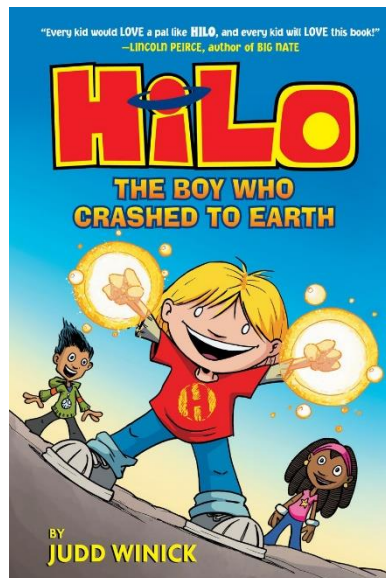


For Immediate Release:
May 3, 2017



The OTTER Award Committee, part of the Washington Library Association School Libraries Division, is proud to announce *Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth* by Judd Winick as the winner of the 2017 OTTER Award for transitional readers.



In its inaugural year, a total of 4,919 students in 83 Washington schools who read a minimum of 2 books on the OTTER Award list voted for their favorite nominee. *Hilo* received 1,521 votes. Complete voting results and statistics are available on the [WLA website](#) and [OTTER Award wiki](#).

The goal of the OTTER Award is to highlight titles that encourage children to continue reading as they transition from picture books to longer chapter books. Students from any grade may participate. A maximum of six titles are selected each year, and voting occurs in late April. The winning title is announced in May. For more information, please visit www.wla.org/the-otter-award.