 2008-2009 Young Adult Nominees

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Broach, Elise. ***SHAKESPEARE'S SECRET.***

Henry Holt & Co., 2005. ISBN 0805073876 [paperback ISBN 0312371322]

Named after a character in a Shakespeare play, misfit sixth-grader Hero becomes interested in exploring this unusual connection because of a valuable diamond supposedly hidden in her new house, an intriguing neighbor, and the unexpected attention of the most popular boy in school.

Carey, Janet Lee. ***DRAGON'S KEEP.***

Harcourt, 2007. ISBN 9780152059262 [paperback ISBN 015206401X – May 2008]

In 1145 A.D., as foretold by Merlin, fourteen-year-old Rosalind, who will be the twenty-first Pendragon Queen of Wilde Island, has much to accomplish to fulfill her destiny, while hiding from her people the dragon's claw she was born with that reflects only one of her mother's dark secrets.

Cooney, Caroline B. ***A FRIEND AT MIDNIGHT.***

Delacorte, 2006. ISBN 0385733267

After rescuing her younger brother abandoned at a busy airport by their divorced father, fifteen-year-old Lily finds her faith in God sorely tested as she struggles to rescue herself from the bitterness and anger she feels.

Gray, Dianne E. ***TOMORROW, THE RIVER.***

Houghton Mifflin, 2006. ISBN 0618563296

In 1896, fourteen-year-old Megan joins her sister and family on their steamboat for the summer riding up the Mississippi River towards St. Paul, Minnesota, and through all of their adventures, Megan realizes what is her "true calling."

Hobbs, Will. ***CROSSING THE WIRE.***

HarperCollins, 2006. ISBN 0060741384 [paperback ISBN 0060741406]

Fifteen-year-old Victor Flores journeys north in a desperate attempt to cross the Arizona border and find work in the United States to support his family in central Mexico.

Lupica, Mike. ***HEAT.***

Philomel, 2006. ISBN 0399243011 [paperback ISBN 0142407577]

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Meyer, Stephenie. ***TWILIGHT.***

Little, Brown & Co., 2005. ISBN 0316160172 [paperback ISBN 0316015849]

When seventeen-year-old Bella leaves Phoenix to live with her father in Forks, Washington, she meets an exquisitely handsome boy at school for whom she feels an overwhelming attraction and who she comes to realize is not wholly human.

Nolan, Han. ***A SUMMER OF KINGS.***

Harcourt, 2006. ISBN 0152051082

Over the course of the summer of 1963, fourteen-year-old Esther Young discovers the passion within her when eighteen-year-old King-Roy Johnson, accused of murdering a white man in Alabama, comes to live with her family.

Paulsen, Gary. ***THE LEGEND OF BASS REEVES: BEING THE TRUE AND FICTIONAL ACCOUNT OF THE MOST VALIANT MARSHAL IN THE WEST.***

Wendy Lamb Books, 2006. ISBN 038574661X [paperback ISBN 0553494295 – January 2008]

An account of the life of Bass Reeves, who was the most successful federal marshal in the United States in his day, told through stories both real and imagined.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth. ***LIFE AS WE KNEW IT.***

Harcourt, 2006. ISBN 0152058265

Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

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