



**2024-2025  
Idaho Battle of  
the Books  
Middle School/  
Junior High  
Titles**



a first time for everything

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
DAN SANTAT

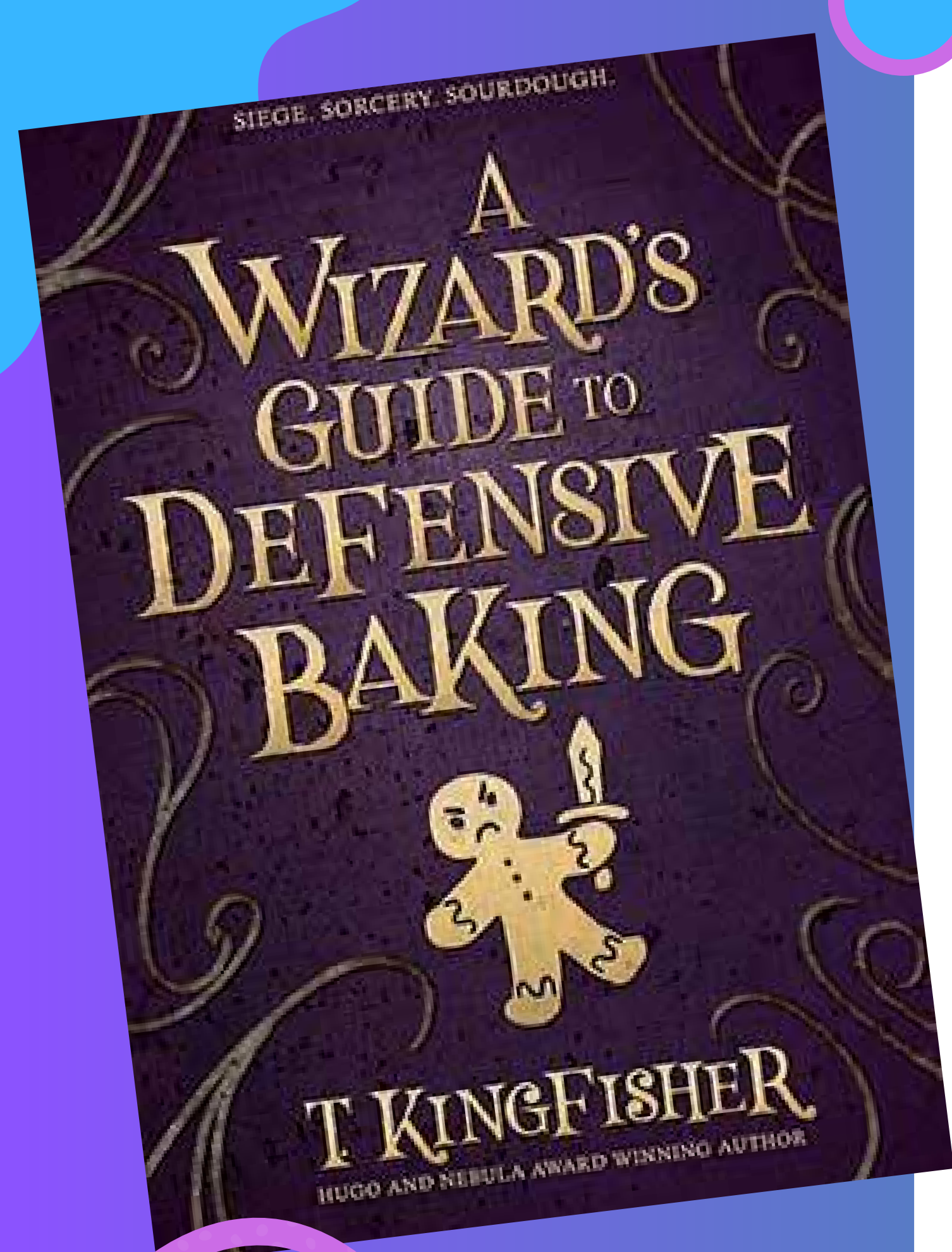


## **A First Time for Everything by Dan Santat**

A story about Dan finding himself, his self-confidence, and falling in love for the first time all backdropped by a European tour with his peers before he starts high school.

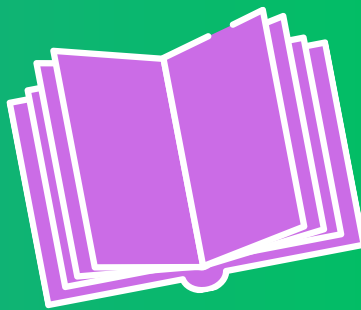






## **A Wizard's Guide to Defensive Baking by T. Kingfisher**

When teenage bread wizard Mona discovers a corpse in her family's bakery, it triggers a chain of events that leads to her managing the city's defense against military assault, with the aid of animate gingerbread men and her familiar - a sourdough starter.







## **Alone** by Megan E. Freeman

After a rough start, Maddie learns to trust her own ingenuity and invents clever ways to survive in a place that has been deserted and forgotten. As months pass, she escapes natural disasters, looters, and wild animals. But Maddie's most formidable enemy is the crushing loneliness she faces every day.







## **Blackbird Blue Road by Sofiya Pasternack**

Pesah has lived with leprosy for years, and the twins have spent most of that time working on a cure. Then Pesah has a vision: The Angel of Death will come for him on Rosh Hashanah, just one month away. So Ziva takes her brother and runs away to find doctors who can cure him.





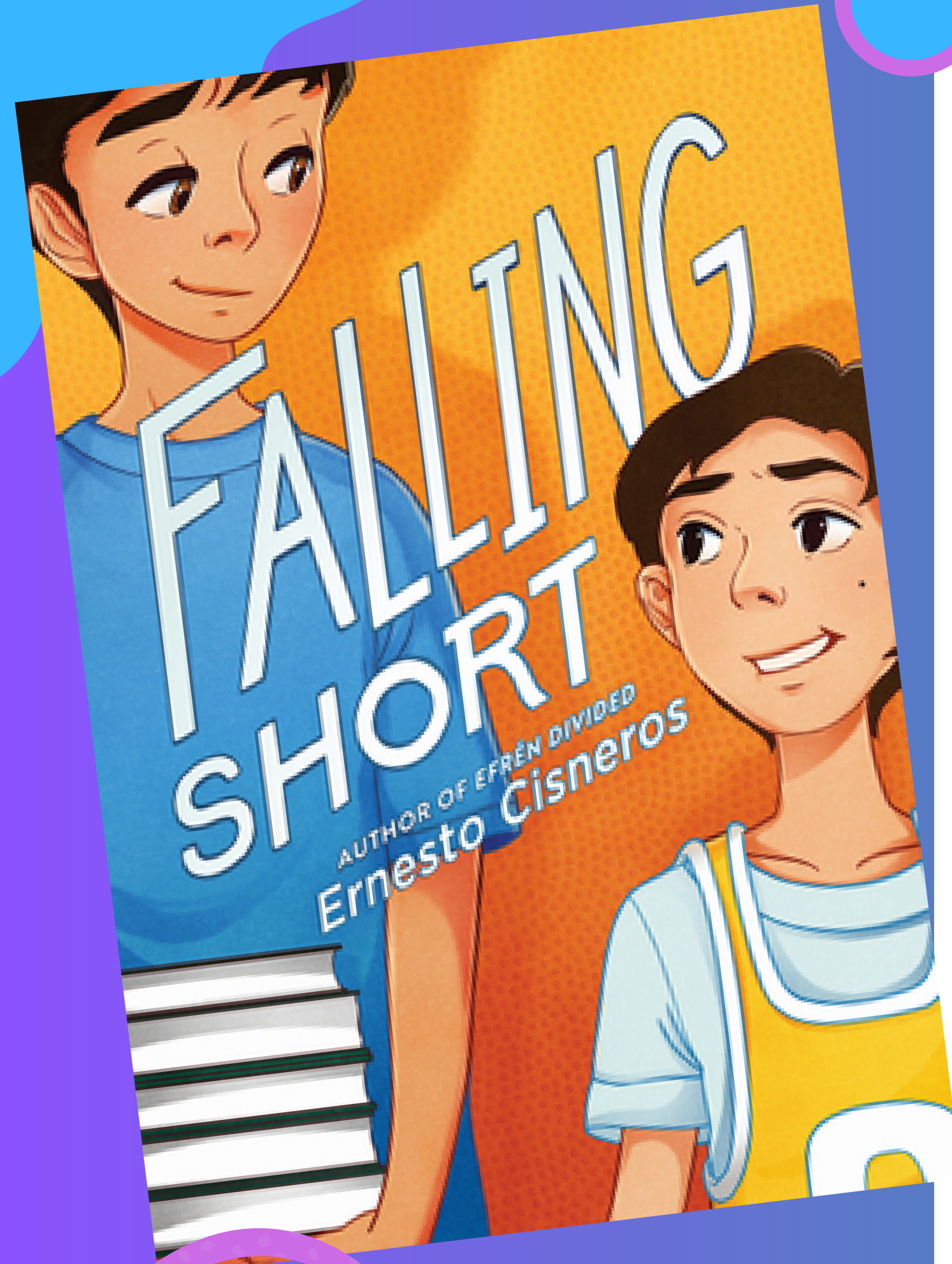


## **Coop Knows the Scoop by Taryn Souders**

A few days before seventh grade begins, a playground renovation disinters the earthly remains of Tabby Goodman, Coop's grandmother, who allegedly skipped town four decades earlier, and shatters the small town's idyllic peace. As evidence stacks up, Coop reckons with revelations that rattle his family's history.







## **Falling Short** by **Ernesto Cisneros**

Isaac and Marco already know sixth grade is going to change their lives. But it won't change things at home -- not without each other's help. This year, star basketball player Isaac plans on finally keeping up with his schoolwork. Better grades will surely stop Isaac's parents for arguing all the time.







# **The First Rule of Punk** by **Celia C. Pérez**

A charming debut about a thoughtful, creative preteen connecting to both halves of her identity. Malu wants to be totally punk at her new middle school, but her Mexican-American mother would prefer she learn to be a proper señorita.







# **The Missing Found by Margaret Peterson Haddix**

One night a plane appears out of nowhere, the only passengers aboard: thirty-six babies. As soon as they were taken off the plane, it vanished. Now, thirteen years later, two of those children are receiving sinister messages, and they begin to investigate their past.







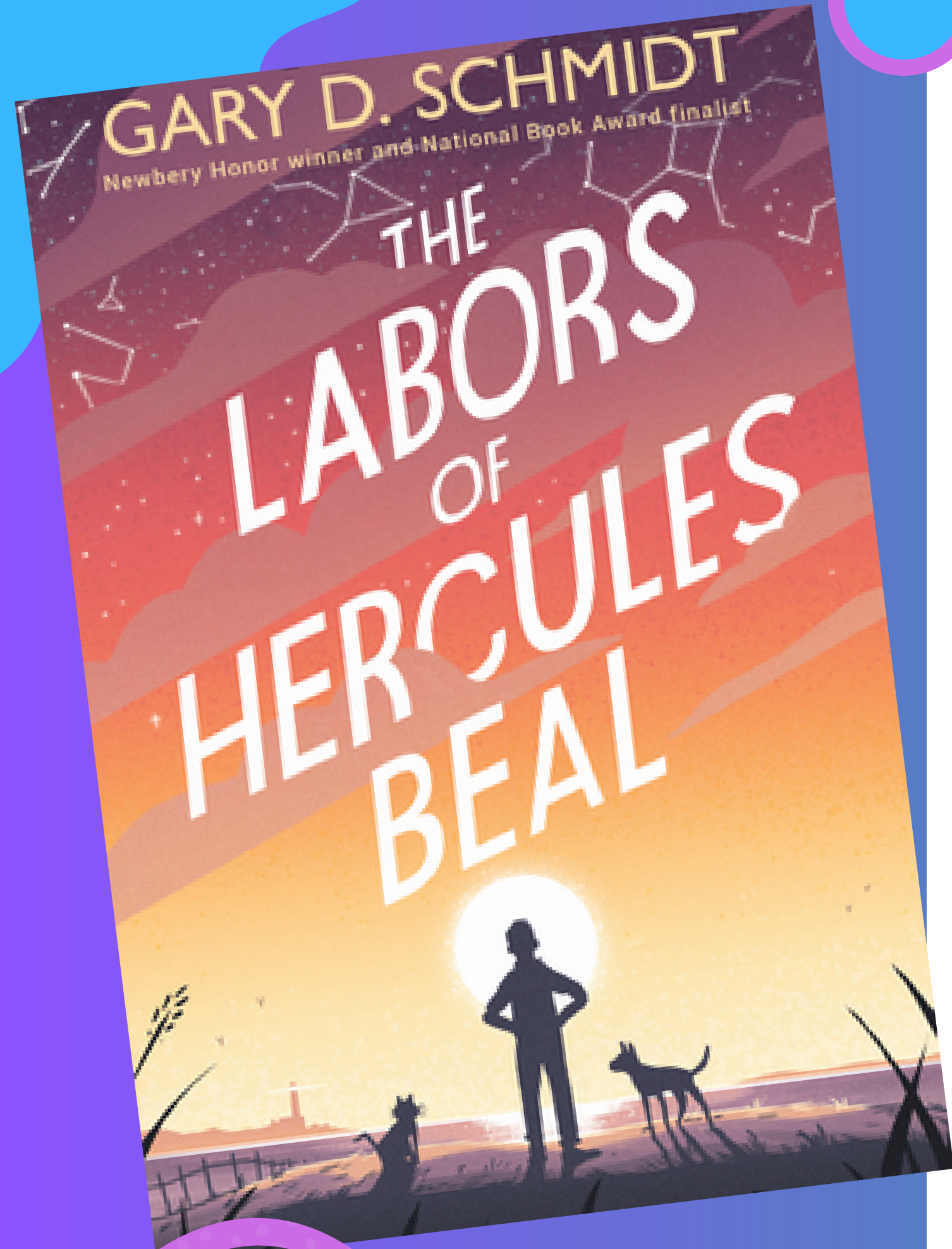
# Jinxed

by Amy McCulloch

When coding star enters an elite technology academy, she discovers a world of competition, intrigue, and family secrets--plus a robotic companion that isn't what it seems.







## **The Labors of Hercules Beal by Gary D. Schmidt**

A warm and witty novel in which a seventh grader has to figure out how to fulfill an assignment to perform the Twelve Labors of Hercules in real life-- and makes discoveries about friendship, community, and himself along the way.







# **The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd**

The story follows 12-year old Ted and his 14-year old sister, Kat, as they try to find out what happened to their cousin, Salim, who mysteriously went missing when the three of them went on a trip to The London Eye.





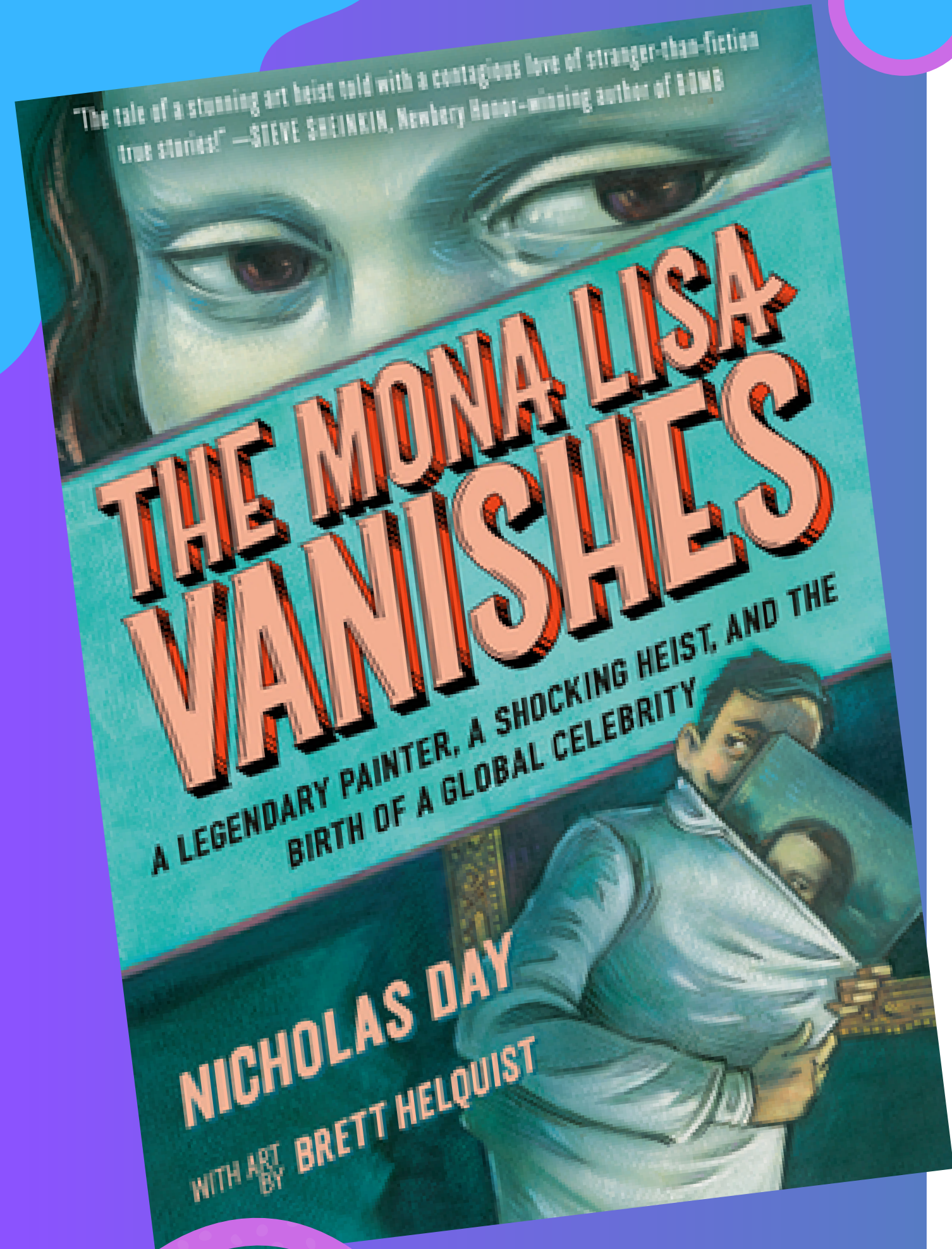


## **The Lost Year** by Katherine Marsh

When the pandemic shuts down the world in 2020, Matthew is more isolated than most kids. His journalist father is stuck in Paris, and since his mom has moved GG, his frail, 100-year old, Ukrainian immigrant great-grandmother, in with them, protecting her means Matthew can't see his friends. Matthew uncovers a dark family secret leading back to the Holodomor, the early 1930s Ukrainian famine caused by Stalin's policies.







# **The Mona Lisa Vanishes** **by Nicholas Day**

A “witty thriller” for middle-grade readers about how the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre, how the robbery made the portrait the most famous artwork in the world--and how the painting by Leonardo a Vinci should never have existed at all.







# The Ogress and the Orphans by Kelly Barnhill

A fantasy story of a town's journey to discover what truly makes something lovely. Most of the story takes place a few years after the library is burned down and an orphan goes missing, which leads to its citizens blaming an ogress who had just moved in.







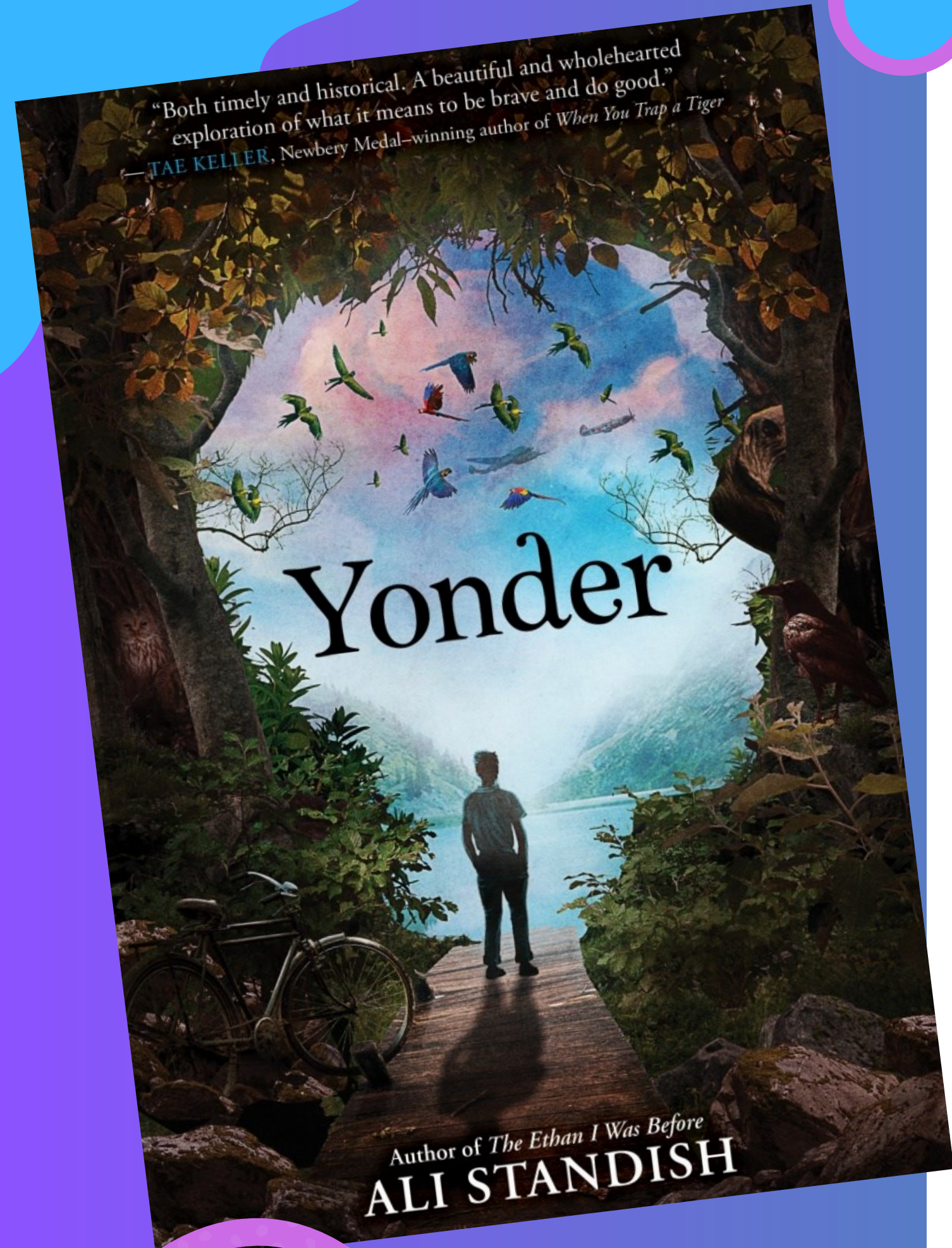
# Swim Team

## by Johnnie Christmas

The novel centers on Bree, a young Black girl starting over at a middle school in Florida, where she reluctantly joins the swim team. In doing so, Bree must confront her fears about swimming, friendship, and disappointing her father.







# Yonder

## by Ali Standish

Danny tries to solve his friend's disappearance while grappling with questions of fear, courage and heroism on the WWII homefront.







**Happy  
Reading  
and we'll see  
you next  
year!**

