



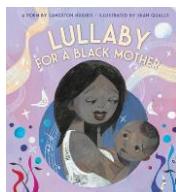
Inclusive Literature Lists

The Billings Public Library supports and values and celebrates diversity and inclusion. We strive to curate a collection of resources that represents all demographics in our community's tapestry. We believe an inclusive and welcoming community is a stronger community.

This list of inclusive and diverse literature that the youth of our community can see themselves in as well as use as a conduit to build compassion for others is brought to you on behalf of collaboration between the Human Relations Commission of the City of Billings, the Billings Public Library, and a children's literature assistant professor from Montana State University Billings.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive. We welcome your feedback, suggestions, and any recommendations for this list. We will take these into consideration as we continue to develop these lists.

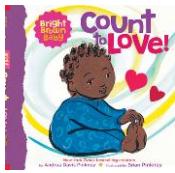
Black History Month



Lullaby (for a Black Mother)
By [Hughes, Langston](#)
Illustrator [Qualls, Sean](#)
2021-09 - Clarion Books
9780358566151 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This beloved poem by Langston Hughes, illustrated by the award-winning Sean Qualls, is an irresistible celebration of the love between mother and baby, now available in board book format.

"My little dark baby, / My little earth-thing, / My little love-one, / What shall I sing / For your lullaby?" With gracefully chosen words as smooth as a song, the poet Langston Hughes celebrates [...More](#)



Count to Love! (a Bright Brown Baby Board Book)

By [Pinkney, Andrea](#)

Illustrator [Pinkney, Brian](#)

2021-10 - Cartwheel Books

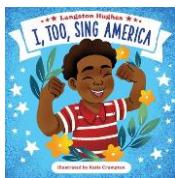
9781338672398 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Cuddle up with your little one and get ready to count to L-O-V-E, in this precious board book from *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning duo Andrea Davis Pinkney and Brian Pinkney

Count to love on fingers and toes.

1-2-3-4, touch your nose

Snuggle up with your little one to celebrate sweet baby love You won't be able to resist this [...More](#)



I, Too, Sing America

By [Hughes, Langston](#)

Illustrator [Crumpton, Katie](#)

2021-12 - Little Bee Books

9781499812701 [Check Our Catalog](#)

" 'I, Too, ' one of preeminent African American poet and intellectual Langston Hughes' most influential literary works, is reinstated and reinterpreted transhistorically in this board-book adaptation of the 1926 poem. The text reproduces the lines of the poem verbatim while Crumpton's vivid, saturated, digital illustrations present contemporary scenes of a young Black boy's life." [...More](#)



Sweet, Sweet Baby!

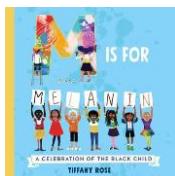
By [Steptoe, Javaka](#)

Illustrator [Steptoe, Javaka](#)

2022-01 - Cartwheel Books

9781338788112 [Check Our Catalog](#)

With delightful text and illustrations of African-American children, this book also features six padded petals--each with its own color and texture--for babies to touch and explore. Includes a Mylar mirror in the back. Full color. 4 spreads. Consumable. [...More](#)



M Is for Melanin: A Celebration of the Black Child

By [Rose, Tiffany](#)

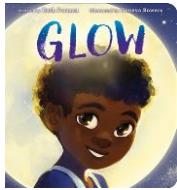
2021-09 - Little Bee Books

9781499812053 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"Contagiously upbeat, joyful, and positive . . . Cherish this book." -*Kirkus Reviews*, STARRED REVIEW

"A must-have for any library that is in need of books with positive representation for and about Black children, as there is no other alphabet book quite like this one." -*School Library Journal*, STARRED REVIEW

"A necessary, uplifting volume that [...More](#)



Glow

By [Forman, Ruth](#)

Illustrator [Bowers, Geneva](#)

2021-05 - Little Simon

9781534446335 [Check Our Catalog](#)

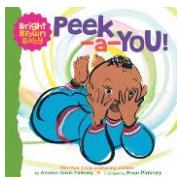
A joyfully poetic board book that delivers an ode to the beautiful light of African American boys.

I shine night too

smooth brown

glow skin

This simple, playful, and elegant board book stars a young boy who joyfully celebrates his dark skin with a bright moon at the end of a perfect day. [...More](#)



Peek-A-You! (a Bright Brown Baby Board Book)

By [Pinkney, Andrea](#)

Illustrator [Pinkney, Brian](#)

2022-02 - Cartwheel Books

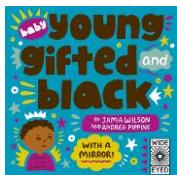
9781338672404 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Playing peekaboo is more fun than ever with this rhythmic, whimsical board book from *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning duo Andrea Davis Pinkney and Brian Pinkney!

Peek-a-you, peek-a-you, can you see?

Here's the pretty brown face of me?

Cuddle up with your little one and play a happy game of peekaboo! You won't be able to resist this adorable [...More](#)



Young, Gifted, and Black Baby Edition: With a Mirror at the Back!

By [Wilson, Jamia](#)

Illustrator [Pippins, Andrea](#)

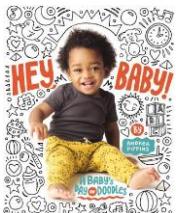
2021-01 - Wide Eyed Editions

9780711261419 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"There are so many things I am and can be... There's a whole world waiting for me."

Introduce your baby to Black excellence with this lyrical board-book edition of *Young, Gifted and Black*. Includes a mirror at the back so young dreamers can see themselves next to their heroes.

Meet icons of color from past and present in this **baby board book** celebration of [...More](#)



Hey, Baby!: A Baby's Day in Doodles

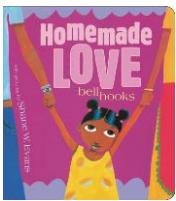
By [Pippins, Andrea](#)

2020-02 - Schwartz & Wade Books

9781984849519 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From the master doodler of *I Love My Hair* and new mom, Andrea Pippins, comes a delightful board book about a day in the life of a baby.

Follow a baby throughout the day, from napping to snacking to playing--and everything in between. High contrast, lively illustrations combine with gorgeous, colorful photographs to showcase the warmth and tenderness between a [...More](#)



Homemade Love [Board Book]

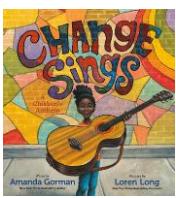
By [Hooks, Bell](#)

Illustrator [Evans, Shane W.](#)

2017-11 - Jump at the Sun

9781484799352 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Her Mama calls her Girlpie--a sweet treat, homemade with love. Evans' resplendent artwork teems with "homemade love," one of the tender nicknames award-winning author hooks gives her young heroine. Full color. [...More](#)



Change Sings: A Children's Anthem

By [Gorman, Amanda](#)

Illustrator [Long, Loren](#)

2021-09 - Viking Books for Young Readers

9780593203224 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A lyrical picture book debut from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author and presidential inaugural poet Amanda Gorman and #1 *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Loren Long

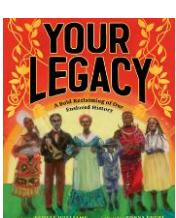
I can hear change humming

In its loudest, proudest song.

I don't fear change coming,

And so I sing along.

In this [...More](#)



Your Legacy: A Bold Reclaiming of Our Enslaved History

By [Williams, Schelle](#)

Illustrator [Engel, Tonya](#)

2021-09 - Abrams Books for Young Readers

9781419748752 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A proud, empowering introduction to African American history that celebrates and honors enslaved ancestors

Your story begins in Africa.

Your African ancestors defied the odds and survived 400 years of slavery in America and passed down an extraordinary legacy to you.

Beginning in Africa before 1619, Your Legacy presents an unprecedentedly [...More](#)



Remember to Dream, Ebere

By [Erivo, Cynthia](#)

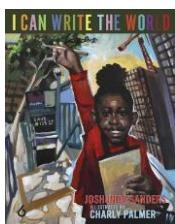
Illustrator [Pinkney Barlow, Charnelle](#)

2021-09 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316496155 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From a Tony, Emmy, and Grammy Award winner comes an inspirational and heartwarming tale of a mother and child, and the dreams they build together.

When Ebere's mother puts her to bed at night, she always says, "Remember to dream, Ebere." And dream, Ebere does! Encouraged by her mother to make her dreams as big as possible, Ebere imagines herself as the captain of a rocket ship with [...More](#)



I Can Write the World

By [Sanders, Joshunda](#)

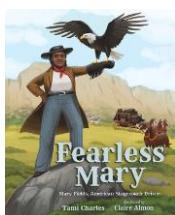
Illustrator [Palmer, Charly](#)

2019-07 - Six Foot Press

9781644420010 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Lovely and timely. So glad Joshunda is telling our stories. - Jacqueline Woodson

Eight-year-old Ava Murray wants to know why there's a difference between the warm, friendly Bronx neighborhood filled with music and art in which she lives and the Bronx she sees in news stories on TV and on the Internet. When her mother explains that the power of stories lies in the hands of those [...More](#)



Fearless Mary: The True Adventures of Mary Fields, American Stagecoach Driver

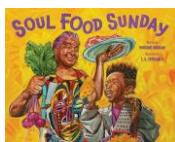
By [Almon, Claire](#)

Illustrator [Almon, Claire](#)

2019-01 - Albert Whitman & Company

9780807523056 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A little-known but fascinating and larger-than-life character, Mary Fields is one of the unsung, trailblazing African American women who helped settle the American West. A former slave, Fields became the first African American woman stagecoach driver in 1895, when, in her 60s, she beat out all the cowboys applying for the job by being the fastest to hitch a team of six horses. She won the [...More](#)



Soul Food Sunday

By [Bingham, Winsome](#)

2021-11 - Harry N. Abrams

9781419747717 [Check Our Catalog](#)

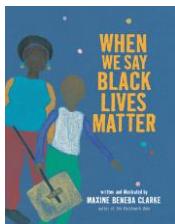
Granny teaches her grandson to cook the family meal in this loving celebration of food, traditions, and gathering together at the table

On Sundays, everyone gathers at Granny's for Soul Food.

But today, I don't go to the backyard or the great room.

I follow Granny instead.

"You're a big boy now," Granny says. "Time for you to [...More](#)



When We Say Black Lives Matter

By [Clarke, Maxine Beneba](#)

Illustrator [Clarke, Maxine Beneba](#)

2021-09 - Candlewick Press (MA)

9781536222388 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In a powerful, poetic missive, award-winning author-illustrator Maxine Beneba Clarke celebrates the meaning behind the words *Black Lives Matter*.

Little one, when we say Black Lives Matter,

we're saying Black people are wonderful-strong.

That we deserve to be treated with basic respect,

and that history's done us wrong. . [...More](#)



The Year We Learned to Fly

By [Woodson, Jacqueline](#)

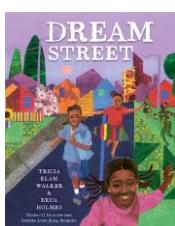
Illustrator [López, Rafael](#)

2022-01 - Nancy Paulsen Books

9780399545535 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Jacqueline Woodson and Rafael López's highly anticipated companion to their #1 *New York Times* bestseller *The Day You Begin* illuminates the power in each of us to face challenges with confidence.

On a dreary, stuck-inside kind of day, a brother and sister heed their grandmother's advice: "Use those beautiful and brilliant minds of yours. Lift your arms, close your eyes, [...More](#)



Dream Street

By [Walker, Tricia Elam](#)

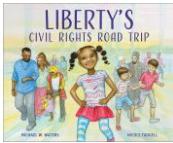
Illustrator [Holmes, Ekua](#)

2021-11 - Anne Schwartz Books

9780525581109 [Check Our Catalog](#)

NAMED ONE OF THE BEST CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY *THE NEW YORK TIMES* - FIVE STARRED REVIEWS

Visit a truly special street bursting with joy, hope, and dreams. Inspired by the neighborhood where they grew up as cousins, this gorgeous picture book from an award-winning illustrator and critically acclaimed author is the perfect gift or keepsake for every generation. [...More](#)



Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip

By [Waters, Michael W.](#)

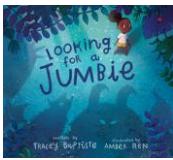
Illustrator [Tadgell, Nicole](#)

2021-10 - Flyaway Books

9781947888197 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Time to board the bus! Liberty and her friend Abdullah, with their families and a diverse group of passengers, head off to their first stop: Jackson, Mississippi. Next on their map are Glendora, Memphis, Birmingham, Montgomery, and finally Selma, for a march across the iconic Edmund Pettus Bridge.

As told through the innocent view of a child, *Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip* [...More](#)



Looking for a Jumbie

By [Baptiste, Tracey](#)

Illustrator [Ren, Amber](#)

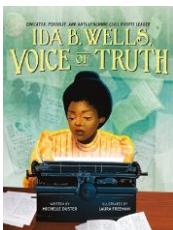
2021-09 - Balzer & Bray/HarperTeen

9780062970817 [Check Our Catalog](#)

New York Times bestselling author Tracey Baptiste and acclaimed illustrator Amber Ren take readers on a fun, creepy, storytime-ready romp through a forest filled with creatures from Caribbean folklore.

I'm looking for a jumbie, I'm going to find a scary one.

But Mama says jumbies exist only in stories. So Naya sets out on a nighttime adventure to [...More](#)



Ida B. Wells, Voice of Truth: Educator, Feminist, and Anti-Lynching Civil Rights Leader

By [Freeman, Laura](#)

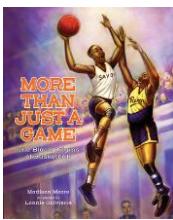
Illustrator [Freeman, Laura](#)

2022-01 - Henry Holt & Company

978125023946 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Ida B. Wells, Voice of Truth is an inspiring picture book biography of the groundbreaking journalist and civil rights activist as told by her great-granddaughter Michelle Duster and illustrated by Coretta Scott King Award Honoree artist Laura Freeman.

Ida B. Wells was an educator, journalist, feminist, businesswoman, newspaper owner, public speaker, suffragist, civil rights [...More](#)



More Than Just a Game: The Black Origins of Basketball

By [Moore, Madison](#)

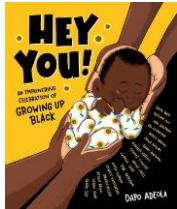
Illustrator [Ollivierre, Lonnie](#)

2021-09 - Albert Whitman & Company

9780807552711 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Today, the NBA is around 74% Black but, when basketball first started to catch on, it wasn't easy for Black people to play. They couldn't enter segregated YMCAs or attend privileged colleges. So Black Americans made their own spaces, playing in dance halls

before the dancing started, and eventually forming teams called the Black Fives. More than Just a Game celebrates the history of basketball [...More](#)



Hey You!: An Empowering Celebration of Growing Up Black

By [Adeola, Dapo](#)

2022-02 - Nancy Paulsen Books
9780593529423 [Check Our Catalog](#)

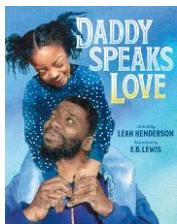
This remarkable picture book is a lyrical, inspirational exploration of growing up Black, written by award-winning illustrator Dapo Adeola, and brought to life by some of the most exciting Black artists of today.

Remember to dream your own dreams

Love your beautiful skin

You always have a choice

This book addresses--honestly, yet [...More](#)



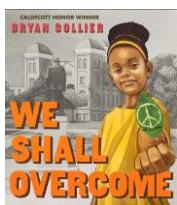
Daddy Speaks Love

By [Henderson, Leah](#)

Illustrator [Lewis, E. B.](#)
2022-01 - Nancy Paulsen Books
9780593354360 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A moving tribute to the joy and grounding that fathers bring to their children's lives.

What does a daddy do? From day one, this daddy speaks love to his little one. And along with that love, his words and actions speak many other things, too: like truth, joy, comfort, and pride. Like many dads, he answers a million questions and tries to make sure that days are full of fun adventures, [...More](#)



We Shall Overcome

By [Collier, Bryan](#)

2021-12 - Orchard Books
9781338540376 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A celebration of the gospel anthem and Civil Rights protest song We Shall Overcome, masterfully brought to life by Caldecott Honor recipient and a nine-time Coretta Scott King Award winner Bryan Collier.

We Shall Overcome is one of the most recognizable anthems of the Civil Rights movement, widely performed at protests and rallies to promote nonviolent civil rights activism. Now, [...More](#)



Stacey's Extraordinary Words

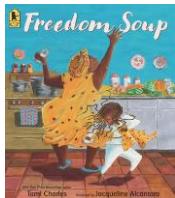
By [Abrams, Stacey](#)

Illustrator [Thomas, Kitt](#)
2021-12 - Balzer & Bray/Harperteen
9780063209473 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The debut picture book from iconic voting rights advocate and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Stacey Abrams is an inspiring tale of determination, based on her own childhood.

Stacey is a little girl who loves words more than anything. She loves reading them, sounding them out, and finding comfort in them when things are hard.

But when her teacher [...More](#)



Freedom Soup

By [Charles, Tami](#)

Illustrator [Alcantara, Jacqueline](#)

2021-12 - Candlewick Press (MA)

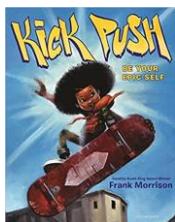
9781536221930 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Join the celebration in the kitchen as a family makes their traditional New Year's soup -- and shares the story of how Haitian independence came to be.

The shake-shake of maracas vibrates down to my toes.

Ti Gran's feet tap-tap to the rhythm.

Every year, Haitians all over the world ring in the new year by eating a special soup, a tradition dating back to the [...More](#)



Kick Push

By [Morrison, Frank](#)

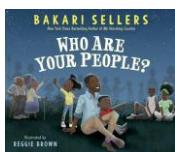
Illustrator [Morrison, Frank](#)

2022-04 - Bloomsbury Publishing PLC

9781547605927 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Award-winning picture book creator Frank Morrison makes his author/illustrator debut in an exuberant story about being yourself.

Epic has tricks you won't believe. He's the kick flipping, big rail king. When his family moves to a new neighborhood, he can't wait to hit the street with his skateboard. But his old moves don't feel fresh without a crew to see 'em. Epic thinks about [...More](#)



Who Are Your People?

By [Sellers, Bakari](#)

Illustrator [Brown, Reggie](#)

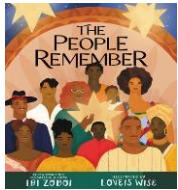
2022-01 - Quill Tree Books

9780063082854 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This inspiring picture book by *New York Times* bestselling author Bakari Sellers is a tribute to the family and community that help make us who we are. Perfect for sharing and gifting.

When you meet someone for the first time, they might ask, Who are your people? and Where are you from?

Children are shaped by their ancestors, and this book [...More](#)



The People Remember

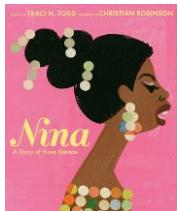
By [Zoboi, Ibi](#)

Illustrator [Wise, Loveis](#)

2021-09 - Balzer & Bray/Harperteen

9780062915641 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling author Ibi Zoboi comes her debut picture book--a tour de force that uses the principles of Kwanzaa to talk about the history of African Americans. This lyrical, powerful tribute is sumptuously illustrated by *New Yorker* artist and rising star Loveis Wise. A beautiful gift for readers of all ages and for fans of Kadir [...More](#)



A Story of Nina Simone

By [Todd, Traci](#)

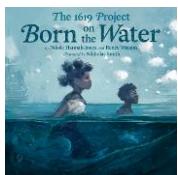
Illustrator [Robinson, Christian](#)

2021-09 - G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers

9781524737283 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This illuminating and defining picture book biography illustrated by Caldecott Honoree Christian Robinson, tells the story of little Eunice who grew up to become the acclaimed singer Nina Simone and her bold, defiant, and exultant legacy.

Born Eunice Kathleen Waymon in small town North Carolina, Nina Simone was a musical child. She sang before she talked and learned to play piano at a [...More](#)



Born on the Water

By [Hannah-Jones, Nikole](#)

Author [Watson, Renée](#)

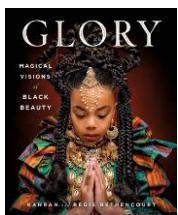
Illustrator [Smith, Nikkolas](#)

2021-11 - Kokila

9780593307359 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The 1619 Project's lyrical picture book in verse chronicles the consequences of slavery and the history of Black resistance in the United States, thoughtfully rendered by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones and Newbery honor-winning author Renée Watson.

A young student receives a family tree assignment in school, but she can only trace back three [...More](#)



Glory: Magical Visions of Black Beauty

By [Bethencourt, Kahran](#)

Author [Bethencourt, Regis](#)

Contribution by [Seales, Amanda](#)

2020-10 - St. Martin's Press

9781250204561 [Check Our Catalog](#)

THE INSTANT *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER.

From Kahran and Regis Bethencourt, the dynamite husband and wife duo behind CreativeSoul Photography, comes *GLORY*, a photography book that shatters the conventional standards of beauty for Black children.

Featuring a foreword by Amanda Seales

With stunning images of natural hair and gorgeous, inventive visual [...More](#)



Recognize!: An Anthology Honoring and Amplifying Black Life

By [Hudson, Wade](#)

Editor [Hudson, Cheryl Willis](#)

2021-10 - Crown Books for Young Readers

9780593381595 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In the stunning follow-up to *The Talk: Conversations About Race, Love & Truth*, award-winning Black authors and artists come together to create a moving anthology collection celebrating Black love, Black creativity, Black resistance, and Black life.

A multifaceted, sometimes disheartening, yet consistently enriching primer on the unyielding necessity of those three [...More](#)



Black Boy Joy

By [Mbalia, Kwame](#)

2021-08 - Delacorte Press

9780593379943 [Check Our Catalog](#)

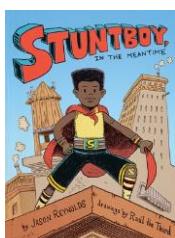
THE INSTANT #1 *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER - FIVE STARRED REVIEWS

Celebrate the joys of Black boyhood with stories from seventeen bestselling, critically acclaimed Black authors--including Jason Reynolds, Jerry Craft, and Kwame Mbalia!

★ Pick up *Black Boy Joy* for a heavy dose of happiness. --*Booklist*, starred review

Black boy joy is...

Picking [...More](#)



Stuntboy, in the Meantime

By [Reynolds, Jason](#)

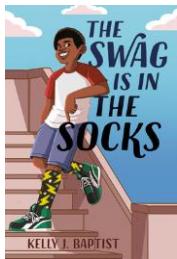
Illustrator [Raúl the Third](#)

2021-11 - Atheneum Books

9781534418165 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From Newbery Medal honoree and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Jason Reynolds comes a hilarious, hopeful, and action-packed middle grade novel about the greatest young superhero you've never heard of, filled with illustrations by Raúl the Third

Portico Reeves's superpower is making sure all the other superheroes--like his parents and two best friends--stay super. And safe. [...More](#)



The Swag Is in the Socks

By [Baptist, Kelly J.](#)

2021-11 - Crown Books for Young Readers

9780593380864 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Xavier Moon is stepping out of the shadows when his great-uncle gives him some outlandish socks and some even stranger requests. A story about heart, confidence, and standing on your own two feet that is perfect for fans of *The Season of Styx Malone* and *The Parker Inheritance*.

An excellent read-alike to Jacqueline Woodson's *Harbor* [...More](#)



Black Ballerinas

By [Copeland, Misty](#)

Illustrator [Barnes, Salena](#)

2021-11 - Aladdin Paperbacks

9781534474246 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning author and American Ballet Theatre principal dancer Misty Copeland comes an illustrated nonfiction collection celebrating dancers of color who have influenced her on and off the stage.

As a young girl living in a motel with her mother and her five siblings, Misty Copeland didn't have a lot of exposure to ballet or prominent [...More](#)



Maya and the Robot

By [Ewing, Eve L.](#)

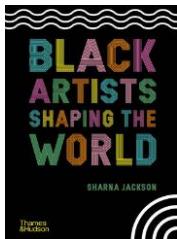
Illustrator [Almeda, Christine](#)

2021-07 - Kokila

9781984814630 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From award-winning author Eve L. Ewing comes an illustrated middle grade novel about a forgotten homemade robot who comes to life just when aspiring fifth-grade scientist Maya needs a friend -- and a science fair project.

Maya's nervous about fifth grade. She tries to keep calm by reminding herself she knows what to expect. But then she learns that this year won't be anything like the [...More](#)



Black Artists Shaping the World

By [Jackson, Sharna](#)

With [Whitley, Zoé](#)

2021-11 - Thames & Hudson

9780500652596 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Written by award-winning Black children's author Sharna Jackson, this engaging book introduces young readers to twenty-six contemporary artists from Africa and of the African diaspora, working in everything from painting, sculpture, and drawing to ceramics, installation art, and sound art.

These include prominent American artists Kerry James Marshall, Faith Ringgold, portraitist to [...More](#)



Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler

By [Zoboi, Ibi](#)

2022-01 - Dutton Books for Young Readers

9780399187384 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From the *New York Times* bestselling author and National Book Award finalist, a biography in verse and prose of science fiction visionary Octavia Butler, author of *Parable of the Sower* and *Kindred*.

Acclaimed novelist Ibi Zoboi illuminates the young life of the visionary storyteller Octavia E. Butler in poems and prose. Born into the Space Race, the Red Scare, [...More](#)



Just Right Jillian

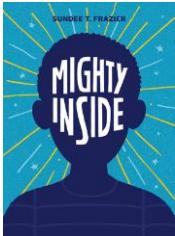
By [Collier, Nicole D.](#)

2022-02 - Versify

9780358434610 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this heartfelt middle-grade novel from debut author Nicole D. Collier, fifth-grader Jillian must learn to speak and break free of her shell to enter her school's academic competition and keep her promise to her grandmother.

Fifth-grader Jillian will do just about anything to blend in, including staying quiet even when she has the right answer. After she loses a classroom competition [...More](#)



Mighty Inside

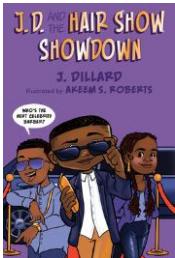
By [Frazier, Sundee](#)

2021-10 - Levine Querido

9781646140916 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Melvin Robinson wants a strong, smooth, He-Man voice that lets him say what he wants, when he wants--especially to his crush Millie Takazawa, and Gary Ratliff, who constantly puts him down. But the thought of starting high school is only making his stutter worse.

And Melvin's growing awareness that racism is everywhere--not just in the South where a boy his age has been brutally killed by two [...More](#)



J.D. and the Hair Show Showdown

By [Dillard, J.](#)

Illustrator [Roberts, Akeem S.](#)

2021-11 - Kokila

9780593111604 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Eight-year-old kid barber J.D. takes his talent to an Atlanta hair show in this illustrated chapter-book series.

At only eight years old, J.D. the Kid Barber has already won a barber battle and appeared on local TV. Now he's the youngest barber to be invited to the Beauty Brothers Hair Expo in Atlanta! J.D. gets the VIP treatment--he takes his first flight, rides in a limo for the first [...More](#)



Honest June

By [Wells, Tina](#)

Illustrator [Bond, Brittney](#)

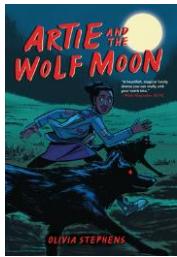
2021-12 - Random House Books for Young Readers

9780593378298 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Middle school is hard--but it's way harder when a fairy godmother puts you under a truth-telling spell!

June has always been a people-pleaser, telling harmless little lies to make her friends and family happy. She's convinced being honest about her feelings will only hurt the people she loves!

Until, out of nowhere, a secret fairy godmother appears to bless her with the [...More](#)



Artie and the Wolf Moon

By [Stephens, Olivia](#)

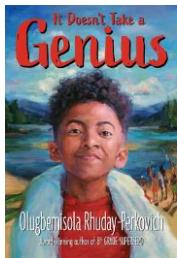
Illustrator [Stephens, Olivia](#)

2021-09 - Graphic Universe (Tm)

9781541542488 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"A heartfelt, magical family drama you can really sink your teeth into." --Nilah Magruder, *M.F.K.*

After sneaking out against her mother's wishes, Artie Irvin spots a massive wolf--then watches it don a bathrobe and transform into her mom. Thrilled to discover she comes from a line of werewolves, Artie asks her mom to share everything--including the story of [...More](#)



Emmett

By [Rhuday-Perkovich, Oluğbemisola](#)

2021-04 - Six Foot Press

9781644420027 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A hilarious and moving coming-of-age tale that explores the intersection between self and community and the complexity of Black identity as a boy wonders: if he's not who he's always thought he was, who exactly can he be?

An exceptional novel with broad appeal. – *Kirkus Reviews* (Starred Review)

Emmett and his older brother Luke have always been Batman and Robin, [...More](#)



Ophie's Ghosts

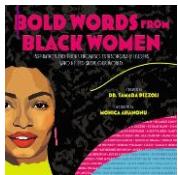
By [Ireland, Justina](#)

2021-05 - Balzer & Bray/Harperteen

9780062915894 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dread Nation* makes her middle grade debut with a sweeping tale of the ghosts of our past that won't stay buried, starring an unforgettable girl named Ophie.

Ophelia Harrison used to live in a small house in the Georgia countryside. But that was before the night in November 1922, and the cruel act that took her [...More](#)



Bold Words from Black Women: Inspiration and Truths from 50 Extraordinary Leaders Who Helped Shape Our World

By [Pizzoli, Tamara](#)

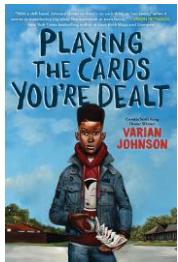
Illustrator [Ahanonu, Monica](#)

2022-01 - Simon & Schuster

9781534463943 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Celebrate the power of Black womanhood in this first-of-its-kind collection of inspirational quotes from fifty activists, artists, and leaders, featuring bold, attention-grabbing illustrations--perfect for readers of *Herstory* and *Little Leaders*.

This incredible volume honors fifty modern women, presented with their own words, who have dared to raise their voices and [...More](#)



Playing the Cards You're Dealt

By [Johnson, Varian](#)

2021-10 - Scholastic Press

9781338348538 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"With a deft hand, Johnson shows us there's no such thing as too young when it comes to questioning big ideas like manhood, or even family." -Jason Reynolds, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Look Both Ways* and *Stamped*

Literary powerhouse and Coretta Scott King Honor- and Boston Globe / Horn Book Honor-winning author of *The Parker* [...More](#)