

# Four Perfect Pebbles Chapter Summary

Four Perfect Pebbles Four Perfect Pebbles Four Perfect Pebbles: Stargirl A Thousand Splendid Suns Pebble in the Sky The Planet in a Pebble The Cay Tuck Everlasting Sylvester and the Magic Pebble On Chesil Beach The Pebbles on the Beach The Scarlet Letter 26 Pebbles The Poisonwood Bible The Collectors Each Kindness Wise Blood Every Falling Star The Sand Pebbles Homeless Bird Counting on Grace Things Fall Apart Swami and Friends This One Summer Stones from the River Before We Were Free Loser Who Would Have Thought It? The Secret Life of Bees Candide Pebbles of Perception Fog Magic Song of Solomon The Glass Castle Landscape in the Longue Durée A Mercy All the Light We Cannot See Deathwatch Mrs. Spring Fragrance

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Every Falling Star Apr 14 2021 Written for a young audience, this intense memoir explores the harsh realities of life on the streets in contemporary North Korea. Every Falling Star is the memoir of Sungju Lee, who at the age of twelve was forced to live on the streets of North Korea and fend for himself. To survive, Sungju creates a gang and lives by thieving, fighting, begging, and stealing rides on cargo trains. Sungju richly recreates his scabrous story, depicting what it was like for a boy alone to create a new family with his gang, "his brothers," to daily be hungry and to fear arrest, imprisonment, and even execution. This riveting memoir allows young readers to learn about other cultures where freedoms they take for granted do not exist.

Pebbles of Perception Mar 02 2020 Why are we here? Pebbles of Perception is is an exploration of the more important decisions in life. Inspired by the teachings of Charlie Munger, the book is an invitation to Be Curious, Build Character and to make Better Choices.

Four Perfect Pebbles Oct 01 2022 First hardcover edition published by Greenwillow Books in 1996.

Fog Magic Jan 30 2020 A child of Nova Scotia who loves the fog is transported by it to a secret world of her own.

Song of Solomon Dec 31 2019 Stunningly-designed new editions of Toni Morrison's best-

known novels, published by Vintage Classics in celebration of her life and work. WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY BOOKER PRIZE WINNING AUTHOR MARLON JAMES Soon after a local eccentric leaps from a rooftop in a vain attempt at flight, Macon 'Milkman' Dead III is born. Brought up by his well-off black family to revere the white world around him, Milkman strives to make sense of his conflicting identities. Always seeking flight in some way, he leaves his Michigan home for the South, retracing the steps of his forebears in search of his own buried heritage and is introduced to an entire cast of strivers and seeresses, liars and assassins; the inhabitants of a fully realised black world. Evocative and kaleidoscopic, *Song of Solomon* is a brilliantly imagined coming-of-age tale.

*The Glass Castle* Nov 29 2019 A triumphant tale of a young woman and her difficult childhood, *The Glass Castle* is a remarkable memoir of resilience, redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and wonderfully vibrant. Jeannette Walls was the second of four children raised by anti-institutional parents in a household of extremes.

*Tuck Everlasting* Feb 22 2022 Critically acclaimed when it was first published, *Tuck Everlasting* has become a much-loved, well-studied modern-day classic. This anniversary edition features an in-depth interview conducted by Betsy Hearne in which Natalie Babbitt takes a look at *Tuck Everlasting* twenty-five years later. What if you could live forever? Is eternal life a blessing or a curse? That is what young Winnie Foster must decide when she discovers a spring on her family's property whose waters grant immortality. Members of the Tuck family, having drunk from the spring, tell Winnie of their experiences watching life go by and never growing older. But then Winnie must decide whether or not to keep the Tucks' secret—and whether or not to join them on their never-ending journey. Praise for *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt: "A fearsome and beautifully written book that can't be put down or forgotten." "The New York Times" "Exciting and excellently written." "The New York Times Book Review" "With its serious intentions and light touch the story is, like the Tucks, timeless." "Chicago Sun-Times" "Probably the best work of our best children's novelist." "Harper's" "Natalie Babbitt's great skill is spinning fantasy with the lilt and sense of timeless wisdom of the old fairy tales. . . . It lingers on, haunting your waking hours, making you ponder." "The Boston Globe" "This book is as shapely, crisp, sweet, and tangy as a summer-ripe pear." "Entertainment Weekly" This title has Common Core connections.

*Candide* Apr 02 2020 *Candide* by Voltaire from Coterie Classics All Coterie Classics have been formatted for ereaders and devices and include a bonus link to the free audio book. "Do you believe," said Candide, "that men have always massacred each other as they do to-day, that they have always been liars, cheats, traitors, ingrates, brigands, idiots, thieves, scoundrels, gluttons, drunkards, misers, envious, ambitious, bloody-minded, calumniators, debauchees, fanatics, hypocrites, and fools?" "Do you believe," said Martin, "that hawks have always eaten pigeons when they have found them?" "Voltaire, *Candide* *Candide* is a young man who is raised in wealth to be an optimist but when he is forced to make his own way in the world, his assumptions and outlook are challenged.

*Homeless Bird* Feb 10 2021 The National Book Award-winning novel about one remarkable young woman who dares to defy fate, perfect for readers who enjoyed *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park or *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai. Like many girls her age in India, thirteen-year-old Koly faces her arranged marriage with hope and courage. But Koly's story takes a terrible turn when in the wake of the ceremony, she discovers she's been horribly misled—her life has been sold for a dowry. Can she forge her own future, even in the face of

time-worn tradition? Perfect for schools and classrooms, this universally acclaimed, bestselling, and award-winning novel by master of historical fiction Gloria Whelan is a gripping tale of hope that will transport readers of all ages.

**A Mercy Sep 27 2019** A powerful tragedy distilled into a small masterpiece by the Nobel Prize-winning author of *Beloved* and, almost like a prelude to that story, set two centuries earlier. Jacob is an Anglo-Dutch trader in 1680s United States, when the slave trade is still in its infancy. Reluctantly he takes a small slave girl in part payment from a plantation owner for a bad debt. Feeling rejected by her slave mother, 14-year-old Florens can read and write and might be useful on his farm. Florens looks for love, first from Lina, an older servant woman at her new master's house, but later from the handsome blacksmith, an African, never enslaved, who comes riding into their lives . . . At the novel's heart, like *Beloved*, it is the ambivalent, disturbing story of a mother and a daughter — a mother who casts off her daughter in order to save her, and a daughter who may never exorcise that abandonment.

**The Sand Pebbles Mar 14 2021** The critically acclaimed New York Times bestseller and the basis for the Academy Award and Golden Globe-nominated film starring Steve McQueen. As a spirit of nationalism inspired by Chiang Kai-shek's leadership begins to sweep through China, the river gunship *San Pablo* is ordered to patrol the region and to protect US citizens. Jack Holman is a machinist aboard the *San Pablo*, who has joined the navy in order to avoid jail time. Because he is so fiercely independent, Jake remains a relative loner and is uncomfortable with navy protocol and discipline. McKenna's independent mind chafes against military hierarchy and also ensures that he does not share his shipmates' disdain for the Chinese. Instead, McKenna is fascinated with the culture and the people that surround him and develops emotional bonds that prove quite thorny when the circumstances become more tumultuous and more dire. The perspective of *The Sand Pebbles* is therefore both panoramic as well as personal. Like *Lawrence of Arabia*, the tension explored here is between the self as individual against the broader spectrum of social and historical forces against which we are all measured. "A bold well-written book, inclusive in its concepts, memorable in character and incident, fearlessly impartial in its delineation of the incompatible sets of values held by the men on all sides." —Kirkus Reviews

**The Cay Mar 26 2022** For fans of *Hatchet* and *Island of the Blue Dolphins* comes Theodore Taylor's classic bestseller and Lewis Carroll Shelf Award winner, *The Cay*. Phillip is excited when the Germans invade the small island of Curaçao. War has always been a game to him, and he's eager to glimpse it firsthand—until the freighter he and his mother are traveling to the United States on is torpedoed. When Phillip comes to, he is on a small raft in the middle of the sea. Besides Stew Cat, his only companion is an old West Indian, Timothy. Phillip remembers his mother's warning about black people: "They are different, and they live differently." But by the time the castaways arrive on a small island, Phillip's head injury has made him blind and dependent on Timothy. "Mr. Taylor has provided an exciting story—the idea that all humanity would benefit from this special form of color blindness permeates the whole book—the result is a story with a high ethical purpose but no sermon." —New York Times Book Review "A taut tightly compressed story of endurance and revelation—At once barbed and tender, tense and fragile—as Timothy would say, "outrageous good." —Kirkus Reviews \* "Fully realized setting—artful, unobtrusive use of dialect—the representation of a hauntingly deep love, the poignancy of which is rarely achieved in children's literature." —School Library Journal, Starred "Starkly dramatic, believable and compelling." —Saturday Review "A tense and moving experience in reading." —Publishers Weekly "Eloquently underscores the intrinsic brotherhood of

man. Booklist "This is one of the best survival stories since Robinson Crusoe." The Washington Star · A New York Times Best Book of the Year · A School Library Journal Best Book of the Year · A Horn Book Honor Book · An American Library Association Notable Book · A Publishers Weekly Children's Book to Remember · A Child Study Association's Pick of Children's Books of the Year · Jane Addams Book Award · Lewis Carroll Shelf Award · Commonwealth Club of California: Literature Award · Southern California Council on Literature for Children and Young People Award · Woodward School Annual Book Award · Friends of the Library Award, University of California at Irvine

A Thousand Splendid Suns Jun 28 2022 A riveting and powerful story of an unforgiving time, an unlikely friendship and an indestructible love

Each Kindness Jun 16 2021 WINNER OF A CORETTA SCOTT KING HONOR AND THE JANE ADDAMS PEACE AWARD! Each kindness makes the world a little better This unforgettable book is written and illustrated by the award-winning team that created *The Other Side* and the Caldecott Honor winner *Coming On Home Soon*. With its powerful anti-bullying message and striking art, it will resonate with readers long after they've put it down. Chloe and her friends won't play with the new girl, Maya. Every time Maya tries to join Chloe and her friends, they reject her. Eventually Maya stops coming to school. When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the lost opportunity for friendship, and thinks about how much better it could have been if she'd shown a little kindness toward Maya.

Stones from the River Sep 07 2020 From the acclaimed author of *Floating in My Mother's Palm* and *Children and Fire*, a stunning story about ordinary people living in extraordinary times—epic, daring, magnificent, the product of a defining and mesmerizing vision (Los Angeles Times). Trudi Montag is a Zwerg—a dwarf—short, undesirable, different, the voice of anyone who has ever tried to fit in. Eventually she learns that being different is a secret that all humans share—from her mother who flees into madness, to her friend Georg whose parents pretend he's a girl, to the Jews Trudi harbors in her cellar. Ursula Hegi brings us a timeless and unforgettable story in Trudi and a small town, weaving together a profound tapestry of emotional power, humanity, and truth.

Wise Blood May 16 2021 Flannery O'Connor (1925-1964) was an American author. *Wise Blood* was her first novel and one of her most famous works.

This One Summer Oct 09 2020 A 2015 Caldecott Honor Book A 2015 Michael L. Printz Honor Book Every summer, Rose goes with her mom and dad to a lake house in Awago Beach. It's their getaway, their refuge. Rosie's friend Windy is always there, too, like the little sister she never had. But this summer is different. Rose's mom and dad won't stop fighting, and when Rose and Windy seek a distraction from the drama, they find themselves with a whole new set of problems. One of the local teens - just a couple of years older than Rose and Windy - is caught up in something bad... Something life threatening. It's a summer of secrets, and sorrow, and growing up, and it's a good thing Rose and Windy have each other. *This One Summer* is a tremendously exciting new teen graphic novel from two creators with true literary clout.

Cousins Mariko and Jillian Tamaki, the team behind *Skim*, have collaborated on this gorgeous, heartbreaking, and ultimately hopeful story about a girl on the cusp of childhood - a story of renewal and revelation. This title has Common Core connections.

Swami and Friends Nov 09 2020 R. K. Narayan (1906–2001) witnessed nearly a century of change in his native India and captured it in fiction of uncommon warmth and vibrancy. *Swami and Friends* introduces us to Narayan's beloved fictional town of Malgudi, where ten-year-old

Swaminathan's excitement about his country's initial stirrings for independence competes with his ardor for cricket and all other things British. Written during British rule, this novel brings colonial India into intimate focus through the narrative gifts of this master of literary realism.

**On Chesil Beach Dec 23 2021 NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE** The #1 bestselling author of *Saturday* and *Atonement* brilliantly illuminates the collision of sexual longing, deep-seated fears and romantic fantasy in his unforgettable, emotionally engaging novel. The year is 1962. Florence, the daughter of a successful businessman and an aloof Oxford academic, is a talented violinist. She dreams of a career on the concert stage and of the perfect life she will create with Edward, the earnest young history student she met by chance and who unexpectedly wooed her and won her heart. Edward grew up in the country on the outskirts of Oxford where his father, the headmaster of the local school, struggled to keep the household together and his mother, brain-damaged from an accident, drifted in a world of her own. Edward's native intelligence, coupled with a longing to experience the excitement and intellectual fervour of the city, had taken him to University College in London. Falling in love with the accomplished, shy and sensitive Florence--and having his affections returned with equal intensity--has utterly changed his life. Their marriage, they believe, will bring them happiness, the confidence and the freedom to fulfill their true destinies. The glowing promise of the future, however, cannot totally mask their worries about the wedding night. Edward, who has had little experience with women, frets about his sexual prowess. Florence's anxieties run deeper: she is overcome by conflicting emotions and a fear of the moment she will surrender herself. From the precise and intimate depiction of two young lovers eager to rise above the hurts and confusion of the past, to the touching story of how their unexpressed misunderstandings and fears shape the rest of their lives, *On Chesil Beach* is an extraordinary novel that brilliantly, movingly shows us how the entire course of a life can be changed--by a gesture not made or a word not spoken.

**The Secret Life of Bees May 04 2020** After her mother's death, Lily Owens and her African-American maid seek refuge from the racism of their South Carolina hometown with eccentric beekeeping sisters in this coming of age story representing the letter "K" in a new series of twenty-six collectible editions.

**Four Perfect Pebbles Nov 02 2022** The twentieth-anniversary edition of Marion Blumenthal Lazan's acclaimed Holocaust memoir features new material by the author, a reading group guide, a map, and additional photographs. "The writing is direct, devastating, with no rhetoric or exploitation. The truth is in what's said and in what is left out." ALA Booklist (starred review) Marion Blumenthal Lazan's unforgettable and acclaimed memoir recalls the devastating years that shaped her childhood. Following Hitler's rise to power, the Blumenthal family--father, mother, Marion, and her brother, Albert--were trapped in Nazi Germany. They managed eventually to get to Holland, but soon thereafter it was occupied by the Nazis. For the next six and a half years the Blumenthals were forced to live in refugee, transit, and prison camps, including Westerbork in Holland and Bergen-Belsen in Germany, before finally making it to the United States. Their story is one of horror and hardship, but it is also a story of courage, hope, and the will to survive. *Four Perfect Pebbles* features forty archival photographs, including several new to this edition, an epilogue, a bibliography, a map, a reading group guide, an index, and a new afterword by the author. First published in 1996, the book was an ALA Notable Book, an ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers, and IRA Young Adults' Choice, and a Notable Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies, and the recipient of many other honors. "A harrowing and often moving account." School Library Journal

Landscape in the Longue Durée Oct 28 2019 Pebbles are usually found only on the beach, in the liminal space between land and sea. But what happens when pebbles extend inland and create a ridge brushing against the sky? *Landscape in the Longue Durée* is a 4,000 year history of pebbles. It is based on the results of a four-year archaeological research project of the east Devon Pebblebed heathlands, a fascinating and geologically unique landscape in the UK whose bedrock is composed entirely of water-rounded pebbles. Christopher Tilley uses this landscape to argue that pebbles are like no other kind of stone – they occupy an especial place both in the prehistoric past and in our contemporary culture. It is for this reason that we must re-think continuity and change in a radically new way by considering embodied relations between people and things over the long term. Dividing the book into two parts, Tilley first explores the prehistoric landscape from the Mesolithic to the end of the Iron Age, and follows with an analysis of the same landscape from the eighteenth into the twenty-first century. The major findings of the four-year study are revealed through this chronological journey: from archaeological discoveries, such as the excavation of three early Bronze Age cairns, to the documentation of all 829 surviving pebble structures, and beyond, to the impact of the landscape on local economies and its importance today as a military training camp. The results of the study will inform many disciplines including archaeology, cultural and art history, anthropology, conservation, and landscape studies.

Deathwatch Jul 26 2019 "An exciting novel of suspense, based on a fight to the finish between an honest and courageous young man and a cynical business tycoon who believes that anything can be had for a price."--Horn Book. An ALA Best of the Best Books for Young Adults, Edgar Allan Poe Mystery Writers Award, A New York Times Outstanding Book of the Year, New York Public Library--Books for the Teen Age.

The Scarlet Letter Oct 21 2021

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble Jan 24 2022 Caldecott Medal Winner This deluxe edition of *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* truly recaptures that magic for a whole new generation of readers—featuring retouched, vibrant illustrations and William Steig’s moving Caldecott Medal acceptance speech. One rainy day, Sylvester finds a magic pebble that can make wishes come true. But when a lion frightens him on his way home, Sylvester makes a wish that brings unexpected results. How Sylvester is eventually reunited with his loving family and restored to his own donkey self makes a story that is beautifully tender and perfectly joyful.

Mrs. Spring Fragrance Jun 24 2019 One of the first works of fiction published by a Chinese-American author, this collection of 17 short stories offers a revealing look at life in San Francisco's Chinatown during the early 20th century.

Stargirl Jul 30 2022 ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE’S 100 BEST YA BOOKS OF ALL TIME | NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A modern-day classic from Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli, this beloved celebration of individuality is now an original movie on Disney+! And don't miss the author's highly anticipated new novel, *Dead Wednesday!* *Stargirl*. From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of “*Stargirl, Stargirl.*” She captures Leo Borlock’s heart with just one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted. At first. Then they turn on her. *Stargirl* is suddenly shunned for everything that makes her different, and Leo, panicked and desperate with love, urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal. In this celebration of nonconformity, Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli weaves a tense, emotional tale about the perils of popularity and the thrill and inspiration of first love. Don't miss the sequel, *Love, Stargirl*, as well as *The Warden’s Daughter*, a novel about another girl who

can't help but stand out. "Spinelli is a poet of the prepubescent. . . . No writer guides his young characters, and his readers, past these pitfalls and challenges and toward their futures with more compassion." "The New York Times

**Counting on Grace** Jan 12 2021 1910. Pownal, Vermont. At 12, Grace and her best friend Arthur must leave school and go to work as a "doffers" on their mothers' looms in the mill. Grace's mother is the best worker, fast and powerful, and Grace desperately wants to help her. But she's left handed and doffing is a right-handed job. Grace's every mistake costs her mother, and the family. She only feels capable on Sundays, when she and Arthur receive special lessons from their teacher. Together they write a secret letter to the Child Labor Board about underage children working in Pownal. A few weeks later a man with a camera shows up. It is the famous reformer Lewis Hine, undercover, collecting evidence for the Child Labor Board. Grace's brief acquaintance with Hine and the photos he takes of her are a gift that changes her sense of herself, her future, and her family's future.

**Things Fall Apart** Dec 11 2020 'Things Fall Apart' tells the story of Okonkwo, an important man in the Igbo tribe in the days when white men were first on the scene. Okonkwo becomes exiled from his tribe, as a result of his pride and his fears, with tragic consequences.

**The Pebbles on the Beach** Nov 21 2021 This is a book about the simple pleasure of pebble spotting. Clarence Ellis is a charming, knowledgeable and witty guide to everything you didn't know there was to know about pebbles. He ruminates on what a pebble actually is, before showing us how they are formed, advising on the best pebble-spotting grounds in the UK, helping to identify individual stones, and giving tips on the necessary kit. You'll know your chert from your schist, your onyx from your agate, and will be on your guard for artificial intruders before you know it. Understanding the humble pebble makes a trip to the beach, lake-side or river bank simply that little bit more fascinating.

**The Poisonwood Bible** Aug 19 2021 'Breathtaking.' Sunday Times 'Exquisite.' The Times 'Beautiful.' Independent 'Powerful.' New York Times An international bestseller and a modern classic, this suspenseful epic of one family's tragic undoing and their remarkable reconstruction has been read, adored and shared by millions around the world. This story is told by the wife and four daughters of Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist who takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959. They carry with them everything they believe they will need from home, but soon find that all of it - from garden seeds to Scripture - is calamitously transformed on African soil. What readers are saying 'This remains one of the most fascinating books I have ever read.' 'I felt every emotion under the sky with this book.' 'Riveting.' 'This novel left a lasting - YEARS LASTING - impression.' 'This is one of those books that stands the test of time and is worth rereading.' 'Five epic, no-wonder-this-book-is-so-well-loved stars!'

**Four Perfect Pebbles:** Aug 31 2022 Provides a factual reflection of the life of a young girl and her family during the Holocaust

**Loser** Jul 06 2020 From renowned Newbery-winning author Jerry Spinelli comes a powerful story about how not fitting in just might lead to an incredible life. This classic book is perfect for fans of Gordon Korman and Carl Hiaasen. Just like other kids, Zinkoff rides his bike, hopes for snow days, and wants to be like his dad when he grows up. But Zinkoff also raises his hand with all the wrong answers, trips over his own feet, and falls down with laughter over a word like "Jabip." Other kids have their own word to describe him, but Zinkoff is too busy to hear it. He doesn't know he's not like everyone else. And one winter night, Zinkoff's differences show that any name can someday become "hero." With some of his finest writing to date and great wit and humor, Jerry Spinelli creates a story about a boy's individuality surpassing the need to

fit in and the genuine importance of failure. As readers follow Zinkoff from first through sixth grade, it becomes impossible not to identify with and root for him through failures and triumphs. The perfect classroom read.

**All the Light We Cannot See** Aug 26 2019 A cloth bag containing 20 paperback copies of the title that may also include a folder with sign out sheets.

**Before We Were Free** Aug 07 2020 Anita de la Torre never questioned her freedom living in the Dominican Republic. But by her 12th birthday in 1960, most of her relatives have emigrated to the United States, her Tío Toni has disappeared without a trace, and the government's secret police terrorize her remaining family because of their suspected opposition of el Trujillo's dictatorship. Using the strength and courage of her family, Anita must overcome her fears and fly to freedom, leaving all that she once knew behind. From renowned author Julia Alvarez comes an unforgettable story about adolescence, perseverance, and one girl's struggle to be free.

**26 Pebbles** Sep 19 2021 On December 14, 2012, Adam Lanza walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School and killed twenty-six innocent souls before taking his own life. These twenty-six innocent deaths, like pebbles thrown into a pond, created ripples and vibrations that were felt far beyond the initial rings. This is the story of those vibrations. Similar in style to *The Laramie Project*, playwright Eric Ulloa conducted interviews with members of the community in Newtown and crafted them into an exploration of gun violence and a small town shaken by a horrific event.

**Who Would Have Thought It?** Jun 04 2020 "Who Would Have Thought It?" details the struggles of a Mexican-American girl born in Indian captivity, Lola, in an American society obsessed with class, religion, race and gender. The first part of the book follows the central family in the years leading up to the start of the American Civil War and the attack on Fort Sumter (1857-1861), and flashbacks are meant to take the readers back further than that time line, such as the kidnapping of Lola's mother in 1846. The second part chronicles the events that took place during the Civil War (1861-1864). Each chapter focuses on a particular character and is told from an omniscient point of view. *Who Would Have Thought It?* is a semi-autobiographical novel written by María Ruiz de Burton and it reflects the author's ambiguous position between the small in number Californio elite and the Anglo-American populace, which form the majority of the United States population.

**Pebble in the Sky** May 28 2022 One moment Joseph Schwartz is a happily retired tailor in Chicago, 1949. The next he's a helpless stranger on Earth during the heyday of the first Galactic Empire. Earth, as he soon learns, is a backwater, just a pebble in the sky, despised by all the other 200 million planets of the Empire because its people dare to claim it's the original home of man. And Earth is poor, with great areas of radioactivity ruining much of its soil--so poor that everyone is sentenced to death at the age of sixty. Joseph Schwartz is sixty-two. This is young Isaac Asimov's first novel, full of wonders and ideas, the book that launched the novels of the Galactic Empire, culminating in the *Foundation* series. This is Golden Age SF at its finest. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

**The Collectors** Jul 18 2021 2019 Schneider Family Book Award Honor Book "Original, brave, and addictive." Adam Gidwitz, bestselling author of the Newbery Honor Book *The Inquisitor's Tale* Fast-paced, witty, and riveting, this contemporary fantasy adventure has magic woven through every page. *The Collectors* begins an enchanting two-book series from Jacqueline West, the New York Times bestselling author of *The Books of Elsewhere* series. For fans of

Serafina and the Black Cloak, The Isle of the Lost, and The Secret Keepers. Van has always been an outsider. He's hard of hearing, collects trinkets, and lives with his single mother—an opera singer with a huge personality. Then one day, Van notices a girl stealing pennies from a fountain, and everything changes. He follows the girl, Pebble, and uncovers an underground society full of wishes and the people who collect them. Not all wishes are good and even good wishes often have unintended consequences, and the Collectors have made it their duty to protect us. But they aren't the only ones who have their eyes on the world's wishes—and they may not be the good guys, after all. Jacqueline West spins a story about friendship, magic, and the gray area between good and evil. The Collectors is for fans of Cassie Beasley's Circus Mirandus and Jonathan Auxier's The Night Gardener. Booklist calls it, "A brilliant fantasy adventure exploring the consequences of getting what you wish for."

The Planet in a Pebble Apr 26 2022 "Every pebble has many stories to tell. Its particular atoms, its crystals, its minerals, its grains, its textures, its strata, its tiny fossils bear evidence to a history that stretches back billions of years."--Book flap.