



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Children's J Fiction for Black History Month

A High Five for Glenn Burke by Phil Bildner - J F BIL, e-book

After researching Glenn Burke, the first major league baseball player to come out as gay, sixth-grader Silas Wade slowly comes out to his best friend Zoey, then his coach, with unexpected consequences.

Finding Langston by Lesa Cline-Ransome - J F CLI

Discovering a book of Langston Hughes' poetry in the library helps another Langston cope with the loss of his mother, relocating from Alabama to Chicago as part of the Great Migration, and being bullied.

The Only Black Girls in Town by Brandy Colbert – J F COL

In a predominately white California beach town, the only two Black seventh-graders, Alberta and Edie, find hidden journals that uncover family secrets and speak to race relations in the past.

The Journey of Little Charlie by Christopher Paul Curtis - J F CUR

When his poor sharecropper father is killed in an accident and leaves the family in debt, twelve-year-old Little Charlie agrees to accompany fearsome plantation overseer Cap'n Buck north in pursuit of people who have stolen from him; Cap'n Buck tells Little Charlie that his father's debt will be cleared when the fugitives are captured, which seems like a good deal until Little Charlie comes face-to-face with the people he is chasing.

The Magic in Changing Your Stars by Leah Henderson – J F HEN

After bungling his audition to play the Scarecrow in The Wiz, fifth-grader Ailey is magically transported to 1930s Harlem where he meets his own grandfather and legendary tap dancer Bill "Bojangles" Robinson.

What Lane? by Torrey Maldonado – J F MAL

Biracial sixth-grader Stephen questions the limitations society puts on him after he notices the way strangers treat him when he hangs out with his white friends and learns about the Black Lives Matter movement

From the Desk of Zoe Washington by Janae Marks – J F MAR

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

Tristan Strong Destroys the World by Kwame Mbalia – J F MBA

Seventh-grader Tristan must return to Alke and enlist the help of African gods and Black folktale heroes when Nana is abducted from the Strong family farm in Alabama.

Something to Say by Lisa Moore Ramee – J F RAM, e-book

"A friendless girl who has developed a knack for keeping her head down at school resists a red-headed newcomer who wants to make friends, before the two are paired for a class assignment that she hopes will secure her position on the debate team."--Novelist.

Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks by Jason Reynolds – J F REY, e-book

"A collection of ten short stories that all take place in the same day about kids walking home from school"-- Provided by publisher.

Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes – J F RHO

"After seventh-grader Jerome is shot by a white police officer, he observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen Black boys including historical figure Emmett Till"-- Provided by publisher.

Root Magic by Eden Royce – J F ROY

"It's 1963, and things are changing for Jezebel Turner. The local police deputy won't stop harassing her family. School integration is arriving in South Carolina as Jez and her twin brother, Jay, are about to begin the school year with a bunch of new kids. But the biggest change comes when Jez and Jay turn eleven, told they are going to be trained in rootwork. Jez and Jay have always been fascinated by the African American folk magic that has been the legacy of their family for generations.

Genesis Begins Again by Alicia Williams - J F WIL, e-book

Thirteen-year-old Genesis tries again and again to lighten her black skin, thinking it is the root of her family's troubles, before discovering reasons to love herself as she is.

Before the Ever After by Jacqueline Woodson – J F WOO, e-book, e-audiobook

For as long as ZJ can remember, his dad has been everyone's hero. As a charming, talented pro football star, he's as beloved to the neighborhood kids he plays with as he is to his millions of adoring sports fans. But lately life at ZJ's house is anything but charming. His dad is having trouble remembering things and seems to be angry all the time. ZJ's mom explains it's because of all the head injuries his dad sustained during his career. ZJ can understand that--but it doesn't make the sting any less real when his own father forgets his name.