

# Disability and Chronic Illness Representation Book List by Melissa Villy

## Picture Books and Early Chapter Books

*All The Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything* by Annette Bay Pimentel and Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins - Cerebral Palsy, account of Jennifer's time as a child activist

*A Boy Called Bat* series by Elana K. Arnold and illustrated by Charles Santoso – Autism

*I Will Dance* by Nancy Bo Flood and illustrated by Julianna Swaney - Wheelchair/walker/forearm crutch use, prosthetic leg

*Unbound: The Life and Art of Judith Scott* by Joyce Scott - Down Syndrome and deafness

## Middle Grade Books

*Tea Dragon Festival* by Katie O'Neill - deaf representation\*

*Stargazing* by Jen Wang - Brain tumor (based on author's experience)

*Sunny Side Up* by Matt and Jennifer L. Holm - family member with addiction (based on authors' experience)

*Navigating Early* by Clare Vanderpool – Autism

*Con Quest!* by Sam Maggs – Autism

*Song for a Whale* by Lynne Kelly – Deaf\* main character, uses ASL and reading lips

*Real* by Carol Cujec and Peyton Goddard - Non-verbal Autism, secondary characters with Down's Syndrome, wheelchair use #OwnVoices

*The Bridge Home* by Padma Venkatraman - Unidentified intellectual disability (author research and work with street children)

*Ghosts* by Raina Telgemeier - Cystic Fibrosis (inspired by author's cousin's illness)

*Planet Earth is Blue* by Nicole Panteleakos - Non-verbal Autism (author worked with Autistic children and researched methods and treatments of the time)

*A Chance to Fly* by Ali Stroker and Stacy Davidowitz - Paraplegic #OwnVoices inspired by Ali's experiences

*How to Become a Planet* by Nicole Melleby - Depression and Anxiety

*Muffled* by Jennifer Gennari - Sound Sensitivity/Sensory Processing Disorder

*El Deafo* by Cece Bell - Deaf Representation, autobiographical

\*deaf with a lower-case D denotes someone who does not have hearing, but does not relate to being culturally part of the Deaf community. Deaf with a capital D denotes someone who is also culturally Deaf.

*Charlie and Frog: A Castle-on-Hudson Mystery* by Karen Kane- Deaf Representation, using ASL. This book teaches signs in the chapter headings.

*Caterpillar Summer* by Gillian McDunn – Autism

*Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte - Deaf Representation, uses Martha's Vineyard Sign

*Bouncing Back* by Scott Ostler - Paraplegic, various reasons for wheelchair use

*Roll with It* by Jamie Sumner - Cerebral Palsy, grandparent with Alzheimer's

*Quintessence* by Jess Redman - Panic Attacks, Anxiety

*Get a Grip, Vivvy Cohen!* by Sarah Kapit – Autism

*Allergic* by Megan Wagner Lloyd and illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter - Severe animal allergies

*Tune it Out* by Jamie Sumner - Sensory Processing Disorder, specifically sound and touch

*The Boney Hand: A Charlie and Frog Mystery* by Karen Kane- Deaf representation

### Young Adult

*Six of Crows* and *King of Scars* by Leigh Bardugo - Kaz from SoC broke his leg as a child and it did not heal properly so he uses a cane; Nikolai has PTSD, disfigurement; Genya - disfigurement, missing one eye and wears eye patch; Wylan has dyslexia (author has a rare degenerative bone disease and uses a cane for assistance)

*Unstoppable Wasp: Built on Hope* by Sam Maggs - Bipolar Disorder, secondary character with Cerebral Palsy

*Sick Kids in Love* by Hannah Moskowitz - Rheumatoid Arthritis and Guacher Syndrome

*Mooncakes* by Suzzane Walker - Deaf Representation

*Curious Case of the Dog in the Night* by Mark Haddon – Autism

*Echoes Between Us* by Katie McGarry - Brain tumor induced migraines, addiction/alcoholism

*Brave Enough* by Kati Gardner - Cancer, Addiction; Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and Ewing's #OwnVoices

*Just Breathe* by Cammie McGovern - Cystic Fibrosis and Depression

*Lycanthropy and Other Chronic Illnesses* by Kristen O'Neal - Lyme Disease and Thyroid issues in MCs, various others in support group

*The Silence Between Us* by Alisson Gervais - Maya: deaf, reads lips and uses sign; Beau: has a rod in his leg due to a bad break in a car accident

## Adult Books

*Pride, Prejudice, and Other Flavors* by Sonali Dev - Emma: brain tumor, blindness after surgery; Esha: epilepsy after traumatic brain injury; Nisha: miscarriage and infertility

*Recipe for Persuasion* by Sonali Dev - Ashna: anxiety and panic attacks; Rico: sports injury

*Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert – Leprosy

*The Kiss Quotient* and *The Bride Test* by Helen Hoang - Autism #OwnVoices

*How Lucky* by Will Leitch - Spinal Muscular Atrophy

*Get a Life, Chloe Brown* by Talia Hibbert - Fibromyalgia, PTSD

*The Heart Principle* (Kiss Quotient 3) by Helen Hoang - Testicular Cancer recovery, receiving an Autism diagnosis as an adult

*Incense and Sensibility* by Sonali Dev - Yash: Anxiety, PTSD; Tara: Hepatitis C induced Cirrhosis of the liver; India and China: born with cleft lip/palate