Pen Pals Elliot and Kailash discover that even though they live in different countries—America and India—they both love to climb trees, own pets, and ride school buses.

Island’s End
by Padma Venkatraman
(G.P. Putnam’s Sons, division of Penguin Young Readers Group, 2011)
A young girl trains to be the new spiritual leader of her remote Andaman Island tribe, while facing increasing threats from the modern world.
The South Asia Book Award is given annually for up to two outstanding works of literature, from early childhood to secondary reading levels, which accurately and skillfully portrays South Asia or South Asians in the diasporas, that is the experience of individuals living in South Asia, or of South Asians living in other parts of the world. This year four Honor Books and five Highly Commended Books were recognized by the award committee for their contribution to this body of literature on the region.

2012 Honor Books

**Sita’s Ramayana**
by Samhita Arni
illustrations by Moyna Chitrakar
(Groundwood Books, 2011)

**Following My Paint Brush**
by Dulari Devi and Gita Wolf
(Tara Books Pvt. Ltd, 2010)

**No Ordinary Day**
by Deborah Ellis
(Groundwood Books, 2011)

**Small Acts of Amazing Courage**
by Gloria Whelan
(Simon & Schuster, 2011)

http://southasiabookaward.org/