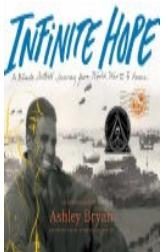


# Black History: Biographies for Younger Readers

Great stories exploring the rich and diverse experiences and contributions to society of Black people in America.



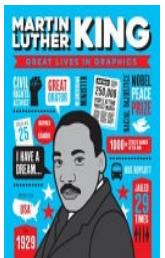
## Infinite Hope

By Ashley Bryan

Recipient of a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Award

A Kirkus Reviews Best Middle Grade Book of 2019

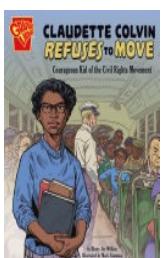
From celebrated author and illustrator Ashley Bryan comes a deeply moving picture book memoir about serving in the segregated army during World War II, and how love and the pursuit of art sustained him. In May of 1942, at the age of eighteen, Ashley Bryan was drafted to fight in World War II. For the next three years, he would face the horrors of war as a black soldier in a segregated army.



## Great Lives in Graphics: Martin Luther King

By G. M. C. GMC Editors

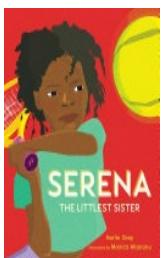
"Great lives in graphics reimagines the lives of extraordinary people in vivid technicolor, presenting 250+ fascinating facts. You may already know that Martin Luther King Jr. gave an important speech, but did you know he loved to play pranks on his sister? Or that he was once called Michael? This graphic retelling of Martin's story gives children a visual snapshot of his life and the world he grew up in, while educating them on everything from the civil rights movements to the power of words".



## Claudette Colvin Refuses to Move

By Ebony Joy Wilkins

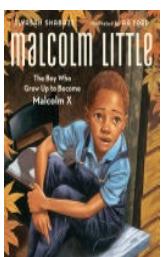
It's March 2, 1955, and an ordinary 15-year-old girl from Montgomery, Alabama is about to do something extraordinary. When a white bus driver orders Claudette Colvin to give up her seat for a white passenger, she refuses to move. After Claudette is arrested, her brave actions help inspire Civil Rights leaders organize bus boycotts and perform similar acts to defy segregation laws. Eventually, Claudette's court case results in overturning Alabama's unconstitutional laws and provides greater freedom for black Americans everywhere.



## Serena: The Littlest Sister

By Karlin Gray

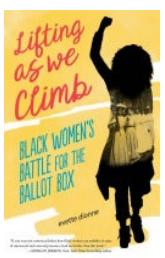
Serena Williams is one of the biggest names in sports, but she grew up the littlest of five girls in her family. While sharing a room and playing tennis with her older sisters, Serena had to figure out how to be her own person—on and off the court. This empowering biography showcases the rise of the youngest Williams sister and how her family played a part in her path to becoming the strong woman and star athlete she is today.



## Malcolm Little

By Ilyasah Shabazz

Malcolm X grew to be one of America's most influential figures. But first, he was a boy named Malcolm Little. Written by his daughter, this inspiring picture book biography celebrates a vision of freedom and justice. Bolstered by the love and wisdom of his large, warm family, young Malcolm Little was a natural-born leader. But when confronted with intolerance and a series of tragedies, Malcolm's optimism and faith were threatened. He had to learn how to be strong and how to hold on to his individuality and develop self-reliance.



## Lifting As We Climb

By Evette DIONNE

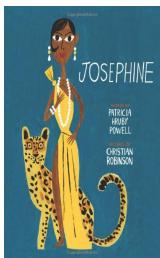
For African American women, the fight for the right to vote was only one battle.

An eye-opening book that tells the important, overlooked story of black women as a force in the suffrage movement--when fellow suffragists did not accept them as equal partners in the struggle.

When the epic story of the suffrage movement in the United States is told, the most familiar leaders, speakers at meetings, and participants in marches written about or pictured are generally white. That's not the real story.

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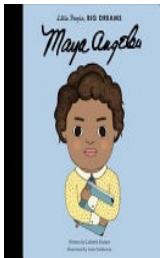
## Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker

By Patricia Hruby Powell

JUVENILE ROOM - NON-FICTION

J 92 BAKER

In exuberant verse and stirring pictures, Patricia Hruby Powell and Christian Robinson create an extraordinary portrait for young people of the passionate performer and civil rights advocate Josephine Baker, the woman who worked her way from the slums of St. Louis to the grandest stages in the world.



## Maya Angelou

By Lisbeth Kaiser

In this international bestseller from the critically acclaimed Little People, BIG DREAMS series, discover the incredible life of Maya Angelou, the powerful speaker, writer, and civil rights activist.

Maya Angelou spent much of her childhood in Stamps, Arkansas. After a traumatic event at age eight, she stopped speaking for five years. However, Maya rediscovered her voice through wonderful books, and went on to become one of the world's most beloved writers and speakers.



## The Doctor with an Eye for Eyes

By Julia Finley Mosca

If you like to think big, but some say you're too small... Meet Dr. Bath--the scientist who never lost sight of her dreams! As a girl coming of age during the Civil Rights Movement, Patricia Bath made it her mission to become a doctor. When obstacles like racism, poverty, and sexism threatened this goal, she persevered--brightening the world with a game-changing treatment for blindness!

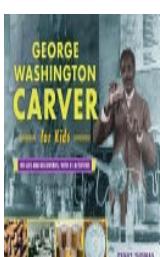


## Beyoncé Shine Your Light

By Sarah Warren

Powerful text and beautiful illustrations make this dazzling picture book biography the perfect read for everyone ready to get in touch with and shine their inner light like Beyoncé.

Beyoncé was quiet. A push-an-empty-swing kind of quiet. That's how most of the world saw her, until... She can sing! And one teacher looked closer. Onstage, Beyoncé became a different person. Dazzling! Confident. Bold. This was where she belonged.



## George Washington Carver for Kids

By Peggy Thomas

Finalist for the 2020 AAAS / Subaru SB&F Excellence in Science Book exemplify outstanding and engaging science writing and illustration for young readers.

George Washington Carver was a scientist, educator, artist, inventor, and humanitarian. Born into slavery during the Civil War, he later pursued an education and would become the first black graduate from Iowa Agricultural College. Carver then took a teaching position at the Tuskegee Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington. There, Carver taught poor Southern farmers how to feed their families.



## Talkin' about Bessie

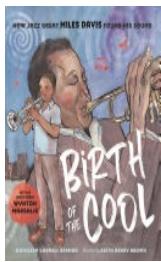
By Nikki Grimes

Soar along with Bessie Coleman in this inspirational tale of a woman whose determination reached new heights.

Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman was always being told what she could & couldn't do. In an era when Jim Crow laws and segregation were a way of life, it was not easy to survive. Bessie didn't let that stop her. Although she was only 11 when the Wright brothers took their historic flight, she vowed to become the first African - American female pilot. Her sturdy faith and determination helped her overcome obstacles.

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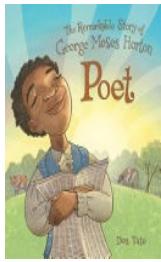


## Birth of the Cool: How Jazz Great Miles Davis Found His Sound

By Kathleen Cornell Berman

Miles can't sleep. He taps his toes, snaps his fingers, and can't stop thinking of ways to make music his own.

As a young musician, Miles Davis heard music everywhere. This biography explores the childhood and early career of a jazz legend as he finds his voice and shapes a new musical sound. Follow his progression from East St. Louis to rural Arkansas, from Juilliard and NYC jazz clubs to the prestigious Newport Jazz Festival.



## Poet

By Don Tate

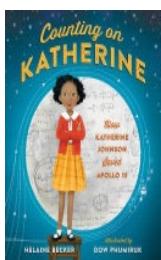
Based on true events of important US history, this non-fiction narrative, the biography of George Moses Horton introduces students to a story of determination and a profound love of words. In the nineteenth century, North Carolina slave George Moses Horton taught himself to read and earned money to purchase his time—though not his freedom. Horton became the first African American to be published in the South, protesting slavery in the form of verse.



## Mae Among the Stars

By Roda Ahmed

A beautiful picture book for sharing, inspired by the life of the first African American woman to travel in space, Mae Jemison.

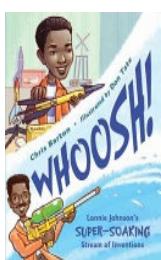


## Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13

By Helaine Becker

The bold story of Katherine Johnson, an African-American mathematician who worked for NASA during the space race and was depicted in the film *Hidden Figures*.

You've likely heard of the historic Apollo 13 moon landing. But do you know about the mathematical genius who made sure that Apollo 13 returned safely home?



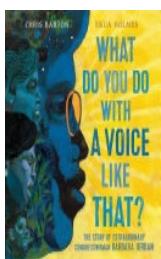
## Whoosh!

By Chris Barton

JUVENILE ROOM - NON-FICTION

J 92 JOHNSON

A love for rockets, robots, inventions, and a mind for creativity began early in Lonnie Johnson's life. Growing up in a house full of brothers and sisters, persistence and a passion for problem solving became the cornerstone for a career as an engineer and his work with NASA. But it is his invention of the Super Soaker water gun that has made his most memorable splash with kids and adults.



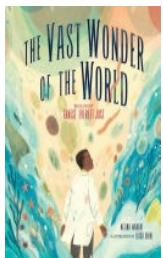
## What Do You Do with a Voice Like That?

By Chris Barton

Congresswoman Barbara Jordan had a big, bold, confident voice—and she knew how to use it! Learn all about her amazing career in this illuminating and inspiring picture book biography.

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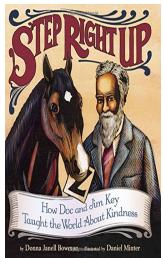
## The Vast Wonder of the World

By Mélina Mangal

JUVENILE BIOGRAPHY

J 92 JUST

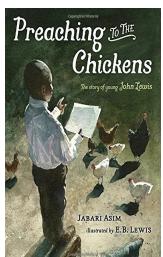
Ernest Everett Just was not like other scientists of his time. He saw the whole, where others saw only parts. He noticed details others failed to see. He persisted in his research despite the discrimination and limitations imposed on him as an African American. His keen observations of sea creatures revealed new insights about egg cells and the origins of life.



## Step Right Up: How Doc and Jim Key Taught the World about Kindness

By Donna Janell Bowman

William "Doc" Key had a special way with animals. Growing up an enslaved child in Tennessee, Doc was sent to plantations around the state to care for sick and wounded animals. When the Civil War ended and Doc was freed, he began to dream of breeding a winning racehorse. But those dreams were dashed when his colt was born weak and sickly. Although many people would have euthanized the colt, Doc nursed him back to health and named him Jim.

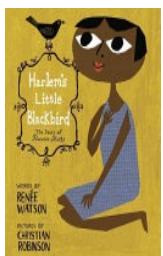


## Preaching to the Chickens: The Story of Young John Lewis

By Jabari Asim

Critically acclaimed author Jabari Asim and Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator E. B. Lewis give readers a fascinating glimpse into the boyhood of Civil Rights leader John Lewis.

John wants to be a preacher when he grows up—a leader whose words stir hearts to change, minds to think, and bodies to take action. But why wait? When John is put in charge of the family farm's flock of chickens, he discovers that they make a wonderful congregation! So he preaches to his flock, and they listen, content under his watchful care, riveted by the rhythm of his voice.

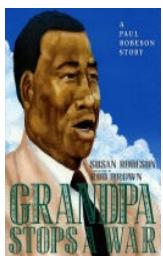


## Harlem's Little Blackbird

By Renée Watson

From Caldecott Honor winner Christian Robinson and acclaimed author Renée Watson, comes the inspiring true story of Florence Mills.

Born to parents who were both former slaves, Florence Mills knew at an early age that she loved to sing, and that her sweet, bird-like voice, resonated with those who heard her. Performing catapulted her all the way to the stages of 1920s Broadway where she inspired everyone from songwriters to playwrights. Yet with all her success, she knew firsthand how prejudice shaped her world and the world of those around her.

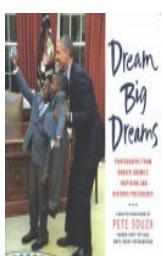


## Grandpa Stops a War

By Susan Robeson

"It takes a man of peace to stop a war."

The true story of Paul Robeson's visit to the front lines of the Spanish Civil War is a tale of courage and activism told by his granddaughter, Susan Robeson. Grandpa Paul was a world-famous actor and singer with a deep and rumbling voice, a man of peace and principle who worried about the safety of children and families living in countries at war. He wanted to use his voice to promote social justice all over the world.



## Dream Big Dreams

By Pete Souza

From former Chief Official White House Photographer Pete Souza comes a book for young readers that highlights Barack Obama's historic presidency and the qualities and actions that make him so beloved. Pete Souza served as Chief Official White House Photographer for President Obama's full two terms. He was with the President during more crucial moments than anyone else - and he photographed them all, capturing scenes both classified and candid. Throughout his historic presidency, Obama engaged with young people as often as he could, encouraging them to be their best.