
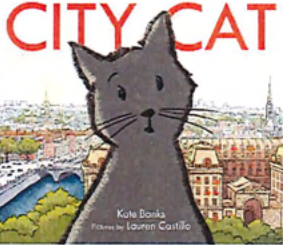
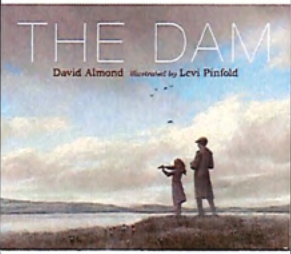



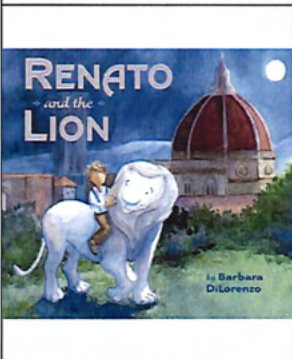
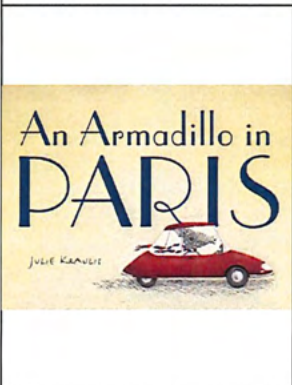


Title	Author	Continent/ Culture Represented	Review/Summary	Ebook (E) or Audiobook (A) available in OverDrive?
	Patricia Polacco	Europe and Asia/Russian and Jewish	<p>School Library Journal (August 1, 2013) Gr 1-4-This book is a prequel to <i>The Keeping Quilt</i> (S & S, 1988), but readers do not need to have read the first book to enjoy it. The entrancing charcoal illustrations soften the bittersweet story and will delight young readers as they follow the brightly colored "Blessing Cup" through pages of black and white. Polacco tells an autobiographical story, tracing the origins of a special teacup from the hands of her great-grandmother in Russia to the possession of her own children today. In telling the story of the cup, the author touches on the plight of Jewish people in Russia during the early 1900s, bringing to light the terror of the pogroms as seen through the eyes of Polacco's great-grandmother as a girl. The importance of family is the underlying message of the book; it will be best delivered by an adult who can explain some of the history that drives the action. Polacco's touching yet restrained storytelling, paired with her evocative illustrations, makes <i>The Blessing Cup</i> an excellent addition to any collection.-Nora Clancy, Teachers College Community School, New York City (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.</p>	Pending/E (Adobe)
	Katie Banks	Europe/Italy, France, Spain, England, the Netherlands, Germany	<p>Kirkus Reviews (October 15, 2013) A black cat serves as European tour guide for child readers in this offering from Banks and Castillo. The cat and a family of travelers begin in Rome. Outstanding backmatter later tells readers that the famed Coliseum is home to over 200 stray cats that are protected by Roman law. But before reaching the informational paratext, readers follow the cat from one European locale to another, right alongside the family on holiday. The family seems almost superfluous, even intrusive to the cat's adventure. First, the cat stows away in the back of the family's car and ends up in Marseille, and it then goes on to Barcelona and five other destinations before returning to Rome. Banks' graceful writing describes the sites visited through sensory detail, while Castillo's soft, yet detailed art deftly fills in narrative gaps by showing how the cat gets from place to place. Some legs of the journey may seem a bit implausible, and it's quite coincidental that the cat and the family keep turning up in the same places. By book's end, the nod to the child asleep in his bed and the cat "curled up in a statue's arm" nearby feels rather forced. Nevertheless, the art presents a veritable feast for the eyes from page to page, and Banks' narrative is characteristically well-paced and lyrical. A lovely, if unlikely, feline journey. (Picture book. 4-8)</p>	Yes/E
	David Almond	Europe/British	<p>Kirkus Reviews starred (July 1, 2018) In this picture book based on a true story, a father and daughter pay homage to the valley that will be flooded when a dam under construction is completed. Early one morning, Kathryn, a young girl, is woken by her father and told, "Bring your fiddle." They are visiting the valley that will soon be flooded when the Kielder Dam in Northumberland, England, is finished. In each empty house in the abandoned valley, Kathryn plays her fiddle while her father sings, as they remember and commemorate the music and the life that the houses have held. Author Almond's narrative is quietly spare as it both reinforces and references illustrator Pinfold's detailed, majestic illustrations—reminiscent of Andrew Wyeth's work in both palette and grace. When the narrative says, "This was covered over. / This was drowned," the small spot illustrations opposite, in a somber palette, create a sense of time, movement, and loss. And when, with the flick of the phrase, "The lake is beautiful" concludes the sequence, the narrative and illustrative tones change. Now the page turn reveals a majestic wordless double-page spread of the created lake, painted in soft blues and greens, and ensuing illustrations show people boating, swimming, and playing on the lakeshore. With its every detail—its masterful illustrations, its landscape format, and the elegant text that offers readers a way to see the promise of new life from what has been destroyed—this book triumphs. (Picture book. 4-10)</p>	No

Title	Author	Continent/ Culture Represented	Review/Summary	Ebook (E) or Audiobook (A) available in OverDrive?
	John McCutcheon	Europe/Bosnian	<p>School Library Journal (April 1, 2017) Gr 2-5-Based on a true story, this picture book relates an uplifting tale of how music can help people rise above the horror of war. Twenty-five years ago, civil war raged in Sarajevo. A young boy, Drasko, helps his father sell flowers in the market square. He watches as his father speaks to everyone, regardless of ethnicity or religion, in a country where civil war has pitted various cultures against one another. When his father leaves to join the fighting, Drasko continues at the flower stand. In the square, as people wait in line at the bakery for bread, a bomb is dropped, and 22 people are killed. The next day, and for the following 22 days, a tuxedoed cellist appears in the square and plays music to honor the dead. McCutcheon tells the story through the eyes of young Drasko, who realizes how the beauty of this unexpected music inspires feelings of hope that help to counter the sorrows of war. In response to the music, Drasko does not sell his flowers but gives them away: "Today they are free." Caldwell has framed the central actions of the story and the faces in the crowded market square in beautiful, rich colors against the somewhat faded and blurred background. The flowers, a symbol of hope, are prominently displayed. The classical setting of the architecture of the square deftly contrasts with the upheaval of a society at war, as depicted by the crater left from the bombing. Text and illustrations work together to remind readers of the power of beauty in the face of human suffering. Appended are historical notes. A CD includes an audio version of the tale, narrated by the author, and a musical performance by the story's cellist. VERDICT A highly recommended book that highlights the capacity for empathy and humanity, even in a society faced with violence and war.-Carole Phillips, Greenacres Elementary School, Scarsdale, NY © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.</p>	Yes/A (Ebook not available)
	Nicola Davies	Europe/Welsh and Italian	<p>Booklist starred (August 2017 (Vol. 113, No. 22)) Grades K-3. It's difficult to determine what works best in this tender, simple tale. There's a young boy, newly arrived from Italy, who does not feel like he belongs in strange, rainy Wales; an old man, bowed and broken from spending most of his life in the mines; and a racing pigeon, King of the Sky. The boy's first-person commentary achingly expresses his loneliness and sense of alienation, and the beautiful mixed-media illustrations, which have the smudged and dreamlike quality of watercolors, align perfectly, setting scenes that capture moods and the rainy setting, provide insights, and engage readers, from the cover to sweeping two-page spreads to the endpapers, which are filled with pigeons in a variety of forms. The pigeon's struggles during a long-distance race are poignantly portrayed, as is the boy's jubilation when King returns as a champion. This lovely story will resonate with any child who has felt out of place, whether a transfer student in a new school or an immigrant in a new country. This will work for group readings, but will be much more special for one-on-one sharing, where readers can absorb the language and pore over the detailed, nuanced pictures. This is a unique and very special book.</p>	No

Title	Author	Continent/ Culture Represented	Review/Summary	Ebook (E) or Audiobook (A) available in OverDrive?
	Linda Lodding	Europe/French	<p>Booklist starred (April 15, 2016 (Vol. 112, No. 16))</p> <p>Preschool-Grade 2. Josette Bobette, of 9 Rue Laffette, and her beloved pet rabbit, Pepette, have a big problem: of all the family portraits in the Bobettes' great room—from stoic grand-mère and grand-père to froufrou family schnoodle, Frizette—Pepette's is nowhere in sight. Determined to find an artist who can perfectly capture Pepette's brilliance, Josette and her bunny take to the bustling Montmartre of 1920s Paris. There they stumble upon four unnamed but prominent artists—can you guess who? The first, intrigued by Pepette's "majestic ears," reimagines the rabbit with three of them, all sharply geometric, as well as two noses and whiskers as wide as the canvas. The second, a distinctly mustachioed man, pleads to paint "the very essence of her rabbitness," and in his final product, Pepette's elongated body droops from a square surface. A third painter, astonished by the bunny's nose—"like a faint star"—portrays Pepette soaring through clouds. Finally, a fourth, bespectacled painter envisions a rosy Pepette against a color-splashed backdrop. It isn't until Josette gently chides the artist's vision ("Pepette isn't pink") that she learns a most important lesson. Fletcher's illustrations are subtle, sweet, and sprawling, and each artist's exuberant declarations are ideal for reading aloud. Just as Pepette's portrait belongs in the Bobettes' great room, this belongs on any bookshelf. Brief back matter explains the famous-artist cameos.</p>	No
	Barbara DiLorenzo	Europe/Italian	<p>Booklist starred (May 1, 2017 (Vol. 113, No. 17))</p> <p>Grades K-2. Young Renato enjoys living in Florence, Italy, where his father works as a museum guard and beautiful art abounds. But trouble is near (soldiers march in the streets, and military planes streak across the sky), and Renato learns that his father has been erecting barriers around valuable sculptures to protect them from anticipated bombings. Alarmed that his own favorite statue might be destroyed, Renato begins building a brick wall around the stone lion in the Piazza della Signoria. He's interrupted by soldiers, falls asleep in hiding, and awakens to a magical ride through the city on the lion's back, just before he and his family depart for America. Although fiction, this story is filled with true details. Italians did protect their artistic treasures in the days before WWII, and the USAT Henry Gibbons, which here transports Renato to America, made a similar journey in 1943. DiLorenzo's striking watercolors pay homage to Florence (both artistically and architecturally) while also depicting Renato's innocence about the coming hostilities. Particularly appealing are the endpapers (depicting a city overview) and the contemporary scenes that close the story. Appended with information detailing the author's research, this love letter to Florence should spur diverse conversations, from art to history to the plight of refugees.</p>	Yes/E
	Julie Kraulis	Europe/French	<p>School Library Journal (November 1, 2014)</p> <p>K-Gr 2-Arlo is a young armadillo from Brazil who comes from a family of world travelers. Thanks to a journal left to him by his grandfather, Augustin, he decides that his first adventure is going to a trip to Paris to see all of Augustin's favorite sights, including the mysterious Iron Lady. Arlo goes to the Arc de Triomphe, enjoys flaky croissants and macarons, strolls down the Champs Elyses, looks at the art in the Louvre, walks across the Seine on the Pont Neuf, and visits a bookstore on the Left Bank. He also enjoys having his portrait painted, playing in the Jardin de Luxembourg, and stopping at a street market to pick up food for a picnic. All the while, he still doesn't know who the Iron Lady is. Thankfully, his grandfather's journals lead him to the Avenue Gustave Eiffel, where he is instructed to look up. There, Arlo finally meets the Iron Lady—the Eiffel Tower. Lovely oil and graphite illustrations done in a muted color palette capture the famous landmarks and romantic ambiance of the city. Arlo's adventure is delightful, and the story is told in both narration and excerpts from Augustin's journal. A page of facts about the Iron Lady is appended. A good purchase for a library collection in need of picture books about various locations around the world.—Paige Garrison, Aurora Central Public Library, CO (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.</p>	No