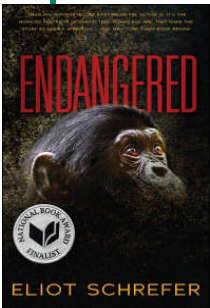
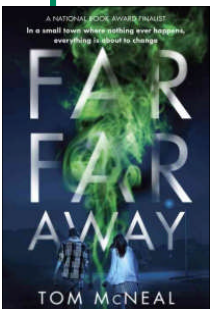


# 2017 Nutmeg Book Award Teen Nominees



## **Endangered** by *Eliot Schrefer*

During summer vacation at her mother's bonobo sanctuary in the Congo, 14 year-old Sophie rescues a young ape, Otto, from a local poacher. After her mother takes a group of apes to a remote release site, militants attack the camp, killing the sanctuary workers. Sophie and Otto escape death by hiding in an enclosure. Their only hope is to reach the release site on the other side of the country. Together, they embark on a long, dangerous journey through war-torn villages and the jungle while struggling to stay alive, reach safety and find Sophie's mother reunited with Sophie's mother.



## **Far, Far Away** by *Tom McNeal*

Jeremy Johnson Johnson lives in the town of Never Better and claims to hear the ghostly voice of one of the Brothers Grimm, Jacob. Townspeople find Jeremy odd. He only wants to study so he can get far away from Never Better but he must deal with a reclusive father, an unseen, evil entity, a magical cake, and a trouble-making girl named Ginger who finds him exceedingly interesting. In this twisted fairy tale, no one lives happily after.

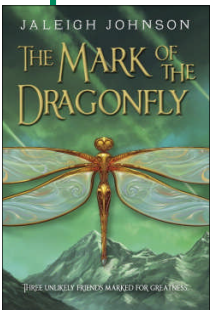
## **The Iron Trial** by *Holly Black & Cassandra Clare*

12-year-old Callum Hunt is not like other kids. Having always been warned by his father to stay away from magic, he tries to fail the exam that will admit him to the Magisterium. But Callum manages to pass the Iron Trial and now heads into an uncertain future in the magical world. Now, Callum and his two new friends at the boarding school for magicians must face the twisted, sinister adventures and enemies that await them.



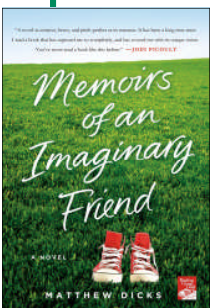
## **The Mark of the Dragonfly** by *Jaleigh Johnson*

Piper finds Anna, a girl with a tattoo on her arm who doesn't remember a thing about her life. But the Dragonfly tattoo proves that she's protected by the king. Piper must get past the peculiar green-eyed boy, stow away on the Great 401 train, and return Anna to claim the reward. Life just got dangerous, magical, and very exciting.



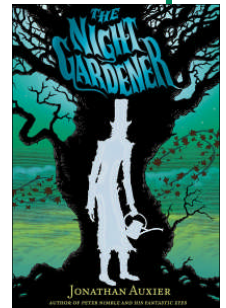
## **Memoirs of an Imaginary Friend** by *Matthew Dicks*

This story is told by Budo, 9-year-old Max's imaginary friend. Budo has been for four years -- a long time-- because Max is autistic. While Max fears being sent to a special school, Budo is terrified of disappearing, the fate of all imaginary friends. But when Max is abducted by a teacher at his school, Budo must do what he can to rescue Max. As long as Max is with his kidnapper, Budo exists. But Budo knows that Max is better off with his parents and learns to "let go" and Max's parents allow themselves to accept their son as he is.



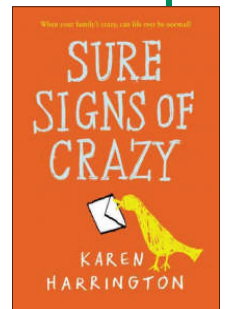
## **The Night Gardener** by *Jonathan Auxier*

Irish orphans Molly and Kip travel to England to work as servants in a crumbling manor house where nothing is quite as it seems. The siblings are confronted by a mysterious and menacing stranger and the spine-tingling secrets of the cursed house begin to unfold.



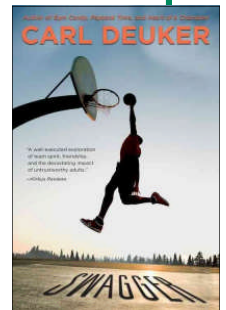
## **Sure Signs of Crazy** by *Karen Harrington*

It's summer in Texas and a genealogy project has sixth-grader Sarah Nelson stressed out. How can she avoid sharing her secrets -- that her mother is institutionalized for trying to drown Sarah when she was a toddler and that her father is an alcoholic? Sarah wonders if she shows signs of being crazy and struggles to face her challenges through journal entries addressed to Atticus Finch (yes, the character from *To Kill a Mockingbird*). Through writing and with support from two empathetic grown-ups, Sarah makes sense of the world and has an extraordinary summer.



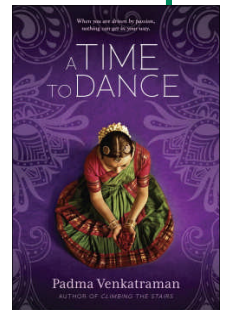
## **Swagger** by *Carl Deuker*

Seventeen year-old basketball player Jonas moves to Seattle and starts over with a new team. Efforts to earn a scholarship are hindered when he barely gets to play. A new coach arrives; both Jonas and teammate Levi see more court time on a winning team. But when Levi shares with Jonas that Coach Hartwell has sexually assaulted him, Jonas must decide what to do. Should he remain silent or risk his future basketball career by reporting the coach?



## **A Time to Dance** by *Padma Venkatraman*

Veda is an aspiring classical dancer in India. After a devastating accident leaves her with a prosthetic leg, her hopes and dreams of dancing are shattered and Veda is forced to start over. Will she ever dance again?



## **Turn Left at the Cow** by *Lisa Bullard*

Thirteen year-old Trav goes to live with Gram in Minnesota to learn more about his dead father, a bank robber who disappeared before Trav's birth. Neither the robber's body nor the stolen cash was ever recovered. Locals begin to suspect Trav of knowing where the cash is when some turns up in stores. Trav and two pals try to prove his innocence. Is the loot stashed in town? Who is threatening Trav? What begins as an adventure to learn about his past has Trav facing a frightening and dangerous adversary--someone who is after the stolen money!

