

# YOUTH FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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The 2017 National Summer Reading Champion is Newbery Medal Award Winner Kwame Alexander



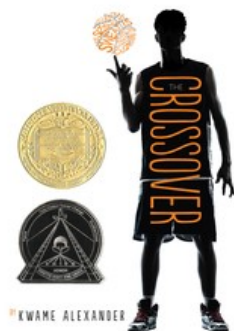
Kwame Alexander, 2017 National Summer Reading Champion, is a poet, educator, and New York Times Bestselling author of 21 books, including *BOOKED* and *THE CROSSOVER*, which received the 2015 John Newbery Medal for the Most Distinguished Contribution to American literature for Children, the Coretta Scott King Author Award Honor, The NCTE Charlotte Huck Honor, the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award, and the Paterson Poetry Prize. Kwame writes for children of all ages. His other works include *SURF'S UP*, a picture book, and *HE SAID SHE SAID*, a YA novel.

A regular speaker at schools and conferences, he travels the world planting seeds of literary love (Singapore, Brazil, Italy, France, Shanghai, etc.). Each year, Alexan-

der leads a delegation of writers, educators, and activists to Ghana, as part of LEAP for Ghana, an International literacy program he co-founded that builds libraries and provides literacy professional development for teachers.

Kwame has owned several publishing companies, written for stage and TV (TLC's "Hip Hop Harry"), recorded a CD, produced jazz and book festivals, hosted a radio show, and taught high school English. In 2015, Kwame served as Bank Street College of Education's first writer-in-residence.

"BOLD EXPLOSIONS... I LOVE THE CROSSOVER EVERYONE WILL!" —KERRY COSMANS



## Check it out!

### The Accidental Highwayman

Being the tale of Kit Bristol, his horse Midnight, a mysterious princess, and sundry magical persons besides.

By Ben Tripp

*The Accidental Highwayman* is the first swashbuckling adventure for young adults by talented author and illustrator, Ben Tripp.



In eighteenth-century England, young Christopher "Kit" Bristol is the unwitting servant of notorious highwayman Whistling Jack. One dark night, Kit finds his master bleeding from a mortal wound, dons the man's riding cloak to seek help, and changes the course of his life forever. Mistaken for Whistling Jack and on the run from redcoats, Kit is catapulted into a world of magic and wonders he thought

the stuff of fairy tales. Bound by magical law, Kit takes up his master's quest to rescue a rebellious fairy princess from an arranged marriage to King George III of England. But his task is not an easy one, for Kit must contend with the feisty Princess Morgana, goblin attacks, and a magical map that portends his destiny: as a hanged man upon the gallows....

## What's new.....

### Books

**Judy Moody: around the world in 8 1/2 days**  
by Megan McDonald

**Baseball Genius** by Tim Green

**Meritropolis** by Joel Ohman

**Daughter of Smoke and Bone**  
by Laini Taylor

**Days of Blood and Starlight**  
by Laini Taylor.

**The Maddie Diaries**  
by Maddie Ziegler

**Isle of the Lost**  
by Melissa de la Cruz

**Return to the Isle of the Lost**  
by Melissa de la Cruz

**Heartless**  
By Marissa Meyer

### DVDs

**Hidden Figures**

**Dr. Strange**

**Popeye**

**Guardians of the Galaxy**

**Muppets Most Wanted**

**The Legend of Tarzan**

**Up**

**Fantastic Beasts and where to find them**

**Ant-Man**



**Fairy-Tale Survival Rule No. 52:**

*No matter how difficult the obstacles or all-powerful the evil villain, one can rest assured that the hero of the story never dies. The sidekicks though...they should be worried.*