



***Ban This Book* by Alan Gratz**

Starscape, an imprint of Tor Publishing Group, 2017

ISBN: 9780765385581 (Trade Paperback)

*Grade Range: 8-12 (Suggested by Publisher)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

You're Never Too Young to Fight Censorship!

In *Ban This Book* by Alan Gratz, a fourth grader fights back when *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg is challenged by a well-meaning parent and taken off the shelves of her school library. Amy Anne is shy and soft-spoken, but don't mess with her when it comes to her favorite book in the whole world. Amy Anne and her lieutenants wage a battle for the books that will make you laugh and pump your fists as they start a secret banned books locker library, make up ridiculous reasons to ban every single book in the library to make a point, and take a stand against censorship.

Ban This Book is a stirring defense against censorship that's perfect for middle-grade readers. Let kids know that they can make a difference in their schools, communities, and lives!

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Readers, librarians, and all those books that have drawn a challenge have a brand new hero in Amy Anne Ollinger. She's a true champion and testament to how doing a good thing is the first step in finding your own courage."—Kathi Appelt, Newbery Honor winning author of *The Underneath*

"*Ban This Book* is absolutely brilliant and belongs on the shelves of every library in the multiverse."—Lauren Myracle, author of the best-selling Internet Girls series, the most challenged books of 2009 and 2011

"Quick paced and with clear, easy-to-read prose, this is a book poised for wide readership and classroom use."—*Booklist*

"A stout defense of the right to read." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Gratz delivers a book lover's book that speaks volumes about kids' power to effect change at a grassroots level." —*Publishers Weekly*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- CT Nutmeg Children's Book Award

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- ALA Notable Children's Books Nominee
- Vermont Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award ML
- Cybils Award Nominee
- TX Taysha List Selection
- Texas Lone Star List Nominee

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [The Guardian on Florida banning *Ban This Book* 6.11.24](#)
- [Tallahassee Democrat on Florida banning *Ban This Book* 6.11.24](#)
- [CBS News on Florida banning *Ban This Book* 6.13.24](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

- [Treasure Coast Palm on Alan Gratz's letter at Indian River, FL school board meeting](#) "The decision indicates that the removal was motivated by politics, and not what is best for the students and families of Indian River County," Gratz said in his letter. "The removal of 'Ban This Book' is a small part of a much larger epidemic of book banning across the United States. This backlash is a direct result of the incredibly modest yet hard-won gains we as a publishing community have begun to make in the diversification of children's books by or about traditionally unrepresented members of our communities." He continued, "To remove my book because it dared to mention books you have already banned is erasure of the highest order."
- [National Coalition Against Censorship response](#)
- [Indian River School Board response](#)
 - "The message is timely to the issues facing schools and libraries."
 - "The selection of this book as the first material this committee is formally reviewing represents situational irony better than any lesson I have ever taught."

AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

- [Alan Gratz response on PEN America TikTok](#)

*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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