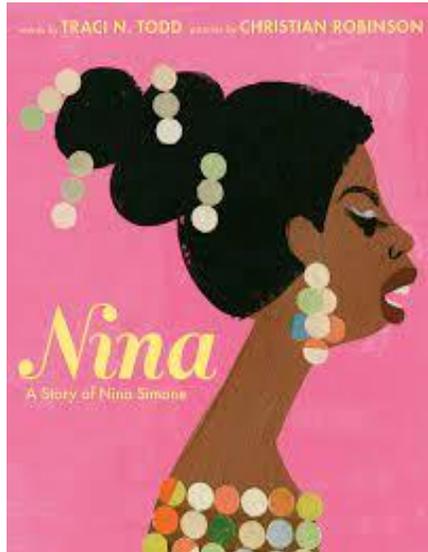


Notable Books for a Global Society Award 2022 List of Winners

Children's Literature and Reading Special Interest Group (CLR SIG) of the International Literacy Association (ILA) at www.clrsig.org

Print and Share

Each year the NBGS Committee selects 25 books as winners of the NBGS Award. These books, for all levels (PK-12), reflect diversity in the broadest sense, celebrating a variety of voices and topics. Please look for a comprehensive article about these books with useful teaching tips in the Spring 2022 issue of *The Dragon Lode*, free to CLR SIG members. Join today at ILA.org. You can find lists of NBGS winners from previous years on the web site: www.clrsig.org



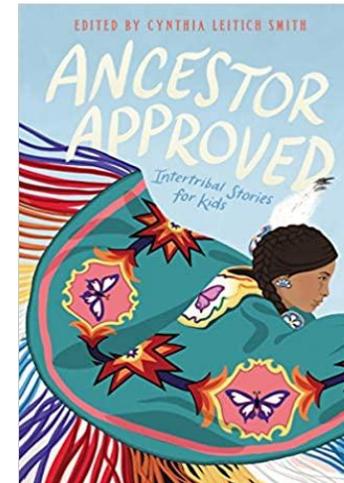
Nina: A Story of Nina Simone
By Traci N. Todd
Illus. Christian Robinson
Penguin Random House/G. P. Putnam's
Sons
GR 3-5 Biography

Shaped by her father's jazz and her mother's church songs, Nina, born Eunice Waymon, became an accomplished musician. The vibrant, collage illustrations show how resisting segregation and prejudice inspired her as an African-American musician to find her own distinctive voice in the pursuit of social justice.



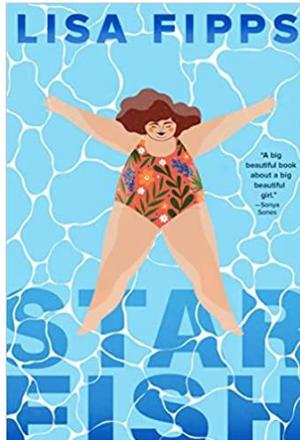
World in Between
By Kenan Trebinčević and Susan Shapiro
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt/ Clarion Books
375 pp. GR 5-8
Memoir

Kenan enjoys soccer, friends, and life in Yugoslavia until the day the Bosnian War suddenly begins. Shared with unwavering authenticity, the author details wartime trauma, seeking refuge in Austria and the US, and transitioning to a new lifestyle. Author's note states the book originated from a middle school writing assignment.



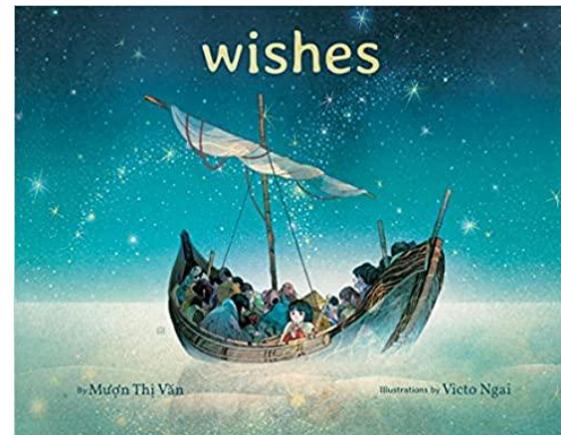
Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids
Edited by Cynthia Leitch Smith
HarperCollins/Hearthdrum
312 pp. GR 5 Up
Realistic Fiction Collection

In this anthology by Native authors, families share intertribal stories about their gathering for the Dance for Earth Powwow in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The diversity of experiences and commonalities among the people are testimony to the power of the powwow honoring ancestors, family, friends, laughter, healing, strength, and resilience.



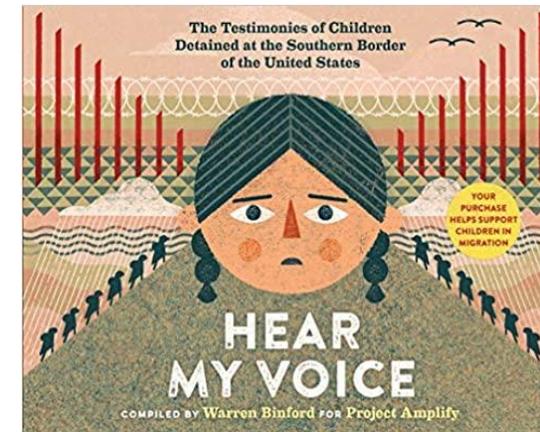
Starfish
By Lisa Fipps
Penguin Random House/Nancy
Paulsen Books
256 pp. GR 5-8 Novel in Verse

Ellie is an intelligent sixth grader who struggles to find her voice as she learns to deal with her 'zeftig' or pleasantly plump status. She is relentlessly confronted with intense verbal bullying in and outside of her home. This fictional story of resourcefulness and courage is based upon the author's experiences.



Wishes
By Mượn Thị Văn
Illus. Victo Ngai
Scholastic/Orchard Books
GR PK Up
Realistic Fiction

A young girl narrates the powerful story of her family's journey to pursue a new life and new wishes. Stunning illustrations capture the grief and despair of being forced to leave home. This story was based upon the author's personal escape from Vietnam. Back matter includes extensive author and illustrator notes.



Escucha Mi Voz/ Hear My Voice: The Testimonies of Children Detained at the Southern Border of the United States
Compiled by Warren Binford
for Project Amplify
Illus. Cecilia Ruiz et al.
Workman
GR 3 Up Nonfiction

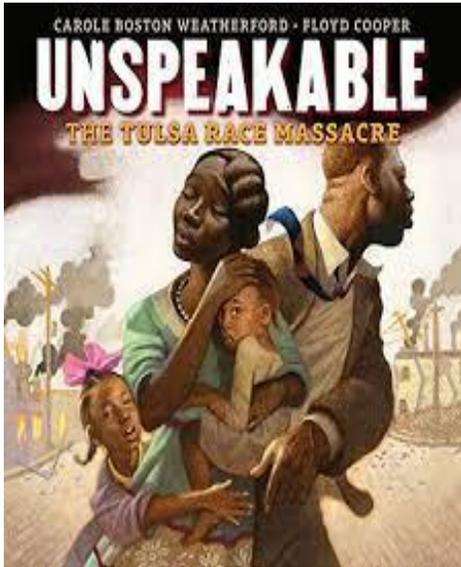
"We sleep stacked on top of each other, shoulder to shoulder." This statement is a detail of a personal story in the heart-wrenching Spanish and English picture book compiled by international children's advocate, Warren Binford, working with Project Amplify. The testimonies highlight the mistreatment of migrant children separated from their families at the US/Mexico border.

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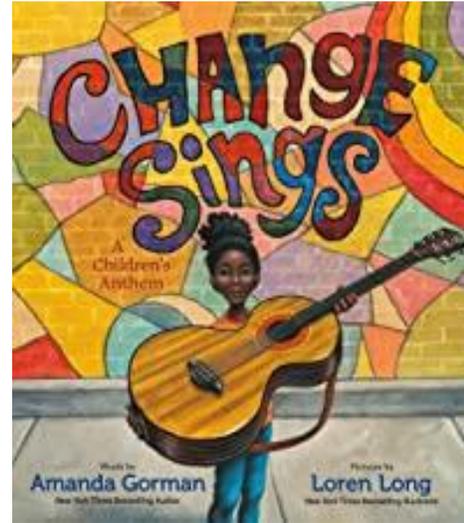
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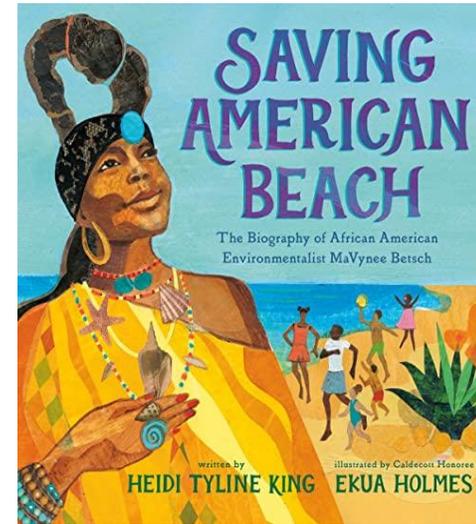
Unspeakable:
The Tulsa Race Massacre
By Carole Boston Weatherford
Illus. Floyd Cooper
Lerner/Carolrhoda
GR 2 Up Nonfiction

Step back in time to 1921 and the Black Wall Street of America, in the Greenwood District of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The writing and vivid illustrations describe the racial violence perpetrated on this thriving African-American community by a white mob who burned and destroyed everything the residents had worked to build.



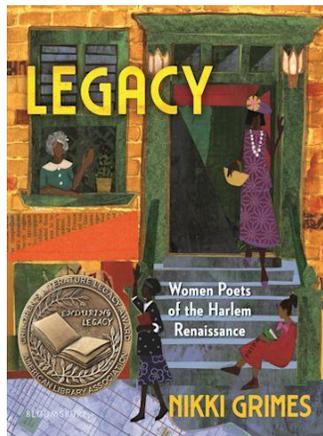
Change Sings:
A Children's Anthem
By Amanda Gorman
Illus. Loren Long
Penguin Random House/Viking
GR PK Up Poetry

National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States, Amanda Gorman, calls children to sing praises for change. Through her lyrical couplets and quatrains, Gorman inspires the reader to become part of the movement. Long's illustrations are inclusive and portray children in action as they participate in the change-making parade.



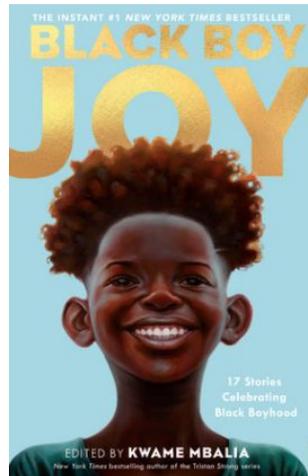
Saving American Beach: The Biography of African American Environmentalist MaVynee Betsch
By Heidi Tyline King
Illus. Ekua Holmes
Penguin Random House/ Putman GR 2 Up Biography

A childhood spent on the beach her great-grandfather purchased for African Americans near Jacksonville, Florida shaped MaVynee's future as an environmentalist. This beautifully illustrated biography details her journey from international opera singer back to American Beach, and her work as activist preserving the beach. Back matter includes author and illustrator notes.



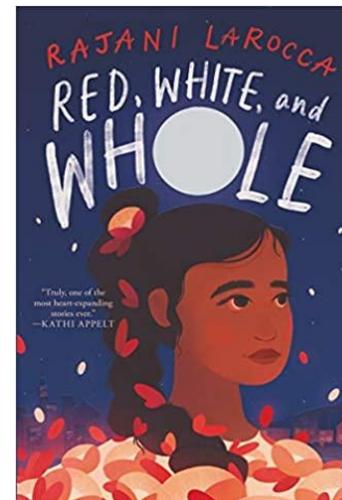
Legacy: Women Poets of the Harlem Renaissance
By Nikki Grimes
Bloomsbury
134 pp. GR 3 Up Poetry

In this beautiful anthology of voices of gifted women poets of the Harlem Renaissance, Grimes takes lines to create poetry. She uses the golden shovel form. Each poem is accompanied by an illustration of a different artist. Front matter includes information on the poets and the poetic form.



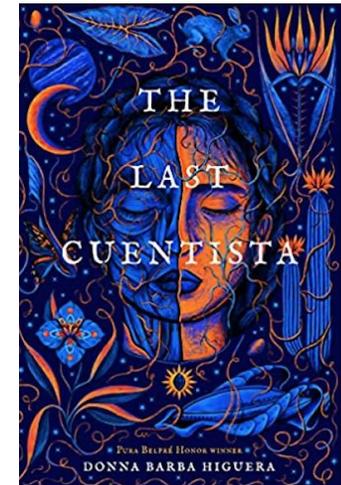
Black Boy Joy
Edited by Kwame Mbalia
Penguin Random House/
Delacorte Press
310 pp. GR 4 Up
Fiction Collection

In this collection of seventeen realistic and science fiction stories by celebrated authors, boys, aged 10-12, find their joy in sometimes surprising ways. Stories, poems, and comics of friends, family, school, community, and being cool highlight nurturing relationships possible between younger and older generations and among children.



Red, White, and Whole
By Rajani LaRocca
HarperCollins/Quill Tree Books
217 pp. GR 5-8
Realistic Fiction

Being thirteen in 1983 is hard enough, but Reha also feels the burden of being the only Indian American in her school and living up to her immigrant parents' high expectations. When her mother falls ill, Reha must reflect on how red and white blood cells work together to heal her family and her personal relationships.



The Last Cuentista
By Donna Barba Higuera
Levine Querido/
An Arthur A. Levine Book
336 pp. GR 9-12
Science Fiction

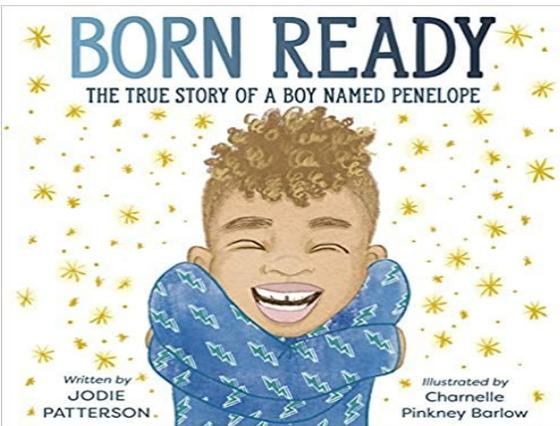
With a comet coming to destroy Earth, Petra and her family are among the few people chosen to travel to a new planet with their scientific knowledge and stories. During the several hundred-year journey, a rogue group called the Collective erases their memories and Petra awakes as the only remaining storyteller.

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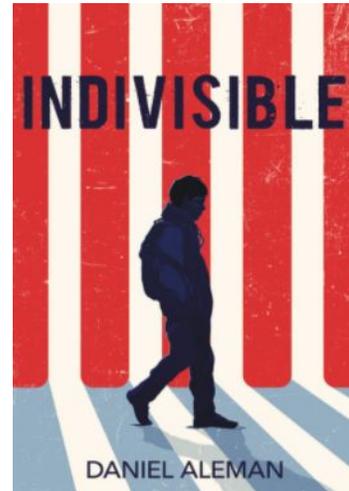
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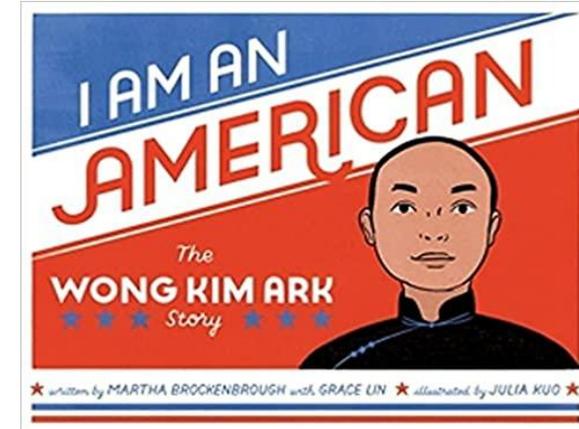
Born Ready:
The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope
by Jodie Patterson
Illus. Charnelle Pinkney Barlow
Penguin Random House/ Crown Books GR PK-2
Picture book/Biography

“Ah! Chale! In my language of Twi, gender isn’t such a big deal,” says Penelope who knows exactly who he is. He wonders whether his family will understand that, named Penelope, he is a boy inside. When he finds the courage to share his truth, he discovers the support of his community.



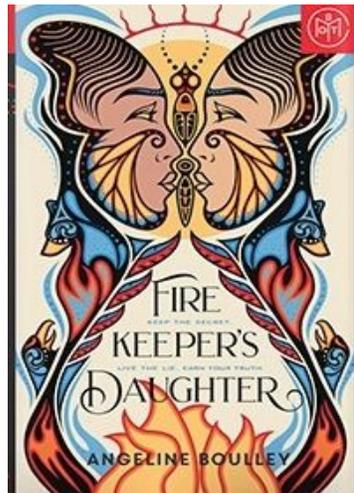
Indivisible
By Daniel Aleman
Little Brown
400 pp. GR 9-12 Realistic Fiction

Mateo works hard, studies hard, and has dreams of Broadway, but he lives in constant fear of ICE and deportation. This powerful and remarkable novel tells of the daily fears and uncertainties of undocumented families in the US. It shares a deeply authentic and intimate exploration of family, sacrifice, and immigration.



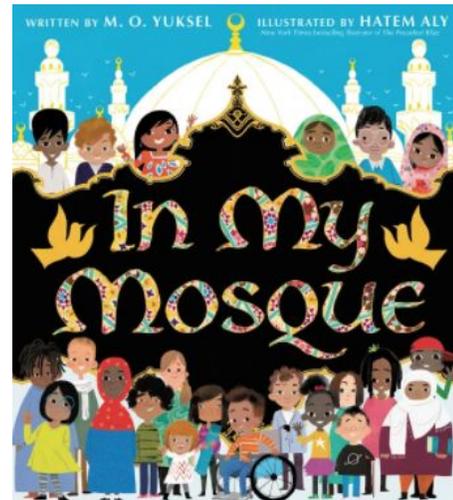
I am an American:
The Wong Kim Ark Story
by Martha Brockenbrough
with Grace Lin
Illus. Julia Kuo
Little Brown
GR 3-5 Biography

Wong's 1898 US Supreme Court-winning case clarified the definition of American citizenship under the Fourteenth Amendment. In this biography, Wong's journey to the landmark decision is depicted through Brockenbrough and Lin's chronicle of his life. Kuo's predominantly red and black, bold illustrations illuminate Wong's emotional experience from various perspectives.



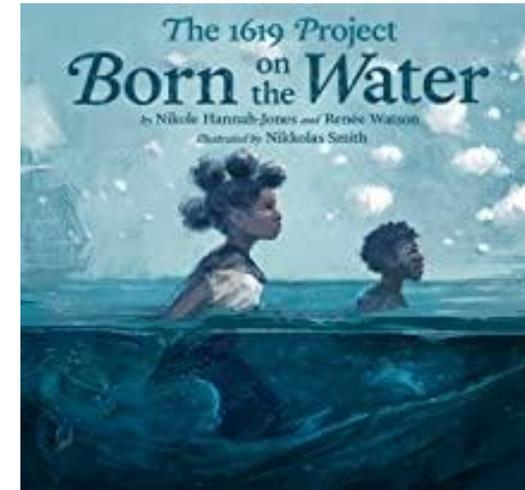
The Firekeeper's Daughter
By Angeline Boulley
MacMillan/Henry Holt
496 pp. GR 9-12 Realistic Fiction

Daunis, a biracial, unenrolled tribal member, faces dualities in her heritage, country, family, friends, and development. Written by member of the Sault St. Marie Chippewa tribe, this novel tackles the consequences of inaction and tensions between government and tribal authority. This coming-of-age story mirrors many adolescent experiences. A timely and authentic exploration of complex, indigenous experiences.



In My Mosque
By M. O. Yuksel
Illus. Hatem Aly
HarperCollins/Harper
GR PK-2 Nonfiction

Readers are joyfully welcomed to this introduction of Islam, Muslims, and mosques around the world. The writing and bright illustrations show how mosques are houses of worship and community centers where traditions, prayer, friendship, and generosity are celebrated. All are welcome with the greeting “as-salaamu alaykum” (peace be upon you). Back matter include information on mosques, author’s note and glossary.



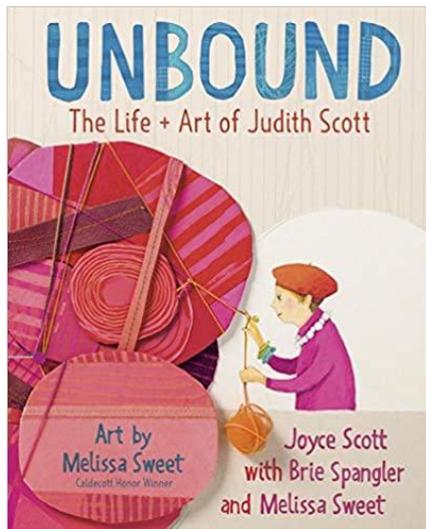
Born on the Water: The 1619 Project
By Nikole Hannah-Jones
and Renée Watson
Illus. Nikkolias Smith
Penguin Random House/Kokila
GR 2 Up Nonfiction in verse

A grandmother shares her family's life before slavery and explains the determination, imagination, and faith that people sustained to survive in their forced journey to make a new land, home. This “not an immigration story” told in lyrical verse describes how homes, language, skills, and freedom were stolen from African people in 1619.

Notable Books for a Global Society Award 2022 List of Winners

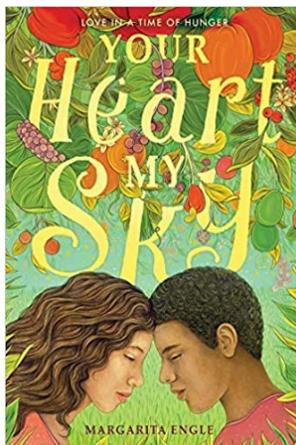
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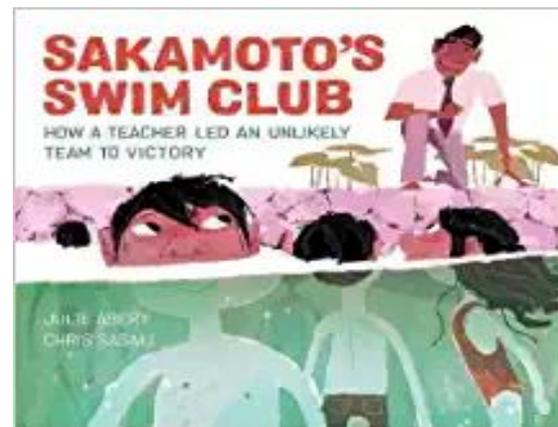
Unbound:
The Life + Art of Judith Scott
By Joyce Scott with Brie Spangler and
Melissa Sweet
Illus. Melissa Sweet
Penguin Random House/
Alfred A. Knopf
GR 2 Up Biography

After growing up in an institution, as a person with Down Syndrome and profound deafness, Judith reunites with her sister, who enrolls her in an art center program. Judith flourishes, becoming a talented fiber artist, overcoming perceived limitations to find her voice. Back matter includes photographs, Author and Illustrator Notes, timeline, and resources.



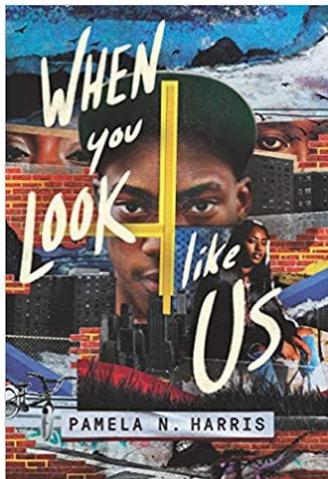
Your Heart My Sky
by Margarita Engle
Simon & Schuster/Atheneum
224 pp. GR 4 Up Novel in verse

Set during the 1991 Havana Pan-Am Games, Engle portrays the Cuban government's self-image of the island nation against the starvation of its citizens. Desperate for hope, young lovers Liana and Amado devise a plan to escape their life of hunger; however, they each must decide if they are brave enough to carry out the plan.



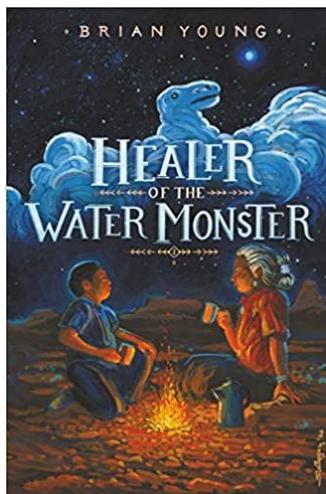
Sakamoto's Swim Club:
How a Teacher Led an Unlikely Team to Victory
by Julie Abery
Illus. Chris Sasaki
Kids Can Press
GR PK-2 Nonfiction in verse

Young migrants working in the sugar cane fields of Maui, keep cool and out of trouble swimming in the local irrigation ditch. Short verses recount the inspiring story of how science teacher Soichi Sakamoto used the current's resistance to train the young workers, building a team that shined in the 1948 Olympic games.



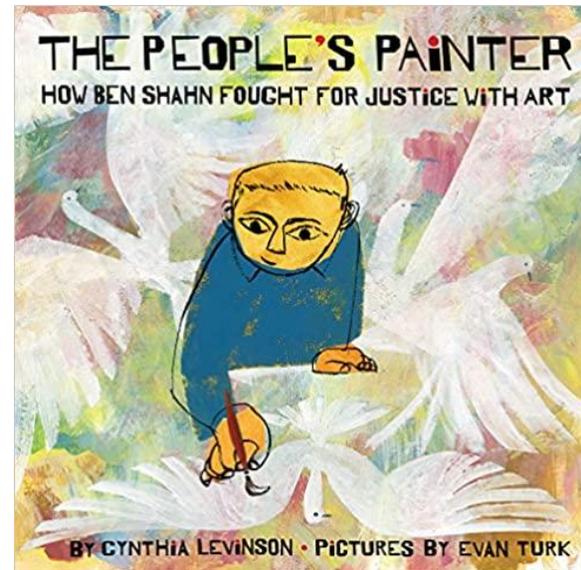
When You Look Like Us
by Pamela N. Harris
HarperCollins/Quill Tree Press
368 pp. GR 9-12 Realistic Fiction

Of what value, is the life of a young girl who has brown skin, brown eyes, and lives in public housing? When his sister Nicole goes missing her brother, Jay, sets out to answer the question and find her in this mystery of misperceptions, stereotypes, privilege, friendship recognized and revealed, and doing what's right.



Healer of the Water Monster
by Brian Young
HarperCollins/Heartdrum
368 pp. GR 5-8 Realistic Fiction

Nathan looks forward to living with his Nali, his grandmother and uncle, on the Navajo Reservation, but, as a child, he discovers only he can speak to and help the land's spirits, the spiders, lizards, and Pond, the water monster, who is sick. While readers learn of the Navajo culture and life in this novel of family, in this hero's quest and creation story Nathan has to save Pond and bring water back to the land.



The People's Painter: How Ben Shahn Fought for Justice with Art
By Cynthia Levinson
Illus. Evan Turk
Abrams/
Abrams Books for Young Readers
GR 2 Up Biography

Ben Shahn's pictures may not have been pretty, but they were powerful. Instilled with a passion for justice as a child in Lithuania, this Jewish immigrant resisted his teachers' calls to paint beautiful landscapes. Instead, for decades, he told important stories about people fighting against injustice through his art..