WNC BOOK LISTS

TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS

HOLIDAYS



HOW TO USE
THIS RESOURCE

In this resource you will find a curated list of books that take place around a major holiday 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.

Table of Contents

Page 2: Instructions/Table of Contents
Page 4: What is Frist Chapter Friday?
Pages 5-6: Book Tracking Charts
Page 7: Book List
Pages 9-12 Individual Book First Chapter Friday Sheets
Pages 14-17: 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



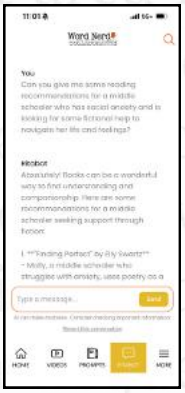
First Chapter Friday Videos



Writing Prompt Library



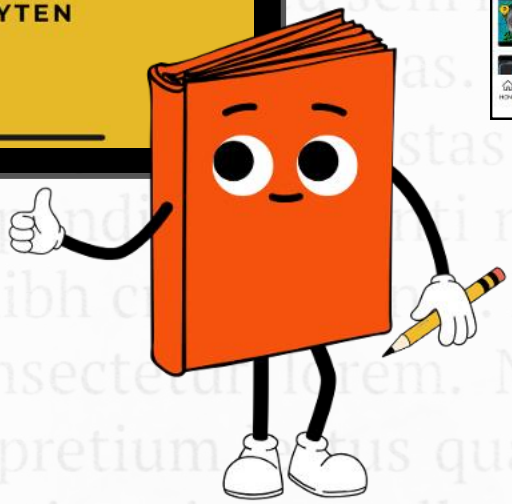
ChatBot for Reading Recs and Lesson Planning





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?

Name: _____

Quarter: #___



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

TRACKER

Use this worksheet to keep track of the First Chapter Friday Videos you listen to throughout the quarter.

DATE	TITLE/AUTHOR	GENRE	REACTION

CREATED BY AMANDA ZIEBA, THE WORD NERD

WNC BOOK LIST

BOOKS ABOUT HOLIDAYS

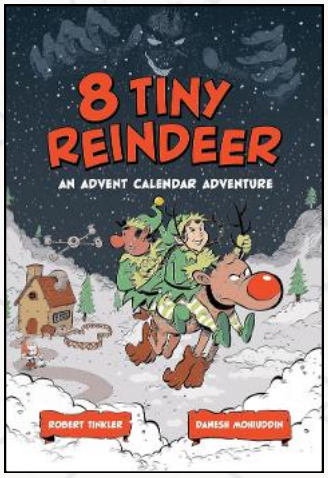
These books take place around a major holiday and include cultural aspects and traditions.

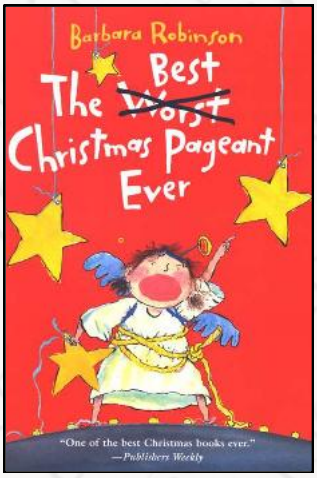
8 Tiny Reindeer
by Robert Tinkler

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
by Barbara Robinson

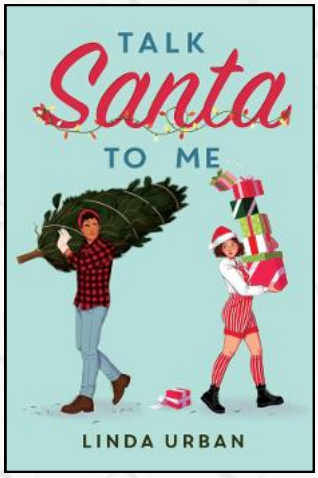
Let it Glow
by Marissa Meyer and Joanne Levy

Talk Santa to Me
by Linda Urban





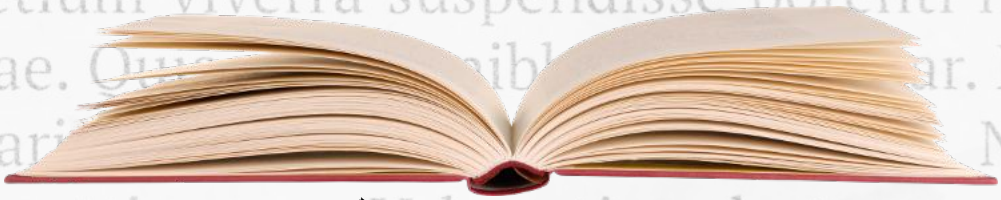






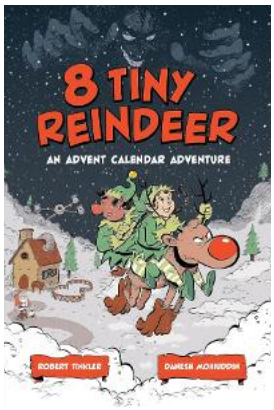
INDIVIDUAL BOOK SHEETS





FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

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



Name _____ Date _____

8 Tiny Reindeer
by Robert Tinkler

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?

In this modern holiday tale, based on the podcast of the same name, two resourceful elves help Santa try to save Christmas from an evil tech baron! In the not-too-distant future, Santa's entire operation has been automated. Machines, not elves, make all the toys. And drones transport the presents around the world on Christmas Eve, not Santa's reindeer. Since Santa no longer needs much help, he's let go all but two of his elves, Elvis and Delfina, and released his 8 tiny reindeer into the wild. Only, just days before Christmas, Santa learns that the wealthy tycoon who supplied him with all his technology, Larchmont Quickbuck, is plotting to take over Christmas and send Santa packing! Santa knows his only hope of saving the holiday from Quickbuck is to bring back the true source of Christmas magic – his 8 tiny reindeer. But will Elvis and Delfina find them in time? The holiday adventure story with a modern twist is structured like an advent calendar, with one chapter for each day of December leading up to Christmas Day Loaded with contemporary takes on familiar characters, such as a tech-challenged Santa and selfie-obsessed elf, this action-packed, hilarious and heartfelt book is destined to be a Christmas classic!

Who Wrote It?



Robert Tinkler is a writer, podcast producer and voice actor. He has worked on animated and live-action series for Disney, Netflix, PBS, Cartoon Network and Corus Entertainment. For his performance in the hit PBS series Cyberchase, he received a Daytime Emmy-Award nomination. Robert lives with his family in Toronto, Ontario.

AR Reading Level: N/A

Lexile Level: GN380L

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 _____

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson

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?

The six Herdman children are 'absolutely the worst kids in the history of the world'. They lie and steal and smoke cigars. They even burned down Fred Shoemaker's old tool house. Now they're taking over the Christmas pageant. The Herdmans have never heard the Christmas story before, and they don't know anything about shepherds or Wise Men. When Imogene hears about the swaddling clothes, she demands to know why anyone would tie up a baby and put him in a feedbox. Leroy, Claude, and Ollie are planning on a gift that means much more than gold, frankincense, and myrrh - the ham from their Christmas basket. The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, now also a television movie, has been a favorite of children and their parents since 1972. As C.J. Critt's spirited narration captures the lively and outrageous spin that the Herdmans put on the Nativity scene, listeners will delight in this unusual and refreshing interpretation of Christmas.

Who Wrote It?

Barbara Robinson was born and raised in Portsmouth, Ohio, and had no brothers or sisters. Her father died when she was three. Robinson's mother, a schoolteacher in Portsmouth for forty-nine years, got her interested in books, and she began writing very early. Robinson attended Allegheny College, where she received a bachelor's degree in theater. In addition to her children's books, Robinson wrote many short stories in magazines and has some books of poetry. Robinson lived in Berwyn, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadelphia.



She died July 9, 2013, at her home in Berwyn. She was 85 and had cancer.

AR Reading Level: 5.1

Lexile Level: 930L

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 _____

Let it Glow by Marissa Meyer and Joanne Levy

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?

LET IT GLOW is a middle-grade novel about identical twin sisters separated at birth who meet by chance at tryouts for a holiday pageant. Swapping homes for the holidays – what could possibly go wrong? When Aviva Davis and Holly Martin meet at the holiday pageant tryouts for their local senior's center, they think they must be seeing double. While they both knew they were adopted, they had no idea they had a biological sibling, let alone an identical twin! The similarities are only skin deep, though, because while Aviva has a big personality and even bigger Broadway plans, Holly is more the quiet dreamer type who longs to become a famous author like her grandfather. One thing the girls do have in common is their curiosity about how the other celebrates the holidays. What better way to discover the magic of the holidays than to experience them firsthand? The girls secretly trade lives, planning to stage a dramatic reveal to their families at the pageant. Two virtual strangers swapping homes, holidays, and age-old traditions– what could possibly go wrong?

Who Wrote It?

Marissa Meyer lives in Washington (stat), USA and mostly writes Young Adult Fantasy novels. In addition to loving books, Marissa's favorite (non-human) things are cookies and baths.

Joanne Levy lives in Ontario, Canada and mostly writes middle grade realistic fiction. When she isn't writing, Joanne enjoys making little creatures out of felt (cloth) and selling them on Etsy.

Marissa and Joanne co-wrote this book, meaning they wrote it together!



AR Reading Level: 4.6

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.

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



Name _____ Date _____

Talk Santa to Me by Linda Urban

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 teen girl gets the perfect second try at a first kiss in this hilarious, romp-filled young adult romantic comedy perfect for fans of Jenna Evans Welch and Hallmark Christmas movies. Francie was born in a stable. Really. Granted, it was the deluxe model with the light-up star on the roof, one of the many Christmas items for sale at her family's Hollydale Holiday Shop. Their holiday gift empire also includes the Santa School, which was founded by Francie's beloved grandpa, who recently passed away. Francie's always loved working in the shop, but lately Aunt Carole has been changing everything with her ideas for too-slick, Hollywood-inspired Santas and horrible holiday-themed employee uniforms. Aunt Carole's vision will ruin all the charm and nostalgia Francie loves about her family's business...unless she does something about it. But this winter is about more than preserving the magic of Christmas. Francie is saving up for a car and angling to kiss the cute boy who works at the tree lot next door—hopefully it will be good enough to wipe her fiasco of a first kiss from her memory.

As the weather outside gets more and more frightful, can Francie pull off the holiday of her dreams?

Who Wrote It?

I was born in Detroit, Michigan, and raised in a suburban house that looked like all the others on my street. Sometimes I liked that sameness. It made me feel normal, when I worried I wasn't. Other times, though, I wanted to be different — to shine, to have people see me as special. I tried ballet dancing and singing and playing musical instruments, but I wasn't very good at any of those things. But writing stories was fun! And often people liked what I wrote. At Oakbrook Elementary, I wrote lots of poems and stories. One story, SUPERBOX, was about a crime-fighting shoe box. That story won me a prize. Even better? I got to read it out loud to my classmates, who laughed at the funny parts and cheered when Superbox fought off the evil potato chip can that was his mortal enemy. Nothing made me feel more special than hearing an audience cheer for a character I had written. So, I kept written. So, I kept writing. All through elementary school and junior high I wrote short stories and plays and poems. For the rest of the story, head to Linda's website! https://www.lindaurbanbooks.com/about



AR Reading Level: N/A

Lexile Level: 810L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

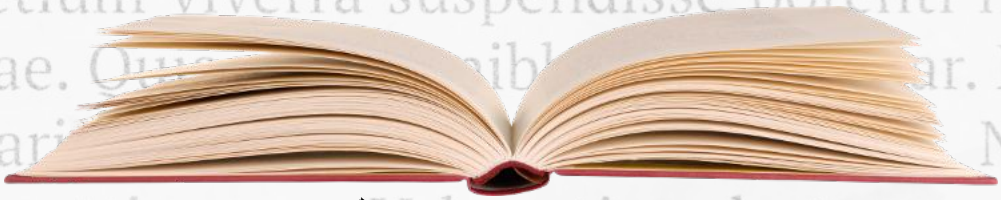
WHAT I THINK



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

INDIVIDUAL BOOK POSTERS

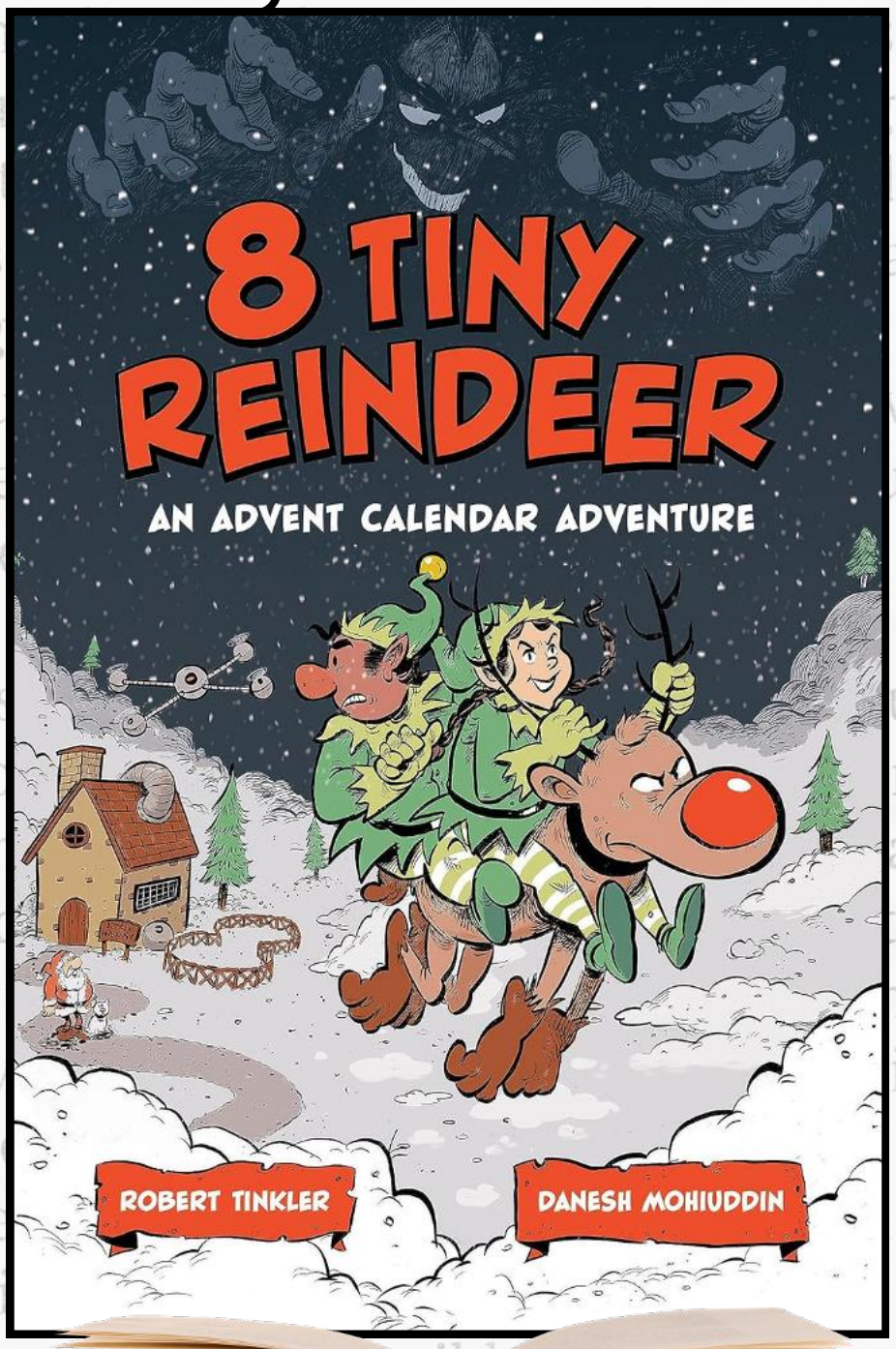




FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

8 TINY REINDEER

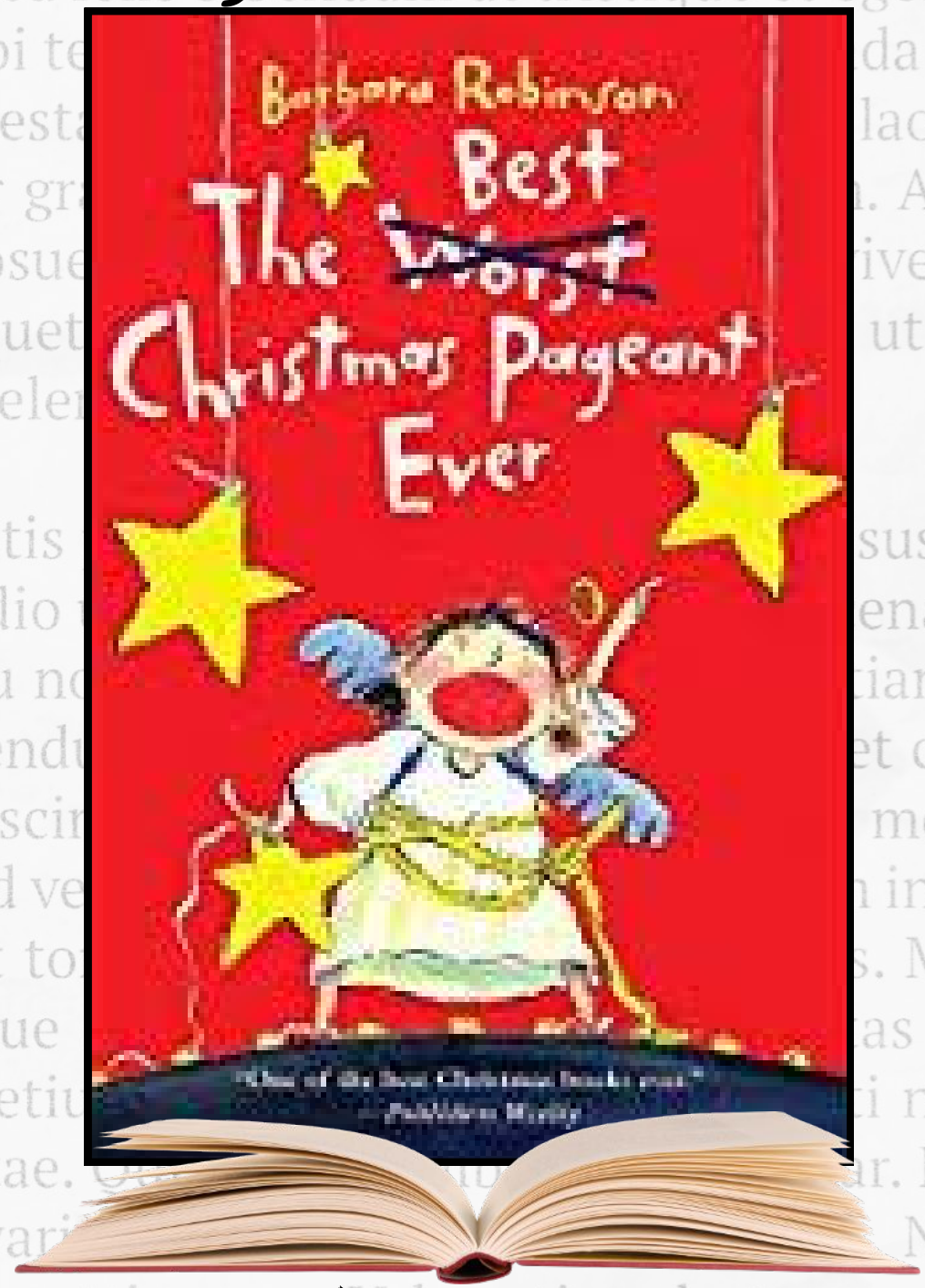
By Robert Tinkler



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

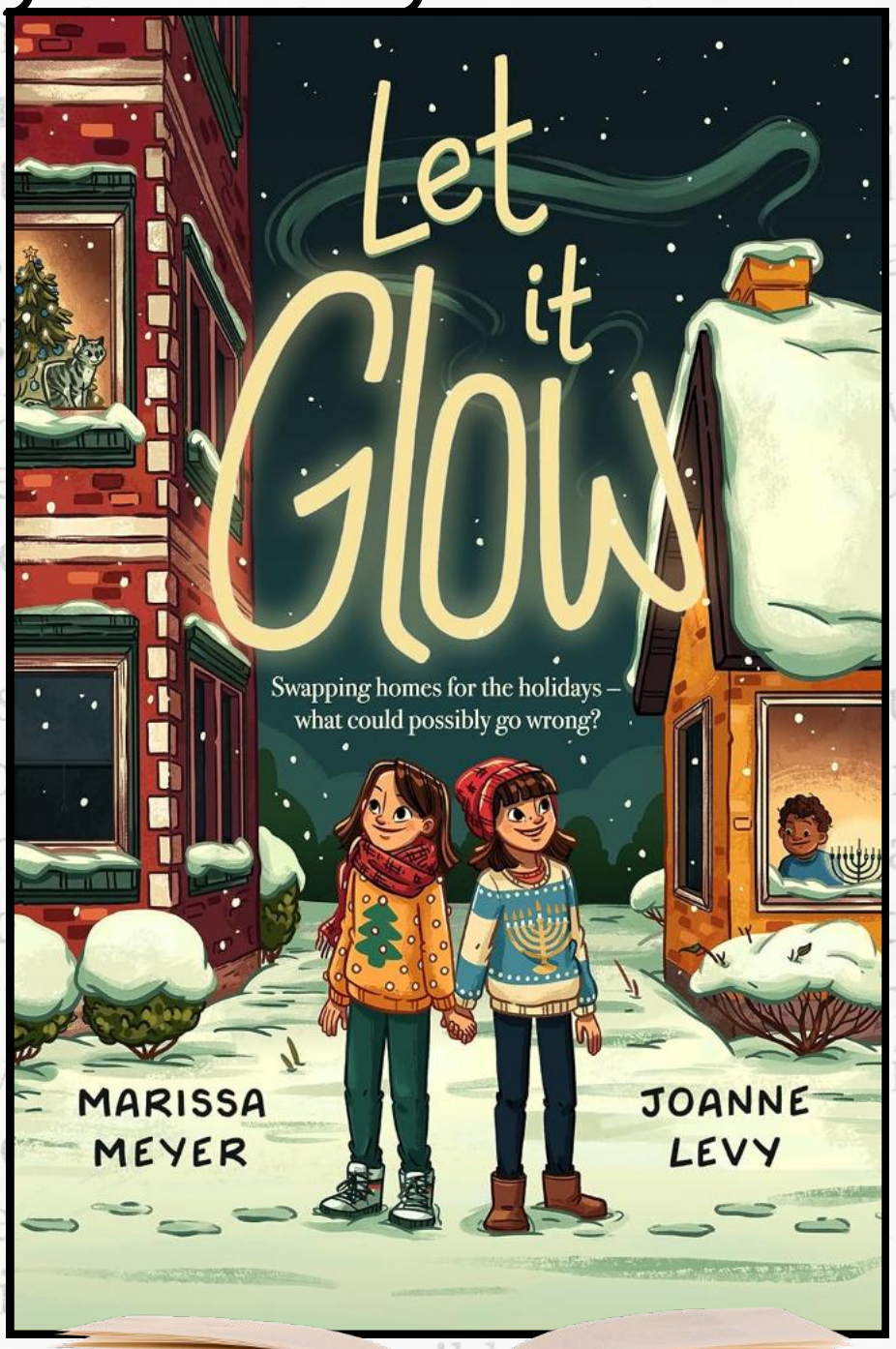
by Barbara Robinson



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

LET IT GLOW

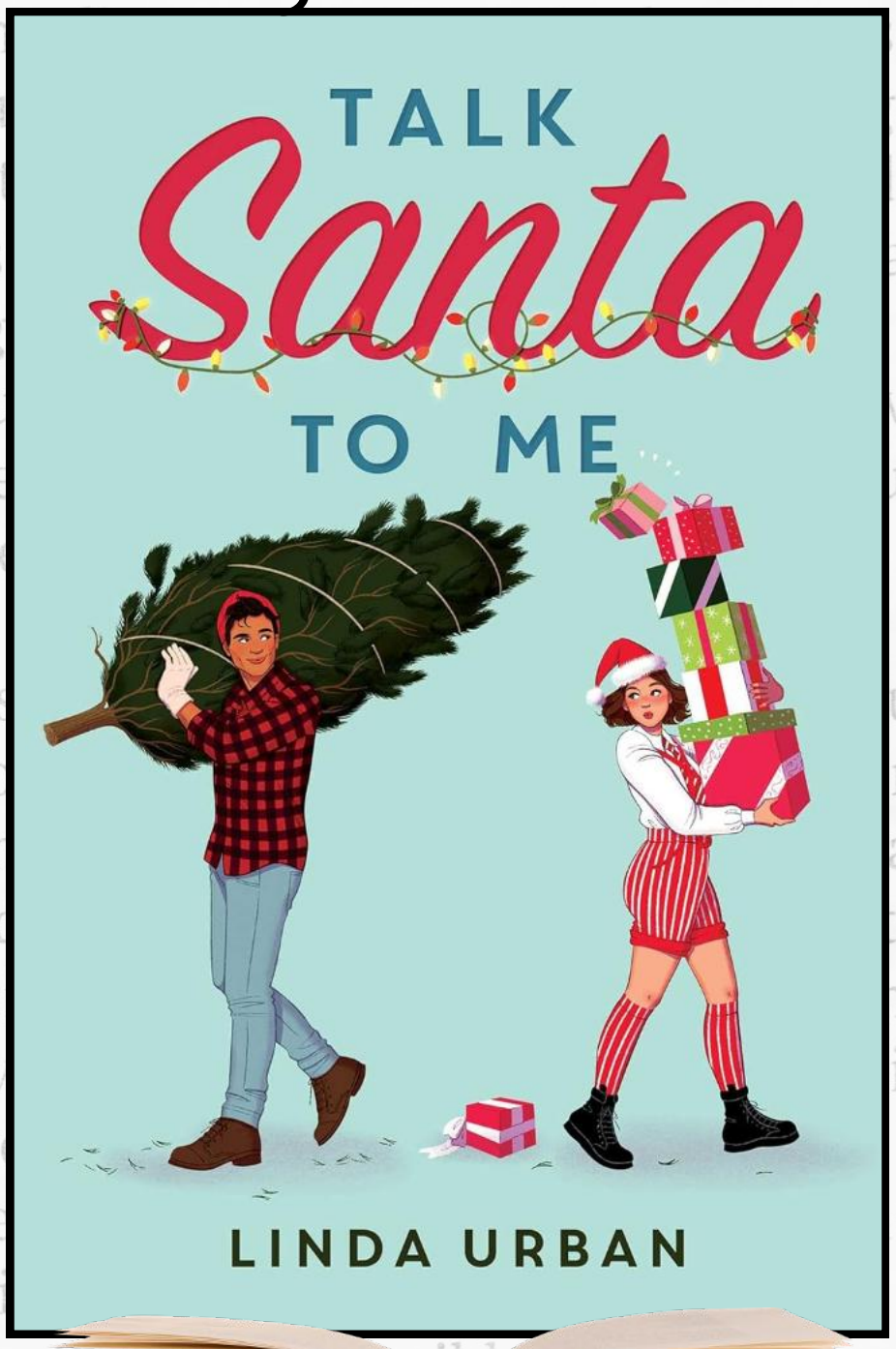
By Marissa Meyer & Joanne Levy



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

TALK SANTA TO ME

By Linda Urban



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY