

2020 South Asia Book Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature

Award Winners



Priya Dreams of Marigolds and Masala

by Meenal Patel (Beaver's Pond Press, 2019)

Priya asks her beloved Babi Ba, "What is India like?" as they stand side-by-side preparing the evening meal. Babi Ba tells Priya of her India – the sights, sounds, and smells. And, Priya, in return, discovers how to bring India to her Babi Ba. (Grades K-2)



The Bridge Home

by Padma Venkatraman (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2019)

Runaway sisters Viji and Rukku learn the harsh realities of life on the swarming streets of Chennai, India. They find shelter and friendship with Muthi and Arul, two homeless boys living under an abandoned bridge. Forming a family, the four use their instincts and tenacity to survive in a perilous, indifferent world. (Grades 4-6)



Forward Me Back to You

by Mitali Perkins (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2019).

Robin, Kat and Gracie travel to Kolkata, India with their church group to help girls who have been rescued from trafficking, but find that they are the ones whose lives are changed. (Grades 9 and up)

Honor Books



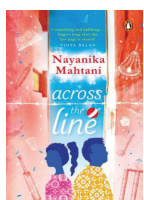
The Jungle Radio: Bird Songs of India

by Devangana Dash (Puffin Books, 2019).



Stories for South Asian Supergirls

by Raj Kaur Khaira (Kashi House, 2019).



Across the Line

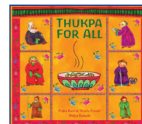
by Nayanika Mahtani (Penguin Books India, 2019).

Highly Commended Books



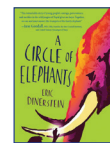
The Many Colors of Harpreet Singh

by Supriya Kelkar;
illustrated by Alea Marley
(Sterling Children's Books, 2019)



Thukpa For All

by Praba Ram & Sheela Preuit;
illustrated by Shilpa Ranade
(Karadi Tales Company, 2019)



A Circle of Elephants

by Eric Dinerstein
(Hyperion Books for Children, 2019)



Lakshmibai: A Graphic Biography

by Jason Quinn;
illustrated by Naresh Kumar
(Campfire, 2019)



The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali

by Sabina Khan
(Scholastic, 2019)

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the awards ceremony details will be announced at a later date.