

MCEA MINORITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADOLESCENTS' BLACK & MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCES BOOKLIST

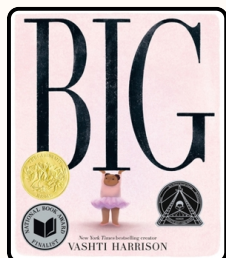
Pre K



Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti

Gerald McDermott

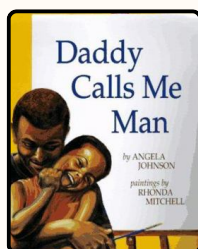
Anansi the Spider is one of the great folk heroes of the world. He is a rogue, a mischief maker, and a wise, lovable creature who triumphs over larger foes. In this traditional Ashanti tale, Anansi sets out on a long, difficult journey.



Big

Vashti Harrison

Traces a child's journey to self-love and shows the power of words to both hurt and heal.



Daddy Calls Me Man

Angela Johnson

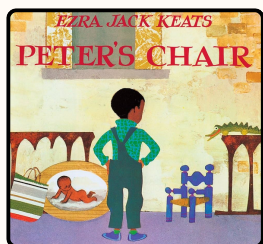
This story consists of four short verses about the happy home life of a young African-American boy. Family love and the shared stories and symbols that connect the generations are pervasive themes.



Fest for 10

Cathryn Falwell

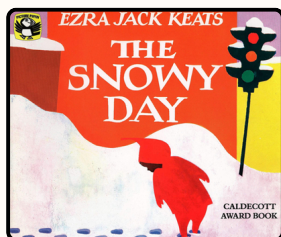
Enjoy this classic counting book and lively read-aloud featuring a family shopping for food, preparing dinner, and enjoying a meal together.



Peter's Chair

Ezra Jack Keats

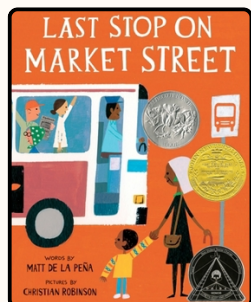
When Peter finds out that his blue furniture is being painted pink for his new baby sister, he takes the last unpainted item, a chair, and runs away.



The Snow Day

Ezra Jack Keats

Universal in its appeal, the story has become a favorite of millions, as it reveals a child's wonder at a new world, and the hope of capturing and keeping that wonder forever.



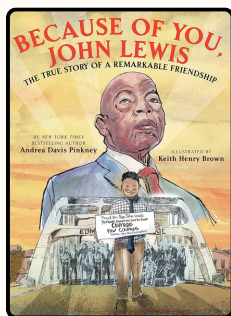
Last Stop on Market Street

Matt de La Peña

CJ begins his weekly bus journey around the city with disappointment and dissatisfaction, wondering why he and his family can't drive a car like his friends. Through energy and encouragement, CJ's nana helps him see the beauty and fun in their routine.

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K-5



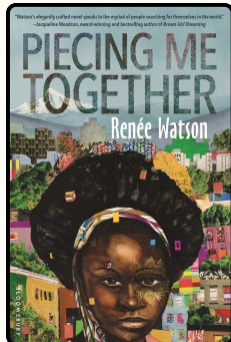
Because Of You, John Lewis **The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship** **Andrea Davis Pinkney**

When young Tybre Faw discovers John Lewis and his heroic march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in the fight for voting rights, Tybre is determined to meet him. Tybre's two grandmothers take him on the seven-hour drive to Selma, Alabama, where Lewis invites Tybre to join him in the annual memorial walk across the Bridge. And so begins a most amazing friendship!



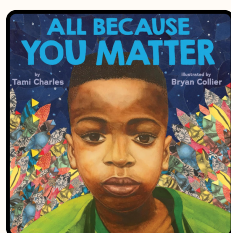
Justice Ketanji: The Story of US Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson **Denise Lewis Patrick**

Ketanji Brown Jackson knew from the very beginning that "You can do anything. You can be anything." Driven by those powerful words and her parents' love, Ketanji refused to let naysayers stop her from rising to the top, whether it was participating in her high school debate team, applying to her dream college, or excelling at Harvard. Her perseverance and her wits led her to become the first Black female U.S. District Judge and eventually the first Black female Supreme Court Justice. Ketanji's remarkable journey proves how she is a Justice for all.



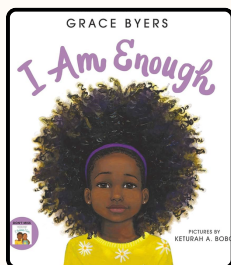
Piecing Me Together **Renee Watson**

A young adult novel following Jade, a talented African American high school junior in Portland. Seeking better opportunities, she navigates a predominantly white private school, a "Women to Women" mentorship program for "at-risk" girls, and her own identity, art, and friendship.



All Because You Matter **Tami Charles**

A lyrical, heart-lifting love letter to Black and brown children everywhere: reminding them how much they matter, that they have always mattered, and they always will, from powerhouse rising star author Tami Charles and esteemed, award-winning illustrator Bryan Collier.



I Am Enough **Grace Byers**

A lyrical, empowering picture book encouraging young readers to embrace self-love, kindness, and confidence.

Greatness

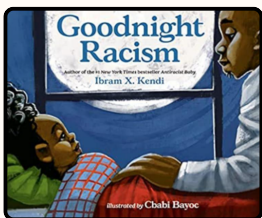
Regis and Kahran Bethencourt



When Nasir and Imani step into their Grandma's studio, she opens their minds to the power of a photograph. From Bessie Smith to Basquiat to Beyoncé, Grandma introduces them to famous figures and what makes them special. And before long, Nasir and Imani find themselves in the images and stepping into greatness, too. True to their iconic photographic style, this picture book from Kahran and Regis Bethencourt reimagines powerful moments from Black history through the eyes of the youngest readers. With child-friendly recreations of famous figures from the past and present, this book reminds children of their own potential for greatness.

Goodnight Racism

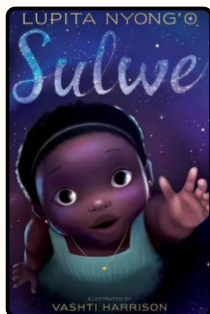
Ibram X. Kendi



As children all over the world get ready for bed, the moon watches over them. The moon knows that when we sleep, we dream. And when we dream, we imagine what is possible and what the world can be. With dynamic, imaginative art and poetic prose, Goodnight Racism delivers important messages about antiracism, justice, and equality in an easy-to-read format that empowers readers both big and small. Goodnight Racism gives children the language to dream of a better world and is the perfect book to add to their social justice toolkit.

Sulwe

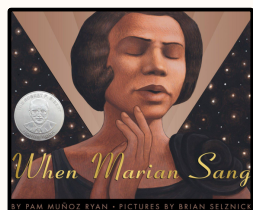
Lupita Nyong'o



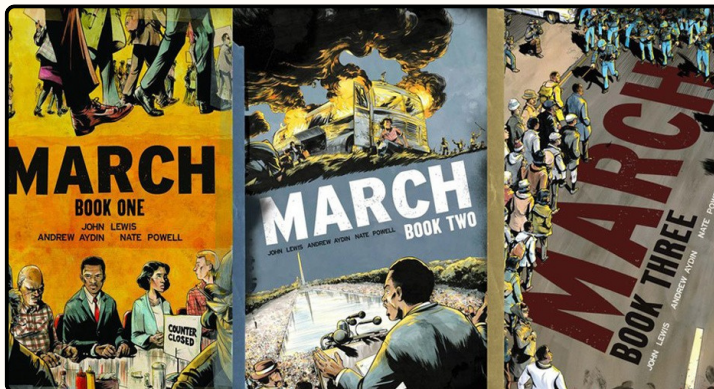
Sulwe has skin the color of midnight. She is darker than everyone in her family. She is darker than anyone in her school. Sulwe just wants to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then, a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything.

When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson

Pam Muñoz Ryan and Brian Selznick



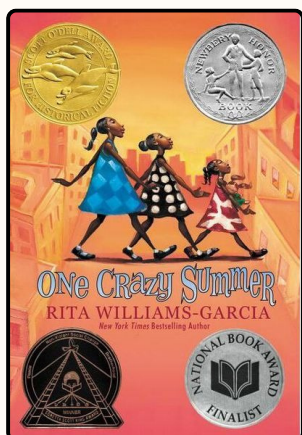
Marian Anderson is best known for her historic concert at the Lincoln Memorial in 1939, which drew an integrated crowd of 75,000 people in pre-Civil Rights America. While this momentous event showcased the uniqueness of her voice, the strength of her character, and the struggles of the times in which she lived, it is only part of her story. Like the operatic arias Marian would come to sing, Ryan's text is as moving as a libretto, and Selznick's pictures as exquisitely detailed and elaborately designed as a stage set. What emerges most profoundly from their shared vision is a role model of courage.



March: The Graphic Novel Series

John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell

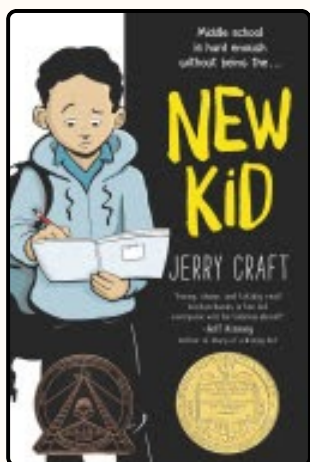
March is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. Rooted in Lewis' personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement.



One Crazy Summer

By Rita Williams-Garcia

In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.



The New Kid

Jerry Craft

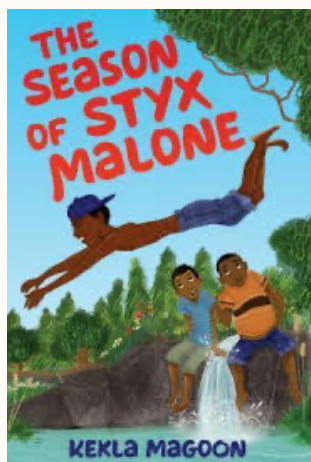
Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?



It's The End of The World And I'm in My Bathing Suit

Justin A. Reynolds

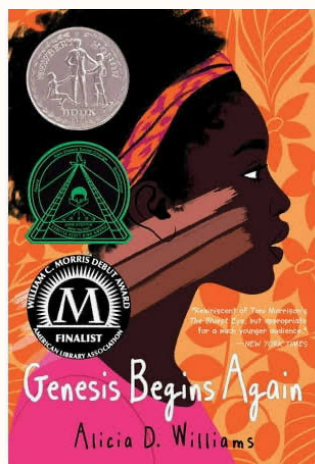
Twelve-year-old Eddie Gordon Holloway has concocted his most genius plan ever to avoid chores... especially the dreaded L-A-U-N-D-R-Y. If he can wear all the clothes he owns, he'll only have to do the laundry once during his school break. On the day of the highly anticipated Beach Bash, Eddie's monstrous pile of dirty laundry is found by his mom. And Eddie's day has just taken a turn for the worst. Now he's stuck at home by himself, missing the bash, and doing his whole pile of laundry. But mid-cycle, the power goes out!



The Season of Styx Malone

Kekla Magoon

A middle-grade novel about two brothers, Caleb and Bobby Gene, whose ordinary summer is upended by the arrival of the cool, charismatic 16-year-old Styx Malone, leading them on a series of adventures, questionable schemes, and a heartwarming exploration of friendship, loyalty, and secrets.



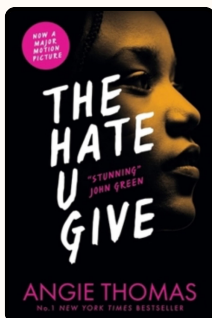
Genesis Begins Again

Alicia D. Williams

A powerful debut novel about 13-year-old Genesis Anderson, who struggles with internalized racism, colorism, poverty, and a father's addiction, leading her to self-hate and a list of things she dislikes about herself, including her dark skin. As she navigates life and learns how to love herself.

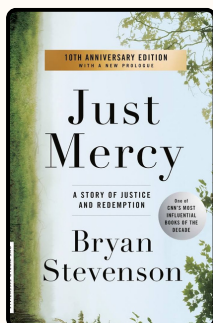
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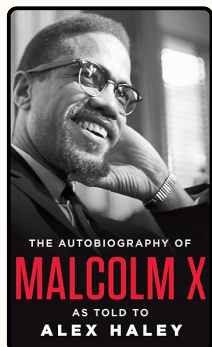
The Hate U Give, Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.



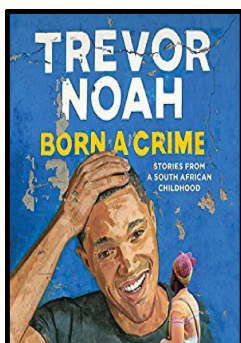
Just Mercy, Bryan Stevenson

"Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson is part memoir, part sociopolitical history of the male African American experience in the United States. Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Ala., and law professor at New York University School of Law, Stevenson blends his own experiences as a young African American civil rights attorney getting his start with the experiences of the condemned men and prisoners he represented in the 1980s.



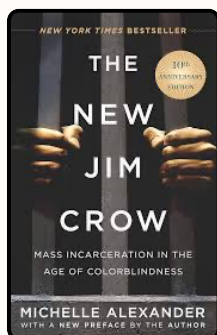
The Autobiography of Malcolm X, Alex Haley

Chronicles the transformation of Malcolm Little from a childhood marked by white supremacist violence and poverty into a street hustler, prison inmate, and ultimately one of the most influential Black Muslim ministers and human rights activists in American history.



Born A Crime, Trevor Noah

Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Living proof of his parents' indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle.



The New Jim Crow, Michelle Alexander

Argues that the U.S. criminal justice system acts as a contemporary system of racial control, creating a new racial caste system through mass incarceration. Despite formal "colorblindness," the "War on Drugs" has disproportionately targeted Black men, relegating millions to a permanent second-class status.