

# Mildred L. Batchelder Award Acceptance Speeches

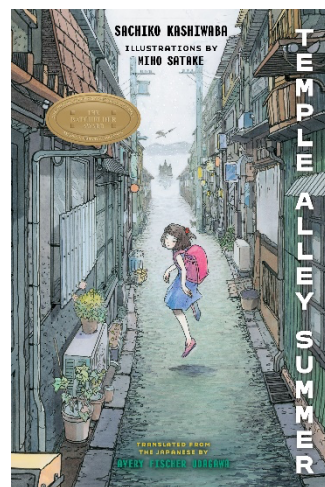


*Yonder: Restless Books for Young Readers is the winner of the 2022 (Mildred L.) Batchelder Award for Temple Alley Summer, written by Sachiko Kashiwaba, illustrated by Miho Satake, and translated from the Japanese by Avery Fischer Udagawa. Alison Gore, Associate Editor and Grants Manager, Restless Books, Sachiko Kashiwaba, and Avery Fischer Udagawa delivered these acceptance remarks at the ALSC Awards Program, held Monday, June 27, 2022, during the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.*

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## Alison Gore

Good morning. My name is Alison Gore, and on behalf of Yonder and Restless Books, it is an honor to accept the 2022 Mildred L. Batchelder Award for *Temple Alley Summer*, written by Sachiko Kashiwaba, illustrated by Miho Satake, and translated by Avery Fischer Udagawa. Our deepest gratitude to Dr. Marie A. LeJeune who chaired this year's Batchelder committee and all the members of the committee for selecting *Temple Alley Summer* for this award. We would like to thank the ALSC and librarians across the country for the immense support we've received for this moving novel about friendship and the power of story and extend our congratulations to the honor books this year from Enchanted Lion, Elsewhere Editions, and Levine Querido. Lastly, and most importantly, I would like to thank Sachiko Kashiwaba for her imaginative and captivating storytelling, Avery Fischer Udagawa for bringing Kazu and Akari to English readers, and the members of Kodansha Ltd. who are with us today to celebrate. I would now like to invite Sachiko Kashiwaba and Avery Fischer Udagawa to say a few words.



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## Sachiko Kashiwaba

「帰命寺横丁の夏」の作者の柏葉幸子です。

野球の大谷翔平選手や菊池雄星選手と同じ岩手県が故郷でそこで物語を書いています。

この度は、宇田川さんに翻訳、出版のお世話をさせていただき素晴らしい賞までいただけてまるで夢のようです。

私は、自分の本を読み終えた時に「ああ、楽しかった！」「面白かった！」と言っていたきたいといつも思っています。でも、それだけではなく「帰命寺横丁の夏」では、十一年前にあった東日本大震災と同じ年に出版していただいたこともあり、誰にでも平等な時間の重みも読み取っていただきたいと願っています。

子供たちが幸せな読書体験をたくさん持てる未来であることを願います。

I am Sachiko Kashiwaba, the author of *Temple Alley Summer*.

My home is Iwate prefecture, Japan, also home to the major league baseball players Shohei Ohtani and Yusei Kikuchi. Iwate is where I write stories.

Recently, Udagawa-san translated and found a publisher for my work, which led to this fine prize, which is all truly like a dream.

I always hope that when readers finish my books, they will say, “Ah, that was fun!” or “Wow, how interesting!” But this book was published in Japan eleven years ago, the same year as the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. So, I hope that its readers will take from it the weight of our time alive, which passes no matter who we are.

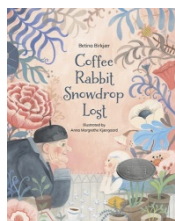
I hope for a future in which children can spend many blissful hours reading books.

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## **Avery Fischer Udagawa**

I am Avery Fischer Udagawa, and I delight in reading Sachiko Kashiwaba’s stories in Japanese and writing them in English. Thank you to my in-home test audience, Kentaro, Emina, and Kaia Udagawa, and to my family and professional community for supporting *Temple Alley Summer*. You are to me what Kazu’s fictional town of Masuda is to him. Thank you very much.

## 2022 BATCHELDER HONOR BOOKS



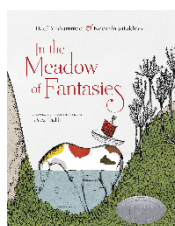
***Coffee, Rabbit, Snowdrop, Lost***

Betina Birkjær

Illus. by Anna Margrethe Kjærgaard

Trans. from the Danish by Sinéad Quirke Køngerskov

Enchanted Lion Books



***In the Meadow of Fantasies***

Hadi Mohammadi

Illus. by Nooshin Safakhoo

Trans. from the Persian by Sara Khalili

Elsewhere Editions



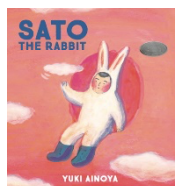
***The Most Beautiful Story***

Brynjulf Jung Tjønn

Illus. by Øyvind Torseter

Trans. from the Norwegian by Kari Dickson

Enchanted Lion Books



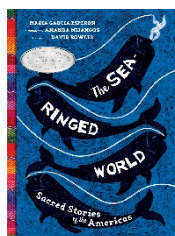
***Sato the Rabbit***

Yuki Ainoya

Illus. by the author

Trans. from the Japanese by Michael Blaskowsky

Enchanted Lion Books



***The Sea-Ringed World: Sacred Stories of the Americas***

María García Esperón

Illus. by Amanda Mijangos

Trans. from the Spanish by David Bowles

Em Querido, an imprint of Levine Querido