2014 Phoenix Picture Book Honor Book

Anne Isaacs and Paul Zelinsky for *Swamp Angel* (Putnam and Dutton, 1994)

*Swamp Angel* is an “eye-popping” tall tale par excellence. The humour of the tale comes through in the evocative, eloquent, yet deadpan description and the incongruity of the impossible events being described that are yet forcefully impressed upon us by the illustrations which strain against their borders. In Paul Zelinsky’s primitive style paintings oil on cherry, maple, and birch veneer, Swamp Angel is portrayed throughout as bigger than life, a female tall tale hero who stands up against John Henry or Paul Bunyan in heroic action accentuated by visual appeal. Also a Caldecott Honor Book.