

2008 Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award nominees

MacDonald, Andy. *Dropping In with Andy Mac: The Life of a Pro Skateboarder*

A pro skateboarding legend, known for his rejection of the drugs and alcohol so prevalent among his peers, recounts the story of his long, uphill road to success in his demanding and wildly popular sport.

Meyer, Stephenie. *Twilight* (YA fiction) (WINNER)

A bored girl in a dreary small town finds her life suddenly much more interesting—not to mention dangerous—when she becomes attracted to an unusual boy who belongs to a family of vampires. Who don't hunt humans. Usually.

Nelson, Blake. *Rock Star, Superstar* (YA fiction)

When a high school bass guitar player joins a rock group which is about to make it big, his new focus on his music career forces a crisis in his relationship with his girlfriend.

Nelson, Pete. *Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice for the U.S.S. Indianapolis* (youth non-fiction; J 940.54)

The true story of a young boy who spent six years researching the sinking of a U.S. Navy ship in World War II and exposed the Navy cover-up of the rigged court-martial of the ship's captain.

Patterson, James. *Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment* (YA fiction) (2nd place)

A group of genetically engineered children, part human and part bird, flee the lab where they were created and the pursuit of the brutal Erasers, wolf-like predators sent to eliminate them so their existence will never be discovered.

Rees, Celia. *Pirates!* (YA fiction)

In 1722, upon her father's death, 16-year-old Nancy Kington is headed for marriage to a wealthy old man. In desperation, she flees with the slave girl Minerva to join a pirate band.

See, Lisa. *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* (adult fiction; F S)

A Chinese woman looks back on her youth and young womanhood, reflecting on her laotong ("old sames") relationship with another girl, and on the ways in which they struggled for some degree of self-determination in a society which oppressed women through such practices as foot-binding and arranged marriage.

Tasjian, Janet. *Fault Line* (YA fiction)

When Becky meets fellow comedian Kip at the improv clubs where they both perform, he seems the perfect guy for her—until the relationship turns abusive.

Vande Velde, Vivian. *Heir Apparent* (youth fiction; J V)

A girl is trapped in a virtual reality game when protestors damage the gaming center's equipment, and losing is no longer an option for her if she hopes to escape unharmed.

Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle* (adult non-fiction; B W159)

Walls, now an MSNBC columnist, reveals the story of her chaotic youth, during which she and her siblings were mostly left to fend for themselves while their alcoholic father and artist mother moved about the country evading bill collectors and the law.

Whitcomb, Laura. *A Certain Slant of Light* (YA fiction)

The spirit of a woman long dead, unable to move on to the afterlife, clings to the physical world until she encounters James, a spirit similarly marooned, who shows her how to inhabit an "empty" body. Overjoyed at their discovery of each other, the two soon fall deeply in love.