



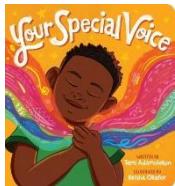
## Inclusive Literature Lists

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.

### April 2023 Inclusive Literature



#### **Your Special Voice**

By [Adamolekun, Temi](#)  
Illustrator [Okafor, Keisha](#)  
2022-12 - Little Simon  
9781665912280 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**This empowering board book inspires young readers to use their own special voice to make a difference in the world.**

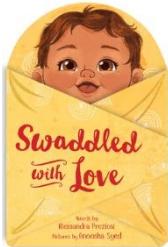
*If you want to make a difference,*

*but you don't know where to start*

*Begin by searching way deep down*

*to find what's in your heart*

Whether your voice shines through singing, drawing, or dancing--whether it's  
[...More](#)



### **Swaddled with Love**

By [Preziosi, Alessandra](#)

Illustrator [Syed, Anoosha](#)

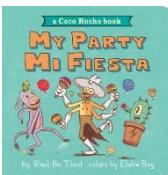
2023-04 - Clarion Books

0358620333 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**If it's time for a nap or a sweet good night, then it's time to swaddle baby, warm and tight. As tender as a cozy hug, this interactive shaped board book celebrates the joy of welcoming a new baby to the world--and the way all new parents wrap up their little ones with love.**

Is there anything sweeter than a newborn swaddled in a beautiful blanket?

Swaddling a baby is a labor of [...More](#)



### **My Party, Mi Fiesta: A Coco Rocho Book**

By [Raúl the Third](#)

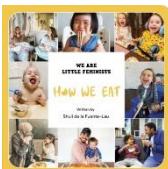
2022-04 - Versify

9780358394723 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this festive bilingual Spanish and English board book from *New York Times* bestselling, Pura Belpré Award-winning author-illustrator Raúl the Third, join Coco Rocho and friends from the World of Vamos! as they gather everything to throw a grand fiesta!**

Throwing a party is always fun, especially when it's in both English and Spanish!

In this new board [...More](#)



### **We Are Little Feminists: How We Eat**

By [de la Fuente-Lau, Shuli](#)

2022-10 - Little Feminist Press

9781734182491 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**"★ Meaningful and inclusive." - Kirkus Starred Review**

Mealtimes just got a whole lot more fun! HOW WE EAT helps families and educators discuss ability, culture, and food at home and in the classroom.

**Complete with family discussion questions and a guide detailing the foods, tools, and utensils seen on each page. Created with 0-5-year-olds in mind. [...More](#)**



## One Sky

By [Becker, Aaron](#)

Illustrator [Becker, Aaron](#)

2022-09 - Candlewick Studio

9781536225365 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Marvel at the sky in this meditative die-cut book, a follow-up to *You Are Light* and *My Favorite Color*, from the Caldecott Honor-winning creator of the Journey trilogy.**

*Its dawn begins in darkness.*

*With hope we greet its light.*

Within the pages of this elegant book is the entire sky. Lyrical text moves readers through [...More](#)



## One White Crane: A Calendar Year

By [Lee, Vickie](#)

Illustrator [Chou, Joey](#)

2022-12 - Henry Holt & Company

9781250801517 [Check Our Catalog](#)

*One white crane, two black bears . . .*

Simply told and beautifully rendered, this counting board book takes young readers through the months of the year. Each month focuses on a new animal, from seals in May to cicadas in September. Sweet, accessible text in English and Chinese pairs with eye-catching art for a wonderful repeat reading experience.

[...More](#)



## Together: A First Conversation about Love

By [Madison, Megan](#)

Author [Ralli, Jessica](#)

Illustrator [Passchier](#)

2022-12 - Rise X Penguin Workshop

9780593520963 [Check Our Catalog](#)

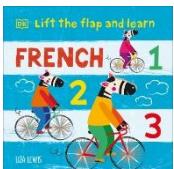
[...More](#)

## French 1,2,3: Lift the Flap and Learn

By [Lewis, Liza](#)

2023-02 - DK Publishing (Dorling Kindersley)

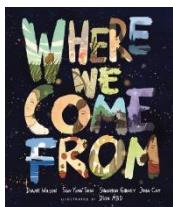
0744072832 [Check Our Catalog](#)



**Learn to count to ten in English and French and build vocabulary with this bright, quirky board book.**

Have you ever wondered what an elephant riding a skateboard would look like? Or how about four lions on scooters? Meet lots of different, and very funny, animals as they set out on their travels in this bilingual English-French, interactive flap book.

In *Lift the Flap and ...More*



## Where We Come from

By [Coy, John](#)

Author [Gibney, Shannon](#)

Author [Shin, Sun Yung](#)

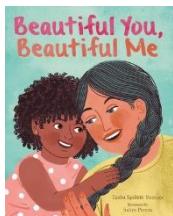
2022-10 - Carolrhoda Books (R)

9781541596122 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this unique collaboration, four authors lyrically explore where they each come from--literally and metaphorically--as well as what unites all of us as humans.**

Richly layered illustrations connect past and present, making for an accessible and visually striking look at history, family, and identity.

*We come from stardust / our bodies made of ancient ...More*



## Beautiful You, Beautiful Me

By [Spillet-Sumner, Tasha](#)

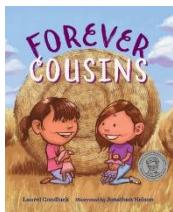
Illustrator [Perera, Salini](#)

2022-10 - Owlkids

9781771474528 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A child who looks different from her mother finds beauty and belonging in this new book from the creator of *New York Times* bestseller *I Sang You Down from the Stars***

Izzy's favorite place to be is in Mama's arms--skin to skin, safe and warm. One night, cuddled up on Mama's lap, Izzy notices something she's never noticed before: [...More](#)



## Forever Cousins

By [Goodluck, Laurel](#)

Illustrator [Nelson, Jonathan](#)

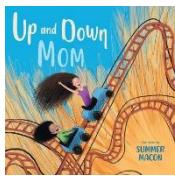
2022-10 - Charlesbridge Publishing

9781623542924 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this Native American story, Kara and Amanda are best-friend cousins. Then Kara leaves the city to move back to the Rez. Will their friendship stay the same?**

**Native creators Laurel Goodluck and Jonathan Nelson share a sweet picture book with the universal experience of family and friends moving away.**

Kara and Amanda hate not being together. Then it's time for the family reunion on [...More](#)



### **Up and Down Mom**

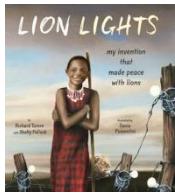
By [Child's Play](#)

Illustrator [Macon, Summer](#)

2020-04 - Child's Play International

9781786283405 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Living with Mom is a bit like a roller coaster ride. At times, she is excited and full of energy, but at others, she is tired and withdrawn. But she's always my mom, and we're sharing the ride. For children who grow up in the care of a parent who has bipolar disorder, life can be filled with anxiety and uncertainty. With the aid of a clear and simple information spread, this story helps us to [...More](#)



### **Lion Lights**

By [Turere, Richard](#)

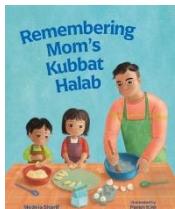
Author [Pollock, Shelly](#)

Illustrator [Possentini, Sonia Maria Luce](#)

2022-08 - Tilbury House Publishers

9780884488859 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Richard Turere's own story: Richard grew up in Kenya as a Maasai boy, herding his family's cattle, which represented their wealth and livelihood. Richard's challenge was to protect their cattle from the lions who prowled the night just outside the barrier of acacia branches that surrounded the farm's boma, or stockade. Though not well-educated, 12-year-old Richard loved tinkering with electronics. [...More](#)



### **Remembering Mom's Kubbat Halab**

By [Sharif, Medeia](#)

Illustrator [Kim, Paran](#)

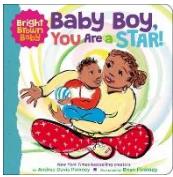
2022-10 - Albert Whitman & Company

9780807569320 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**When a loved one dies, remembering them through shared experiences and the ways they expressed their love, helps with loss.**

Bushra misses her mother, her dayik. So does her brother Sherzat. Mom used to help them with homework, read to them, and tuck them into bed at night. For

Bushra, she would cook kubbat halab, perfectly golden rice-and-potato patties made without meat. No one [...More](#)



## Baby Boy, You Are a Star!

By [Pinkney, Andrea](#)

Illustrator [Pinkney, Brian](#)

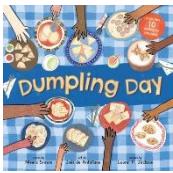
2023-01 - Cartwheel Books

9781338672428 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**New York Times** bestselling and award-winning duo Andrea Davis Pinkney and Brian Pinkney create a joyful and beautiful ode to all bright brown baby boys -- the fifth title in our acclaimed Bright Brown Baby series!

*Baby boy. Precious boy. Yes! You're a STAR!*

A joyful, poetic celebration and ode to all bright brown baby boys. With bouncing, rhythmic text from [...More](#)



## Dumpling Day

By [Sriram, Meera](#)

Illustrator [de Antuñano, Inés](#)

2021-11 - Barefoot Books

9781646862818 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"The aromas of homemade food sneak their way across an entire multicultural neighborhood as growling bellies wait to be filled with...dumplings! Recipes from Nigeria, Syria, China, Russia, Mexico, and more reveal tasty fillings tucked into doughs that are boiled, steamed, fried, and baked . . . Sriram's simple rhyming story celebrating the unifying magic of food pairs well with the childlike [...More](#)



## Elle the Humanist

By [Harris, Douglas](#)

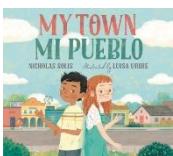
Foreword by [Dennett, Daniel](#)

Author [Harris, Elle](#)

2020-09 - Label Free Publishing, LLC

9781734001341 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Elle the Humanist is a beautifully illustrated book by nine-year-old Elle Harris, presenting humanist ideas and ethics in a way that's warm, welcoming, and accessible for young readers. It features a foreword by renowned philosopher and author Daniel Dennett. Elle had a small problem. Growing up in a secular household, but in a community dominated by one religion, Elle was one of the few kids [...More](#)



## My Town / Mi Pueblo

By [Solis, Nicholas](#)

Illustrator [Uribe, Luisa](#)

2022-08 - Nancy Paulsen Books  
9780593109915 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this bilingual picture book, cousins from opposite sides of the border visit each other's towns and delight in their similarities and differences.**

Two cousins live in two towns, separated by a river. But there is also a bigger divide--the US-Mexico border--which means they live in different countries. On the girl's side, English is the main language, and on the boy's it's Spanish.

[...More](#)



### **Soaring in Style: How Amelia Earhart Became a Fashion Icon**

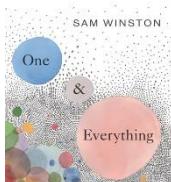
By [Wilson, Jennifer Lane](#)

Illustrator [Marlin, Lissy](#)

2022-02 - Capstone Editions

9781684464289 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



### **One and Everything**

By [Winston, Sam](#)

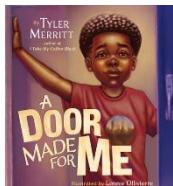
Illustrator [Winston, Sam](#)

2022-11 - Candlewick Studio

9781536215663 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Fine artist Sam Winston, cocreator of the *New York Times* best-selling *A Child of Books*, celebrates the power of stories and written languages--and the imperative to preserve them.**

Once there were many stories in the world. There were stories with sunsets and wonderful tales filled with fairies and dinosaurs. But one day, a story decided that it was the best, the most [...More](#)



### **A Door Made for Me**

By [Merritt, Tyler](#)

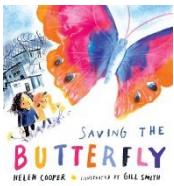
Illustrator [Ollivierre, Lonnie](#)

2022-09 - Worthy Kids

9781546012566 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Emotional and honest, this picture book explores a racist encounter from the perspective of a young Black boy, while offering a message of unconditional love and acceptance to soothe the pain that comes from blind prejudice.**

In this story based on the author's childhood, a young Black boy confronts his first experience of overt racism. In recounting the events to his grandfather, the [...More](#)



## Saving the Butterfly: A Story about Refugees

By [Cooper, Helen](#)

Illustrator [Smith, Gill](#)

2022-06 - Candlewick Studio

9781536220551 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Two resourceful siblings begin a new life as refugees in a poetic picture book about thriving--in your own time--after great loss.**

From an award-winning author and a talented debut illustrator comes a profound story about child refugees healing and building new lives. When rescuers meet the boat, there are only two people left--a big child and a little one. The big one, remembering the [...More](#)



## One Thursday Afternoon

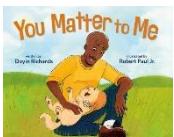
By [DiLorenzo, Barbara](#)

2022-09 - Flyaway Books

9781947888371 [Check Our Catalog](#)

When Granddad picks Ava up from school one Thursday afternoon, she's quiet. She doesn't want to talk about the lockdown drill that has stirred up her worries. How can she be so afraid in a place that has always felt so safe?

Granddad doesn't talk much either; he just offers creativity and companionship. And with his gentle encouragement, Ava begins to sense that although the world can be [...More](#)



## You Matter to Me

By [Richards, Doyin](#)

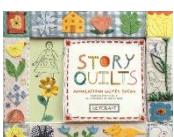
Illustrator [Paul Jr, Robert](#)

2022-11 - Feiwel & Friends

9781250834485 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this picture book written by Doyin Richards and illustrated by Robert Paul Jr., *You Matter to Me*, a dog describes what it's like to go on walks with his Black owner and wishes that people would see his human as he does: with love.**

Biscuit the dog is adopted from the shelter and loves his new home and his new human family. The dad, especially, takes good care of Biscuit and [...More](#)



## Story Quilts: Appalachian Women Speak

By [Hitchcock, Shannon](#)

With [Page, Sophie](#)

2022-09 - ReyCraft Books

9781478875376 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## Sana, Sana, Colita de Rana

By [Reyes, Citlali](#)

Illustrator [Reyes, Citlali](#)

2022-08 - Lil' Libros

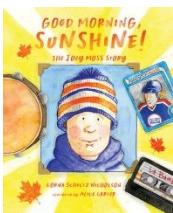
9781948066204 [Check Our Catalog](#) SPA

**Introduce your little ones to the power of standing up when you find yourself down in both English and Spanish.**

**2022 Best of the Best Books, Chicago Public Library**

*Sana, sana, colita de rana! Si no sanas hoy, sanarás mañana!*

After suffering a boo-boo while playing with her brother and her plush sidekick Mister Rana, Tina's aspiration of becoming a [...More](#)



## Good Morning, Sunshine!: The Joey Moss Story

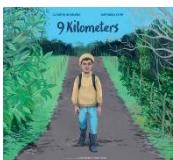
By [Nicholson, Lorna Schultz](#)

Illustrator [Carter, Alice](#)

2022-08 - Sleeping Bear Press

9781534111691 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Joey Moss first became known to many Canadians because of his work with the NHL Edmonton Oilers hockey team. Joey loved connecting with people. Whether he was singing "Oh Canada" on a jumbotron screen at a hockey game, welcoming a new friend with a playful wrestling match, or dancing on a runway for a charity fashion show, Joey loved making people feel good. But his impact and influence started [...More](#)



## 9 Kilometers

By [Aguilera, Claudio](#)

Illustrator [Lyon, Gabriela](#)

Translator [Schimel, Lawrence](#)

2023-02 - Eerdmans Books for Young Readers

9780802856005 [Check Our Catalog](#)

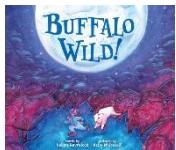
**The United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY) Outstanding International Books List - PreK-2 (2024)**

**Kirkus Reviews** Best Picture Books of the Year List (2023)

**The New York Public Library** Best Books for Kids List (2023)

*A memorable, compelling story about the perseverance of a child and the human right to education.*

[...More](#)



## Buffalo Wild!

By [Havrelock, Deidre](#)

Illustrator [Whitecalf, Azby](#)

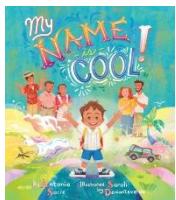
2021-10 - Annick Press

9781773215334 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**An exuberant celebration of the Buffalo's return to the wild.**

Since Declan was born, his kokum has shared her love of Buffalo through stories and art. But Declan longs to see real Buffalo. Then one magical night, herds of the majestic creatures stampede down from the sky. That's when things really get wild

Azby Whitecalf's playful illustrations add to the joy and [...More](#)



## My Name Is Cool

By [Sacre, Antonio](#)

Illustrator [Demonteverde, Sarah](#)

2022-08 - Familius

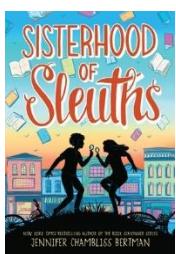
9781641706575 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**2023 Storytelling World Resource Award honoree**

*When I was born, I kept my eyes squeezed shut so tightly that my mom called me Mr. Magoo from a cartoon she loved.*

*My dad said I was going to be bilingual, like him, so he called me El Señor Magoo.*

Little Antonio has a LOT of names. Different relatives call him different names, but the real culture shock happens [...More](#)



## Sisterhood of Sleuths

By [Chambliss Bertman, Jennifer](#)

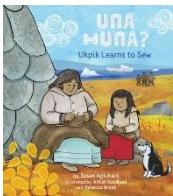
Illustrator [Stamper, Vesper](#)

2022-10 - Christy Ottaviano Books-Little Brown and Hach

9780316331074 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this riveting mystery, an old photo found in a box of Nancy Drew books could be the key to unraveling a family secret--perfect for fans of Wendy Mass and Trenton Lee Stewart.**

Maizy always assumed she knew everything about her grandmother, Jacuzzi. So when a box full of vintage Nancy Drew books gets left at her mom's thrift store, Maizy is surprised to find an old [...More](#)



## Una Huna?: Ukpik Learns to Sew

By [Aglukark, Susan](#)

Illustrator [Sandland, Amiel](#)

Illustrator [Brook, Rebecca](#)

2022-09 - Inhabit Media

9781772274332 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Ukpik's mother is eager to teach Ukpik how to prepare caribou skin, dry it, and use it to sew a pair of simple, useful mitts. But Ukpik can't stop thinking about the beautiful new beads her mother traded the Captain for on his last visit. They are so bright and beautiful! Anaana knows it is more important for Ukpik to learn the skills she will need to make her own clothing in [...More](#)



## Sweet and Sour

By [Florence, Debbi Michiko](#)

2022-09 - Scholastic Press

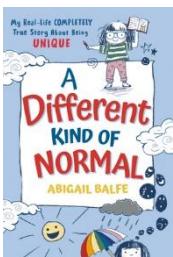
9781338671599 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A heartfelt middle-grade novel about ex-best friends, betrayals, and revenge that is best served sour.

## Revenge is sweet!

For as long as she can remember, Mai has spent every summer in Mystic, Connecticut visiting family friends. And hanging out with her best-friend-since-birth, Zach Koyama, was always the best part.

Then two summers ago everything [...More](#)



## A Different Kind of Normal: My Real-Life Completely True Story about Being Unique

By [Balfe, Abigail](#)

2022-10 - Crown Books for Young Readers

9780593566459 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this joyfully illustrated memoir, Abigail Balfe recounts her journey growing up autistic and the challenges of navigating the "normal" world around her. This is a perfect book for both neurodivergent and neurotypical kids to learn more about neurodiversity.

When Abigail was growing up, she was missing Very Important Information about herself. The information? That Abigail is [...More](#)



## My Aunt Is a Monster: (A Graphic Novel)

By [Yee, Reimena](#)

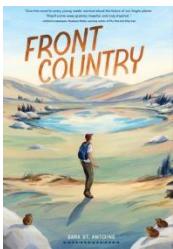
2022-10 - Random House Graphic

9780593125465 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Curses! Adventures! And drama! Oh my! Safia might not be able to see the world, but that doesn't mean she can't experience it to the fullest as she

**finds herself on her very first adventure! This is a contemporary fantasy middle-grade graphic novel about discovering what you are truly capable of.**

Safia thought that being blind meant she would only get to go on adventures through [...More](#)



## Front Country

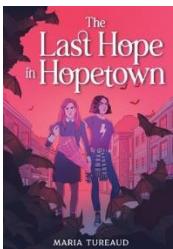
By [St Antoine, Sara](#)

2022-10 - Chronicle Books

9781797215631 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"This is a story about the ache and promise of our world, and it begs us to pay attention to both. A terrific and important read."—Gary D. Schmidt, Newbery Honoree, Printz Honoree, and National Book Award Finalist for *Okay for Now*

"Give this novel to every young reader worried about the future of our fragile planet."—Katherine Applegate, Newbery Medal-winning and #1 New [...More](#)



## The Last Hope in Hopetown

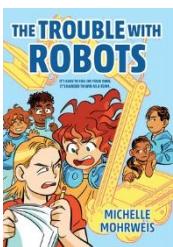
By [Tureaud, Maria](#)

2022-10 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316368452 [Check Our Catalog](#)

*Stranger Things* meets *Fake Blood* in this deliciously charming and spooky novel about one girl's choice to save her vampire parents or do what's right for the greater good.

Twelve-year-old human Sophie Dawes lives a good life in Hopetown. There, vampires and humans live in harmony and Sophie and her adoptive vampire moms are living (or unliving) proof. There are a lot of [...More](#)



## The Trouble with Robots

By [Mohrweis, Michelle](#)

2022-09 - Peachtree Publishers

9781682634844 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Evelyn strives for excellence. Allie couldn't care less. These polar opposites must work together if they have any hope of saving their school's robotics program.

Eighth-graders Evelyn and Allie are in trouble. Evelyn's constant need for perfection has blown some fuses among her robotics teammates, and she's worried nobody's taking the upcoming competition seriously. Allie is new to [...More](#)



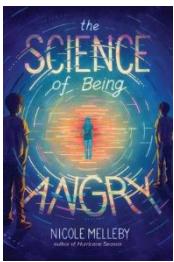
## This Last Adventure

By [Dalton, Ryan](#)

2022-02 - Carolrhoda Books (R)  
9781541599284 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**When Archie's beloved grandpa is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, Archie desperately wants to slow the progression of his grandpa's memory loss.**

Using Grandpa's old journal entries as inspiration, he creates shared role-playing fantasies with epic quests for them to tackle together--allowing Grandpa to live in the present and stay in touch with his fading memories. [...More](#)



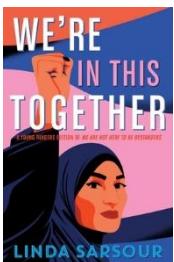
## The Science of Being Angry

By [Melleby, Nicole](#)

2022-05 - Algonquin Young Readers  
9781643750378 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**From the acclaimed author of *Hurricane Season*, an unforgettable story about what makes a family, for fans of *Hazel's Theory of Evolution* and *Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World*.**

Eleven-year-old Joey is angry. All the time. And she doesn't understand why. She has two loving moms, a supportive older half brother, and, as a triplet, she's never without company. Her [...More](#)



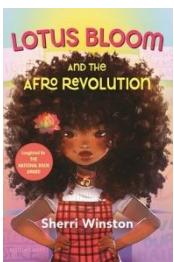
## We're in This Together: A Young Readers Edition of We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders

By [Sarsour, Linda](#)

2022-11 - Salaam Reads / Simon & Schuster Books for You  
9781534439290 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**An empowering young readers edition of *We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders*, the memoir by Women's March coorganizer and activist Linda Sarsour that's "equal parts inspiring, emotional, and informative" (*Kirkus Reviews*).**

*You can count on me, your Palestinian Muslim sister, to keep her voice loud, keep her feet on the streets, and keep my head held high because I am not* [...More](#)



## Lotus Bloom and the Afro Revolution

By [Winston, Sherri](#)

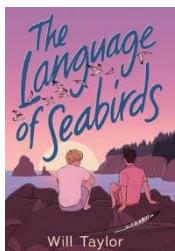
2022-09 - Bloomsbury Publishing PLC  
9781547608461 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Longlisted for the National Book Award for Young People's Literature**

**Member of the 2023 Notable Books for a Global Society (NGBS) List**

From the beloved author of *President of the Whole Fifth Grade*, a story about a young Black girl who summons the courage to fight against a discriminatory dress code--and stand up for herself.

Lotus Bloom just wants to [...More](#)



## The Language of Seabirds

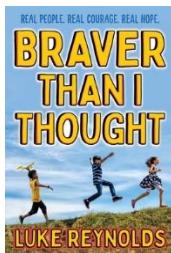
By [Taylor, Will](#)

2022-07 - Scholastic Press

9781338753738 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A sweet, tender middle-grade story of two boys finding first love with each other over a seaside summer.

Jeremy is not excited about the prospect of spending the summer with his dad and his uncle in a seaside cabin in Oregon. It's the first summer after his parents' divorce, and he hasn't exactly been seeking alone time with his dad. He doesn't have a choice, though, so he goes... [...More](#)



## Braver Than I Thought: Real People, Real Courage, Real Hope

By [Reynolds, Luke](#)

2022-09 - Aladdin Paperbacks

9781582708478 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Meet people who have had a profound impact on our world while bearing the physical and emotional scars born out of struggles and suffering, transforming their stories from pain to power in this inspirational middle grade nonfiction book about overcoming challenges.

Magazine spreads and Hollywood hits showcase stars with perfect skin, perfect faces, perfect hair, perfect lives, [...More](#)



## The Brothers: A Hmong Graphic Folktale

By [Yang, Sheelue](#)

Illustrator [Vu, Le Nhat](#)

2023-01 - Picture Window Books

9781484672334 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## The Librarian of Auschwitz: The Graphic Novel

By [Iturbe, Antonio](#)

Translator [Thwaites, Lilit](#)

Adapted by [Rubio, Salva](#)

2023-01 - Godwin Books

9781250842992 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Based on the experience of real-life Auschwitz prisoner Dita Kraus, this graphic novel tells the incredible story of a girl who risked her life to keep the magic of books alive during the Holocaust.

Fourteen-year-old Dita is one of the many imprisoned by the Nazis at Auschwitz. Taken, along with her mother and father, from the Terez•n ghetto in Prague, Dita is adjusting to the constant [...More](#)



## The Bluest Sky

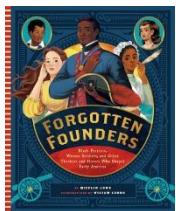
By [Gonzalez, Christina Diaz](#)

2022-09 - Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers

9780593372791 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A boy and his family must decide whether to remain in Cuba under a repressive government or risk everything for the chance of a new beginning in this gripping story from the award-winning author of *The Red Umbrella*.**

There are two versions of Héctor: the public and the private. It's the only way to survive in communist Cuba--especially when your father was exiled to the [...More](#)



## Forgotten Founders

By [Lowe, Mifflin](#)

Illustrator [Luong, Wiliam](#)

2022-06 - Bushel & Peck Books

9781638190929 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**"[T]he cause is just, and readers will come away with a firmer understanding that, as the introduction has it, the story of this country's founding is 'everyone's story.'" --Booklist**

## A Junior Library Guild Gold Selection

"This book will delight visual learners, history lovers, and trivia enthusiasts. It would also validate the diversity of the United States's [...More](#)



## We Are Little Feminists: Families

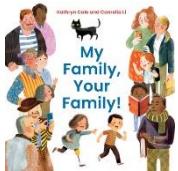
By [Shrivastav, Archa](#)

2022-03 - Little Feminist Press

9781734182460 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**2021 Stonewall Award Winner! The first ever board book to win an American Library Association medal - now includes discussion guide with age-appropriate questions for parents and educators.**

Beautiful, full-color photos of real LGBTQ and ally families showcase all the wonderful forms of family, gender, and sexuality in this fun and award-winning board book. Each spread [...More](#)



## My Family, Your Family!

By [Cole, Kathryn](#)

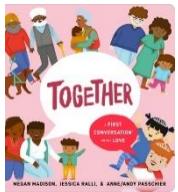
Illustrator [Li, Cornelia](#)

2020-09 - Second Story Press

9781772601336 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This book includes a diverse array of characters and celebrates gay parents, single parents, blended families, and other family groups rarely seen in board books.

[...More](#)



## Together: A First Conversation about Love

By [Madison, Megan](#)

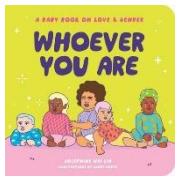
Author [Ralli, Jessica](#)

Illustrator [Passchier](#)

2022-12 - Rise X Penguin Workshop

9780593520963 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## Whoever You Are: A Baby Book on Love & Gender

By [Wai Lin, Josephine](#)

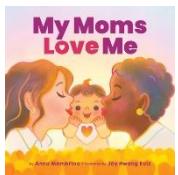
Illustrator [Lopez, Sandy](#)

2022-09 - Collective Book Studio

9781951412944 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"With effusively inclusive rhyming language...this affectionate volume imbues a classic 'be yourself' narrative with gender-expansive affirmations, positioning guardians as partners in their children's journey to 'find what's authentic & true.'" --*Publishers Weekly*

*Quiet and loud, soft and strong. You being you, there's no way to be* [...More](#)



## My Moms Love Me

By [Membrino, Anna](#)

Illustrator [Hwang Ruiz, Joy](#)

2022-03 - Orchard Books

9781338811964 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Cuddle up and celebrate love in this picture book that shines a spotlight on LGBTQ+ moms!**

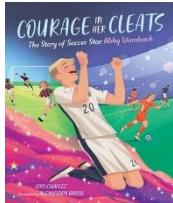
*"A hug from Mommy, warm and tight.*

*A squeeze from Mama feels just right.*

*This is how my mommies say,*

*'We love you, baby, night and day!"'*

Two mommies share a perfect day with their little one in this joyful picture book! From visiting animals on a farm [...More](#)



## **Courage in Her Cleats: The Story of Soccer Star Abby Wambach**

By [Chaffee, Kim](#)

Illustrator [Badiu, Alexandra](#)

2023-01 - Page Street Kids

9781645676294 [Check Our Catalog](#)

As a child, Abby Wambach was loud and clear about what she wanted and what she didn't, and she didn't want to be left out of any competition--especially soccer.

In this powerful biography, readers will dance and dart down fields with Abby as she slingshots--balls thwump... whiz... whoosh--straight into goals, sweating and scoring her way from school league leader to U.S. Women's National [...More](#)



## **No One Owns the Colors**

By [Davy, Gianna](#)

Illustrator [Rodriguez, Brenda](#)

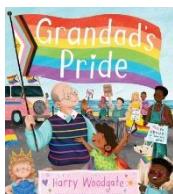
2023-02 - Collective Book Studio

9781951412968 [Check Our Catalog](#)

## **Bookstagang Best of 2023 Picture Book Award Winner Best Read Aloud**

For every young artist scolded for using the "wrong" color crayon, every boy teased for wearing a pastel shirt, every girl denied blue shoes, here's the perfect response: All colors are for everyone. Just ask Nature!

*No One Owns the Colors* is a lively celebration of self-expression and a bolstering [...More](#)



## **Grandad's Pride**

By [Woodgate, Harry](#)

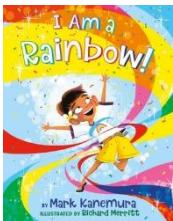
2023-04 - Little Bee Books

9781499814613 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Grandad and Milly are back for another adventure, this time honoring the past and celebrating the future with a pride parade. This heartwarming tale continues to wonderful journey that began with the Stonewall Honoree, British Book Award winner, and Waterstones Best Illustrated Book, *Grandad's Camper*.

## **Top Ten Titles for Young Readers - ALA Rainbow List**

<="" font=""> [...More](#)

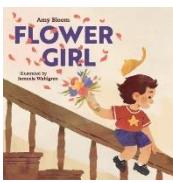


## I Am a Rainbow!

By [Kanemura, Mark](#)  
Illustrator [Merritt, Richard](#)  
With [Foxe, Steve](#)  
2023-05 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers  
9780316167789 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A professional dancer, LGBTQIA+ advocate, and social media star shares this inspiring picture book based on his childhood in Hawaii and encourages readers to find safe spaces that allow them to shine bright.**

Mark loves putting on shows, dressing up, and dancing! But what makes him happy at home gets him teased at school. To remind Mark that his unique light makes the world a [...More](#)



## Flower Girl

By [Bloom, Amy](#)  
Illustrator [Wahlgren, Jameela](#)  
2023-05 - Norton Young Readers  
9781324030355 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## The Good Hair Day

By [Trimmer, Christian](#)  
Illustrator [Yang, J.](#)  
2023-05 - Harry N. Abrams  
9781419745881 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)

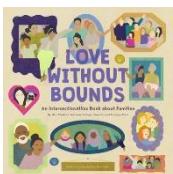


## The Fairest in the Land

By [Newman, Lesléa](#)  
Illustrator [Heinsz, Joshua](#)  
2023-05 - Harry N. Abrams  
9781419757099 [Check Our Catalog](#)

***Fairest in the Land* is a heartwarming, inclusive picture-book story about self-expression and friendship, from Stonewall Honor-winning author Lesléa Newman with full-color illustrations by Joshua Heinsz.**

When it comes to playing dress-up, best friends Annabelle and Benjamin both want to be the bride, the ballerina, and the princess. Can they both be the fairest in the land? [...More](#)



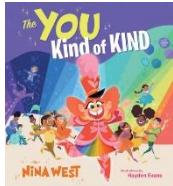
## Intersectionallies: Love Without Bounds

By [Johnson, Chelsea](#)  
Author [Council, Latoya](#)  
Author [Choi, Carolyn](#)

2023-01 - Dottir Press  
9781948340519 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**This follow-up to the critically acclaimed *IntersectionAllies: We Make Room for All* honors the diversity of family life and what family can mean based on our intersecting identities and experiences.**

Written by three celebrated women of color sociologists, ***Love without Bounds: An IntersectionAllies Book about Families*** is a joyful, [...More](#)



### **The You Kind of Kind**

By [West, Nina](#)

Illustrator [Evans, Hayden](#)

2022-10 - Princeton Architectural Press

9781616899943 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Queerty Award Nominee for "Best Read"**

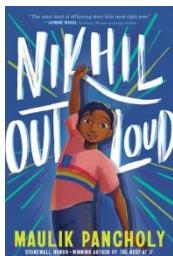
Go Big!

Be Kind!

Be You!

Welcome to a magical adventure to discover kindness in the world--especially the kind inside you.

In this heartfelt and joyous story, little Nina embarks on a boisterous day of exploration, a colorful day where she sets out to find, well, Kind. With a backpack full of her favorite things, Nina guides [...More](#)



### **Nikhil Out Loud**

By [Pancholy, Maulik](#)

2022-10 - Balzer & Bray/Harperteen

9780063091924 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Lambda Literary Award Winner for LGBTQ+ Middle Grade**

From the acclaimed actor and Stonewall Honor-winning author of *The Best at It*, Maulik Pancholy, comes a new middle grade novel about a gay Indian American boy who learns the power of using his voice. For fans of *Merci Suárez Changes Gears* and *Better Nate Than* [...More](#)



### **Like a Hurricane**

By [Bécotte, Jonathan](#)

Translator [Kaplansky, Jonathan](#)

2023-02 - Orca Book Publishers

9781459835238 [Check Our Catalog](#)

★"Immediately takes one's breath away with its poetry and power...Deeply affecting. An ideal tool to illustrate poetic elements or emphasize stories of sharing scary yet necessary truths."--*School Library Journal*, starred review

A young teen's secret is tearing him apart.

He knows he is gay but is afraid to share this knowledge with his parents or [...More](#)



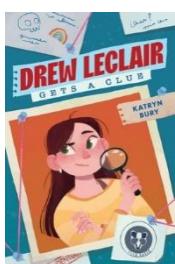
### Juniper Harvey and the Vanishing Kingdom

By [Varela, Nina](#)

2023-02 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316706780 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



### Drew LeClair Gets a Clue

By [Bury, Kathryn](#)

2022-03 - Clarion Books

9780358639602 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this modern take on *Harriet the Spy*, twelve-year-old Drew uses her true crime expertise to catch the cyberbully in her school--only to discover that family, friendship, and identity are the hardest mysteries to solve.

Drew Leclair knows what it takes to be a great detective. She's pored over the cases solved by her hero, criminal profiler Lita Miyamoto. She [...More](#)



### Flor Fights Back: A Stonewall Riots Survival Story

By [Ellison, Joy Michael](#)

Illustrator [Ficorilli, Francesca](#)

2023-01 - Stone Arch Books

9781669013945 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



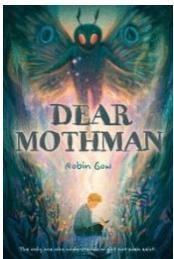
### One True Wish

By [Kate, Lauren](#)

2023-04 - Atheneum Books for Young Readers

9781665910569 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## Dear Mothman

By [Gow, Robin](#)

2023-03 - Harry N. Abrams

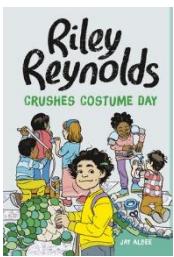
9781419764400 [Check Our Catalog](#)

### Winner, LGBTQ+ Middle Grade Lammy Award (Lambda Literary Award)

**Robin Gow's acclaimed middle grade novel in verse about a young trans boy dealing with the loss of his friend by writing to his favorite cryptid, Mothman**

Moving and lyrical, *Dear Mothman* is a story about finding belonging and hope in the most unexpected places.

A few months ago, Noah's best friend [...More](#)



## Riley Reynolds Crushes Costume Day

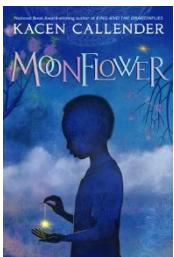
By [Albee, Jay](#)

Illustrator [Albee, Jay](#)

2022-08 - Stone Arch Books

9781666344080 [Check Our Catalog](#)

It's book week at school, and nonbinary fourth grader Riley and their best friends craft hard for the Dress Like Your Favorite Character Day. Colorful fabric! Paint! Glitter! They are ready to make the biggest and best group costume ever! But most of the other kids are having trouble coming up with costumes. Riley is ready to use their creativity and vision to help as many kids as possible so [...More](#)



## Moonflower

By [Callender, Kacen](#)

2022-09 - Scholastic Press

9781338636598 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Kacen Callender, National Book Award winner of King and the Dragonflies, delivers a stunning novel that invites readers into a child's struggles with mental health, and their journey to wholeness.**

Moon's depression is overwhelming. Therapy doesn't help, and Moon is afraid that their mom hates them because they're sad. Moon's only escape is traveling to the spirit realms every [...More](#)



## Sir Callie and the Champions of Helston

By [Symes-Smith, Esme](#)

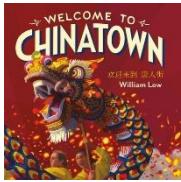
2022-11 - Labyrinth Road

9780593485774 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In a magical medieval world filled with dragons, shape-shifters, and witches, a twelve-year-old nonbinary hopeful knight battles for the heart of**

their kingdom. This *USA Today* bestselling series explores identity and gender amid sword fights and magic, and proves anyone can be a hero.

"These heroes come in all shapes and skills--I cheered for them throughout their exciting journey." [...More](#)



## Welcome to Chinatown

By [Low, William](#)

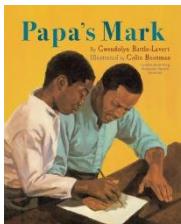
Illustrator [Low, William](#)

2023-01 - Godwin Books

9781250841995 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Welcome to Chinatown. There is so much to see. People practicing tai-chi, shoe cobblers, rows of herbs, outdoor fish markets, and more. And best of all, when the Lunar New Year begins, there's a New Year's Day parade, complete with a lion dance.

This bilingual board book adaptation of William Low's *Chinatown* is a feast for the eyes and a celebration of the ordinary and the [...More](#)



## Papa's Mark

By [Battle-Lavert, Gwendolyn](#)

Illustrator [Bootman, Colin](#)

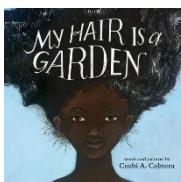
2023-01 - Holiday House

9780823453702 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this timely reissue, a father and son help their community claim the right to vote in the post Civil-War South.

A son teaches his father how to write his name so he can vote for the first time in this historical tale filled with warmth and strength by Coretta Scott King Honor winner Colin Bootman's expressive oil paintings.

In a new author's note, veteran teacher and [...More](#)



## My Hair Is a Garden

By [Cabrera, Cozbi A.](#)

Illustrator [Cabrera, Cozbi A.](#)

2018-04 - Albert Whitman & Company

9780807509234 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Taunted for her unruly hair, Mackenzie seeks guidance from her wise and comforting neighbor, Miss Tillie. Using the beautiful garden in the backyard as a metaphor, Miss Tillie shows Mackenzie that natural black hair is beautiful. Full color.. [...More](#)



## To the Other Side

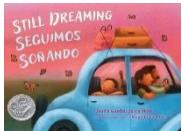
By [Meza, Erika](#)

Illustrator [Meza, Erika](#)

2023-03 - Katherine Tegen Books  
9780063073166 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Author-illustrator Erika Meza delivers a stunning and emotionally rich book from the viewpoint of those most impacted by border walls: young refugee children. This powerfully told tale highlights the spirit and strength of those embarking on a dangerous trek, and what awaits them on the other side.**

**Yoto Carnegie Medal Shortlist \* New York Public Library Best Book [...More](#)**



### **Still Dreaming / Seguimos Soñando**

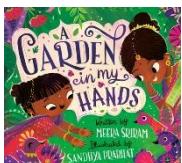
By [Martínez, Claudia Guadalupe](#)  
Illustrator [Mora, Magdalena](#)  
Translator [Crosthwaite, Luis Humberto](#)  
2022-10 - Children's Book Press (CA)  
9780892394340 [Check Our Catalog](#) SPA

Pura Belpré Illustrator Award Honor 2023 - American Library Association (ALA)

### **A 2023 Pura Belpré Illustrator Award Honor**

**In the first children's book to describe the long-forgotten chapter of US history known as Mexican Repatriation, a boy and his family leave their beloved home to avoid being separated by the government.**

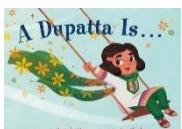
**En el primer libro infantil que [...More](#)**



### **A Garden in My Hands**

By [Sriram, Meera](#)  
Illustrator [Prabhat, Sandhya](#)  
2023-04 - Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers  
9780593427101 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



### **A Dupatta Is...**

By [Abbas, Marzieh](#)  
Illustrator [Chouhan, Anu](#)  
2023-04 - Feiwel & Friends  
9781250820945 [Check Our Catalog](#)

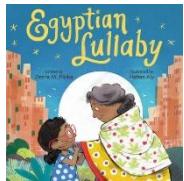
**A Dupatta Is..., written by Marzieh Abbas and vividly brought to life by the artwork of Anu Chouhan, is a loving and lyrical ode to the dupatta.**

*A dupatta is so much more than a beautiful piece of fabric.*

*A dupatta is sound--swooshing and swashing like a superhero cape.*

*A dupatta is scent--cinnamon and cardamom, crushed coriander and peppermint oil.*

*A dupatta* [...More](#)



## **Egyptian Lullaby**

By [Pliska, Zeena M.](#)

Illustrator [Aly, Hatem](#)

2023-04 - Roaring Brook Press

9781250222497 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A rich, beautifully layered ode to the great city of Cairo, Egypt, its people, and culture.**

Every night, my Ametti Fatma sings the sounds of Egypt to me as I fall asleep.

*This is the Nile,*

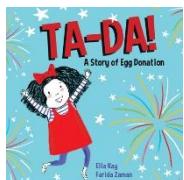
*that flows through the city.*

*Swish, swoosh, swish.*

*This is the boat,*

*that glides on the Nile,*

[...More](#)



## **Ta-Da! a Story of Egg Donation**

By [Kay, Ella](#)

Illustrator [Zaman, Farida](#)

2022-09 - Second Story Press

9781772602470 [Check Our Catalog](#)

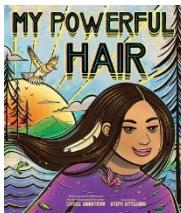
**Life was great.**

**But we asked, "what could make it better?"**

**...and the answer was you!**

A curious little girl loves to ask questions. Most of all, she loves to hear how she was made with the help of an egg donor! A quirky, funny, and celebratory story that teaches kids about one of the many ways babies join a family.

[...More](#)



## My Powerful Hair

By [Lindstrom, Carole](#)

Illustrator [Littlebird, Steph](#)

2023-03 - Harry N. Abrams

9781419759437 [Check Our Catalog](#)

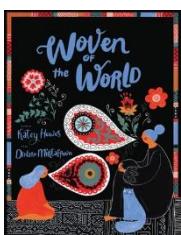
**From the award-winning and bestselling author of *We Are Water Protectors* comes an empowering picture book about family history, self-expression, and reclaiming your identity**

*Our ancestors say our hair is our memories,*

*our source of strength and power,*

*a celebration of our lives.*

Mom never had long hair-she was told it was too wild. [...More](#)



## Woven of the World

By [Howes, Katey](#)

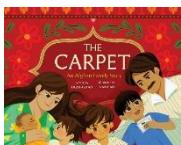
Author [Mirtalipova, Dinara](#)

2023-02 - Chronicle Books

9781452178066 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Told from the perspective of a young girl learning to weave, *Woven of the World* is a lyrical meditation on the ancient art of weaving and what this beautiful craft can teach us.**

As rhythmic as the swish of a loom, and as vibrant as a skein of brightly dyed wool, this lyrical picture book shares the history and practice of weaving through the centuries and around the world, as [...More](#)



## The Carpet: An Afghan Family Story

By [Azaad, Dezh](#)

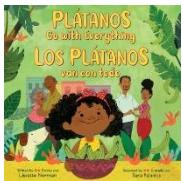
Illustrator [Cao, Nan](#)

2023-04 - Harry N. Abrams

9781419763618 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**This poignant story, about an Afghan refugee child and the family carpet that connects them to home, inspires readers to live and learn in love, not fear**

*The Carpet* follows a day in the life of an Afghan refugee child, where every moment revolves around love, family, and the carpet that connects them to home. The carpet is the centerpiece of family life, where meals, stories, [...More](#)



## Plátanos Go with Everything: Bilingual Edition

By [Norman, Lissette](#)

Illustrator [Palacios, Sara](#)

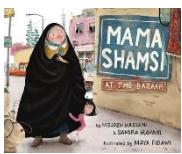
2023-01 - HarperCollins

9780063247789 [Check Our Catalog](#)

With the English and Spanish text side by side on the page, this bilingual edition of the vibrant picture book celebrating the strength of community and the versatility of plátanos is ideal for bilingual readers as well as Spanish speakers learning English and vice versa.

A 2024 Bank Street Best Spanish Language Picture Book!

*Paletero Man* [...More](#)



## Mama Shamsi at the Bazaar

By [Hassani, Mojdeh](#)

Author [Iravani, Samira](#)

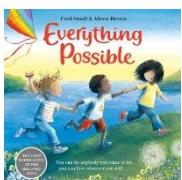
Illustrator [Fidawi, Maya](#)

2023-02 - Dial Books

9780593110614 [Check Our Catalog](#)

It's market day for Samira and her grandma! The bazaar is crowded, but this sweet pair knows how to stick together in this silly picture book set in Iran.

Mama Shamsi is off to the market, and today, Samira gets to go with her! Samira loves spending time with her grandmother, and she especially loves her chador, which Mama Shamsi wraps around herself every time they leave the house. As [...More](#)



## Everything Possible

By [Small, Fred](#)

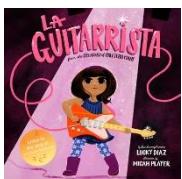
Illustrator [Brown, Alison](#)

2023-05 - Nosy Crow

9798887770222 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A joyful and inclusive lullaby about love, acceptance, and following your heart . . .

Strong and bold, or quiet and kind, every child is unique and their future filled with possibilities. Based on Fred Small's iconic folk song that became an anthem for generations, *Everything Possible* celebrates love and friendship, gently encouraging children to dream their own dream and choose [...More](#)



## La Guitarrista

By [Diaz, Lucky](#)

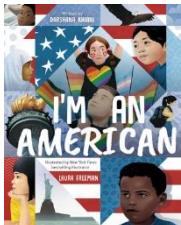
Illustrator [Player, Micah](#)

2023-05 - HarperCollins  
9780063254152 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**From the creators of *Paletero Man*-Latin Grammy-winning musician Lucky Diaz and celebrated artist Micah Player-comes a story about a tenacious girl who achieves her wildest dreams with a little help from her community and a broken guitar.**

*Strum! Strum! Strum! Get ready to rock with la guitarrista!*

When Canta finds a guitar in the trash, she is one step closer [...More](#)



### **I'm an American**

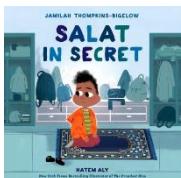
By [Khiani, Darshana](#)  
Illustrator [Freeman, Laura](#)  
2023-05 - Viking Books for Young Readers  
9780593464724 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A breathtaking, eye-opening look at the patchwork of cultures that make up our nation and the many ways we define what it means to be an American.**

**One of Chicago Public Library's Best Books of 2023!**

What does it mean to be American?

A classroom of children across many races, cultures, and origins explores the concept of Americanness as they each share bits of their family [...More](#)

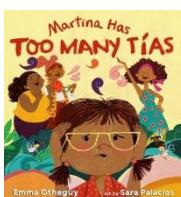


### **Salat in Secret**

By [Thompkins-Bigelow, Jamilah](#)  
Illustrator [Aly, Hatem](#)  
2023-06 - Random House Studio  
9781984848093 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**From the critically acclaimed author of *Your Name Is a Song* and the bestselling illustrator of *The Proudest Blue* comes a story about a Muslim boy who receives a salat (prayer) rug on his seventh birthday and becomes empowered about his faith.**

In this beautiful story of community, family, and acceptance, a boy named Muhammad receives a special salat rug on his seventh [...More](#)



### **Martina Has Too Many Tías**

By [Othequy, Emma](#)  
Illustrator [Palacios, Sara](#)  
2023-06 - Atheneum Books for Young Readers  
9781534445369 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## We Are One

By [Kramer, Jackie Azúa](#)

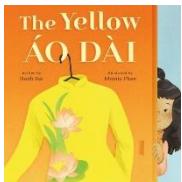
Illustrator [Figueroa, Raissa](#)

Illustrator [Mata, Niña](#)

2023-05 - Two Lions

9781542016940 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## The Yellow Áo Dài

By [Bui, Hanh](#)

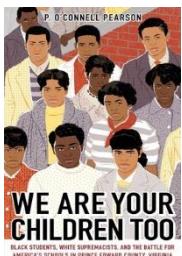
Illustrator [Phan, Minnie](#)

2023-04 - Feiwel & Friends

9781250842060 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Lovingly illustrated by Minnie Phan, Hanh Bui's debut picture book, *The Yellow Áo Dai*, is a warm story of family, identity, and remembering those who came before.

Naliah is excited to perform a traditional Vietnamese Fan Dance at her school's International Day. When she finds that her special áo dai no longer fits right, she goes to her mom's closet to find [...More](#)



## We Are Your Children Too: Black Students, White Supremacists, and the Battle for America's Schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia

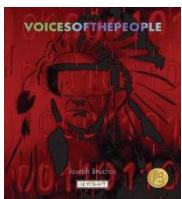
By [Pearson](#)

2023-01 - Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

9781665901390 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This "detailed, fascinating" (*Booklist*, starred review) nonfiction middle grade book explores a deeply troubling chapter in American history that is still playing out today: the strange case of Prince Edward County, Virginia, the only place in the United States to ever formally deny its citizens a public education, and the students who pushed back.

In 1954, after the passing of [...More](#)



## Voices of the People

By [Bruchac, Joseph](#)

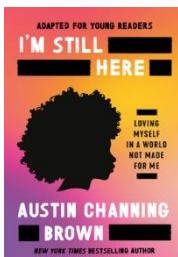
With [Various Artists](#)

2022-11 - Reycraft Books

9781478875161 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This critically reviewed and award-winning biographical poetry book will take you on a beautifully illustrated journey through time, while these poems capture the essence of each person's life. Acclaimed Native American writer, Joseph

Bruchac, introduces readers to famous indigenous leaders, from The Peacemaker in 1000 A.D. to modern day dancer Maria Tallchief and Cherokee chief Wilma Mankiller. [...More](#)



## I'm Still Here (Adapted for Young Readers)

By [Channing Brown, Austin](#)

2023-04 - Convergent Books

9780593240182 [Check Our Catalog](#)

An adaptation of the powerful, *New York Times* bestselling account of growing up Black and female in America, completely rewritten with new stories for young readers.

Austin Channing Brown's first encounter with race in America came at age seven, when she discovered her parents named her Austin to trick future employers into thinking she was a white man. Growing up in [...More](#)



## Nic Blake and the Remarkables: The Manifestor Prophecy

By [Thomas, Angie](#)

2023-04 - Balzer & Bray/HarperTeen

9780063225138 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Instant #1 *New York Times* bestseller!

Internationally bestselling superstar author Angie Thomas makes her middle grade debut with the launch of an inventive, hilarious, and suspenseful new contemporary fantasy trilogy inspired by African American history and folklore.

It's not easy being a Remarkable in the Unremarkable world. Some things

[...More](#)



## Controlled Burn

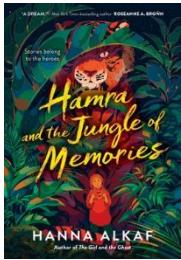
By [Downing, Erin](#)

2022-11 - Scholastic Press

9781338776027 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From acclaimed middle-grade and chapter-book author, Erin Soderberg Downing, *Controlled Burn* is a story that blends family, friendship, fire, and the rocky path toward healing our deepest fears.

Twelve-year-old Maia's parents say she's lucky she noticed something as early as she did. Lucky to have smelled the smoke, lucky to have pulled her sister, Amelia, out of their [...More](#)



## Hamra and the Jungle of Memories

By [Alkaf, Hanna](#)

2023-03 - HarperCollins

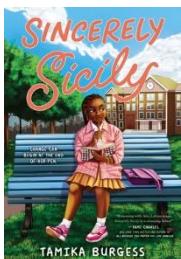
9780063207950 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A Malaysian spin on *Little Red Riding Hood* from the critically acclaimed author of *The Girl and the Ghost*, Hanna Alkaf.**

*Courage is the strongest magic there is.*

On Hamra's thirteenth birthday, she receives nothing but endless nagging and yet another errand to run in the Langkawi jungle that looms behind her home.

No one has remembered her special [...More](#)



## Sincerely Sicily

By [Burgess, Tamika](#)

2023-01 - HarperCollins

9780063159600 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**From debut author Tamika Burgess comes the captivating and empowering story of Sicily Jordan-a Black Panamanian fashionista who rocks her braids with pride-who learns to use her voice and take pride in who she is while confronting prejudice in the most unexpected of places.**

Sicily Jordan's worst nightmare has come true! She's been enrolled in a new school, with zero of her friends and [...More](#)



## My Nest of Silence

By [Faulkner, Matt](#)

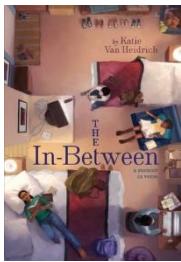
Illustrator [Faulkner, Matt](#)

2022-10 - Atheneum Books for Young Readers

9781534477629 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**"Evocative prose and illustrations bring to life...[the] heart-wrenching decisions and considerations that Japanese Americans had to face...[and] their endurance, sacrifices, and resilience, even as their loyalty was questioned without cause." --Susan H. Kamei, author of *When Can We Go Back to America?***

**Told in a brilliant blend of prose and graphic novel, this unforgettable [...More](#)**



## The In-Between

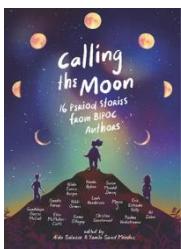
By [Wingate, Katie](#)

2023-01 - Aladdin Paperbacks

9781665920124 [Check Our Catalog](#)

For fans of *Enchanted Air* by Margarita Engle and *Life in Motion* by Misty Copeland, this middle grade memoir in verse with "stellar writing [and] perfect pacing" (*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review) chronicles a young girl and her family who must start over after losing their home.

In the early 2000s, thirteen-year-old Katie Van Heidrich has moved more times than she can [...More](#)



## My New Gift: 16 Period Stories from BIPOC Authors

By [Salazar, Aida](#)

Editor [Salazar, Aida](#)

Contribution by [Burgos, Hilda E.](#)

2023-03 - Candlewick Press (MA)

9781536216349 [Check Our Catalog](#)

An essential, highly relatable collection of short fiction and poems around the topic of menstruation, written exclusively by authors who are Black, Indigenous, or people of color

For Angela, it came on the basketball court—while playing on the boys' team. For Penny, it came on a school field trip to the lake (making for some cringeworthy moments of humor). And to Layla's [...More](#)



## Mirror to Mirror

By [Larocca, Rajani](#)

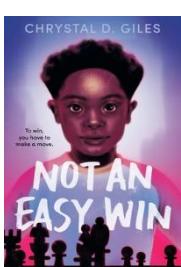
2023-03 - Quill Tree Books

9780063047471 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Rajani LaRocca, recipient of a Newbery Honor and Walter Award for *Red, White, and Whole*, is back with an evocative novel in verse about identical twin sisters who do everything together—until external pressures threaten to break them apart.

Maya is the pragmatic twin, but her secret anxiety threatens to overwhelm her.

Chaya is the outgoing twin. When she sees her [...More](#)



## Not an Easy Win

By [Giles, Chrystal D.](#)

2023-02 - Random House Books for Young Readers

9780593175217 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**FOUR STARRED REVIEWS!**

Twelve-year old Lawrence is new to chess--can he find a way to get on the board, even though the odds are stacked against him?

Find out in this powerful novel about family, forgiveness, and figuring out who you are when you don't make the rules--just right for middle-grade fans of Nic Stone and Jason Reynolds.

\*\*Essential middle grade and tween [...More](#)



### The Enchanted Life of Valentina Mejia

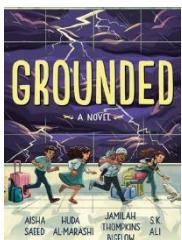
By [Alessandri, Alexandra](#)

2023-02 - Atheneum Books for Young Readers

9781665917056 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Encanto** meets **The Chronicles of Narnia** by way of Colombian folklore in this middle grade fantasy adventure. To save their father's life, a brother and sister must journey across a land full of mythical creatures and find the most powerful and dangerous of them all: the madremonte.

Twelve-year-old Valentina wants to focus on drawing the real world around her and hopefully get [...More](#)



### Grounded

By [Saeed, Aisha](#)

Author [Ali, S. K.](#)

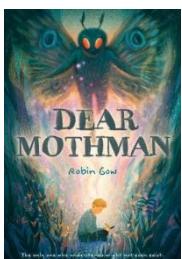
Author [Thompkins-Bigelow, Jamilah](#)

2023-05 - Harry N. Abrams

9781419761751 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Four kids meet at an airport for one unforgettable night in this middle-grade novel by four bestselling and award-winning authors--Aisha Saeed, Huda Al-Marashi, Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, and S. K. Ali.

When a thunderstorm grounds all flights following a huge Muslim convention, four unlikely kids are thrown together. Feek is stuck babysitting his younger sister, but he'd rather be [...More](#)



### Dear Mothman

By [Gow, Robin](#)

2023-03 - Harry N. Abrams

9781419764400 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Winner, LGBTQ+ Middle Grade Lammy Award (Lambda Literary Award)

Robin Gow's acclaimed middle grade novel in verse about a young trans boy dealing with the loss of his friend by writing to his favorite cryptid, Mothman

Moving and lyrical, *Dear Mothman* is a story about finding belonging and hope in the most unexpected places.

A few months ago, Noah's best friend [...More](#)



## Home Away from Home

By [Lord, Cynthia](#)

2023-04 - Scholastic Press

9781338726114 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From Newbery Honor Winner Cynthia Lord, a brilliant story about how to find home when everything around us is changing.

Mia and her mom visit Grandma in Maine every summer, but this year Mia is going alone. Her mom will stay behind to get their house ready to sell. It'll be a new start, she says, after the divorce.

Mia doesn't want a new start. She'd rather everything just [...More](#)



## Creatures of the in Between

By [Lin, Cindy](#)

2023-04 - HarperCollins

9780063064799 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## Storyteller

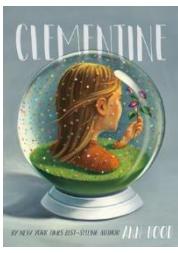
By [Hobson, Brandon](#)

2023-05 - Scholastic Press

9781338797268 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From National Book Award finalist Brandon Hobson, a kaleidoscopic middle-grade adventure that mixes the anxieties, friendships, and wonders of a Cherokee boy's life with Cherokee history and lore.

Ziggy has ANXIETY. Partly this is because of the way his mind works, and how overwhelmed he can get when other people (especially his classmate Alice) are in the room. And partly it's [...More](#)



## Clementine

By [Hood, Ann](#)

2023-05 - Penguin Workshop

9780593094105 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)