

J
OKOG, T

Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun

Tolá Okogwu

When twelve-year-old Onyeka discovers that she has psychokinetic powers, her mother reveals that she is Solari, part of a secret group of Nigerian mutants that trains at the Academy of the Sun.

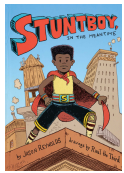


J
REYN, J

Stuntboy, in the Meantime

Jason Reynolds

Portico Reeves's superpower is making sure all the other superheroes—like his parents and two best friends—stay super. And safe. Super safe. And he does this all in secret. No one in his civilian life knows he's actually...Stuntboy!



J
WATS, R

Some Places More than Others

Reneé Watson

All Amara wants is to visit her father's family in Harlem. Her wish comes true when her dad decides to bring her along on a business trip. She can't wait to finally meet her extended family and stay in the brownstone where her dad grew up. Plus, she wants to visit every landmark from the Apollo to Langston Hughes's home.



JB
JEMI, M

Mae Among the Stars

Roda Ahmed

When Little Mae was a child, she dreamed of dancing in space. She imagined herself surrounded by billions of stars. She wanted to be an astronaut. Her mom told her, "If you believe it, and work hard for it, anything is possible."



MORE "OWN VOICES"

BOOKS:

Becoming Vanessa | P Brantley-Newton

Zuri Ray Tries Ballet | P Charles

Ruby's Reunion Day Dinner | P Dalton

Maya and the Robot | YF Ewing

Sugar Plum Ballerinas | YF Goldberg

Just Right Jillian | J Collier

Playing the Cards You're Dealt

| J Johnson

A Good Kind of Trouble | J Ramée

Root Magic | J Royce

Clean Getaway | J Stone

Class Act | J GN Craft

Swim Team | J GN Christmas

The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker

Learned to Read | OS JB WALK, M

Recommended Reads African American "Own Voices" Books



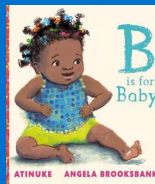
Aurora
Public
Library
District

"Own Voices" is a phrase used to indicate that the author shares the same marginalized/under-represented identity as the book's character(s).

**BB / P
ATIN**

B is for Baby
Atinuke

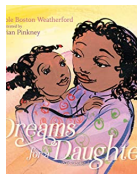
One morning after breakfast, Baby's big brother is getting ready to take the basket of bananas all the way to Baba's bungalow in the next village. He'll have to go along the bumpy road, past the baobab trees, birds, and butterflies, and all the way over the bridge.



**P
WEAT, C**

Dreams for a Daughter
Carole Boston Weatherford

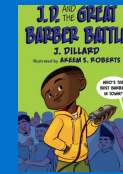
This love letter from mother to daughter inspires young girls to follow their dreams, no matter what challenges life may bring. Young readers will be reminded that love and support from home will follow them as they venture out into the world.



**YF
DILL, J**

J.D. and the Great Barber Battle
J. Dillard

J.D. has a big problem—it's the night before the start of third grade and his mom has just given him his first and worst home haircut. When the steady stream of insults from the entire student body of Douglass Elementary becomes too much for J.D., he takes matters into his own hands and discovers that, unlike his mom, he's a genius with the clippers.



**P
ESPE, C**

Boogie Boogie, Y'all
C. G. Esperanza

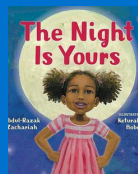
The city is alive with vibrant art in every corner of the parks, the shops, the trains. But most people are too busy to see it—or worse, choose to ignore it!



**P
ZACH, A**

The Night Is Yours
Abdul-Razak Zachariah

This lyrical text, narrated to a young girl named Amani by her father, follows her as she plays an evening game of hide-and-seek with friends at her apartment complex. The moon's glow helps Amani find the last hidden child, and seems almost like a partner to her in her game, as well as a spotlight pointing out her beauty and strength.



**J
CLIN, L**

Being Clem
Lesa Cline-Ransome

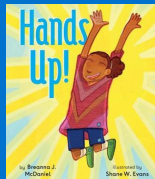
Clem can make anybody, even his grumpy older sisters, smile with his jokes. But when his family receives news that his father has died in the infamous Port Chicago disaster, everything begins to fall apart.



**P
MCDA, B**

Hands Up!
Breanna J. McDaniel

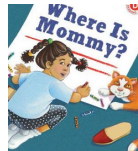
This triumphant picture book recasts a charged phrase as part of a black girl's everyday life—hands up for a hug, hands up in class, hands up for a high five—before culminating in a moment of resistance at a protest march.



**E
CUMM, P**

Where is Mommy?
Pat Cummings

A girl, her mother, and their cat are snuggled up on a couch and reading a book. The girl falls asleep, and when she wakes up, Mommy is gone. Where could she be?



**J
ELLE, J**

A Taste of Magic
J. Elle

Twelve-year-old Kyana has just discovered she's a witch! This means classes every Saturday at Park Row Magic Academy, a learning center hidden in the back of the local beauty shop, and Kyana can't wait to learn spells to help out at home.



**P
PINK, J**

Time for Kenny
Brian Pinkney

Time for Kenny to get up and enjoy the day with his family! In four simple stories, Brian Pinkney guides readers through a young child's day.



**E
LYON, K**

Winter Wonderland
Kelly Starling Lyons

Ty's big imagination takes him and Momma on a trip to the North Pole. Everything is wonderful! A Christmas tree sparkles, a snowman waves, and a polar bear sings. Will Ty's wish to see Santa come true?



**J
MALD, T**

What Lane?
Torrey Maldonado

Anything his friends can do, Stephen should be able to do too, right? So when they dare each other to sneak into an abandoned building, he doesn't think it's his lane, but he goes. Here's the thing, though: Can he do everything his friends can?

