

## READS FOR... Talking about Race

### PICTURE BOOKS

JE BARNES

**Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut** by Derrick Barnes

Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair.

JE BANDY

**Granddaddy's turn : a journey to the ballot box** by Michael S. Bandy

Life on the farm with Granddaddy is full of hard work, but despite all the chores, Granddaddy always makes time for play, especially fishing trips. Even when there isn't a bite to catch, he reminds young Michael that it takes patience to get what's coming to you. One morning, when Granddaddy heads into town in his fancy suit, Michael knows that something very special must be happening--and sure enough, everyone is lined up at town hall! For the very first time, Granddaddy is allowed to vote, and he couldn't be more proud. But can Michael be patient when justice just can't come soon enough?

JE CLARK-ROBINSON

**Let the Children March** by Monica Clark-Robinson

Under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, children and teenagers march against segregation in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963.

JE KHAN

**Under my Hijab** by Hena Khan

As a young girl observes that each of six women in her life wears her hijab and hair in a different way, she considers how to express her own style one day.

JE MOCHIZUKI

**Baseball Saved Us** by Ken Mochizuki

A Japanese American boy learns to play baseball when he and his family are forced to live in an internment camp during World War II, and his ability to play helps him after the war is over.

JE MUHAMMAD

**The proudest blue : a story of hijab and family** by Ibtihaj Muhammad

Faizah relates how she feels on the first day her sister, sixth-grader Asiya, wears a hijab to school.

JE NYONG'O

**Sulwe** by Lupita Nyong'o

When five-year-old Sulwe's classmates make fun of her dark skin, she tries lightening herself to no avail, but her encounter with a shooting star helps her understand there is beauty in every shade.

JE RECORVITS

**My Name is Yoon** by Helen Recorvits

Disliking her name as written in English, Korean-born Yoon, or "shining wisdom," refers to herself as "cat," "bird," and "cupcake," as a way to feel more comfortable in her new school and new country.



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JE REYNOLDS

**Say Something!** by Peter H. Reynolds

If you see an injustice... say something! In this empowering new picture book, beloved author Peter H. Reynolds explores the many ways that a single voice can make a difference. Each of us, each and every day, have the chance to say something: with our actions, our words, and our voices. Perfect for kid activists everywhere, this timely story reminds readers of the undeniable importance and power of their voice. There are so many ways to tell the world who you are... what you are thinking... and what you believe. And how you'll make it better.

JE VERDE

**I am human : a book of empathy** by Susan Verde

A child recognizes his own humanity, his capacity for doing harm and being harmed, his ability to feel joy and sadness, and his belief in hope and promise to keep learning.

JE WOODSON

**The Day You Begin** by Jacqueline Woodson

Other students laugh when Rigoberto, an immigrant from Venezuela, introduces himself but later, he meets Angelina and discovers that he is not the only one who feels like an outsider.

## FICTION

J MARKS

**From the Desk of Zoe Washington** by Janae Marks

Avid baker Zoe Washington receives a letter on her twelfth birthday from her biological father, who is in prison for a terrible crime.

J RYAN

**Esperanza Rising** by Pam Munoz Ryan

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

J WARGA

**Other Words for Home** by Jamine Warga

Sent with her mother to the safety of a relative's home in Cincinnati when her Syrian hometown is overshadowed by violence, Jude worries for the family members who were left behind as she adjusts to a new life with unexpected surprises.

J LAI

**Inside Out and Back Again** by Thanhha Lai

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

J TAYLOR

**Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry** by Mildred Taylor

A black family living in the South during the 1930's are faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand.

YA MEYERS

**Monster** by Walter Dean Meyers

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

YA MORRIS

**Slay** by Brittney Morris

An honors student at Jefferson Academy, seventeen-year-old Keira enjoys developing and playing Slay, a secret, multiplayer online role-playing game celebrating black culture, until the two worlds collide.

## YA REYNOLDS

**All American Boys** by Jason Reynolds and Brenden Kiely

When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.

## YA STONE

**Dear Martin** by Nic Stone

When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.

## YA THOMAS

**The Hate U Give** by 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. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does or does not say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life

## YA THOMAS

**On the Come Up** by Angie Thomas

As the daughter of an underground hip hop legend who died right before he hit big, Bri wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time-- and has massive shoes to fill. She's been labeled a hoodlum at school, and the fridge at home is empty after her mom loses her job. So Bri pours her anger and frustration into her first song, which goes viral -- for all the wrong reasons. Portrayed by the media as a menace, Bri makes a choice-- and becomes the very thing the public has made her out to be. The odds are stacked against her, and freedom of speech isn't always free.

## YA WATSON

**Piecing Me Together** by Renée Watson

Tired of being singled out at her mostly-white private school as someone who needs support, high school junior Jade would rather participate in the school's amazing Study Abroad program than join Women to Women, a mentorship program for at-risk girls.

## GRAPHIC NOVELS

### J GN BROWN

**Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans** by Don Brown

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina's monstrous winds and surging water overwhelmed the protective levees around low-lying New Orleans, Louisiana. The tale of this historic storm and the drowning of an American city is one of selflessness, heroism, and courage -- and also of incompetence, racism, and criminality.

### GN LEE

**To Kill a Mockingbird: A Graphic Novel** by Harper Lee, Adapted by Fred Fordham

The explosion of racial hate in an Alabama town is viewed by a little girl whose father defends a black man accused of rape.

### GN LEWIS

**March Books 1-3** by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, Nate Powell

This graphic novel is Congressman John Lewis' first-hand account of his 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.

### GN MYERS

**Monster: A Graphic Novel** by Walter Dean Myers, Adapted by Guy A. Sims

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

## **NONFICTION**

YA 305.8 REY

**Stamped : Racism, Antiracism, and You** by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X Kendi

A history of racist and antiracist ideas in America, from their roots in Europe until today, adapted from the National Book Award winner *Stamped from the Beginning*

J 320.56 RIC

**What's the Difference?: Being Different is Amazing** by Doyin Richards

Photographs and simple text celebrate friendship, diversity, and acceptance.

J 323.1196 PIN

**Sit-in : how four friends stood up by sitting down** by Andrea Pinkney

This picture book is a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the momentous Woolworth's lunch counter sit-in, when four college students staged a peaceful protest that became a defining moment in the struggle for racial equality and the growing civil rights movement.

J 811 ALE

**The Undefeated** by Kwame Alexander

The Newbery Award-winning author of *The Crossover* pens an ode to black American triumph and tribulation, with art from a two-time Caldecott Honoree. This poem is a love letter to black life in the United States.

J 970.004 DUN

**An indigenous peoples' history of the United States for young people** by Roxane Dunbar Ortiz, Adapted by Debbie Reese and Jean Mendoza

Going beyond the story of America as a country "discovered" by a few brave men in the "New World," Indigenous human rights advocate Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz reveals the roles that settler colonialism and policies of American Indian genocide played in forming our national identity.

J BIO HENDRICKS

**The Youngest Marcher** by Cynthia Levinson

Presents the life of nine-year-old Audrey Faye Hendricks who became the youngest known child to be arrested for picketing against Birmingham segregation practices in 1963.

J BIO MENDEZ

**Separate is never equal : Sylvia Mendez & her family's fight for desegregation** by Duncan Tonatiuh

Years before the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling *Brown v. Board of Education*, Sylvia Mendez, an eight-year-old girl of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage, played an instrumental role in *Mendez v. Westminster*, the landmark desegregation case of 1946 in California

J BIO WOODSON

**Brown Girl Dreaming** by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.

J BIO COLLECTED STE

**Kid Activists** by Robin Stevenson

Across history, activists have worked, marched, and spoken out for equality and justice--and many had moving, relatable childhood stories.



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