



Arkansas State Library

900 West Capitol Ave., Suite 100 - Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3108

October 15, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Release

Winning titles announced for the 2018 Arkansas Teen Book Award

LITTLE ROCK, October 15 – Arkansas teens have chosen six books to share the 2018 Arkansas Teen Book Award.

The Level 1 winner, chosen by 7th- through 9th-graders, is *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman. *Frozen Charlotte* by Alex Bell and *The Plot to Kill Hitler* by Patricia McCormick were voted honorable mention.

The Level 2 winner, chosen by students in 10th through 12th grades, is *If I Was Your Girl* by Meredith Russo. *The Serpent King* by Jeff Zentner and *My Name is Not Friday* by Jon Walter were voted honorable mention.

The Arkansas Teen Book Award began in 2009 as a cooperative effort between public and school librarians across the state. Arkansas recognizes quality children's literature through the Charlie May Simon and Arkansas Diamond awards, yet the acknowledgment of young adult literature had been greatly neglected. Enter six Arkansas librarians whose goal was to fill this gap. The steering committee for the teen award now consists of public librarians and school library media specialists from varying backgrounds and service areas. Each year, dozens of volunteer readers working with teens give their time to reading the nominated titles. The primary sponsoring organization is the Arkansas State Library.

(more)

Nominations are accepted from the public and all eligible materials are included in the yearly reading lists. These books are read and voted on by Arkansas teachers and librarians to create a manageable reading list. This reading list is distributed across the state and then teens cast their votes for their favorite titles to determine the ultimate winners of the awards.

The Arkansas State Library provides the resources, services, and leadership necessary to meet the educational, informational and cultural needs of the citizens of Arkansas. The Library also provides guidance and support for the development of local public libraries and library services. Visit the library online at www.library.arkansas.gov.

###