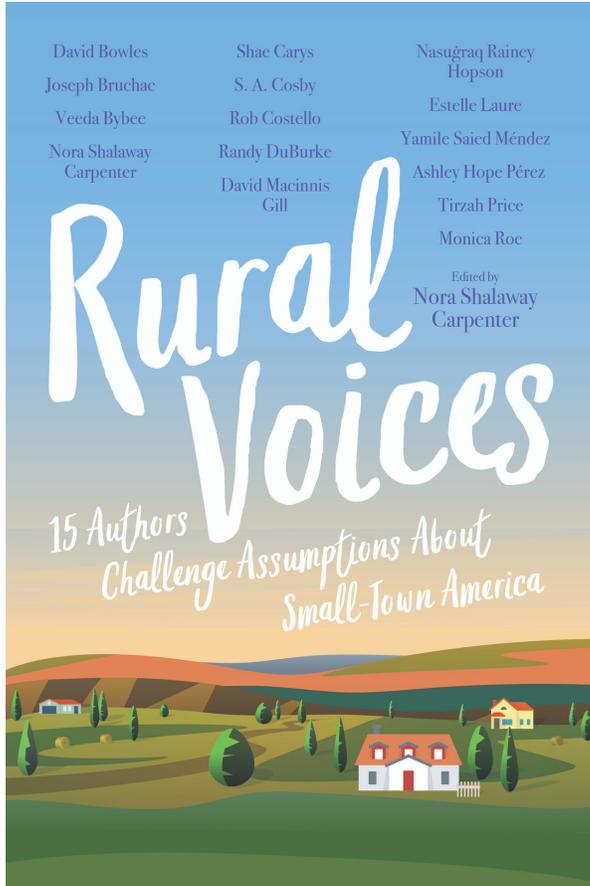


Rural Voices

15 Authors Challenge Assumptions About Small-Town America

edited by Nora Shalaway Carpenter



ISBN 978-1-5362-1210-5

Honors

- An NPR Best Book of 2020
- YALSA #BFYA2022 Nominee
- Winner of 2 Nautilus Awards
 - Gold, Best Mid-Grade Fiction
 - Best Overall Mid-Grade & YA
- A Junior Library Guild selection
- A *Country Living* magazine Front Porch Book Club Book of the Month

About the Book

For most of America's history, rural people and their culture have been mocked, stereotyped, and deeply misunderstood. This array of short stories, poetry, graphic shorts, and personal essays dives deep into the complexity and diversity of rural America and the people who call it home. Fifteen authors—diverse in ethnic background, sexual orientation, geographic location, and socioeconomic status—explore growing up in rural America. From a mountain town in New Mexico and the gorges of New York to the rolling hills of West Virginia and the arctic tundra of Alaska, you'll find yourself visiting parts of this country you might not know existed—and meet characters whose lives could prove surprisingly similar to your own.



CANDLEWICK PRESS

www.candlewick.com

Praise for Rural Voices

"A must-purchase. **Highly recommended.**"

School Library Connection

"Particularly rich storytelling."

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

"A great addition that explores an often misrepresented portion of readers."

School Library Journal

"A fresh and highly accessible contribution."

Kirkus Reviews

"A rich, not to be missed collection that defies stereotypical images and reflects the actual diversity and economic realities of teens living in rural areas today."

Traci Sorell, author of the American Indian Youth Literature Award

Honor Book and Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor Book

We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga

"These stories, each one a sweetly crafted gem, are like exquisite stops along the lesser-traveled roads that lead to-or away from-home places, those small towns and villages that serve not only as beginnings and endings, but more importantly as the very middles of our hearts. It's like getting off the interstate and just letting the road take you there. You won't be sorry."

Kathi Appelt, author of the Newbery Honor Book & National Book Award

finalist *The Underneath*

About the Author

Nora Shalaway Carpenter's most recent works include *The Edge of Anything* (a Best Book of 2020: *Kirkus Reviews* and A Mighty Girl, a Cybils Awards finalist) and *Rural Voices: 15 Authors Challenge Stereotypes of Small-Town America* (an NPR Best Book of the Year, a YALSA #BFYA 2022, winner of two Nautilus awards, Junior Library Guild selection, and a *Country Living* magazine Front Porch Book Club book). Her next anthology, *Ab(solutely) Normal*, is forthcoming from Candlewick and her next novel from Running Press.

She holds an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts and a BA in English literature and Humanities from Marshall University. Originally from rural West Virginia, she lives in North Carolina with her husband and three young kids. Learn more at noracarpenterwrites.com.