



Alex Awards 1998-2024



The Alex Awards honors ten books written for adults that have special appeal for young adults.

Alex Awards 2024

Adjei-Brenyah, Nana Kwame. *Chain-Gang All-Stars*
Bell, Darrin. *The Talk*
George, Jessica. *Maame*
Johns, Jessica. *Bad Cree*
Khabushani, Khashayar J. *I Will Greet the Sun Again*
Krause, Daniel. *Whalefall*
Masters, Oksana. *The Hard Parts: A Memoir of Courage and Triumph*
Scalzi, John. *Starter Villain*
Song, Jade. *Chlorine*
Yarros, Rebecca. *Fourth Wing*

Alex Awards 2023

Irwin, Sophie. *A Lady's Guide to Fortune-Hunting*
Kuang, R.F. *Babel, Or the Necessity of Violence: An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution*
Melendez, Jarrett. *Chef's Kiss*
Tan, Sue Lynn. *Daughter of the Moon Goddess*
McCurdy, Jennette. *I'm Glad My Mom Died*
Zamora, Javier. *Solito: A Memoir*
Spooner, James. *The High Desert: Black. Punk. Nowhere.*
Scalzi, John. *The Kaiju Preservation Society*
Nović, Sara. *True Biz*
Rowser, Jamila. *Wash Day Diaries*

Alex Awards 2022

Aoki, Ryka. *Light from Uncommon Stars*
Cronin, Marianne. *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot*
Gornichec, Genevieve. *The Witch's Heart*
Huchu, T.L. *The Library of the Dead*
Leitch, Will. *How Lucky*
Maxwell, Everina. *Winter's Orbit*
Quin, Kate. *The Rose Code*
Rosser, Kareem. *Crossing the Line: A Fearless Team of Brothers and the Sport That Changed Their Lives Forever*
Smythe, Rachel. *Lore Olympus, Vol. 1*
Walter, Heather. *Malice*

Alex Awards 2021

Anthony, Gretchen. *The Kids Are Gonna Ask*
Backderf, Derf. *Kent State: Four Dead in Ohio*
Barry, Quan. *We Ride Upon Sticks: A Novel*
Brosh, Allie. *Solutions and Other Problems*
danforth, emily m. *Plain Bad Heroines*
Jones, Stephen Graham. *The Only Good Indians*
Klune, T.J. *The House in the Cerulean Sea*
O'Brady, Colin. *The Impossible First: From Fire to Ice – Crossing Antarctica Alone*
Onyebuchi, Tochi. *Riot Baby*
Roanhorse, Rebecca. *Black Sun*

Created by Youth Services (ED)
January 2024

Alex Awards 2020

Cruz, Angie. *Dominicana*

Dungo, A.J. *In Waves*

Fletcher, C.A.. *A Boy and His Dog at the End of the World*

Kobabe, Maia. *Gender Queer: A Memoir*

Lutz, Lisa. *The Swallows*

McGuire, Seanan. *Middlegame*

McQuiston, Casey. *Red, White, and Royal Blue*

Oh, Temi. *Do You Dream of Terra-Two?*

Quin, Sara and Tegan Quin. *High School*

Whitehead, Colson. *The Nickel Boys*

Alex Awards 2019

Clark, P. Djèlí. *The Black God's Drum*

Evison, Jonathan. *Lawn Boy*

Graham-Felsen. *Green*

Jemisen, N. K.. *How Long 'Til Black Future Month?*

MacLean Weir, Meghan. *The Book of Essie*

Miller, Madeline. *Circe*

Novik, Naomi. *Spinning Silver*

Small, David. *Home After Dark*

Wamariya, Clemantine and Elizabeth Weil. *The Girl Who Smiled Beads: A Story of War and What Comes After*

Westover, Tara. *Educated: A Memoir*

Alex Awards 2018

Comeau, Joey. *Malagash*

Ewing, Eve L. *Electric Arches*

Fleming, Melissa. *A Hope More Powerful Than the Sea*

Harper, Jordan. *She Rides Shotgun*

Howard, Kat. *An Unkindness of Magicians*

Kavanagh, Tasha. *Things We Have In Common*

Lemire, Jeff. *Roughneck*

McGuire, Seanan. *Down Among the Sticks and Bones*

Wells, Martha. *All Systems Red*

Wilson, Daniel H. *The Clockwork Dynasty*

Alex Awards 2017

Durst, Sarah Beth. *The Queen of Blood*

Gonzales, Manuel. *The Regional Office is Under Attack*

Guerrero, Diane. *In the Country We Love: My Family Divided*

Hart, Hannah. *Buffering: Unshared Tales of a Life Fully Loaded*

Jennings, Holly. *Arena*

McGuire, Seanan. *Every Heart a Doorway*

North, Ryan. *Romeo and/or Juliet: A Choosable-Path Adventure*

Rufus, Rob. *Die Young with Me: A Memoir*

Simon, Matt. *The Wasp that Brainwashed the Caterpillar*

Stambach, Scott. *The Invisible Life of Ivan Isaenko*

Alex Awards 2016

Gattis, Ryan. *All Involved*
Coates, Ta-Nehisi. *Between the World and Me*
DeAngelis, Camille. *Bones & All*
Wong, David. *Futuristic Violence and Fancy Suits*
Nović, Sara. *Girl at War*
Abercrombie, Joe. *Half the World*
Stanton, Brandon. *Humans of New York: Stories*
Suburbia, Liz. *Sacred Heart*
Peralta, Dan-el Padilla. *Undocumented*
Parssinen, Keija. *The Unraveling of Mercy Louis*

Alex Awards 2015

Deorr, Anthony. *All the Light We Cannot See*
Racculia, Kate. *Bellweather Rhapsody*
Levine, James. *Bingo's Run*
Minato, Kanae. *Confessions*
Ng, Celeste. *Everything I Never Told You*
Scalzi, John. *Lock In*
Weir, Andy. *The Martian*
Ebrahim, Zak. *The Terrorist's Son: A Story of Choice*
Koryta, Michael. *Those Who Wish Me Dead*
Darniell, John. *Wolf in White Van*

Alex Awards 2014

Slouka, Mark. *Brewster*
O'Donnell, Lisa. *The Death of Bees*
Tarttelin, Abigail. *Golden Boy: A Novel*
Searles, John. *Help for the Haunted*
Barry, Max. *Lexicon: A Novel*
Chu, Wesley. *Lives of Tao*
Zailckas, Koren. *Mother, Mother: A Novel*
Knisley, Lucy. *Relish*
Millay, Katja. *The Sea of Tranquility: A Novel*
Extence, Gavin. *The Universe Versus Alex Woods*

Alex Awards 2013

Zimmerman, David. *Caring is Creepy.*
Hassman, Tupelo. *Girlchild.*
Ross, Richard. *Juvenile in Justice.*
Sloan, Robin. *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore.*
Backderf, Derf. *My Friend Dahmer.*
Baggott, Julianna. *Pure.*
Erdrich, Louise. *The Round House.*
Brunt, Carol Rifka. *Tell the Wolves I'm Home.*
Semple, Maria. *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?*

Alex Awards 2012

DeWoskin, Rachel. *Big Girl Small.*

Beard, Jo Ann. *In Zanesville.*

Levithan, David. *The Lover's Dictionary.*

Hauser, Brooke. *The New Kids: Big Dreams and Brave Journeys at a High School for Immigrant Teens.*

Morgenstern, Erin. *The Night Circus.*

Cline, Ernest. *Ready Player One.*

Wilson, Daniel H. *Robocalypse: A Novel.*

Ward, Jesmyn. *Salvage the Bones.*

Preston, Caroline. *The Scrapbook of Frankie Pratt: A Novel in Pictures.*

Merullo, Roland. *The Talk-Funny Girl.*

Alex Awards 2011

Pierson, D.C. *The Boy Who Couldn't Sleep and Never Had To.*

Murray, Liz. *Breaking Night.*

Kwok, Jean. *Girl in Translation.*

Bognanni, Peter. *The House of Tomorrow.*

Hamilton, Steve. *The Lock Artist.*

Bender, Aimee. *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake.*

Haig, Matt. *The Radleys.*

Bell, Alden. *The Reapers are the Angels.*

Donoghue, Emma. *Room.*

Hunt, Helen. *The Vanishing of Katharina Linda.*

Alex Awards 2010

Kamkwamba, William. *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope.*

Rosoff, Meg. *The Bride's Farewell.*

Currie, Ron. *Everything Matters!*

Finkel, David. *The Good Soldiers.*

Welch, Diana. *The Kids Are All Right: A Memoir by Diana and Liz Welch with Amanda and Dan Welch.*

Grossman, Lev. *The Magicians.*

Rock, Peter. *My Abandonment.*

Carriger, Gail. *Soulless: An Alexia Tarabotti Novel.*

Small, David. *Stitches: A Memoir, by David Small.*

Wilson, Kevin. *Tunneling to the Center of the Earth*

Alex Awards 2009

Benioff, David. *City of Thieves.*

Swanwick, Michael. *The Dragons of Babel.*

Ferraris, Zoe. *Finding Nouf.*

Tinti, Hannah. *The Good Thief.*

King, Stephen. *Just After Sunset: Stories.*

Jordan, Hillary. *Mudbound*

Tucker, Todd. *Over and Under.*

Bloom, Stephen P. *The Oxford Project.*

Barlow, Toby. *Sharp Teeth.*

Rebeck, Theresa. *Three Girls and Their Brother.*

Alex Awards 2008

Polly, Matthew. *American Shaolin: Flying Kicks, Buddhist Monks, and the Legend of Iron Crotch*

Ruff, Matt. *Bad Monkeys.*

Iggulden, Conn. *Genghis: Birth of an Empire.*

Ayle, Aryn. *The God of Animals.*

Beah, Ishmael. *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier.*

Jones, Lloyd. *Mister Pip.*

Rothfuss, Patrick. *The Name of the Wind.*

Maltman, Thomas. *The Night Birds.*

Lutz, Lisa. *The Spellman Files.*

Lemire, Jeff. *Tales from the Farm: Essex County, v.1.*

Alex Awards 2007

Connolly, John. *The Book of Lost Things.*

Doig, Ivan. *The Whistling Season.*

D'Orso, Michael. *Eagle Blue: A Team, a Tribe, and a High School Basketball Season in Arctic Alaska.*

Gruen, Sara. *Water for Elephants.*

Hamamura, John. *Color of the Sea.*

Joern, Pamela Carter. *The Floor of the Sky.*

Lewis, Michael. *The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game.*

Mitchell, David. *Black Swan Green.*

Rash, Ron. *The World Made Straight.*

Setterfield, Diane. *The Thirteenth Tale.*

Alex Awards 2006

Bates, Judy Fong. *Midnight at the Dragon Café.*

Buckhanon, Kalisha. *Upstate.*

Gaiman, Neil. *Anansi Boys.*

Galloway, Gregory. *As Simple As Snow.*

Ishiguro, Kazuo. *Never Let Me Go.*

Martinez, A. Lee. *Gil's All Fright Diner.*

Palwick, Susan. *The Necessary Beggar.*

Rawles, Nancy. *My Jim.*

Scheeres, Julia. *Jesus Land: A Memoir.*

Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle: A Memoir.*

Alex Awards 2005

Almond, Steve. *Candyfreak: A Journey through the Chocolate Underbelly of America.*

Cox, Lynn. *Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer.*

Halpin, Brendan. *Donorboy.*

Kurson, Robert. *Shadow Divers.*

Meyers, Kent. *Work of Wolves.*

Patchett, Ann. *Truth & Beauty: A Friendship.*

Picoult, Jodi. *My Sister's Keeper.*

Reed, Kit. *Thinner Than Thou.*

Shepard, Jim. *Project X.*

Sullivan, Robert. *Rats: Observations on the History and Habitat of the City's Most Unwanted Inhabitants.*

Alex Awards 2004

Davis, Amanda. *Wonder When You'll Miss Me.*
Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time.*
Hosseini, Khaled. *The Kite Runner.*
Niffenegger, Audrey. *The Time Traveler's Wife.*
Packer, Z.Z. *Drinking Coffee Elsewhere.*
Roach, Mary. *Stiff.*
Salzman, Mark. *True Notebooks.*
Satrap, Marjane. *Persepolis.*
Winspear, Jacqueline. *Maisie Dobbs.*
Yates, Bart. *Leave Myself Behind.*

Alex Awards 2003

Barry, Lynda. *One Hundred Demons.*
Conroy, Pat. *My Losing Season.*
Ferris, Timothy. *Seeing in the Dark: How Backyard Stargazers Are Probing Deep Space and Guarding Earth from Interplanetary Peril.*
Fforde, Jasper. *The Eyre Affair.*
Lawson, Mary. *Crow Lake.*
Malloy, Brian. *The Year of Ice.*
Otsuka, Julie. *When the Emperor Was Divine.*
Packer, Ann. *The Dive from Clausen's Pier.*
Southgate, Martha. *The Fall of Rome.*
Weisberg, Joseph. *10th Grade.*

Alex Awards 2002

Brooks, Geraldine. *Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague.*
Doyle, William. *An American Insurrection: The Battle of Oxford.*
Durham, David Anthony. *Gabriel's Story.*
Ehrenreich, Barbara. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in Boom-Time America.*
Enger, Leif. *Peace like a River.*
Kruger, Kobie. *The Wilderness Family: At Home with Africa's Wildlife.*
Morrissey, Donna. *Kit's Law.*
Odom, Mel. *The Rover.*
Vijayaraghavan, Vineeta. *Motherland.*
Walker, Rebecca. *Black, White, and Jewish: Autobiography of a Shifting Self.*

Alex Awards 2001

Bradley, James. *Flags of Our Fathers*
Bradshaw, Gillian. *The Sand-Reckoner.*
Chevalier, Tracy. *The Girl with a Pearl Earring.*
Colton, Larry. *Counting Coup: A True Story of Basketball and Honor on the Little Big Horn.*
Jordan, June. *Soldier: A Poet's Childhood.*
Marillier, Juliet. *Daughter of the Forest.*
Philbrick, Nathaniel. *In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex.*
Sherwood, Ben. *The Man Who Ate the 747.*
Strauss, Darin. *Chang and Eng.*
Watt, Alan. *Diamond Dogs.*

Alex Awards 2000

Breashears, David. *High Exposure: An Enduring Passion for Everest and Unforgiving Places.*

Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Shadow.*

Clarke, Breena. *River, Cross My Heart.*

Codell, Esmé Raji. *Educating Esmé: Diary of a Teacher's First Year.*

Fuqua, Jonathon Scott. *The Reappearance of Sam Webber.*

Gaiman, Neil. *Stardust.*

Greenlaw, Linda. *The Hungry Ocean: A Swordboat Captain's Journey.*

Hart, Elva Trevino. *Barefoot Heart: Stories of a Migrant Child.*

Haruf, Kent. *Plainsong.*

Porter, Connie. *Imani All Mine.*

Alex Awards 1999

Alexander, Caroline. *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition.*

Boylan, James Finney. *Getting In.*

Dominick, Andie. *Needles.*

Gilstrap, John. *At All Costs.*

Kercheval, Jesse Lee. *Space.*

Kluger, Steve. *Last Days of Summer*

Silverberg, Robert, editor. *Legends: Stories by the Masters of Modern Fantasy.*

Robinson, Kim Stanley. *Antarctica*

Santiago, Esmeralda. *Almost a Woman.*

Senna, Danzy. *Caucasia.*

Alex Awards 1998

Bodanis, David. *The Secret Family: Twenty-four Hours inside the Mysterious Worlds of Our Minds & Bodies.*

Bragg, Rick. *All Over but the Shoutin'.*

Carroll, Rebecca. *Sugar in the Raw: Voices of Young Black Girls in America.*

Cook, Karin. *What Girls Learn.*

Hamill, Pete. *Snow in August.*

Junger, Sebastian. *The Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men against the Sea.*

Krakauer, Jon. *Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster.*

Thomas, Velma Maia. *Lest We Forget: The Passage from Africa to Slavery and Emancipation.*

Trice, Dawn Turner. *Only Twice I've Wished for Heaven.*

Willis, Connie. *To Say Nothing of the Dog; or, How We Found the Bishop's Bird Stump at Last.*