



## 2025 Nominees

For more information about the award, please visit [www.riteenbookaward.org](http://www.riteenbookaward.org)

### ***6 Times We Almost Kissed (And One Time We Did)* by Tess Sharpe**

Penny and Tate have often clashed, despite their mothers' epic friendship; but now that they are living in the same house, beset by medical crises and the trauma of Penny's father's death, they have to come to terms with their true feelings for each other.

### ***Bianca Torre is Afraid of Everything* by Justine Pucella Winans**

Nonbinary teen birder Bianca Torre must face their large list of fears to solve a murder they witnessed or they might be next.

### ***The Blood Years* by Elana K. Arnold**

The harrowing story of a young girl's struggle to survive the Holocaust in Czernowitz, Romania - long considered a safe haven for Jewish people.

### ***Change the Game* by Colin Kaepernick**

A young change-maker learns to find himself and never compromise, discovering how the right decision is very rarely the easy one, but taking the road less traveled can make all the difference in the world.

### ***Chaos Theory* Nic Stone**

A romance between a certified genius living with a diagnosed mental disorder and a politician's son who is running from his own addiction and grief. Scars exist to remind us of what we've survived.

### ***The Davenports* by Krystal Marquis**

Set in 1910, the Davenports delivers a totally escapist, swoon-worthy romance while offering a glimpse into a period of African American history often overlooked.

### ***Dead Flip* by Sara Farizan**

Eighteen-year-olds Cori and Maz, once inseparable best friends, reunite to solve the mystery of what happened to their other friend Sam—who disappeared six years ago and has now returned, not having aged at all.

### ***Divine Rivals* by Rebecca Ross**

When two young rival journalists find love through a magical connection, they must face the depths of hell, in a war among gods, to seal their fate forever.

### ***Enter the Body* by Joy McCullough**

In the room beneath a theater stage, the ghosts of Juliet, Ophelia, Cordelia, and other teenage girls who died tragically in Shakespeare's plays, share their experiences and trauma and get the chance to retell the stories of their lives in their own terms.

### ***The Infinity Particle* by Wendy Xu**

In this gorgeous graphic novel, a young inventor falls for a lifelike AI and confronts questions of freedom and autonomy.

### ***Hockey Girl Loves Drama Boy* by Erin Faith Hicks**

Angry hockey player Alix thinks that calm, cool, Ezra can help her learn to control her temper. But as they hang out and start to get closer, she learns there is more to him than the cool front he puts on.

### ***A Long Stretch of Bad Days* by Mindy McGinnis**

To earn the last credit she needs to graduate, Lydia Chass teams up with foul-mouthed Bristol Jamison to transform her listener-friendly local history podcast into a hard-hitting, truth-telling exposé as they investigate an unsolved murder from their small town's past.

### ***The Princess and the Grilled Cheese Sandwich* by Deya Muniz**

Cam disguises herself as a man to inherit her father's money and estate, and though she tries to keep a low profile, she ends up falling for Crown Princess Brie

### ***Promise Boys* by Nick Brooks**

J.B., Ramón, and Trey, students of the Urban Promise Prep School, must follow the school's strict rules, but when their principal is murdered, the three boys must band together to track down the real killer before they are arrested.

### ***Rez Ball* by Byron Graves**

A young athlete is determined to play like the hero his Ojibwe community needs him to be, after his varsity basketball star brother is killed in a car accident.

### ***Stateless* by Elizabeth Wein**

Stella North is one of twelve young pilots competing in a 1937 air race meant to promote peace in Europe, but when one of her competitors is sabotaged, Stella races to determine who is capable of murder, and who might be the next victim.

### ***Their Vicious Games* by Joelle Wellington**

Eighteen-year-old Adina Walker, a scholarship student at a prestigious academy, faces the consequences of a single mistake and competes in a high-stakes contest hosted by the wealthy Remington family, where she uncovers unsettling truths about the sponsors and the contest's high stakes.

### ***Throwback* by Maureen Goo**

A Gen Z Korean American girl gets stuck in the '90s with her teenage mother in this fresh, funny adventure full of heart, humor, and time-crossed romance.

### ***Where You See Yourself* by Claire Forrest**

Effie Galanos' goals for her senior year include her navigating her way through her high school that is not really wheelchair-friendly, getting into the perfect college, and getting her crush Wilder to accompany her to the prom—but by spring she is beginning to see herself entirely differently.

### ***The Wicked Bargain* by Gabe Cole Novoa**

El Diablo is in the details in this Latinx pirate fantasy starring a transmasculine nonbinary teen with a mission of revenge, redemption, and revolution.