WNC BOOK LISTS

TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS



POVERTY & WEALTH

HOW TO USE
THIS RESOURCE

In this resource you will find a curated list of books that look at the disparities and challenges that come from living in different socio-economic classes.as well as a variety of accompanying materials.

How to Use This Resource

1. Choose a title from the animal main character list.
2. Scan the QR code to play the read-aloud video.
3. Students complete the response sheet while listening.
4. Students vote: Would you keep reading?
5. Display the book cover poster to build classroom book buzz.

Classroom Use Ideas Quick List:

- First Chapter Friday
- Sub plans
- Book tasting stations
- Library preview lessons
- Early finisher reading activities

To check the reading level, video length or to find a book purchasing link, look at this Google Doc that organizes ALL of my First Chapter Friday read aloud videos alphabetically.

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Page 4: What is Frist Chapter Friday?
Pages 5-6: Book Tracking Charts
Page 7: Book List
Pages 9-15 Individual Book First Chapter Friday Sheets
Pages 17-22: Individual Book Posters

** More resources will be added in the future including a Reading Round Up Video to briefly explain every video on this list and possibly even some thematic coloring sheets.
As always, please email me with any title requests or questions. (wordnerd@amandazieba.com)



HAPPY READING!

MUST TRY

Word Nerd Daily

an app from Amanda Zieba



First Chapter Friday Videos

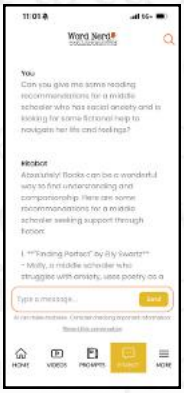


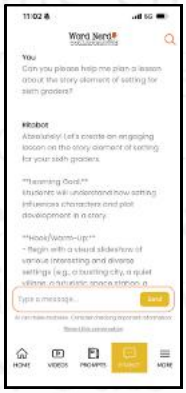
Writing Prompt Library

FREE!



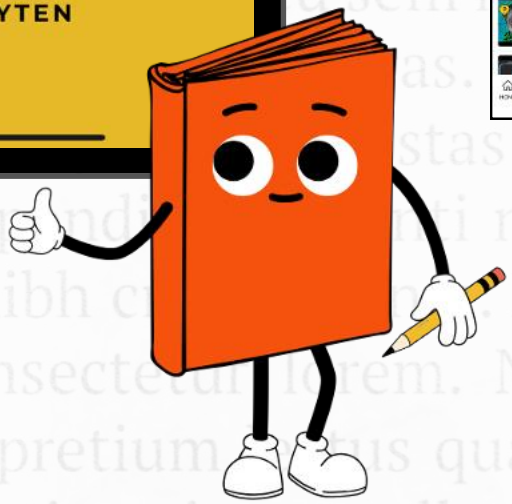
ChatBot for Reading Recs and Lesson Planning





Brain Break Videos





AVIALBLE FOR APPLE AND ANDROID DEVICES



FIRST CHAPTER Friday Videos

Not sure how First Chapter Friday works?

Check out this video for a full explanation and 4 implementation ideas.



If you prefer a written description in lieu of a video, click here.

Click here for a live, continually updated, Google Doc of the First Chapter Friday videos on my channel. Additionally you will find links to purchase the books and watch the read aloud videos, as well as book reading levels, genre/format, video length and more!

All my best,
Amanda Zieba

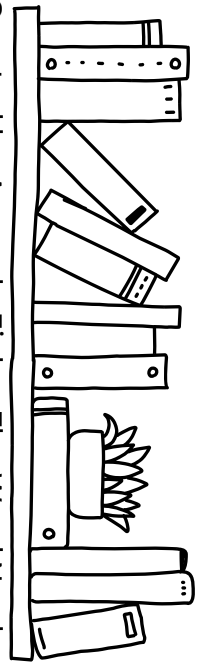
Teacher Planning Sheet

First CHAPTER Friday



DATE	TITLE	AUTHOR	GENRE	STUDENT REACTION?

Created by Amanda Zieba, The Word Nerd



Books I've READ

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
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29. _____
30. _____
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32. _____

NAME: _____

WNC BOOK LIST

POVERTY AND WEALTH



These books look at the disparities and challenges that come from living in different socio-economic classes.

Free Verse by Sarah Dooley



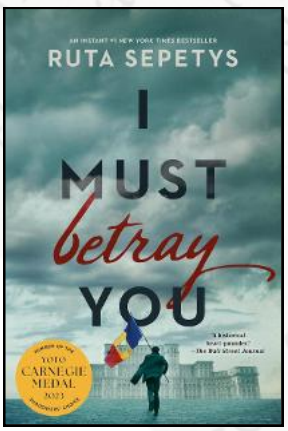
I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys

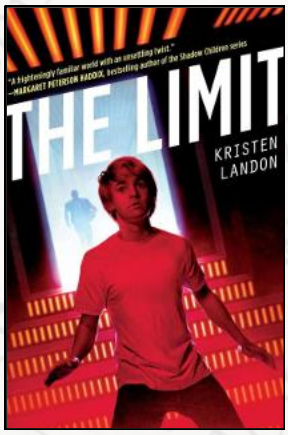
The Limit by Kristen Landon

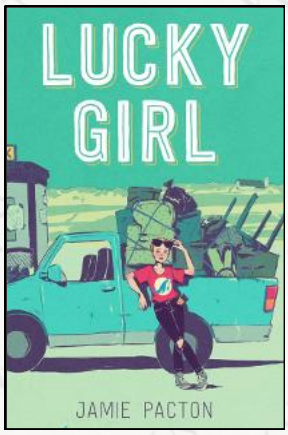
Lucky Girl by Jamie Pacton

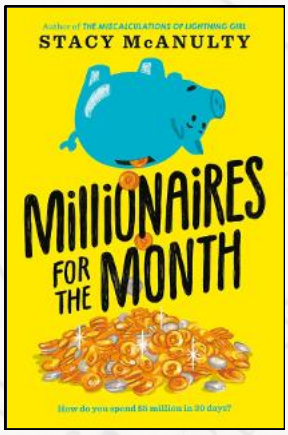
Millionaires for the Month by Stacy McAnulty

Thirst by Varsha Bajaj











INDIVIDUAL BOOK SHEETS



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *

Name _____ Date _____





Which cover do you like better? Why? Teachers - find the Cover Comparison worksheet in the 2022 FCF pack!

Free Verse
by Sarah Dooley

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

When her brother Michael dies in a fire, Sasha Harless has no one left and nowhere to turn. He'd been her caretaker since their mother ran off and their father died in the mines. And before his accident, Michael made Sasha promise him that she would leave Caboose, West Virginia for a better life someday. Now, she's in foster care, feeling more stuck and broken than ever. Trying to cope with her brother's death, Sasha returns to school and is introduced to poetry and finds it's a new way to express herself when spoken words just won't do. She even discovers family she didn't know she had, including a younger Mikey Harless, who's just as broken as she is. But just as she's settling into her new life, tragedy strikes the mine her cousin works in. While fearing the worst, Sasha takes Mikey and finally makes her escape. But will running from Caboose really fix the pain in Sasha's life, or will she have to discover a new way to heal?

Free Verse was the 2012 winner of the Phyllis Naylor Working Writer Fellowship through the PEN American Center.

Who Wrote It?

Sarah Dooley has lived in an assortment of small West Virginia towns, each of which she grew to love. Sarah is a former special education teacher who now provides treatment to children with autism. She lives in Huntington, West Virginia, where she inadvertently collects cats. She's a 2006 graduate of Marshall University and has written 4 middle grade books.



Photo by John McCoy

AR Reading Level: 4.7

Lexile Level: 740L

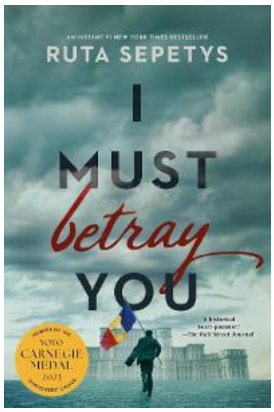
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

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Name _____ Date _____

I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

A gut-wrenching, startling historical thriller about communist Romania and the citizen spy network that devastated a nation – Romania, 1989. Communist regimes are crumbling across Europe. Seventeen-year-old Cristian Florescu dreams of becoming a writer, but Romanians aren't free to dream; they are bound by rules and force. Amidst the tyrannical dictatorship of Nicolae Ceaușescu in a country governed by isolation and fear, Cristian is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer. He's left with only two choices: betray everyone and everything he loves—or use his position to creatively undermine the most notoriously evil dictator in Eastern Europe. Cristian risks everything to unmask the truth behind the regime, give voice to fellow Romanians, and expose to the world what is happening in his country. He eagerly joins the revolution to fight for change when the time arrives. But what is the cost of freedom? Master storyteller Ruta Sepetys is back with a historical thriller that examines the little-known history of a nation defined by silence, pain, and the unwavering conviction of the human spirit.

Who Wrote It?

Ruta is the daughter of a Lithuanian refugee. Born in Michigan, she was raised in a family of artists, readers, and music lovers. She is passionate about the power of history to foster dialogue and global understanding. Her research and writing on human resilience have earned her invitations to speak at NATO, European Parliament, the U.S. Capitol, the Library of Congress, and Embassies worldwide. She has been awarded fellowships from The University of Oxford in England and The Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center in Italy. The New York Times Book Review declared, 'Ruta Sepetys acts as champion of the interstitial people so often ignored—whole populations lost in the cracks of history. She is deeply grateful for her Baltic heritage— even if it means she has a name that no one can pronounce. Ruta lives with her family in the hills of Tennessee.


Photo Credit: Laura Smith

AR Reading Level: 4.3

Lexile Level: 500L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK


Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.



PREVIEW & PREDICT

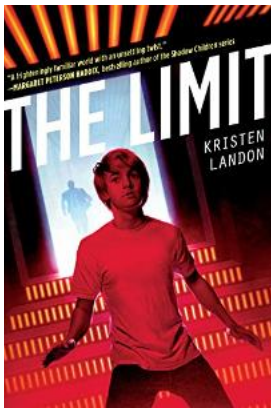
Read Aloud Video

Look at the objects featured on the YouTube thumbnail and book cover and then make a few predictions.



I predict this story will be about...

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *



Name _____ Date _____

The Limit
by Kristen Landon

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

An eighth grade girl was taken today. With this first sentence, readers are immediately thrust into a fast-paced thriller that doesn't let up for a moment. In a world not too far removed from our own, kids are being taken away to special workhouses if their families exceed the debt limit imposed by the government. Thirteen-year-old Matt briefly wonders if he might be next, but quickly dismisses the thought. After all, his parents are financially responsible, unlike the parents of those other kids. As long as his parents remain within their limit, the government will be satisfied and leave them alone. But all it takes is one fatal visit to the store to push Matt's family over their limit–and to change his reality forever.

- 2012 Utah Book Award Finalist
- 2012-2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominee
- 2012-2013 Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Award Program Nominee
- 2013 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Nominee

Who Wrote It?

I was born in Midland, Michigan . . . quite a few years ago. The majority of my growing up years were spent in Utah. As an adult I lived in Midland, Michigan for twelve years. A career change brought my family back to Utah. Hmmm. Do you see a pattern forming here? In school I played on the basketball team for one year, but mostly I was a band nerd. I've never had an easy time falling asleep at night. From a very young age, I began to make up stories in my head to tell myself until I dozed off. The stories would be so great, though, that I'd want to stay awake to find out how they ended! I have a wonderful husband and four great kids. We like to hike and kayak and go on walks.



AR Reading Level: 4.4 Lexile Level: 690L

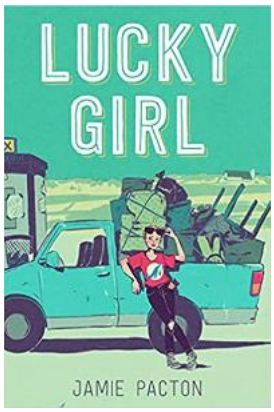
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

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Name _____ Date _____

Lucky Girl

by Jamie Pacton

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

In Jamie Pacton's hilarious and poignant sophomore novel, a teen wins the lotto jackpot and suspicion and jealousy spread through her small town before she can claim her prize. Perfect for fans of Rainbow Rowell and Becky Albertalli.

58,643,129. That's how many dollars seventeen-year-old Fortuna Jane Belleweather just won in the lotto jackpot. It's also about how many reasons she has for not coming forward to claim her prize.

As suspicion and jealousy turn neighbor against neighbor, and no good options for cashing the ticket come forward, Jane begins to wonder: Could this much money actually be a bad thing?

This is the second book by Jamie Pacton. Check out The LIfe and Medieval Times of Kit Sweetly too!

Who Wrote It?

Jamie Pacton is an author, teacher, mom, and inclusive feminist who writes all sorts of books: YA fantasy; contemporary YA with a funny + geeky bent; MG adventure-fantasy; and, even the occasional adult rom-com. She grew up minutes away from the National Storytelling Center in the mountains of East Tennessee; she's the oldest of ten kids; and, she currently lives in rural Wisconsin with her husband, their two kids, and a dog named Lego. You can learn more about Jamie by visiting her website: www.jamiepacton.com or by watching the interview with her at the end of this video.



Reading Levels Currently Unavailable Age Range = 14-17

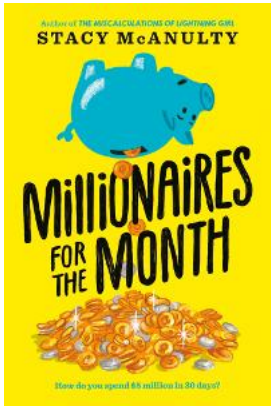
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

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Name _____ Date _____

Millionaires for the Month by Stacy McAnulty

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

Max soars above the world . . . but in James Patterson's thrilling adventure, fantasy can come crashing down to reveal the nightmares of the Angel Experiment. Maximum Ride and her "flock" -- Fang, Iggy, Nudge, Gasman and Angel -- are just like ordinary kids, only they have wings and can fly. It may seem like a dream come true to some, but their lives can morph into a living nightmare at any time.
Angel, the youngest member of the flock, is kidnapped and taken back to the "School" where she and the others were experimented on by a crew of whack jobs. Her friends brave a journey to blazing hot Death Valley, CA, to save Angel, but soon enough, they find themselves in yet another nightmare: fighting off the half-human, half-wolf "Erasers" in New York City. Whether in the treetops of Central Park or in the bowels of the Manhattan subway system, Max and her adopted family take the ride of their lives.
Along the way, Max discovers that her purpose is save the world. But can she?

Who Wrote It?



Likes and Dislikes

Things I Love (and I'm keeping family, friends, and food off the list because there wouldn't be room for anything else):

- Dogs
- Photography
- Traveling
- Funny Picture Books
- Sunday Night TV
- Twitter, Facebook, e-mail
- Stars (as in reviews)
- Trying New Recipes
- Dinosaurs
- Fortunes from Fortune Cookies
- Good Manners

Things I Dislike (and I'm keeping cleaning and chores off the list because there wouldn't be room for anything else):

- Bullies
- Running Late
- Being Sick
- Garlic Breath
- Rejections
- Stepping in Gum
- Telemarketing Calls
- Nightmares
- Whining
- People Who Say Reading Is Boring

In no particular order... I'm a wife, mother of 3 kids and 3 dogs, author, daughter, sister and stepsister, aunt, friend, Twitter addict, mechanical engineer (currently inactive), inconsistent blogger, Packers fan, two-finger typist, concerned citizen, book-buying enthusiast, reluctant volunteer, minivan driver, pancake flipper, snooze-button hitter, and coupon clipper. Learn more about Stacy on her website: www.stacymcanulty.com/



AR Reading Level: 4.1

Lexile Level: 570L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *



Name _____ Date _____

Thirst
by Varsha Bajaj

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

Minni lives in the poorest part of Mumbai, where access to water is limited to a few hours a day and the communal taps have long lines. Lately, though, even that access is threatened by severe water shortages and thieves who are stealing this precious commodity—an act that Minni accidentally witnesses one night. Meanwhile, in the high-rise building where she just started to work, she discovers that water streams out of every faucet and there's even a rooftop swimming pool. What Minni also discovers there is one of the water mafia bosses. Now she must decide whether to expose him and risk her job and maybe her life. How did something as simple as access to water get so complicated?

- 2022 Global Read Aloud MG Pick!
- A New York Times Bestseller

Who Wrote It?

My story begins in Mumbai, India, in the early 1960s in a rambling house built in 1929 surrounded by coconut, guava, and betel nut trees. I grew up in a large joint family. My father and grandfather were perfumers, always sniffing and perfecting blotter strips of sandalwood and jasmine. I devoured Amar Chitra Katha comic books with stories from Indian mythology and was introduced to Marathi children's theater by my parents. On September 13th, 1986, I came to America as a graduate student. After a dozen intermediate years in which I got a Master's degree, almost completed a doctorate, worked as a Counselor, got married, had children and became a citizen,



I started writing. It was 1999, and I'd fallen in love with the picture book while reading aloud to my kids. Varsha writes picture books and middle grade novels and now lives in Texas.

AR Reading Level: 4.4

Lexile Level: N/A

I want to read this book: YES / NO

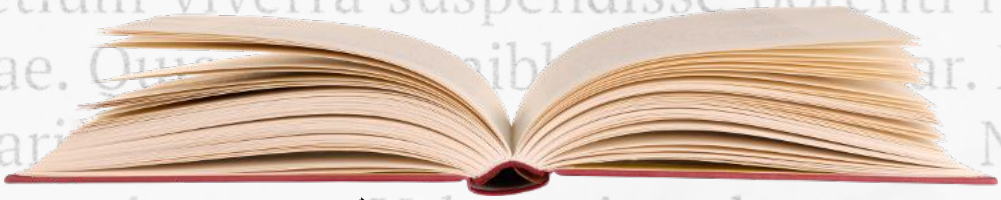
WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

INDIVIDUAL BOOK POSTERS

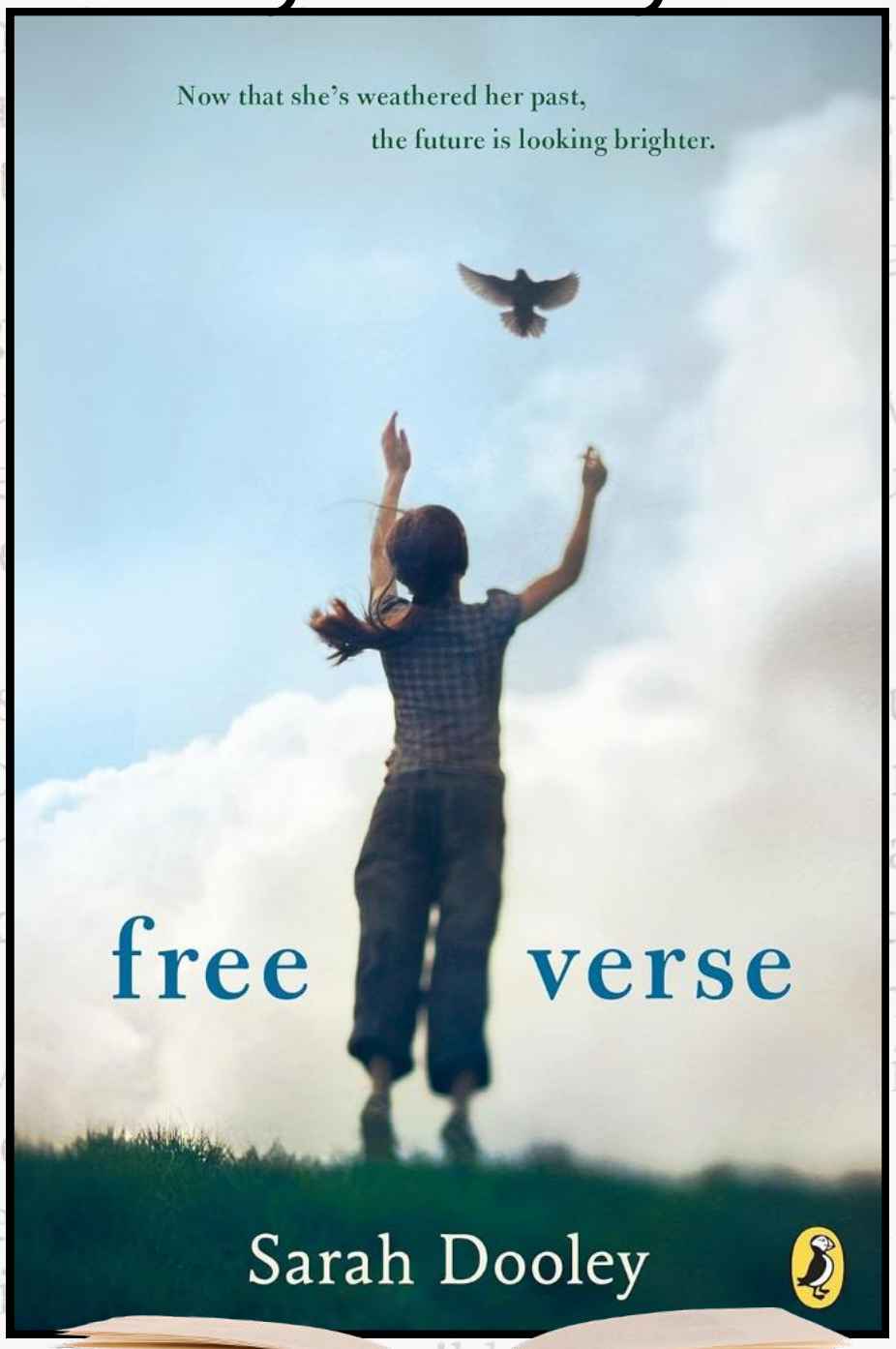




FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

FREE VERSE

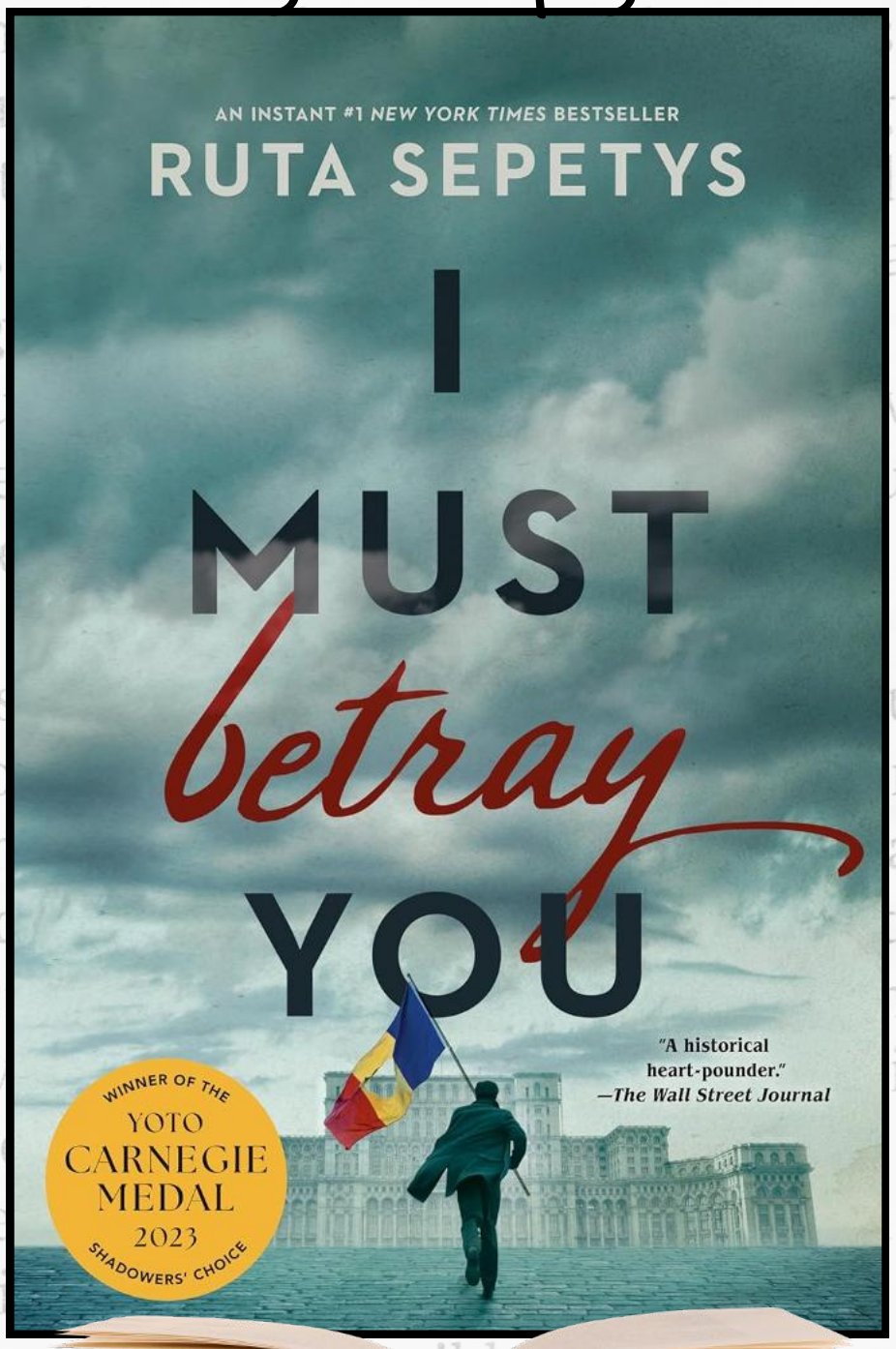
By Sarah Dooley



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

I MUST BETRAY YOU

By Ruta Sepetys

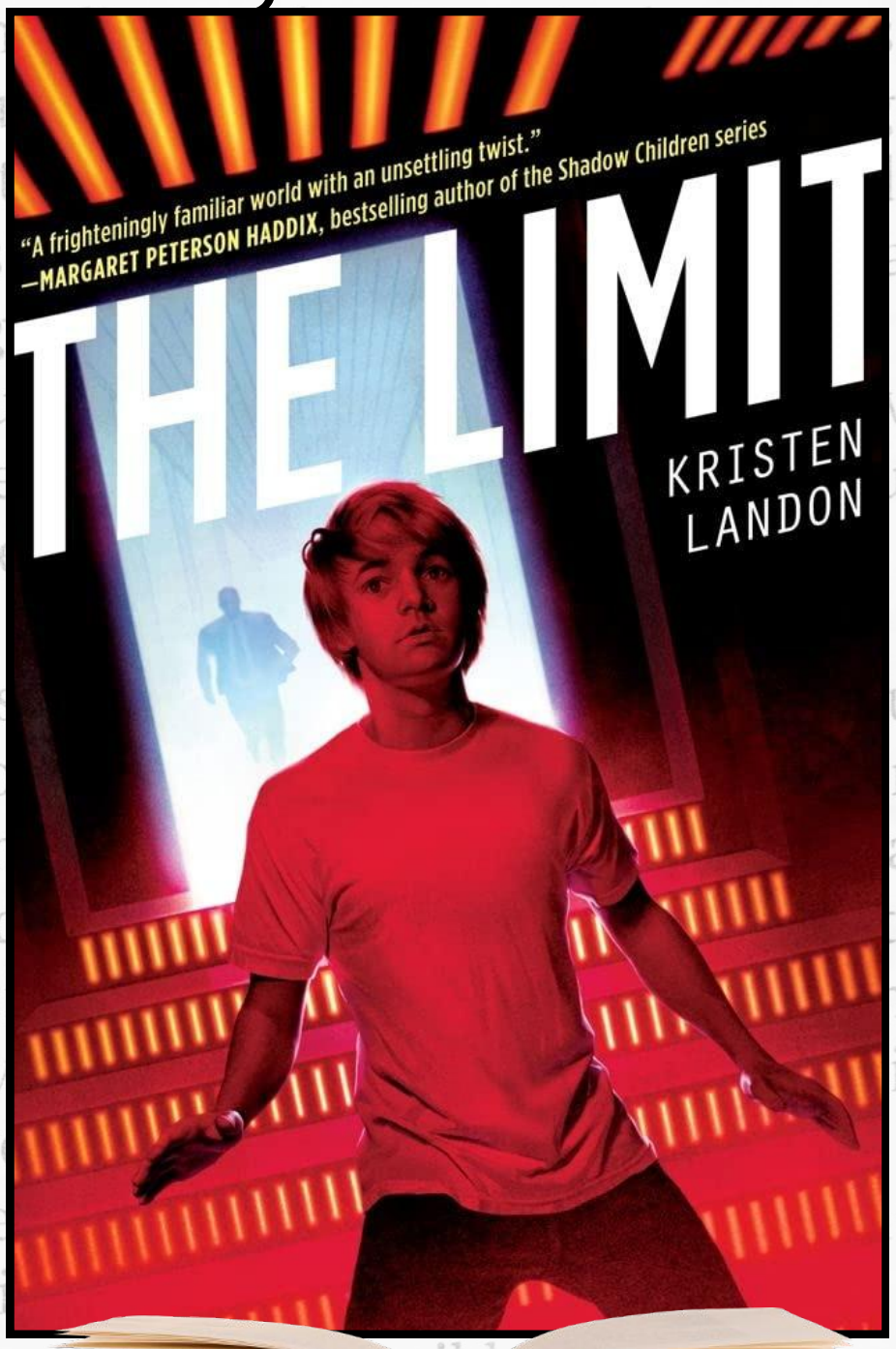




FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE LIMIT

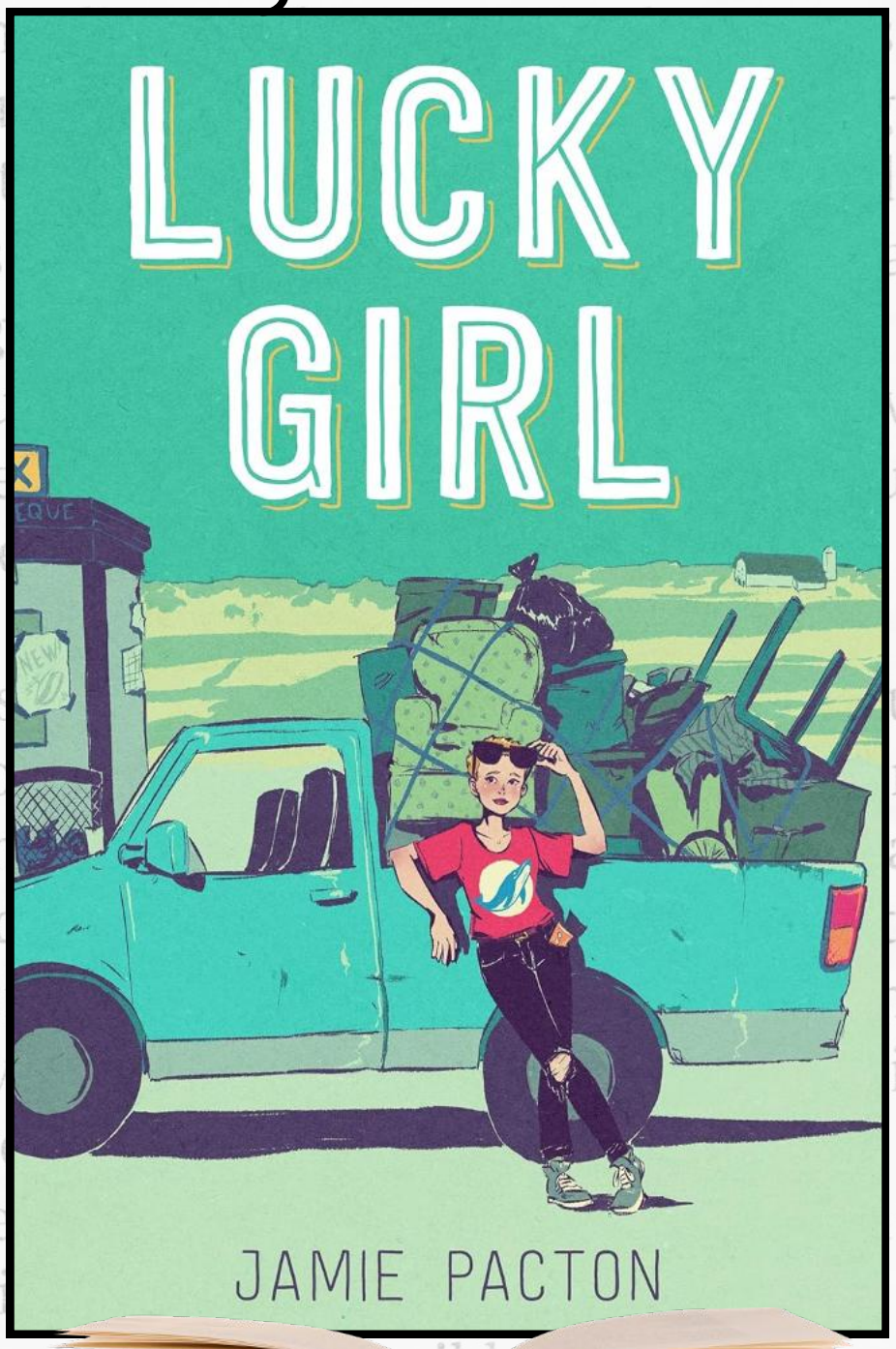
By Kristen Landon



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

LUCKY GIRL

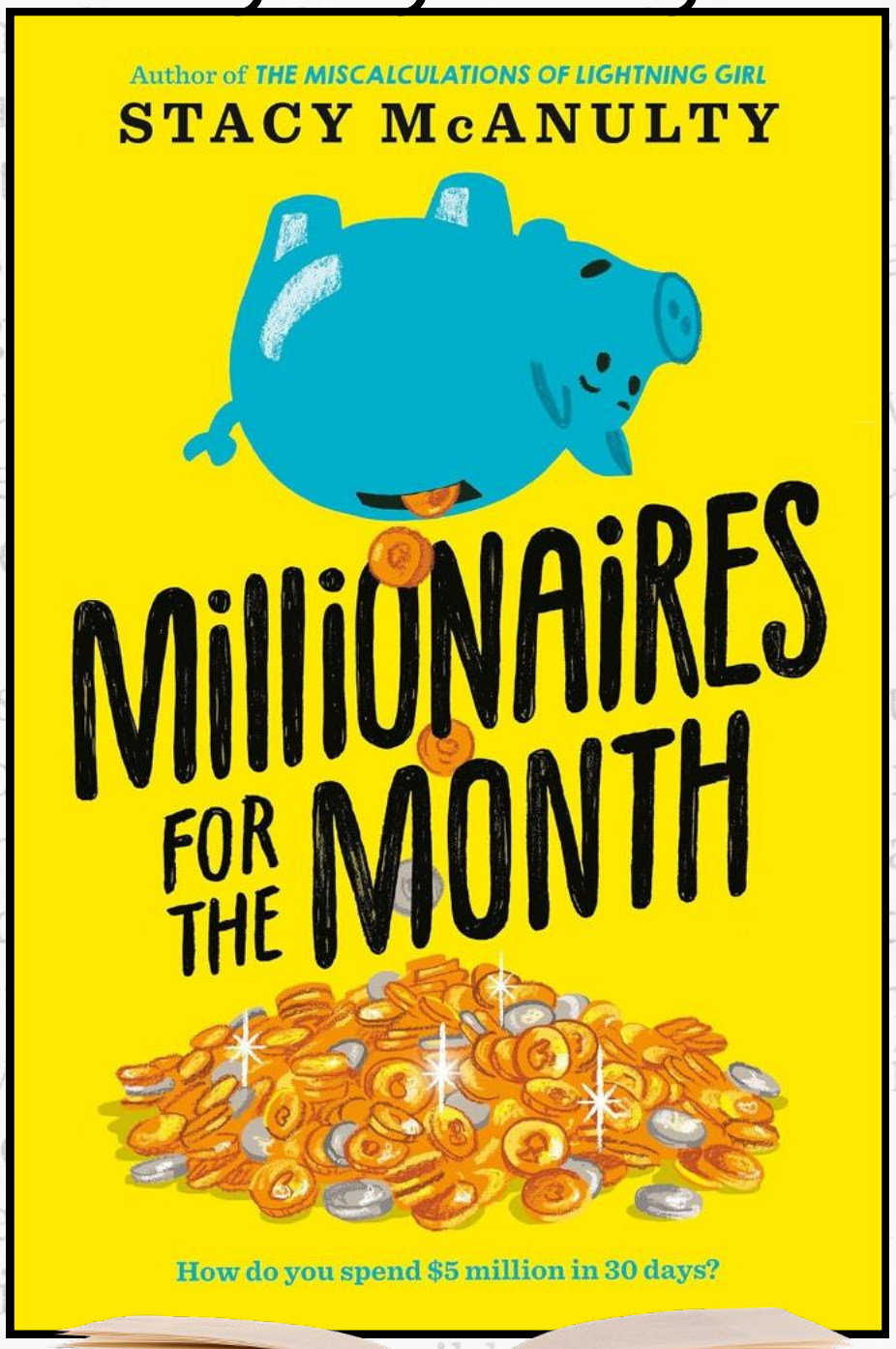
By Jamie Pacton



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

MILLIONAIRES FOR THE MONTH

By Stacy McAnulty



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THIRST

By Varsha Bajaj



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY