

## Librarians Telling Tales Podcast Transcript- Episode 11

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  - *Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls (MG)
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  - *I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018* by Lauren Tarshis (MG Series)
  - *Holes* by Louis Sachar (MG)
  - *The Camping Trip* by Jennifer K. Mann (Picture)
  - *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen (MG)
  - *Sunny Side Up* by Jennifer L. Holm (MG Graphic Novel)
  - *The Woods Are Always Watching* by Stephanie Perkins (YA)
  - *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer* by Megan McDonald (MG)
  - *Camp* by Kayla Miller (MG Graphic Novel)
  - *Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe* by Vera Williams (Picture)
  - *The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy* by Jeanne Birdsall (MG)
- **Reader's Rave**
  - *Holes* by Louis Sachar

**Transcript:**

**Musical Intro:** "Uplifting 2463" by Twisterium from pixabay.com

*(Description) Upbeat, piano and percussion. Music fades and plays under.*

**Amy:**

Hey, bookworms! Welcome to Librarians Telling Tales, where we introduce you to all the things we love about libraries, books, people, and making connections. I'm Amy.

**Blair:**

I'm Blair.

**Jennifer:**

I'm Jennifer.

**(0:22) Music fades out**

**Section 1: Outdoor Adventure in Young Adult**

**Blair:**

In today's episode, we are going to talk about outdoor adventure books from summer camps to vast expeditions into the unknown; all those fun things we like to do when we're not in school.

**Music Transition:** "Ascending-marimba-notification" by Alexander from Orangefreesounds.com

*(Description) Bright marimba scale.*

**Jennifer:**

Summertime is one of my favorite seasons. And in my family, we camped a lot, and we did the old school thing, we were not glampers. We put up tents, we slept on hard rocks, and we did a lot of fishing and I have wonderful memories of growing up and doing all that camping. And one of the things we did also is tell ghost stories around the campfire. And so when I think of summertime and camping, I think of scary stories.

**Blair:**

As a kid, we would go to Silverton for the summers to Colorado. And Silverton is super tiny. You're up in the mountains, in the middle of nowhere. And it was a completely different world because you didn't have TV, cell phones did not even work, like, we had radio wave stations. You could maybe, if you were lucky, tune into the summer Olympics, otherwise we were just getting VHS tapes from the library. And play outside and just hiking, and Jeeping, and camping, and all of those things. I used to really love camping until the summer of my 16th birthday when I decided that's what I wanted to do for my birthday. I wanted to take a couple of days off and go camping. And I was so excited cause we were going to my favorite camp spot, there was nobody in it when we got there. We set up camp, everything was great. And then it rained, and it rained, and my tent flooded. And I was like, awesome. Okay. So we broke the whole tent down, dried everything out, set everything back up in a slightly different location. It flooded the next night. And then it flooded the next night. And I was so mad. I have never been camping since.

**Amy:**

Seriously?

**Blair:**

We moved my tent three times and not only did it like sort of flood, it flooded so much that I woke up and my sleeping bag was soaking wet on top of me, I was drenched. It had wicked all the water up from

the bottom of my tent and I was covered in it... like 10,000 feet elevation up in the mountains. Freezing my tuchus off. I have never been camping again. So it ruined camping for me. Thanks water and, and rain. <Laugh>

**Jennifer:**

Maybe you just need to start back in small degrees. Like take a walk in nature. Maybe spend half a day up in the Prescott forest. There's so many beautiful camp spots up there. Just little by little.

**Blair:**

No. Now, now I'm old and I don't wanna sleep on the floor anymore.

**Amy:**

<Laugh> I have a really nice air mattress you can borrow.

**Blair:**

<Laugh> No, that's still sleeping on the floor. <Laugh>

**Amy:**

No, when I was a kid, we didn't actually, we almost never went camping as a family, but every summer my parents let me go for an entire month to my friend's lake house in Northern California. And so we rode jet skis all day, hung out, hiked, biked--we biked everywhere--ate tons of candy, and occasionally we would have a campfire, but I could never stay up late enough for like the sun to go down. I'd make my s'mores, I'd shovel my face with s'mores and I'd go sleep in the garage or wherever we were sleeping for the time. 'Cause they were slowly building their house. So it was roughing it, if you will. I think one year we were in tents, but that was it.

**Jennifer:**

So one of the first books that came to mind for me and it's a classic, it was written originally in 1973 was Lois Duncan's *I Know What You Did Last Summer*.

**Blair:**

Aha-ha.

**Jennifer:**

That book has been in circulation for almost 50 years.

**Amy:**

Wow. <Laugh>

**Jennifer:**

And one thing I learned from Lois Duncan and reading about her is that she updates it every so often. And it's quite amazing because I reread it for this episode. For example, when one of the character's brothers was serving in the Vietnam War, she's updated to the Iraq War just to keep it interesting to the kids. But I love that story. And it's about four kids in high school, two seniors and two juniors, and one summer there's a tragic event and they decide to make a pact to not tell what happens. But the following summer, one of those girls gets a letter that says, "I know what you did last summer." And thus begins this paranoia of who knows what they did and are they gonna be held accountable? And one of the things I read about from Lois Duncan is that when she went to go see the movie, she looked at the screen and thought she was in the wrong theater because it was nothing like her book. It was quite scary. But that's the version that kids know, it's that summertime scare, but it's not quite the same as the book, although the same premise. You know, the way I remember that book is I went into the teen zone and I was just scanning each of the shelves, looking for summer titles and that one was nestled in the, uh, D section, obviously under Duncan. And I thought, I haven't seen this book in so long and so I reread it. At the end, there was an interview with Lois Duncan and Barry Lyga and he asked her about the updates and he asked her about the violence in the movie, which she was appalled by because Lois Duncan actually had her daughter was, she was murdered.

**Blair:**

Oh snap.

**Jennifer:**

Yeah. So, interesting story. Anyway, campfires, scary stories. Summertime. I thought that was a great book to lead off with.

**Blair:**

For YA, I found *Paradise On Fire* by Jewell Rhodes. It is about a girl named Addy who lives in the city. Unfortunately, her parents died in an apartment fire. She lives with her grandmother and her grandmother is concerned that she's becoming just too withdrawn. She's got this, I suppose, healthy fear of fire at this point. So her grandmother signs her up to a roughing it camp experience in the wilderness. So she goes with five other inner city kids out into the middle of the wilderness to this really cool camp, and they're learning all these survival skills, they're embracing hiking and going on these crazy like five, 10 mile hikes every day. And then partway through the summer, a wildfire breaks out while they're in the middle of a hike, like 10 miles away from...

**Amy:**

Her worst fear...

**Blair:**

Worst fear, like her worst fear. And so they have to try and survive. And it's inspiring and really just a very interesting take on environmentalism, the state of drought that we have in the west, the way that we kind of forget as a society, sometimes when you're living in the city, what it's like to really be outdoors. We think, oh, we go to the city park, we're outdoors. And it's like, no, that's, that's still kind of like a manufactured outdoors. It's not the same as being in the wilderness where phones don't work and where you're in the middle of nowhere, surrounded by nothing. And so it's a really an interesting take for teens who maybe aren't as outdoorsy to read a book like that and kind of see themselves surviving in those sort of situations.

**Amy:**

Is it super fast-paced and suspenseful through that second half?

**Blair:**

Yes.

**Amy:**

Does it wrap up nicely or is it like leading into another novel?

**Blair:**

It is standalone. And...

**Amy:**

Is there anybody that dies?

**Blair:**

Why would I tell you? That might ruin it!

**Amy:**

My book tie in, I guess, would be, then, *Be Prepared* the graphic novel by Vera Brosgol. Although I wouldn't say that it's like tied to my actual summertime camping, but more twice when I was in school, we went on weeklong camping trips in Virginia to this place called Hemlock. My mom went as our chaperone and she was, is like the most loved parent chaperone of all time. In fact, at the end of Hemlock camp, we were asked what we love most about camp and it was Mrs. Amy's mom was the answer. But the idea of being in camp in cabins, having all the things that you're supposed to have with you is all that you have, like the socks that you brought are all the socks that you have, and the idea of helping each other do laundry and check latrines and things like that. Like we didn't prank each other 'cause we were in school, like it was a serious thing with teachers and principals and stuff, but all of that like existed. We didn't have flushing toilets. So the humor of that story totally got me--the unknowing, the worry, but we didn't, we weren't learning Russian culture and we weren't having to, you know, attend services and things. It was a school trip, but that's a fun story.

**Jennifer:**

That's one of my favorites and I was going to talk about it, but I knew that you were going to bring it up because it's such a Raina Telgemeier type book, and I just enjoy it so much. Very clever, funny. Love the, the graphic art in that book.

**Music Transition:** "Ascending-marimba-notification" by Alexander from OrangeFreesounds.com  
(Description) *Bright marimba scale.*

## **(8:10) Section 2: Summertime Fun in Young Adult**

**Blair:**

So in a non-camp book, I do have another YA, which is, uh, also a pretty new one it's called *Drawn This Way* [*Drawn That Way*] by Elissa Sussman. And it takes place over the course of a summer internship at an animation art studio. So think like Pixar, right? And I think that's kind of the world that they're aiming for you to imagine and think about. And Hayley gets one of these super coveted internships, they're bringing in like 50 kids for this new internship opportunity. Almost all of them who are picked are boys. There are only a handful of girls of which she has won. And then when they get assigned into teams to work on projects, the girls keep being given these like grunt annoying jobs, like be the secretary, go get things for us. You don't get to make artistic decisions. And it very much kind of is attempting to expose this boys club world that she is in. And then there's also the added aspect of the fact that one of the boys in the camp is the son of the director of the program. And so they think he's getting all of this special attention, but he's also got a crummy attitude. And then of course he's super cute. So there's a romance-y angle. There's like a really cool kind of a girl power feminist angle. And then a lot of really interesting stuff about art animation all while being wrapped up in this summer internship program where you're away from home, you know, you're prepping for college, but it's just really an interesting book. It was done really well. And you know, romance is there, but it's taking kind of like the backseat to all the other stuff where she's trying to get her artistic vision out and really express who she is as an artist.

**Amy:**

Why is it called *Drawn This Way*?

**Blair:**

Because they draw, 'cause it's animation.

**Amy:**

Oh, in my mind it was like they were gonna leap off the page. Like it was gonna be a fantasy.

**Blair:**

Oh!

**Amy;**

I just thought there was gonna be some aspect of like, well you created this monster, you know, you, you made this happen, you drew this into existence, but it's not.

**Blair:**

It's because they're drawing their animations. That's why.

**Amy:**

Is it a graphic novel or a chapter book?

**Blair:**

No, it's a chapter book.

**Jennifer:**

Oh, I thought it was gonna be something more along the lines of emotional or LGBTQ, just because of the title.

**Blair:**

There's a little bit of, uh, rep in there, but our main character isn't, our main character is cis.

**Jennifer:**

It's an interesting title.

**Amy:**

I agree.

**Jennifer:**

For me, it's misleading in terms of what it's all about.

**Blair:**

Hmm.

**Jennifer:**

I have one more YA that's non-camping, but it is a summer and it's actually historical and it fits all of the bells and whistles that I love. It's uh, the summer of 1977 in New York City, it's hot. It's one of the hottest summers on record. They have blackouts, but it's also the summer of the serial killer. Son of Sam. So it's the story of Nora Lopez and her family. That's just struggling to make ends meet. The dad is absent. The mom doesn't speak English very well. They're trying to make the rent. And it's a very frightening thing to be walking around in New York City at this time. There's a lot of fear about the Son of Sam, the serial killer, who's just randomly shooting couples in cars, which is all true. So it's a wonderful book by Meg Medina, it's called *Burn Baby Burn*. It was written in, in 2016. So it's a little bit older, but it's a classic historical book, but it has that hot summer feel to it. That fear of not being safe to walk around the city. And I think Meg Medina does a fantastic job of hitting all the pop culture, too. It made me think back to when I was a kid and loved going to the movie theater and standing in long lines to get in, to see the, the next exciting movie, which is a big part of this story. The very beginning they're standing in line to watch *Carrie*.

**Blair:**

Oh my goodness.

**Jennifer:**

So that's the setting in 1977.

**Amy:**

So does she feel like she's being hunted by the Son of Sam? Is she just living her life and you're following her sort of daily journey with this fear riding her as well? Like what's the...?

**Jennifer:**

It's her fear of what's happening in the city, but also her worry about not being able to pay their rent. And she also has a brother who cannot stay out of trouble and causes a lot of trouble. So it's realistic. It's very realistic, and there are some exciting moments in the book, some fearful moments where she's walking and they've been told there's a curfew, they need to be home because it is unsafe. And because I have this morbid interest in serial killers...

**Amy:**

True crime junkie.

**Blair:**

A lot of us do. <Laugh>

**Jennifer:**

True crime junkie. The book was very appealing to me and it just, I just thought what would it be like to have been a teenager at that time. 'Cause she's almost 18, trying to go to college and thinking maybe college isn't in her future because she just needs to make ends meet, but being afraid to walk around because there's these random shootings. So I thought that was a great summer book.

**Amy:**

Yeah. Holding the family together and then just being of the age where you might be the target. Yes.

**Blair:**

Oh my gosh.

**Amy:**

Ooh buddy.

**Blair:**

Yeah. That's intense, that does sound good though. For sure.

**Amy:**

Mine is a camp story, my last YA, and there's a small romance, but they both take kind of a backseat to the underlying story, which is a girl who's not doing so well in her classes. She and her crush, her longtime best friend, they both take a DNA test for one of their classes right before the end of the school year. And he's adopted and he's trying to find out what his family is, where they're from. You know, he's Filipino, but he's not sure like what his heritage, where his family comes from, all these things. And so he's looking at that aspect and she's just like, well, I'll support you in this. I'll do it too. I'll do the DNA test. And then she actually has a match. So the title is *You Have a Match* by Emma Lord and she has an actual, hundred percent DNA match. Her sibling is a product of her mother and her father who are still happily married. And then she has a younger sibling. So it's like what happened in our lives that I have an older sister that is adopted and living somewhere else? And they live in the same kind of area. And so they end up at the same camp. Her sister works at the camp and she is going for remedial tutoring and things at this camp. Her crush is there too. He's getting cooking lessons and stuff. So it's like all these things playing together, but it's really fascinating what happens between those siblings and that's the primary story, but it's over a summer and they build this relationship and I thought it was lovely. I'm really impressed by Emma Lord's stuff lately. It's sweet and soft, but it's also like kind of hard-hitting topics too sometimes.

**Blair:**

It's really such an interesting way that DNA tests are kind of changing a lot of those stories. I mean, I think we have had those like secret sibling stories before, but DNA testing is making such different grounds on how they're written. And then that sounds like an interesting one to read.

**Amy:**

It's sweet.

**Jennifer:**

And I, I like knowing that Emma Lord is a go-to author for sweet stories for our teen patrons who just want something simple and not too heavy.

**Blair:**

Definitely.

**Jennifer:**

It's nice to have a new author on board.

**Amy:**

It is, it's a serious topic, but it's handled, I would say with more fluff than you know, deep, dark, hard hitting, angst.

**Blair:**

You know me, I like the dark stuff.

**Amy:**

I know you do!

**Blair:**

I love it.

**Music Transition:** "Ascending-marimba-notification" by Alexander from OrangeFreesounds.com  
(Description) Bright marimba scale.

### **(14:39) Section 3: Middle Grade Outdoor Adventure Books**

**Jennifer:**

So here's a story for you all, about a year and a half ago, my husband and I decided to do an anniversary trip to Lost Dutchman State Park and learn a little bit more about Arizona since we're not native to Arizona. And so we realized that Lost Dutchman State Park is by the Superstition Mountains in a place called Apache Junction, which I had never heard of. So we were there enjoying our camping experience and went to souvenir shop and there was a book there called *Missing on Superstition Mountain* by Elise Broach. I recognize the author, loved the cover of the book and thought, this is about this place where I'm at right now. So I bought the book and started reading it while I was actually camping. It's about three brothers who are from Chicago, but their dad takes a job and moves them to Arizona, which is Apache Junction, but they call it Superstition and they live right up against the mountain. And they're told they are not to go up to that mountain. There's a lot of stories about people getting lost and dying up on that mountain. They're so interested and so tempted. And one day their cat goes missing and they decide to go and check up the mountain. 'Cause they're they live right close to the mountain, and they find a skeleton. So, the story evolves into a mystery, and it's so well done. It's the first of a trilogy. And I really enjoyed it knowing that I was actually at the Superstition Mountains and it's a piece of Arizona history, and I used it in a book club a couple of summers ago and the kids really enjoyed it. So, I highly recommend that book.

**Amy:**

While you were camping there and reading this sort of maybe scary sounding story, did you get any strange dreams?

**Jennifer:**

No.

**Amy:**

No? Okay.

**Jennifer:**

It's actually more of a, a humorous story. Those three brothers are funny boys and their mom tells them not to go up to that mountain and there's a wonderful illustration where they're sitting on their back porch and they're just looking up at that big mountain and you just know that they're thinking, "Wow, that's a cool mountain, we really need to climb it!" <Laugh> And it just so happens that their cat goes missing, but it's not as scary story, it's more of a mystery, but also for me is just local history too. So, it's a great book and Elise Broach did a phenomenal job researching the area and the mountain.

**Blair:**

So, you're saying you didn't start seeing all of the different sticks and undergrowth as potentially being human bones?

**Jennifer:**

No...

**Blair:**

<Laughs>

**Jennifer:**

No, but I learned a lot about that part of Arizona and I, I always love learning new things, so I was really excited to have a little more Arizona knowledge in my back pocket.

**Blair:**

I really like *Connect the Stars* by Melissa [Marisa] de los Santos. And these kids are again sent to a wilderness camp, but in this case, it's in the desert and they are going on this extended hike on this designated loop around this part of the desert with their guide. And a lot of the kids have a super



different background, but these particular kids are nerdier. Audrey has this trick where she kind of reads faces really, really well. And she can tell when people are lying and she has this skill, really being able to suss out other people's feelings and emotions. And then Aaron has eidetic memory, so he remembers everything all the time that everyone ever says. And then they are out there with these kids who, some of them have been kind of sent punishment style. Some of them have chosen to go out on this crazy backpacking trip, but when they get out there, then of course things start to fall awry and their counselor who's out there with them gets injured. There's one girl who's sure that her father is coming to rescue her from the middle of this camp, but she has to go hike this crazy distance away in the wrong direction to try and meet up with him. Then the kids get separated. There's like in-fighting. And it really, I think handles the emotions of these kids really well. You've got seventh, eighth graders, all of those like pubescent feelings that are coming up and all these massive changes in their lives. And it's a really awesome realistic look at kids at this age in a really crazy situation where they're having to, again, do some survival in the desert.

**Jennifer:**

I think you like those survival books.

**Blair:**

I do. If I have to read non-fantasy.

**Amy:**

<Laughs> One of mine is sort of like that, I guess it's, uh, *Lions and Liars* by Kate Beasley, and it's a story about a boy who's bullied and he's challenged to climb aboard, a rowboat, and he gets sucked downstream of a river and separated from his family and these kids that were his friends-slash-not his friends, and he ends up at a summer camp for bad boys. It's like camp "Oh My Goshee" [Omigoshee]. And probably it's like, Omagoshu, or something, but in my mind it's Oh My Goshy. And the slogan is "Where boys are transformed." And he arrives on day one, right as they're serving breakfast, and he takes on this identity of the worst boy, Dash. So, nobody knows his real name is Frederick. And that he's a really sweet, timid boy actually, but he's impersonating this kid that's like the worst bully of all bullies who's gone to this camp Omigoshee to be reformed. And he's pretending and he kind of slips up every now and again and stuff. They get word that there's a category five hurricane coming their way. And right as they're evacuating, they notice that one of the boys has left and he goes off to see if he can find him. And then of course they get stuck and the zoo has emptied out. So, there's a lion, hence *Lions and Liars*. It's a lot of fun. I wouldn't say it's like, so redeeming of him, 'cause he, he does lie half the story, you know? But the camp piece of it, the friends that are maybe not as bad as they thought that they were. And then when Dash does make an appearance, you're like, whoa, yeah, Frederick, he is not Dash. And in fact, one of the boys the whole time knew he wasn't because he had gone to second grade with Dash. So he kept the secret and they end up as friends at the end... Not to ruin the whole story, guys.

**Blair:**

So, but, but he's missing from his parents?!

**Amy:**

Yes.

**Blair:**

Are there not people looking for him?

**Amy:**

You know, they're way out in the middle of nowhere. So yes. That is a part of it. Like where...

**Blair:**

Or is he not even worried that his parents think he's dead?

**Amy:**

That's that part of juvenile fiction, right? That like parents are not a part of the story sometimes... They, they are minorly in the story, worried about him. And like, I think they turn wrong way down the road

heading toward where the camp is, but he's not worried about them. He's worried about keeping up this ploy that he's the bad boy until the last day of camp. I have no idea, yeah, how he would've got home, otherwise, if not for this category five hurricane and such.

**Blair:**

That that breaks my brain, the like "I just disappeared down the stream, and I'm away from my parents and I'm gone for weeks and nobody knows or cares."

**Amy:**

<Laughs>

**Jennifer:**

You know what I've noticed? It feels like a lot of the books we shared are very serious, you know, serious topics, even though it's camping and summer. But I was just thinking boy, all the books, at least for my part that I brought to the table are pretty serious, or scary, but the picture books are pretty funny. I don't know. Do you find that for yourselves?

**Amy:**

I like what you said too, about the beginning, uh, you know, when you show your, your camp story, like I think it is about the ghost story tend to turn that direction. Whether it's the prank war that goes wrong or there is something lurking in the woods or a fire or something like that happens. But yeah, definitely the picture books were a lot sweeter and sillier.

**Blair:**

Yeah. I mean, I did have as a backup to talk about *Stand Up, Yumi Chung!* by Jessica Kim, where she feels like she's overwhelmed being forced to go to this crazy intensive summer study program. And instead, she finds out about this standup comedy program that happens to be on the same days. So she gets her mom to drop her off at the one and she sneaks into the other and assumes somebody else's identity who doesn't show up. So I was gonna briefly mention that one too. That one's funny, that one's hilarious. I love that book for middle grade. It's super cute.

**Jennifer:**

Well, *Be Prepared* is funny, but does have some underlying heavier topics about acceptance.

**Amy:**

Acceptance, a little bit of anxiety, not fitting in, and the cultural pieces. Because she doesn't know how to read Russian.

**Blair:**

<Laugh>

**Music Transition:** "Ascending-marimba-notification" by Alexander from [OrangeFreesounds.com](http://OrangeFreesounds.com)  
(Description) Bright marimba scale.

#### **(22:10) Section 4: Outdoor Adventure Picture Books & All-Ages Speed Round**

**Jennifer:**

So where I feel like it's more lighthearted in camping is the picture book. 'Cause the picture books that I found are more fun and just outdoorsy and silly. For example, *P.J. Funnybunny Goes Camping (P.J. Funnybunny Camps Out)*.

**Amy:**

Oh my gosh. <Laugh>

**Jennifer:**

I love *P.J. Funnybunny* by Marilyn Sadler. He is a beginning reader book, but *P.J. Funnybunny Goes Camping* and all the wacky adventures that he has while he's out in the woods. So what were some of the other picture books?

**Blair:**

I won't say mine are particularly funny. I loved *Over and Under the Canyon*, the new *Over and Under* book by Kate Messner, a mother and a son are hiking in the Grand Canyon and you're kind of exploring the whole ecosystem and geology of the Grand Canyon. The illustrations are phenomenal. The illustrated characters are diverse. It's a really beautiful picture book. And I think it's a really good addition to her *Over and Under* series.

**Amy:**

I read *The Hike* by Pete Oswald not long ago. I think we got it maybe three or four years ago and one of our coworkers was super excited for it. And it's a lovely, almost wordless picture book about a father and son who go out for a morning hike and climb. And that's really sweet. One of the funny ones that I picked though, was the *Camping Spree with Mr. McGee* by my favorite Chris Van Dusen. Oh, my goodness. That is so funny! He and his dog go out camping in their new little travel trailer thing and they make their s'mores and the smell of their s'mores and their leftover marshmallows attract a bear who eats the marshmallows and then sees the, the hitch knob and thinks that it too is a marshmallow. And then the travel trailer from the vehicle separates—the travel trailer goes bumping down a hill and lands in like a river bed and is drifting down and gets caught on this big rock. And then the bear thinks at the trailer hitch is the marshmallow and pulls them back to safety. It's super cute. It's super funny. I mean, it's Chris Van Dusen. How do you go wrong?

**Jennifer:**

And his illustrations are just so fun.

**Amy:**

If you look at that page where they're on the top of the waterfall and it's just the sheer drop below them. I mean the sense of perspective that you get from that it's a little bit like, I wouldn't say I'm afraid of heights, but I'm not like a huge fan of heights, and I was like, whoa, this is a, I mean, this is a really good job of creating that perspective of whoa, that's a fall right there.

**Blair:**

The other one that I really loved is pretty new and it is *Let's Do Everything and Nothing* by Julia Kuo. What's so cool about it is it's not necessarily a summer book, but it is true summer vibes, right? A parent and a child do nothing. They're all so simple. They're all so unplugged it's, let's climb a hill, let's watch the stars. Let's just be together. And it just has all of the summer like the slow vibes that we don't have to work, let's spend quality time together, parent and child. It's so sweet and simple and beautiful. The illustrations are also really just gorgeous, great color saturation. I love that book.

**Amy:**

I like *The Relatives Came* by Cynthia Rylant. That's a really sweet story, but I just reread it for this conversation. And I am not a fan of those illustrations. <Laugh> I am like, those are some really awkward looking relatives. <Laugh> There's like a, I think an uncle or a grandfather whose belly is almost always showing and it almost feels a little insulting to her family. I'm sure that wasn't like her intention when she illustrated it that way. But it's such a fun story of the family traveling to visit them for the summer and help them with projects around the house and everybody sleeping in the same rooms together and having all this quality time. But those are not my favorite illustrations. Not by a stretch. Nope.

**Jennifer:**

I'm gonna throw in one last picture book to bring us full circle because I talked at the beginning about fishing and one of my favorite classic books is by Mercer Mayer, *Just Me and My Dad*. And they go camping together and they catch a fish and they tell the ghost story and they just spend that quality time together. And I loved those books as a kid and I still have the collection that I used to take with me when I'd go babysitting because the kids loved Little Critter. That book was just so sweet and I loved the relationship between Little Critter and his dad.

**Blair:**

All right. So how about a outdoor adventure or summer book speed round, everyone?! I'll start off. I've got a YA graphic novel *This One Summer* by Mariko Tamaki.

**Jennifer:**

*Love and Gelato* by Jenna Evans Welch. It's YA romance. And it's actually on Netflix.

**Blair:**

Woohoo!

**Amy:**

*Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series by Rick Riordan.

**Blair:**

Of course!

**Amy:**

Middle grade, fantasy.

**Blair:**

There is a really cool YA anthology called *Blackout* and it is by a whole bunch of really awesome authors like Dhonielle Clayton, Nicola Yoon, Nic Stone, Angie Thomas, and they're intersecting stories that take place in New York City during a blackout.

**Jennifer:**

I have *Home in the Woods* by Eliza Wheeler. It's a picture book with historical fiction twist.

**Amy:**

*Lunch Lady and the Summer Camp Shakedown* by Jarrett Krosoczka.

**Blair:**

*Summer of the Monkeys*, Wilson Rawls middle grade historical fiction.

**Jennifer:**

Love that book! I have here *The Summer I Turned Pretty* by Jenny Han, YA romance, which is also on Amazon Prime.

**Blair:**

I would say yes, it is. It's just come out!

**Amy:**

*I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018* by Lauren Tarshis. One of her series, *I Survive*.

**Blair:**

We've got *Holes*, Louis Sachar, uh, middle grade. That's a super classic-- talk about bad boys.

**Amy:**

Mm-hmm.

**Jennifer:**

*The Camping Trip*, a picture book by Jennifer K. Mann.

**Amy:**

*Hatchet*, Gary Paulsen, survival.

**Blair:**

*Sunny Side Up*, Jennifer L. Holm. That's a middle grade graphic novel.

**Jennifer:**

I had a little bit of horror here. *The Woods Are Always Watching*, a YA by Stephanie Perkins.

**Amy:**

I'll take you really light and fluffy, *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer* by Megan McDonald.

<Laugh>

**Blair:**

*Camp* by Kayla Miller, which is middle grade graphic novel. Again, hitting on the going to summer camp vibe.

**Jennifer:**

There's a sweet picture book by Vera Williams called *Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe*.

**Amy:**

Oh, that's a great title.

**Jennifer:**

Very sweet.

**Amy:**

My final one is, of course, *The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy* by Jeanne Birdsall.

**Blair:**

Well done everybody. <Laugh>

**Amy:**

We hope this episode reminds you of some fun summertime adventures and just how glorious the outdoors can be in person and on the page.

**Blair:**

Now we're going to hear from you, our readers and listeners. This is a fun segment where you tell us some of your favorite books. This is Reader's Rave.

**Music Transition:** "Ascending-marimba-notification" by Alexander from OrangeFreesounds.com  
(Description) *Bright marimba scale.*

**Dakota:**

Hi, my name is Dakota. My favorite book is *Holes* (Louis Sachar). It sounds like a true story.

**Jennifer:**

Do you want to be a part of reader's rave? Call us at (928) 777-1490 and leave a message with your first name, your age, a book you love and what you love about it. We can't wait to hear from you.

**Amy:**

Thank you for joining us today on Librarians Telling Tales. For a full list of the books shared in this episode, check the link in our podcast bio.

**Blair:**

Don't forget to subscribe to catch our next episode, where we talk about interesting, informative and wildly engaging nonfiction books that will have kids clamoring to learn more.

**(29:02) Musical Outro:** "Uplifting 2463" by Twisterium from pixabay.com

(Description) *Upbeat, piano and percussion. Music fades in and plays under.*

**Jennifer:**

This podcast is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. We would also like to thank the City of Prescott, Friends of the Prescott Public Library, and all our fabulous coworkers at Prescott Public Library.

**Amy:**

Be sure to like and subscribe to Librarians Telling Tales. And until next time, we'll see you in the library.

**(Total Run Time 29:33)**