



# Recommended Reading for Teens from your Milwaukee Public Library

# FICTION



## Promise Boys by Nick Brooks.

After a murder at a boys' prep school, three students band together to try and clear their names from false allegations and find the real killer.

Reggie and Delilah's Year of Falling by Elise Bryant.

When they first meet on New Year's Eve, Reggie and Delilah keep connecting on other holidays and wonder if this could be fate or just a coincidence.



**Come Home Safe: A Novel** by Brian Buckmire. When two siblings are accused of a crime they had nothing to do with, their outlook on life is forever changed.

## Charisma's Turn: A Graphic Novel by Monique

Couvson; illustrated by Amanda Jones. Struggling with demands at home and school, Charisma makes a connection with a school

counselor who helps her navigate all her pressures.



This Town is On Fire by Pamela N. Harris. A fast-paced contemporary novel where rumors are flying, protests are happening, and Naomi's long-time friendship is put to the test.

### True True by Don P. Hooper.

After transferring his senior year to a prestigious prep school, Gil must defend himself when wrongly accused for something he did not do.



CHARISMA'S



Forever is Now by Mariama J. Lockington. After witnessing something that rocks her world, Sadie feels crippled by her anxiety but finds hope in those closest to her.

The Davenports by Krystal Marquis. Based on true events, ride along with four young Black women and their pursuit of love, suitors, and career aspirations in 1910 Chicago.





Whiteout by Dhonielle Clayton, Tiffany D. Jackson, Nic Stone, Angie Thomas, Ashley Woodfolk, & Nicola Yoon. As Atlanta comes to a halt because of a winter storm, twelve teens create an elaborate plan to save their friend's relationship.

## Nigeria Jones by Ibi Zoboi.

Growing up the daughter of a Black Nationalist, Nigeria has dreams of her own. However, they may not be what her father expects of her.



# NON-FICTION



**Black and Resilient** by M.J. Fièvre. Created to be spread over 52 weeks, this nonfiction title inspires readers to look inward and learn anti-racist activities for black joy and empowerment.

### **Out of Our League: 16 Stories of Girls in Sports.** Learn about the amazing journeys of a diverse group of teens who show their hard work striving to learn and play different sports.





Dark Testament: Poems by Crystal Simone Smith. Using George Saunders's "Lincoln in the Bardo" novel, Smith creates blackout poems

focusing mostly on Black Americans who have endured police brutality and white supremacy.

# A Mighty Long Way by Carlotta Walls LaNier with Lisa Frazier Page.

In this young readers' edition, Carlotta Walls tells her journey to justice as the youngest Black student to attend Little Rock Central High School in 1957.





American Wings: Chicago's Pioneering Black Aviators and the Race for Equality in the Sky by Sherri L. Smith and Elizabeth Wein. Learn about Johnny Robinson and Janet Harmon Bragg, two of the numerous Black aviators who fought for equality in the field of aviation.

Children's Books on Reverse





# Recommended Reading for Children from your Milwaukee Public Library

# FICTION



All Aboard the Schooltrain: A Little Story from the Great Migration by Glenda Armand; illustrated by Keisha Morris. Thelma loves trains, especially hopping on the imaginary train to school each day. When her father loses his job, she boards a real train headed towards the hope of better opportunities.

Indigo and Ida by Heather Murphy Capps. Inspired by journalist Ida B. Wells, Indigo runs for student council president. Black and proud, Indigo discovers that not everyone sees her efforts as positive. Still, she refuses to give up.





When I Wrap My Hair by Shauntay Grant; illustrated by Jenin Mohammed. Experience the meaningful tradition of African headwraps as a young girl gets her hair lovingly wrapped by her caregiver.

**Curlfriends: New in Town** by Sharee Miller; coloring by Luke Healy.

At her new school, Charlie meets an outspoken group of girls, The Curlfriends, who welcome her in and encourage her to be herself.





## I Am My Ancestors' Wildest Dreams by

Tanisia Moore; illustrated by Robert Paul Jr. Vibrant illustrations showcase strong Black men from Muhammad Ali to Chadwick Boseman, who inspire a new generation.

### We Were the Fire: Birmingham 1963 by Shelia P. Moses.

Rufus joins thousands of young people as they protest for equal rights. With a new determination, he realizes that their fight for equality is a fire that cannot be put out.





### All Good in the Hood by

Dwayne Reed; illustrated by Gladys Jose. Celebrate Juneteenth with a Black family as they head to a celebration at their local park. Apprehensive, little brother is encouraged "Don't worry...it's all good in the hood!"

There was a Party for Langston by Jason Reynolds; with art

by Jerome Pumphrey & Jarrett Pumphrey. Poetry threads through past and present around the hearts of children who dream of becoming writers, and into the library for a party celebrating the legacy of wordsmith Langston Hughes.





Me and the Family Tree by Carole Boston Weatherford; illustrated by Ashleigh Corrin. A young Black girl traces her traits and characteristics back to loving family members, as she imagines her beautiful family tree.

#### Standing in the Need of Prayer: A Modern Retelling of the Classic Spiritual by Carole Boston Weatherford; illustrated by

Frank Morrison.

The historical spiritual "Standing in the Need of Prayer" is combined with striking illustrations to depict Black perseverance, from the slave trade through modern-day protests.





When Winter Robeson Came by Brenda Woods. Winter is excited to visit his cousin in LA, where he plans to look for his missing father. However, his plans go awry as the Watts neighborhood boils over with racial tensions.

# **NON-FICTION**



Speak Up, Speak Out!: The Extraordinary Life of "Fighting Shirley Chisholm" by Tonya Bolden. Explore the groundbreaking life of Shirley Chisholm, a teacher, activist, politician, and change-maker.

### Fighting With Love: The Legacy of John Lewis

by Lesa Cline-Ransome; illustrated by James E. Ransome.

Learn about the life of the extraordinary civil rights leader John Lewis, from his childhood in segregated Troy, AL. to his famous protest in Selma, AL.





Choosing Brave: How Mamie Till-Mobley and Emmett Till Sparked the Civil Rights Movement by Angela Joy; illustrated by Janelle Washington.

Be inspired by Mamie Till-Mobley, who used her grief as a catalyst to fight for justice after the racially

motived murder of her young son, Emmett Till, in Mississippi.

# Justice Rising: 12 Amazing Black Women in the Civil Rights Movement by

Katheryn Russell-Brown; illustrated by Kim Holt. Discover 12 brave Black women who were on the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement, in this eye-catching illustrated biography collection.



Teen Books on Reverse