

Black Creators

Recent Fiction, Easy Readers,
Early Chapter Books & Graphic Novels

Fiction

Allen, Crystal. *Between Two Brothers*. When his older brother Seth is in a serious accident, thirteen-year-old Isaiah vows to help Seth recover.

Amos, Shawn. *Cookies & Milk* (series). Ellis helps his father open the world's first chocolate chip cookie store in Hollywood.

Baptist, Kelly J. *Ready, Set, Dough!* Zoe sets her sights on becoming the top cookie-dough seller in her class, but begins to lose sight of what is really important.

Bourne, Shakirah. *Nightmare Island*. Twelve-year-old Serenity has a recurring nightmare, but things get real when she is confronted by the creepy Dr. Whisper and the faceless down children who are trapped between the living and the dead.

Brooks, Nick. *Nothing Interesting Ever Happens to Ethan Fairmont* (series). Genius inventor Ethan and his friends stumble across an extraterrestrial visitor they name Cheese, who is stuck on Earth in need of repairs, spicy snacks, and total secrecy.

Burch, Ciera. *Finch House*. When Micah's grandfather goes missing, she's lead to the off-limits Finch House. After being invited in, Micah realizes she cannot leave and must convince the house to let her go.

Burgess, Tamika. *Sincerely Sicily*. Sicily Jordan, a Black Panamanian fashionista who rocks her braids with pride, faces prejudice both in her new school and at home, and with a little creativity, proves to herself and everyone else exactly who she is.

Capps, Heather Murphy. *Indigo and Ida*. Indigo, an eighth-grade investigative reporter, is torn between fighting a racist school policy and keeping her friends--until she discovers a series of letters written by Black journalist and activist Ida B. Wells.

Clark, P. Djéli. *Abeni's Song*. When her village is attacked by warriors, Abeni escapes with an old witch who begins her unwanted magical apprenticeship.

Collier, Nicole D. *The Many Fortunes of Maya*. Always turning to wisdom she's collected from fortune cookies for answers and a dose of luck, twelve-year-old Maya must find the courage to write her own fortune to answer her deep-down questions.

Crowder, Tracy Occomy. *Montgomery and the Case of the Gold Key*. In 2008 South Side Chicago, ten-year-old Montgomery "Monty" Carver's hunt to find the origins of a mysterious golden key leads him to discover the rich history of his community.

Daka, Hermon. *Nightmare King*. Since Shane's accident, he's the boy who came back from the dead. Now every time Shane falls asleep, he's pulled into a dark world where the evil Nightmare King reigns.

Davis, Tanita S. *Figure It Out, Henri Weldon*. Seventh-grader Henrietta finally gets to switch schools! She can't wait for her new schedule, friends, and classes. But can she manage it all, including the troubles with math and a feud with her sister?

Dow, Alechia. *Just a Pinch of Magic*. Wini and Kal, two young enchanters from different magical families, team up to save their small town from a love spell gone wrong, which one of them cast.

Dumas, Marti. *Wildseed Witch* (series). While the other girls have always known they were destined to be witches, Hasani is a Wildseed from a family of non-witches, with no background knowledge, no way to control her magic, and a lot to catch up on!

Everett, Sarah. *The Probability of Everything*. When an asteroid has an 84.7% chance of colliding with the Earth in four days, Kemi assembles a time capsule to capture her family's story and say goodbye.

Flake, Sharon G. *Once in a Blue Moon*. Paralyzed by guilt, John Henry must come to terms with the events surrounding his Ma's near drowning and, with the help of his twin sister Hattie, learn to embrace life again.

Giles, Chrystal D. *Not an Easy Win*. Expelled from school after one-too-many fights, Lawrence spends his days at the rec center, where he learns how to play chess.

Giles, Lamar. *Cosmos Camp*. Wiki and Leen Ellison are facing a new challenge...their first summer apart! Leen is going to a summer training program for STEM prodigies while Wiki is looking forward to running the family corn stand.

Johnson, Leah. *Ellie Engle Saves Herself*. A freak accident gives Ellie the ability to bring things back to life through touch.

Kann, Claire. *Harmony and Heartbreak*. Living in the penthouse suite of San Francisco's Hotel Coeur, matchmakers-in-training Rose and Cora learn how to use magic to bring about love connections.



Kendrick, Erika J. *Cookie Monsters*. As Brooklyn goes against her rival to win her school's cookie-selling competition, her friends help her cope with the death of her mother and help her try to clinch the title.

Langley, Kaija. *The Order of Things*. Eleven-year-old April must come to terms with the sudden death of her best friend, Zee.

Maldonado, Torrey. *Hands*. Twelve-year-old Trevor takes up boxing to protect himself, his sisters, and his mom from his abusive stepfather (currently in prison), though he would really rather draw.

McBride, Amber. *Gone Wolf*. In the future, a girl known only as Inmate Eleven is kept confined, to be used as a biological match for the president's son, should he fall ill. In the present, Imogen finds herself distanced from everyone while she battles intense phobias and nightmares of confinement.

Parsons, Karyn. *Clouds Over California*. Stevie struggles to fit in at her new California middle school and is experiencing changes at home, while the Black Panthers and women's rights movements influence her life from the background.

Perry, Jamar J. *Cameron Battle and the Hidden Kingdoms* (series). When Cameron and his best friends are magically transported through the pages of a book to the fabled West African country Chidani, they find a kingdom in extreme danger and have to find a way to save the Igbo people.

Questlove. *The Rhythm of Time*. After accidentally traveling back in time and rewriting the future, best friends Rahim and Kasia must restore their timeline.



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Fiction, cont.

Reed, Dwayne. *Simon B. Rhyming* (series). Chicago fifth-grader Simon, an aspiring rapper who lacks self-confidence, uses his rhymes to help his community.

Rhodes, Jewell Parker. *Treasure Island: Runaway Gold*. When Zane and his friends get a real treasure map, they waste no time getting on the ferry to Manhattan and beginning the search!

Royce, Eden. *Conjure Island*. Delphinia Baker is forced to spend the summer with the great-grandmother she's never met and discovers that Nana runs a school for Southern conjure magic.

Sanders, DaVaun. *Keynan Masters and the Peerless Magic Crew*. At Peerless Academy, Keynan Masters discovers a corrupt magic and sets out to unravel the school's secrets.

Shawl, Nisi. *Speculation*. After Winna breaks her glasses, her grandfather gives her a vintage magic pair that can grant wishes!

Sinclair, Phoebe. *Confessions of a Candy Snatcher*. Jonas and his friends compete to see how many bags of candy they can grab from unsuspecting trick-or-treaters. No one's supposed to get hurt, just lose their treats. But someone knows what he's done and the guilt is eating him up.

Smith, Ronald L. *Where the Black Flowers Bloom*. When orphaned Asha's caretaker is attacked by ghoulish creatures, Asha is launched onto a quest to protect her people and stop an ancient evil.

Thomas, Angie. *The Manifestor Prophecy*. When her dad, a great Manifestor, is jailed for a crime he didn't commit, Nic, her hellhound, and two friends hunt for a powerful magical tool that could save him.

Thomas, J.E. *Control Freaks*. When the principal of the super competitive Baneker STEAM Academy announces the start of an epic Team Competition, Frederick Douglass Zezzmer is determined to win the trophy and prove to his dad he's worthy, but soon he learns there is no "i" in "Team."

Weatherford, Carole Boston. *Kin: Rooted in Hope*. A multi-generational family history told in the voices of the author's ancestors, spanning enslavement alongside Frederick Douglass, service in the U.S. Colored Troops, and the founding of all-Black Reconstruction-era communities.

Wells, Tina. *Honest June* (series). When June starts middle school, her fairy godmother puts a spell on her that forces her to speak only the truth!

Wilson, Lakita. *Sparkle*. Sparkle's mother is determined to turn Sparkle and her younger sister, Nova, into social media influencers and superstars, but at the onset of middle school, Sparkle begins losing her hair.

Winston, Sherri. *The Braid Girls*. Three girls start a hair-braiding business at their summer camp to make money, while competing against a rival business that threatens their plans.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Remember Us*. The summer before seventh grade, basketball-loving Sage is trying to figure out her place in her circle of friends, when a new kid named Freddy moves in.

Series Books: Easy Readers (R1 or R2), Early Chapter (EC), and Paperback (PB)

Atinuke. *Too Small Tola* (EC).

Blackwood, Remi. *Future Hero* (PB).

Curry, Parker. *Your Friend, Parker* (R1).

Dillard, J. *J.D. The Kid Barber* (EC).

Dumond-Desir, Samanka. *Liline & Pepper* (R2).

Elliott, Zetta. *Dragons in a Bag* (EC).

Eschmann, Reese. *Home for Meow* (PB).

Griffith, Theanne. *Magnificent Makers* (PB).

Lyons, Kelly Starling. *Miles Lewis* (PB).

Lyons, Kelly Starling. *Ty's Travels* (R1).

Nuurali, Siman. *Sadiq* (PB).

Platt, Christine. *Ana & Andrew* (R2).

Price, Dorothy H. *Jalen's Big City Life* (R2).

Ransom, Candice F. *Grandparents Day!* (R1).

Smith, Elliott. *Bo at the Buzz* (R2).

Smith, Nikki Shannon. *Azaleah Lane* (EC).

Watson, Renée. *Ways to Make Sunshine* (EC).

Winston, Sherri. *Wednesday and Woof* (PB).

Graphic Novels

Alexander, Kwame. *Booked*.

Bagley, Jessixa. *Duel*.

Baptiste, Tracey. *Rosa Parks & Claudette Colvin: Civil Rights Heroes* (GN 323.092 BAP).

Brown, Roseanne A. *Into the Heartlands*.

Christmas, Johnnie. *Swim Team*.

Clarke, Daniel. *Kariba*.

Cody, Matthew and Derick Brooks. *Bright Family*.

Craft, Jerry. *New Kid* (series).

Doucet, Rashad. *Pax Samson: The Cookout*.

Fitzpatrick, Insha. *Who Sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott?: Rosa Parks* (GN 323.092 FIT).

Grant, Shauna J. *Mimi and The Cutie Catastrophe*.

Grimes, Nikki. *Garvey's Choice*.

Johnson, Varian. *Twins*.

Miller, Sharee. *Curlfriends: New in Town*.

Nicholas, Jamar. *Leon the Extraordinary* (series).

Nisson, Sam and Darnell Johnson. *Power Up* (series).

Reynolds, Jason. *Stuntboy, In the Meantime*.

Reynolds, Justin. *Miles Morales: Shock Waves* (series).

Smith, James Otis. *Black Heroes of the Wild West* (GN 978.02 SMI).

Soria, Gabriel. *Who is the Man in the Air?: Michael Jordan* (GN 796.323 SOR).

Stephens, Olivia. *Artie and the Wolf Moon*.

Taylor, Whit. *Harriet Tubman: Toward Freedom* (GN BIO TUB).

Venditti, Robert and Olivia Stephens. *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* (series).

Walker, David. *The Life of Frederick Douglass* (GN BIO DOU).

Who Was the Greatest?: Muhammad Ali (GN BIO ALI).