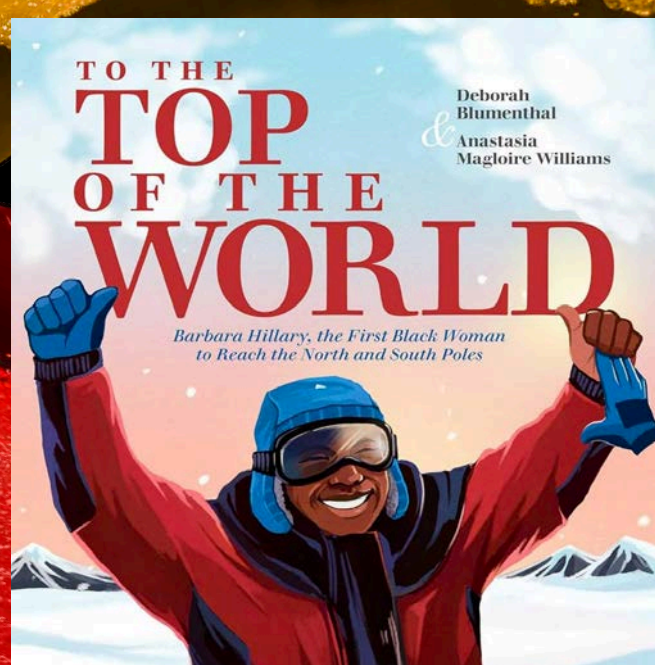


BLACK HISTORY month



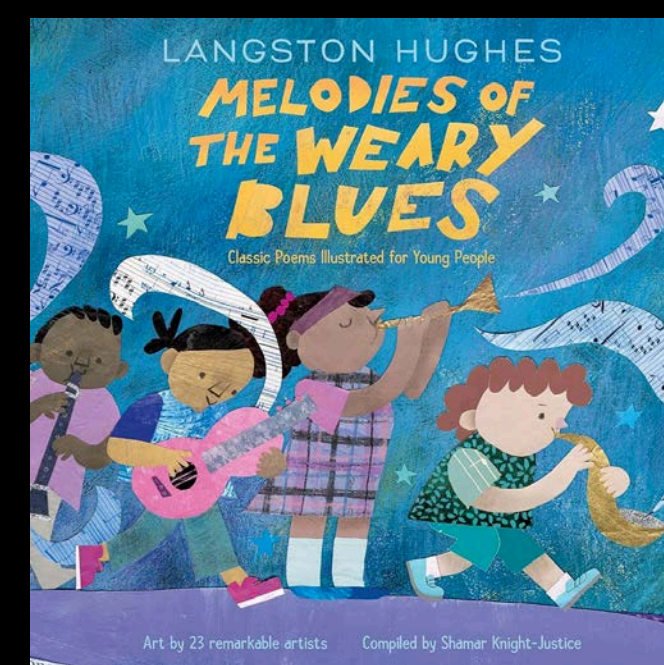
The Blue Velvet Chair
by Rio Cortez
Ages 4-7

In the morning, a young child heads straight for her favorite place in the house: the blue velvet chair. Perched on the chair set by the living room window, the child daydreams about each season of the year and the changes that come with them.



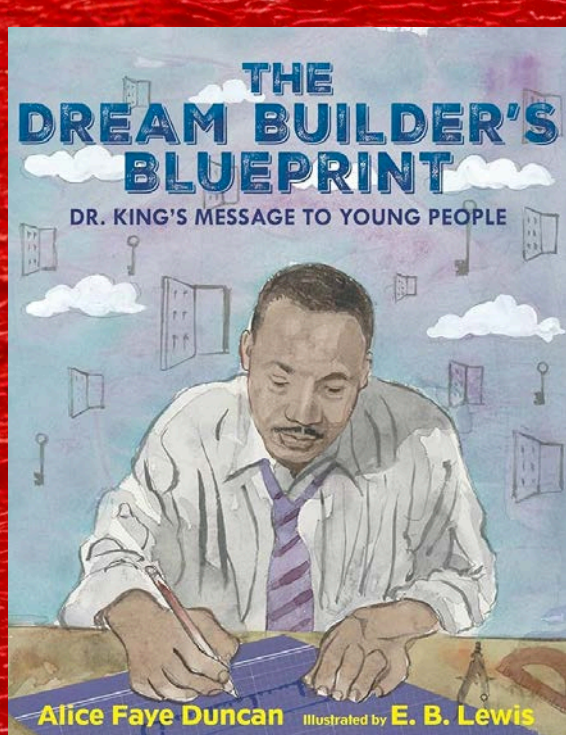
To the Top of the World
by Deborah Blumenthal & Anastasia M. Williams
Ages 4-8

Despite facing hardships in her childhood and illness as an adult, adventurous Barbara Hillary never gave up on her dream of traveling the world and exploring hard-to-reach places. In her seventies, she became the first Black woman to set foot on the North and South Poles.



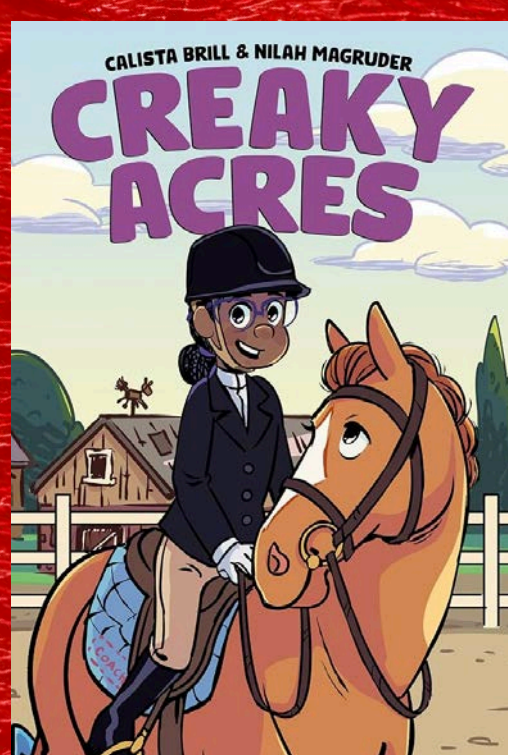
Melodies of the Weary Blues
by Langston Hughes
Ages 6-9

This illustrated anthology of Hughes' first book of poetry pairs poems with vibrant artwork by more than twenty talented Black illustrators, including award-winners Oge Mora, Frank Morrison, Janelle Washington, and more. Also included are a timeline of the poet's life and biographies of all the contributors.



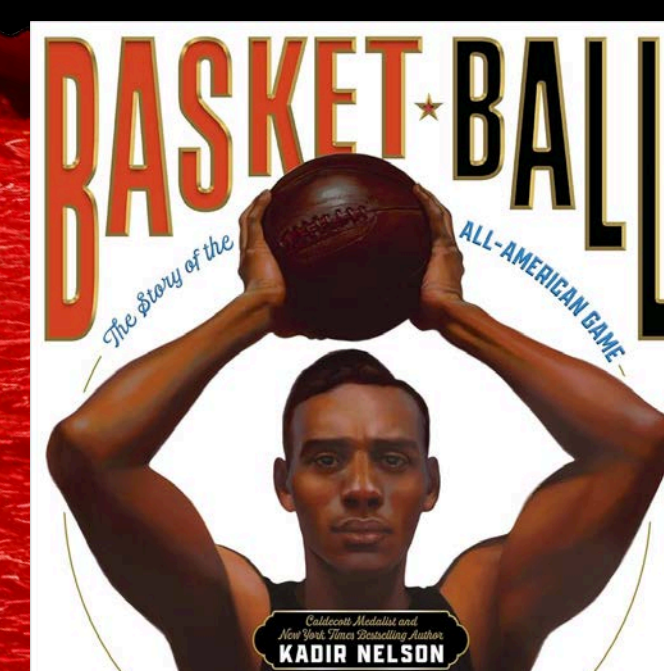
The Dream Builder's Blueprint
by Alice Faye Duncan
Ages 7-10

This book reinterprets Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech as a motivational erasure poem. Highlighting principles of excellence, activism, and compassion that remain relevant and necessary today, this book has a universal message that distills Dr. King's principles for children to understand.



Creaky Acres
by Calista Brill & Nilah Magruder
Ages 8-12

Nora is a prize-winning horseback rider. When her mom gets a new job that forces them to move, Nora has to adjust to being the only Black student in her class and to joining a new barn called Creaky Acres. With a ragtag team of equestrians, Nora must learn that it's okay to stand out and become a leader.



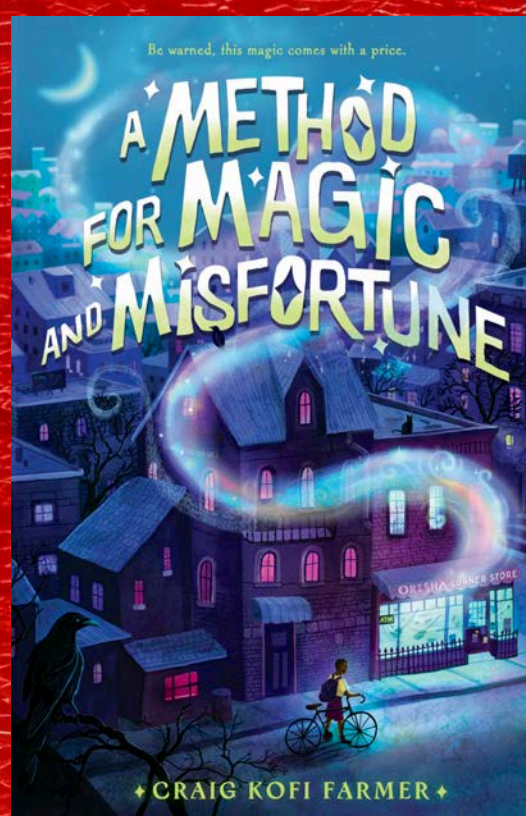
Basket Ball
by Kadir Nelson
Ages 8-12

Recipient of the 2026 Coretta Scott King – Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement, Nelson presents an illustrated history of basketball, from its 1891 origins to its modern, fast-paced form. Featuring stunning oil paintings, the book chronicles the evolution of the sport, highlighting the impact of Black athletes and the game's transformation into a diverse and inclusive powerhouse.



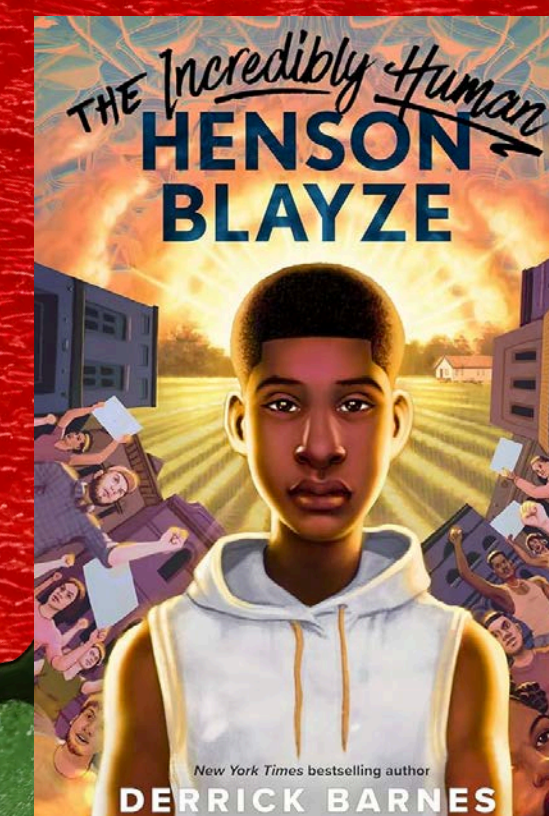
Will's Race for Home
by Jewell Parker Rhodes
Ages 8-12

In 1889, twelve-year-old Will and his father leave Texas to join the Oklahoma Land Rush, seeking freedom and land ownership. Facing dangerous terrain and prejudice, the pair trek northward, befriend a former Union soldier. This historical fiction novel is a coming-of-age story about courage, resilience, and the fight for a better future.



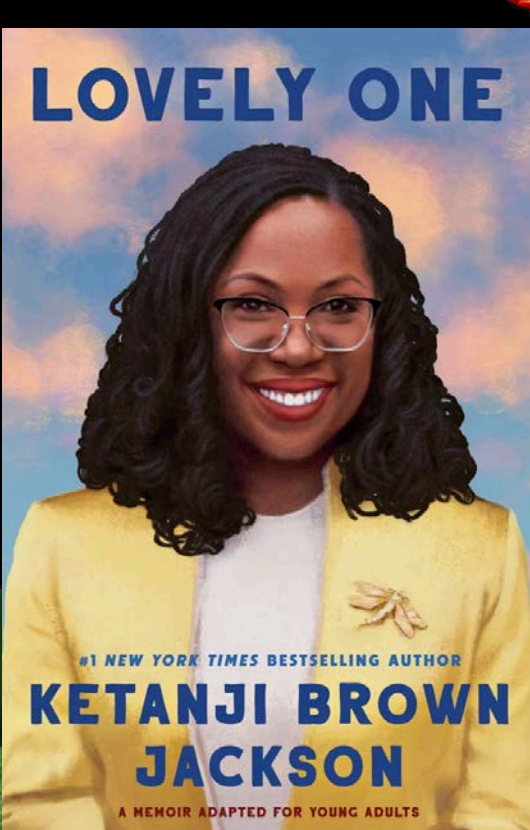
A Method for Magic and Misfortune
by Craig Kofi Farmer
Ages 8-12

Twelve-year-old Marcus, who is recovering from an abusive home, discovers a secret magic in Grand Park. Mentored by a charismatic local leader, Marcus enters a rigorous, dangerous training program for Divination. As the magic's dark side emerges, Marcus must decide if his newfound power is more important than his family.



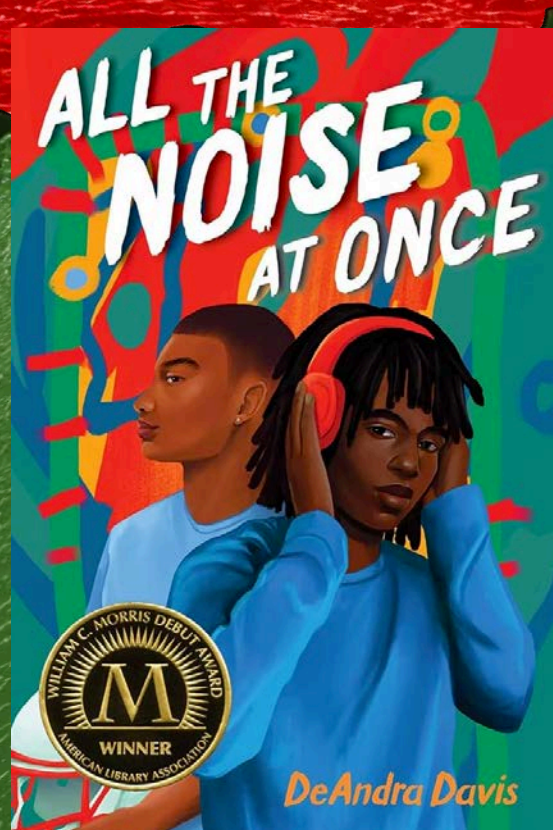
The Incredibly Human Henson Blayze
by Derrick Barnes
Ages 10-14

Henson is a thirteen-year-old Black football prodigy in Mississippi who is idolized by his white town until he confronts injustice. After a friend is brutally attacked, Henson challenges the community's racism, forcing him to choose between being a beloved entertainment tool or a young man demanding humanity.



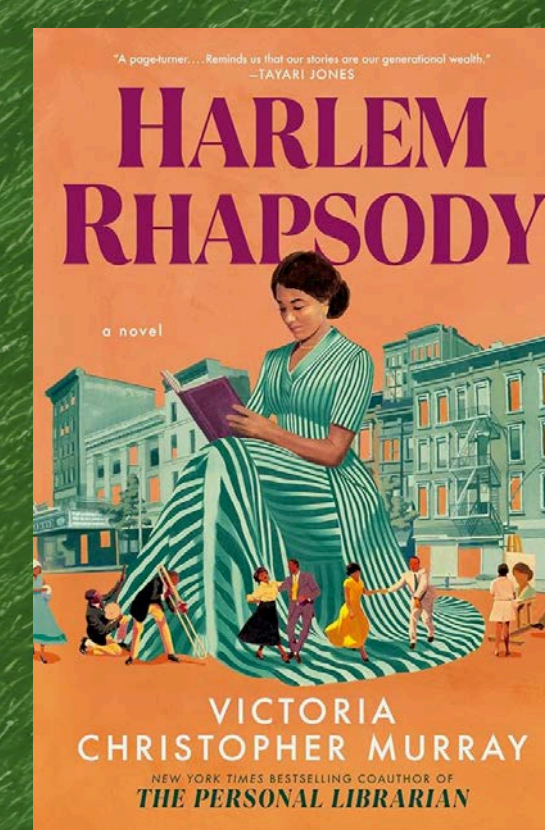
Lovely One: Adapted for Young Adults
by Ketanji Brown Jackson
Ages 13-18

This is the inspiring memoir of the first Black woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Tracing her journey from childhood in Miami to Harvard and the legal profession, Jackson highlights the importance of hard work, grit, and family support. She shares stories of overcoming imposter syndrome and navigating professional challenges to reach her goals, aiming to inspire the next generation of dreamers.



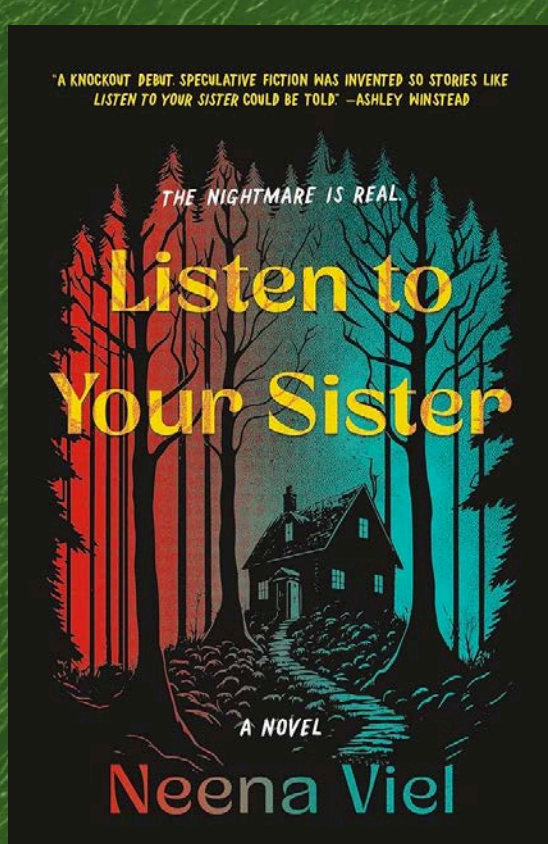
All the Noise at Once
by DeAndrea Davis
Ages 14-18

Not every player is happy about Aiden joining the high school football team. They are wary of how his autism will present itself on game day. Tensions rise, and a fight breaks out. The cops are called. Aiden's brother, Brandon, interferes, and he is wrongly charged with felony assault on an officer. Can Aiden clear his brother's name before the trial begins?



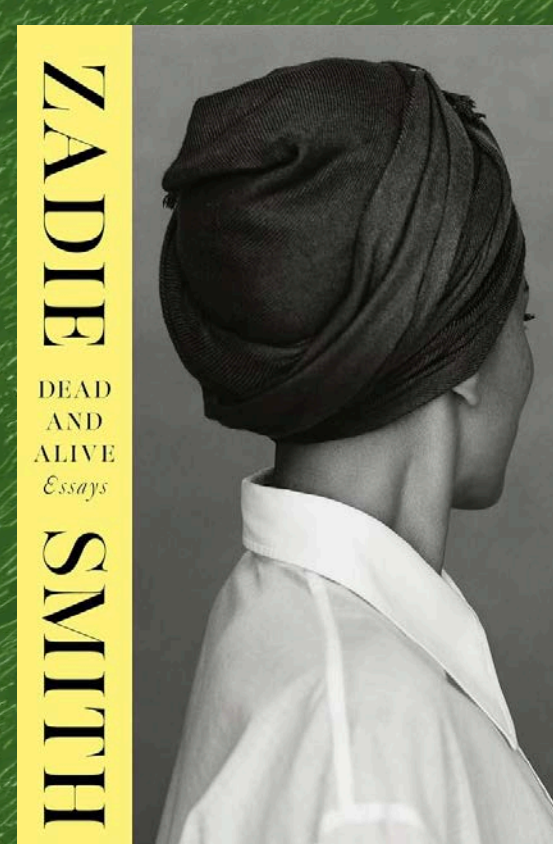
Harlem Rhapsody
by Victoria Christopher Murray
Adult

This historical novel set in the 1920s follows Jessie Redmon Fauset, the brilliant literary editor of W.E.B. Du Bois' 'The Crisis'. As she mentors Harlem Renaissance icons, she pursues and manages a secret, tumultuous affair with the married Du Bois, navigating personal desire and professional ambition.



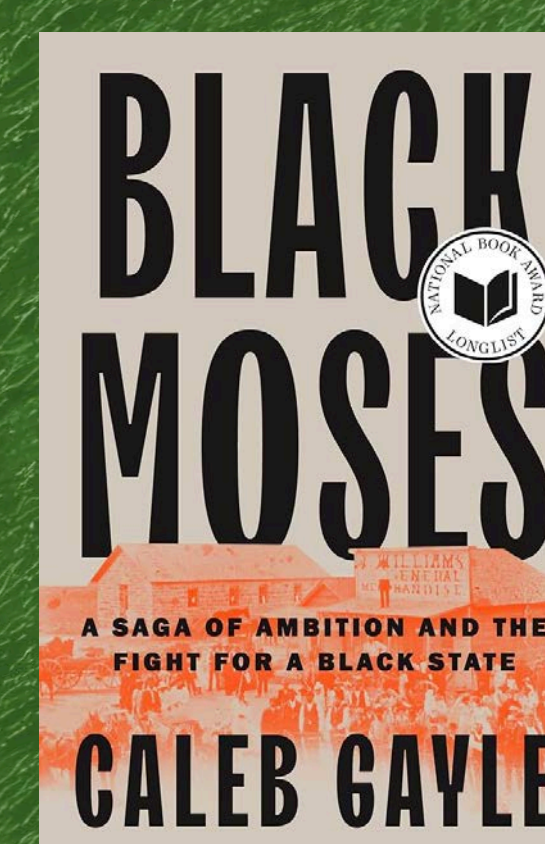
Listen to Your Sister
by Neena Viel
Adult

25-year-old Calla struggles as guardian to her reckless teenage brother, Jamie, while plagued by recurring, violent nightmares of their imminent deaths. After a protest turns chaotic, the siblings flee to a remote, sinister cabin where Calla's terrifying visions turn into a deadly reality.



Dead and Alive: Essays
by Zadie Smith
Adult

This collection of essays analyzes art, politics, and identity with a sober, reflective lens. The author covers topics from AI and pandemic-era culture to literary eulogies and urban life in New York and London, while exploring the complexities of contemporary freedom.



Black Moses: A Saga of Ambition and the Fight for a Black State
by Caleb Gayle
Adult

This biography chronicles the largely forgotten story of Edward P. McCabe, a 19th-century Black politician who fought to establish an independent, self-governed Black state in Oklahoma. The book explores his pursuit of freedom and self-determination against the backdrop of systemic racism and post-Civil War westward expansion.