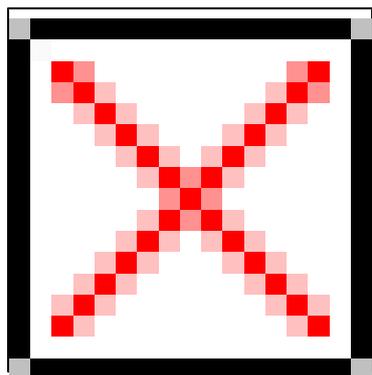




HOOD, RUNDELL AND REYNOLDS UKLA BOOK AWARD WINNERS 2019

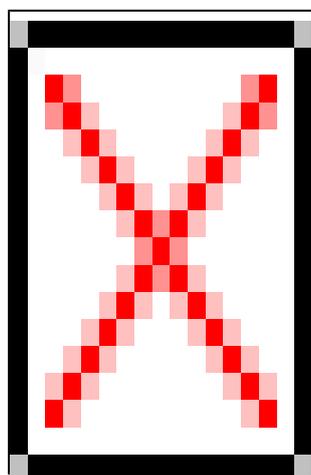
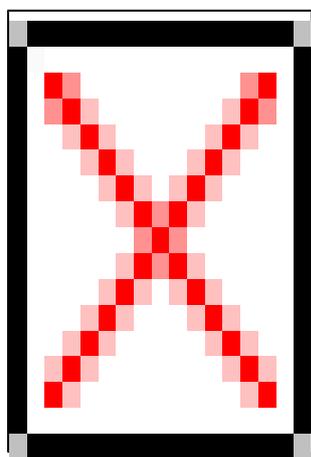
Morag Hood, Katherine Rundell and Jason Reynolds have been announced as the winners of the **UKLA Book Awards 2019** for [I Am Bat](#) [1], [The Explorer](#) [2] and [Long Way Down](#) [3] respectively.



The **UKLA Book Awards** are the only awards to be judged entirely by teachers who are looking for texts that can *enhance all aspects of literacy learning*?. The process ensures that they share the books with their classes and discover what genuinely works with young readers in each of the three age categories.

This is the second year that Morag Hood has won the 3-6 category, unprecedented in the awards' history. She said: "I am honoured that **I Am Bat** has been chosen as the winner, and to win for the second time is just incredible! What better accolade than from the teachers who know and understand children the most. It fills me with joy to know that my little bat is being used in classrooms and, I hope, helping to encourage a life-long love of reading."

Equally unprecedented was the fact that the judges, after intense debate, decided to award a Highly Commended in each of the three age categories. So the Newbery Medal winning **After the Fall** by Dan Santat has been Highly Commended in the 3-6 category with S.E Durrant's [Running On Empty](#) [4] in the 7-11 and **Carnegie Medal** winning [Elizabeth Acevedo](#) [5]'s verse novel **The Poet X** in the 12-16.



10 teachers nominated from the 58 involved in the shortlisting, who came from Midlands region around Sheffield, formed the final judging panel. Student teachers from 20 universities around the UK also take part in Shadowing the awards and read and use the shortlisted books on teaching practice in schools before having their own online vote to

select their own winners. Mini Grey's **The Last Wolf** was the 3-6 winner and S.E Durrant's **Running on Empty** won the 7-11 student vote too.

For **UKLA**, giving classroom practitioners the opportunity to read a number of new quality children's books is as important as finding an overall winner. Research carried out by members of UKLA (Cremin et al 2008) clearly demonstrated the links between teachers' knowledge of children's books and the likelihood of pupils becoming successful readers. Despite this evidence, teachers are seldom given time to read new books or funding to purchase them when they do.

Tracy Parvin, President of **UKLA** said 'We know that literature broadens the reader's experience and understanding of the world, it also enables children to walk in the shoes of others and to question and explore infinite possibilities. Reading should therefore have a central place in classrooms and in all educational contexts. Children need access to a rich range of high quality literature and our awards over the past ten years have highlighted some of the very best literature available to children and young people in the UK. We are proud to be celebrating all these truly outstanding winners at our International Conference?.'

The Shortlists in full

3-6

After the Fall written and illustrated by Dan Santat (Andersen Press)

The Last Wolf written and illustrated by Mini Grey (Jonathan Cape)

Bob's Blue Period written and illustrated by Marion Deuchars (Laurence King)

Stardust written by Jeanne Willis and illustrated by Briony May Smith (Nosy Crow)

The Big Book of the Blue written and illustrated by Yuval Zommer (Thames & Hudson)

I Am Bat written and illustrated by Morag Hood (Two Hoots)

7-11

The Explorer written by Katherine Rundell illustrated by Hannah Horn (Bloomsbury)

Running on Empty written by S. E. Durrant illustrated by Rob Biddulph (Nosy Crow)

Sky Dancer written by Gill Lewis (Oxford)

[The Wild Robot](#) [6] written and illustrated by Peter Brown (Piccadilly)

The Murderer's Ape written and illustrated by Jakob Wegelius. Translated by Peter Graves (Pushkin Press)

[Kick](#) [7] written by Mitch Johnson (Usborne Publishing)

12-16

[Moonrise](#) [8] written by Sarah Crossan (Bloomsbury)

The Poet X written by Elizabeth Acevedo (Egmont Electric Monkey)

[Long Way Down](#) [3] written by [Jason Reynolds](#) [9] and illustrated by Chris Priestley (Faber)

Piglettes written and translated by Clémentine Beauvais (Pushkin Press)

After the Fire written by Will Hill (Usborne Publishing)

Mary's Monster: Love, Madness and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein written and illustrated by Lita Judge (Wren & Rook)

The **UKLA Book Awards** are sponsored by **Capita Reading Cloud** and **Lovereading4Schools** and **Lovereading4kids**.

Source URL (retrieved on Sep '19): <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/childrens-books/news/hood-rundell-and-reynolds-ukla-book-award-winners-2019>

Links:

- [1] <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/227/childrens-books/reviews/i-am-bat>
- [2] <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/227/childrens-books/reviews/the-explorer>
- [3] <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/228/childrens-books/reviews/long-way-down>
- [4] <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/229/childrens-books/reviews/running-on-empty>
- [5] <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/236/childrens-books/articles/featured-author/an-interview-with-carnegie-winner-elizabeth-aceve>
- [6] <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/233/childrens-books/articles/featured-author/an-interview-with-peter-brown>
- [7] <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk-www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/226/childrens-books/reviews/kick>
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