

Picture Books Centering Diverse Asian and Asian American Characters



Picture Books Centering Diverse Asian and Asian American Characters

Are you looking for “mirror” books that reflect your Asian American children’s own experiences and identities? Or are you looking for “window” books that can show children other identities, experiences, and cultures that are different from their own?

EmbraceRace has got you covered!

Check out this list of picture books celebrating a wide diversity of Asian and Asian American characters, cultures, and experiences.

Please know that this a long, but not comprehensive list: there may be great books out there that we haven’t included here (yet!). It’s also an evolving list. We will add more books over time, and may also remove books if it comes to our attention that a particular book is not one we would endorse. Please send us any feedback you have about books you’d like to see added or removed at hugs@embracerace.org. And check our website for the most up-to-date version of this list.

EmbraceRace is grateful to Dr. Anna Kimura, Amaesha Durazi, Dr. Abby Saavedra, and the research team of the Asian American Families Study Collaborative for their partnership in creating this book list and other resources for caregivers to Asian American children.

Table of Contents

Featured Topics

- Adoption..... 4
- Afghan Identity..... 5
- Bangladeshi Identity..... 6
- Chinese Identity..... 7
- Filipino Identity..... 9
- Hmong Identity..... 10
- Immigration Stories..... 11
- Indian Identity..... 13
- Japanese Identity..... 15
- Japanese Internment..... 16
- Korean Identity..... 17
- Multiracial Identity..... 19
- Names..... 20
- Pakistani Identity..... 22
- Racism and Bullying..... 23
- Vietnamese Identity..... 24

More to Explore

- A to Z Listing..... 26

Featured Topic: **Adoption**

Kids Like Me in China

Author: Ying Ying Fry | Photographer: Terry Fry

In this first view of China adoption from a child's perspective, eight-year-old Ying Ying Fry returns to her orphanage to remember what it is like and to write a story so that other adopted children will understand where they came from. *Kids Like Me in China* combines real-life photos with the forthright observations and complex feelings of an adopted child as she meets caregivers and befriends children in the city where her life began. This book will inspire all adopted children to take charge of their own life stories.

Yeong & Yeong Book Company

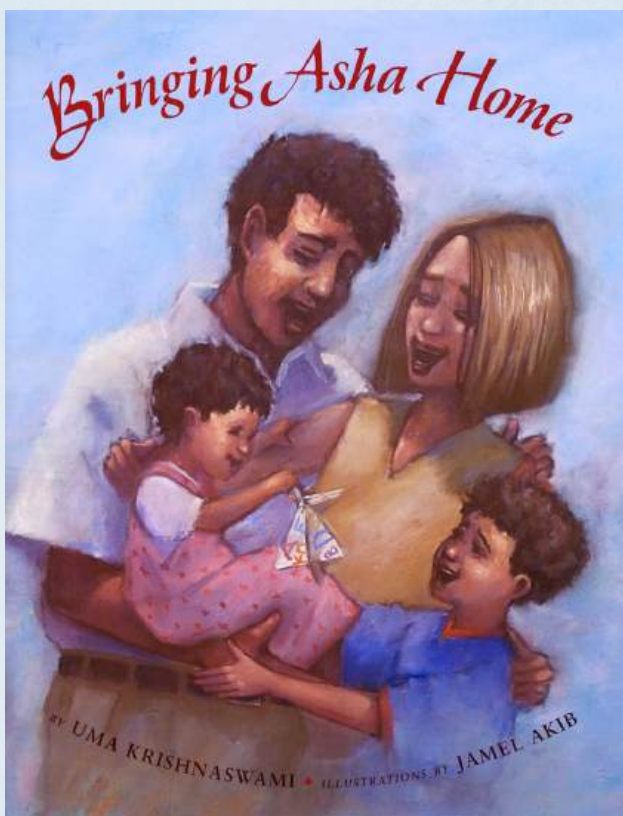


Bringing Asha Home

Author: Uma Krishnaswami | Illustrator: Jamel Akib

It's Rakhi, the Hindu holiday special to brothers and sisters, and Arun wishes he had a sister with whom to celebrate. Soon it looks as if his wish will come true. His parents are going to adopt a baby girl named Asha. She is coming all the way from India, where Arun's dad was born. The family prepares for Asha's arrival, not knowing it will be almost a year until they receive governmental approval to bring Asha home. Arun is impatient and struggles to accept the long delay, but as time passes he finds his own special ways to build a bond with his sister, who is still halfway around the world.

Lee & Low Books



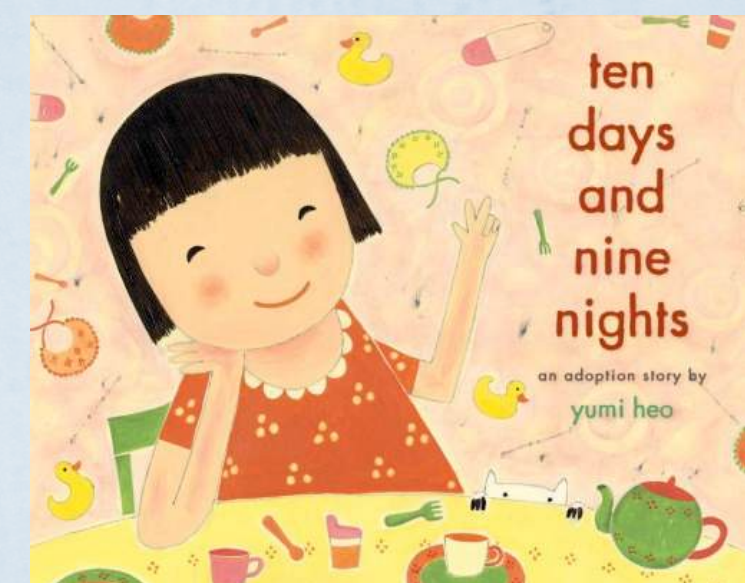
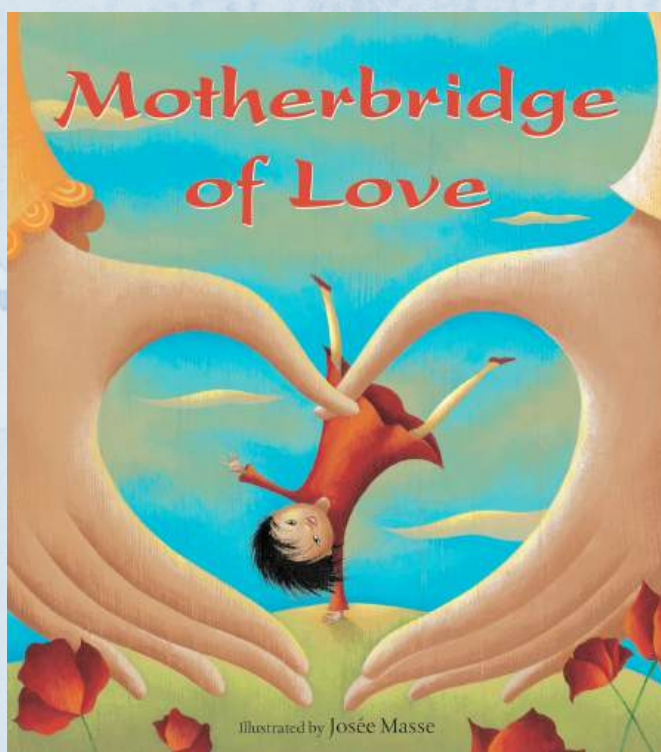
Motherbridge of Love

Author: Xinran

Illustrator: Josée Masse

This beautiful poem celebrates the bond between parent and adopted child in a special way. Through the exchanges between a little girl born in China and her adoptive parent, this title offers a poignant and inspiring message to adoptive parents and children all over the world.

Barefoot Books



Ten Days and Nine Nights

Author: Yumi Heo

A girl waits ten days and nine nights for her mom to return from a trip with an adopted baby sister.

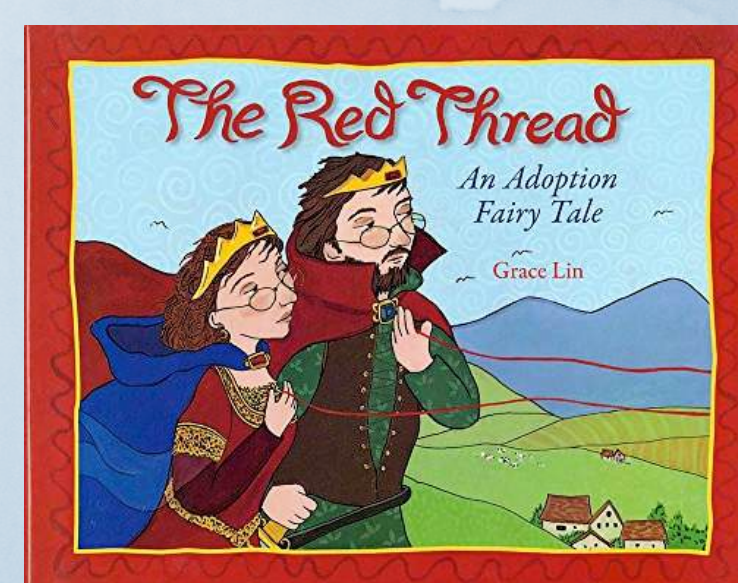
National Geographic School Pub

The Red Thread: An Adoption Fairy Tale

Author & Illustrator: Grace Lin

A king and queen should be full of joy and contentment, but they both feel a strange pain that worsens every day. Then a peddler's magic spectacles reveal a red thread pulling at each of their hearts. The king and queen know they must follow the thread.

Albert Whitman & Company



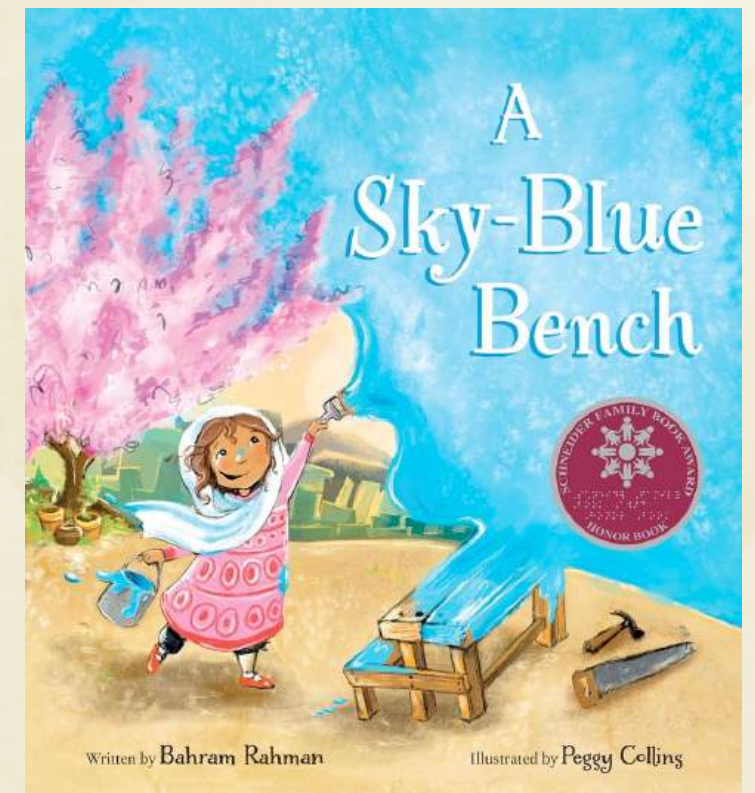
Featured Topic: **Afghan Identity**

A Sky-Blue Bench

Author: Bahram Rahman | Illustrator: Peggy Collins

It's Afghan schoolgirl Aria's first day back at school since her accident. She's excited, but she's also worried about sitting on the hard floor all day with her new prosthetic "helper-leg." Just as Aria feared, sitting on the floor is so uncomfortable that she can't think about learning at all. She knows that before the war changed many things in Afghanistan, schools like hers had benches for students to sit at. If she had a bench, her leg would not hurt so much. The answer is obvious: she will gather materials, talk to Kaka Najar, the carpenter in the old city, and learn to build a bench for herself.

Pajama Press



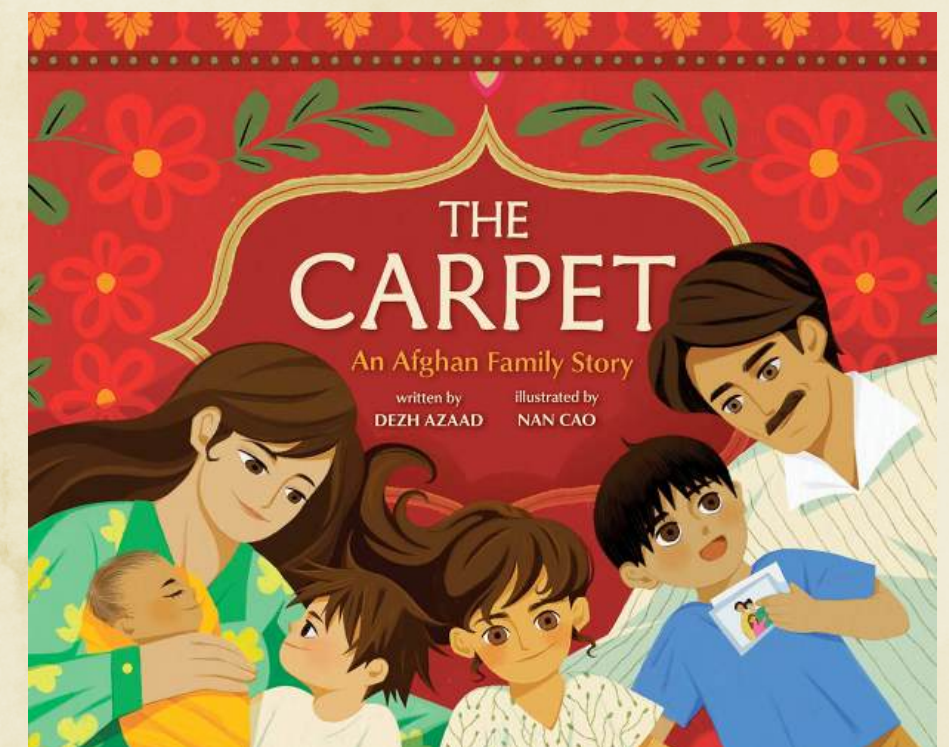
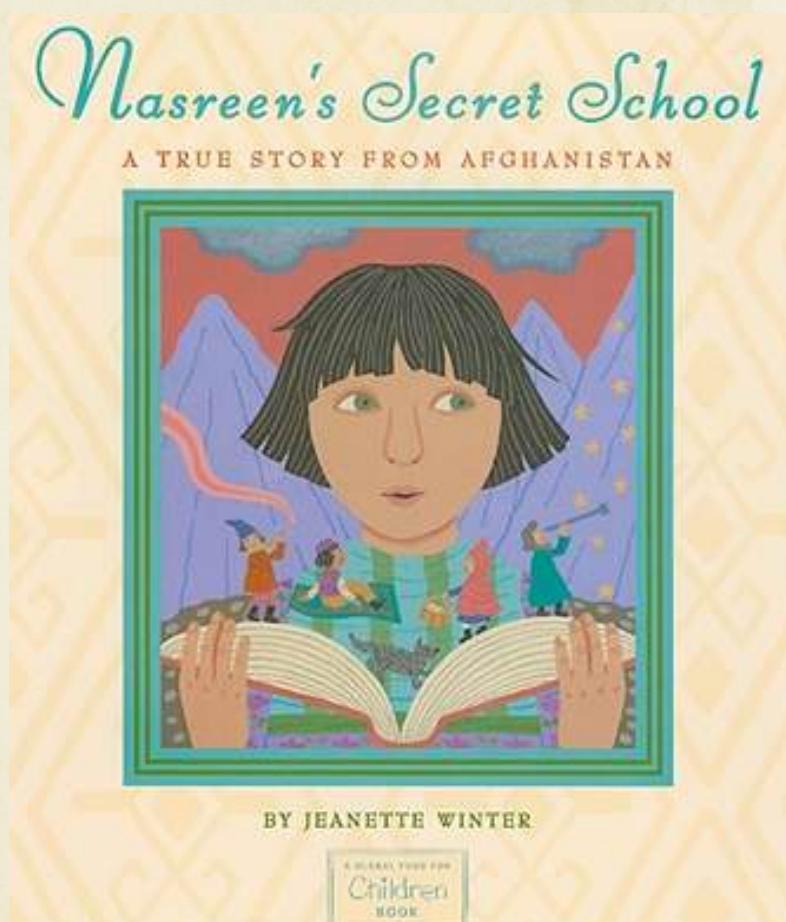
Nasreen's Secret School

Author & Illustrator:
Jeanette Winter

Young Nasreen has not spoken a word to anyone since her parents disappeared. In despair, her grandmother risks everything to enroll Nasreen in a secret school for girls. Will a devoted teacher, a new friend, and the worlds she discovers in

books be enough to draw Nasreen out of her shell of sadness? Based on a true story from Afghanistan, this inspiring book will touch readers deeply as it affirms both the life-changing power of education and the healing power of love.

Beach Lane Books



The Carpet

Author: Dezh Azaad
Illustrator: Nan Cao

The Carpet follows a day in the life of an Afghan refugee child, where every moment revolves around love, family, and the carpet that connects them to home. The carpet is the centerpiece of family life, where meals, stories, laughs, and memories are shared. This moving story, inspired by the author's life, celebrates what makes a home—no matter where you are.

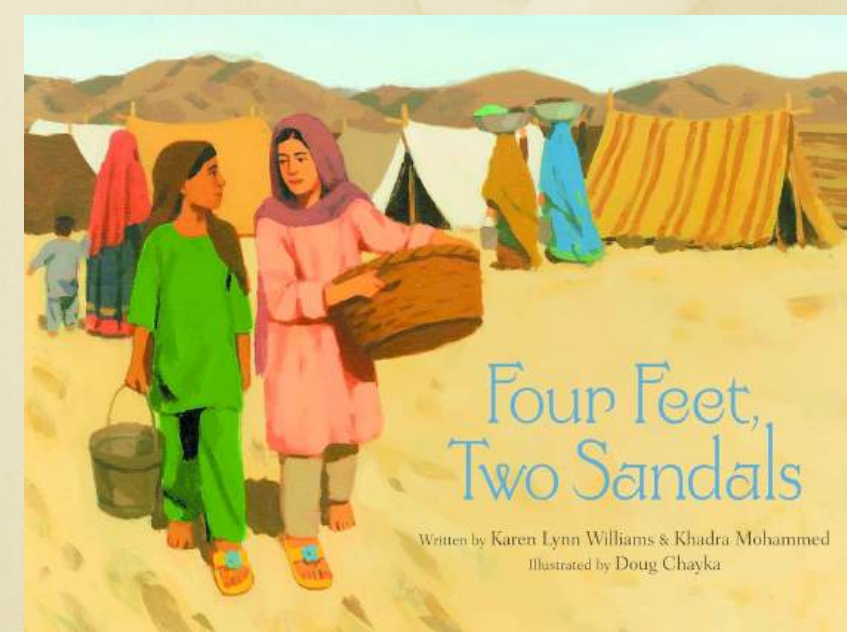
Harry N. Abrams

Four Feet, Two Sandals

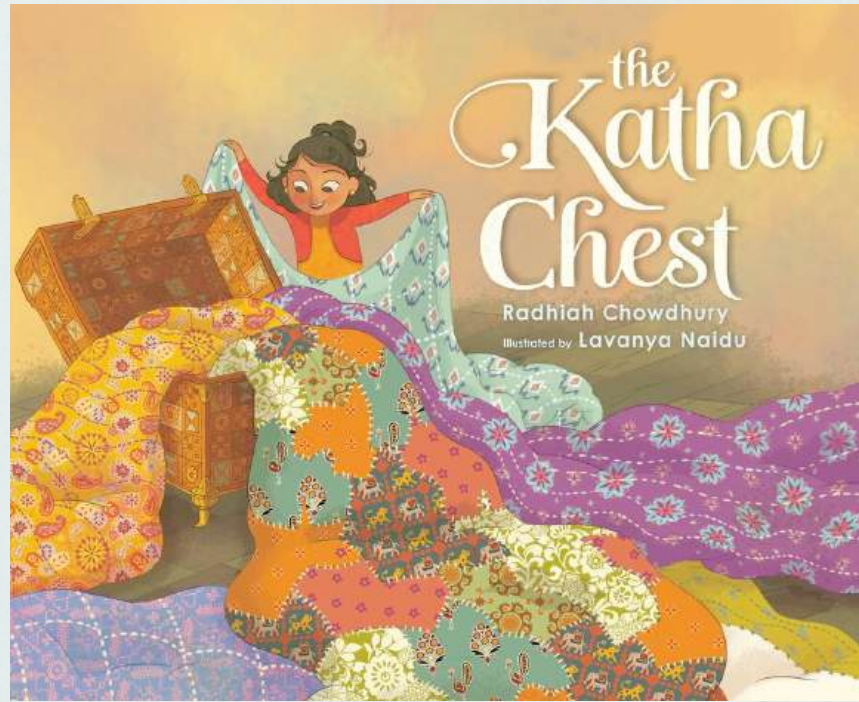
Authors: Karen Lynn Williams & Khadra Mohammed
Illustrator: Doug Chayka

When relief workers bring used clothing to the refugee camp, everyone scrambles to grab whatever they can. Ten-year-old Lina is thrilled when she finds a sandal that fits her foot perfectly, until she sees that another girl has the matching shoe. But soon Lina and Feroza meet and decide that it is better to share the sandals than for each to wear only one. As the girls go about their routines — washing clothes in the river, waiting in long lines for water, and watching for their names to appear on the list to go to America — the sandals remind them that friendship is what is most important.

Eerdmans



Featured Topic: **Bangladeshi Identity**



The Katha Chest

Author: Radhiah Chowdhury | Illustrator: Lavanya Naidu

Asiya loves to visit Nanu's house where she can rummage through Nanu's katha chest filled with quilts. There are stories in each of the quilts that her Nanu has collected through the years, all about the bold and brave women in Asiya's family. Among all of the games and exciting things at Nanu's house, Asiya thinks these hidden histories are the grandest treasure.

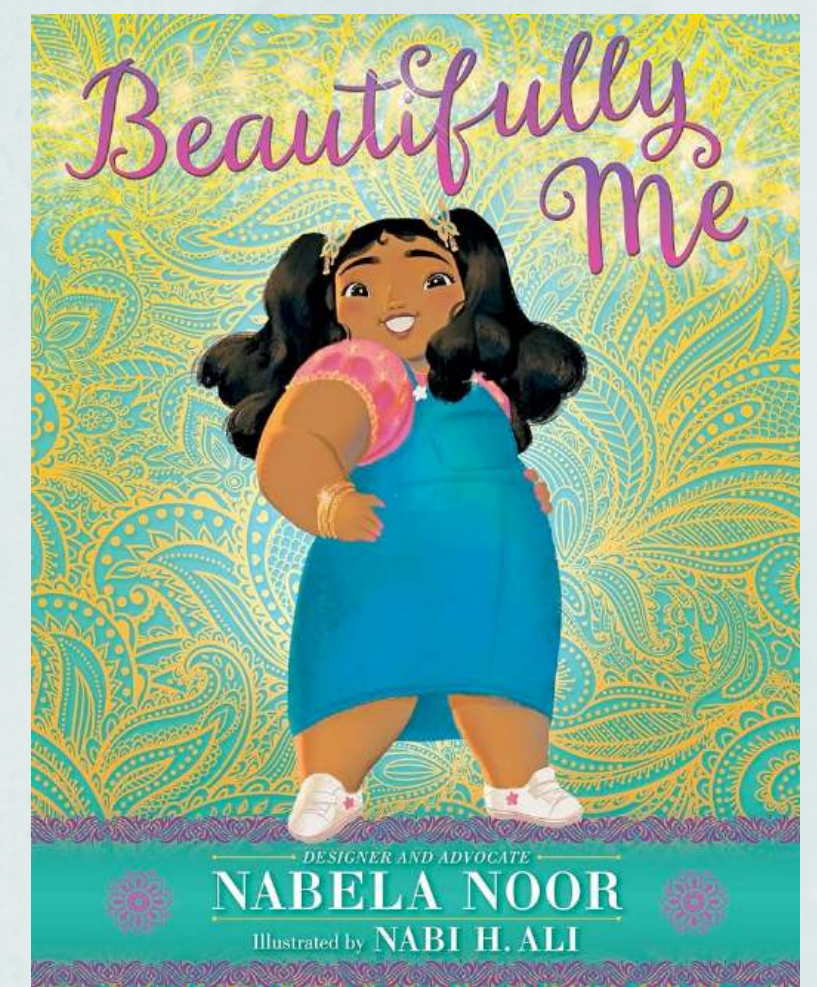
Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster

Beautifully Me

Author: Nabela Noor | Illustrator: Nabi H. Ali

Meet Zubi: a joyful Bangladeshi girl excited about her first day of school. But when Zubi sees her mother frowning in the mirror and talking about being "too big," she starts to worry about her own body and how she looks. As her day goes on, she hears more and more people being critical of each other's and their own bodies, until her outburst over dinner leads her family to see what they've been doing wrong--and to help Zubi see that we can all make the world a more beautiful place by being beautifully ourselves.

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

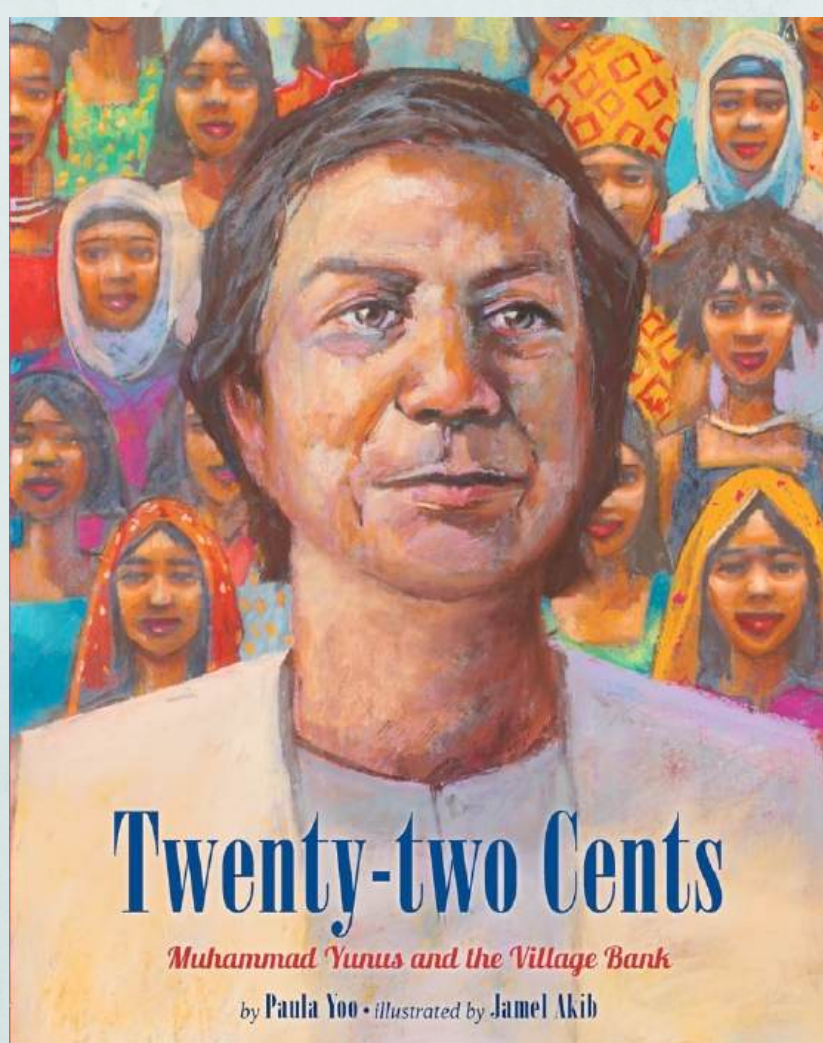


Twenty-two Cents: Muhammad Yunus and the Village Bank

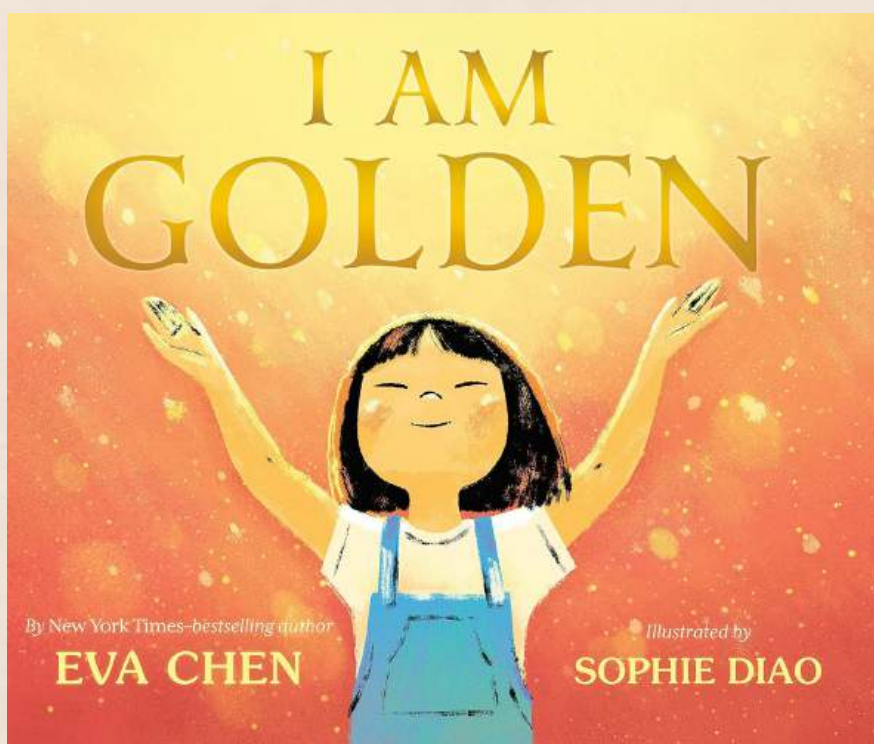
Author: Paula Yoo | Illustrator: Jamel Akib

Growing up in Bangladesh, Muhammad Yunus witnessed extreme poverty all around and was determined to eradicate it. Twenty-two Cents is an inspiring story of economic innovation and a celebration of how one person—like one small loan—can make a positive difference in the lives of many.

Lee & Low Books



Featured Topic: Chinese Identity



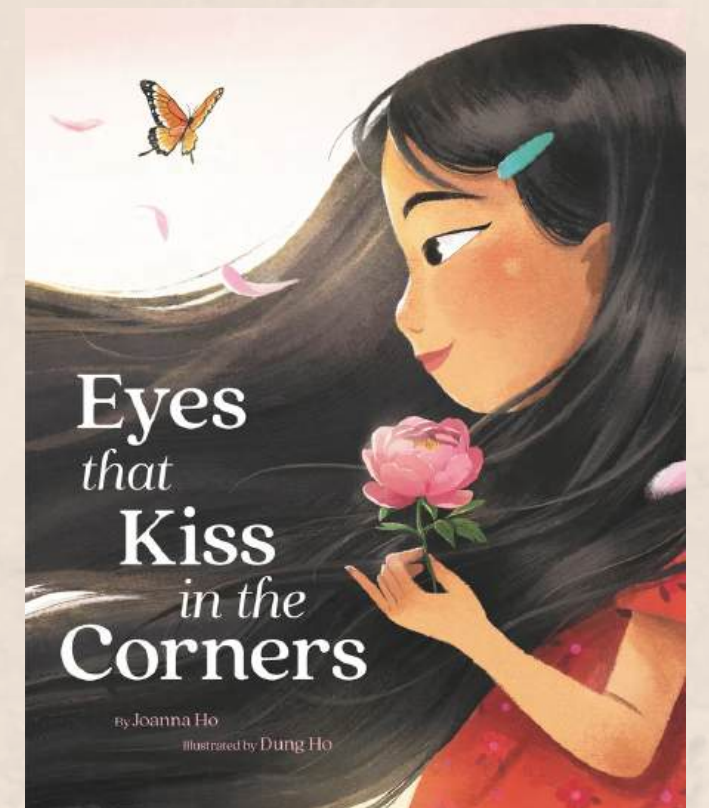
I Am Golden

Author: Eva Chen

Illustrator: Sophie Diao

This joyful and lyrical picture book is a moving ode to the immigrant experience, as well as a manifesto of self-love for Chinese American children.

Fiewel & Friends



Eyes that Kiss in the Corners

Author: Joanna Ho

Illustrator: Dung Ho

A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers'. They have big, round eyes and long lashes. She realizes that her eyes are like her mother's, her grandmother's, and her little sister's. They have eyes that kiss in the corners and glow like warm tea, crinkle into crescent moons, and are filled with stories of the past and hope for the future.

HarperCollins

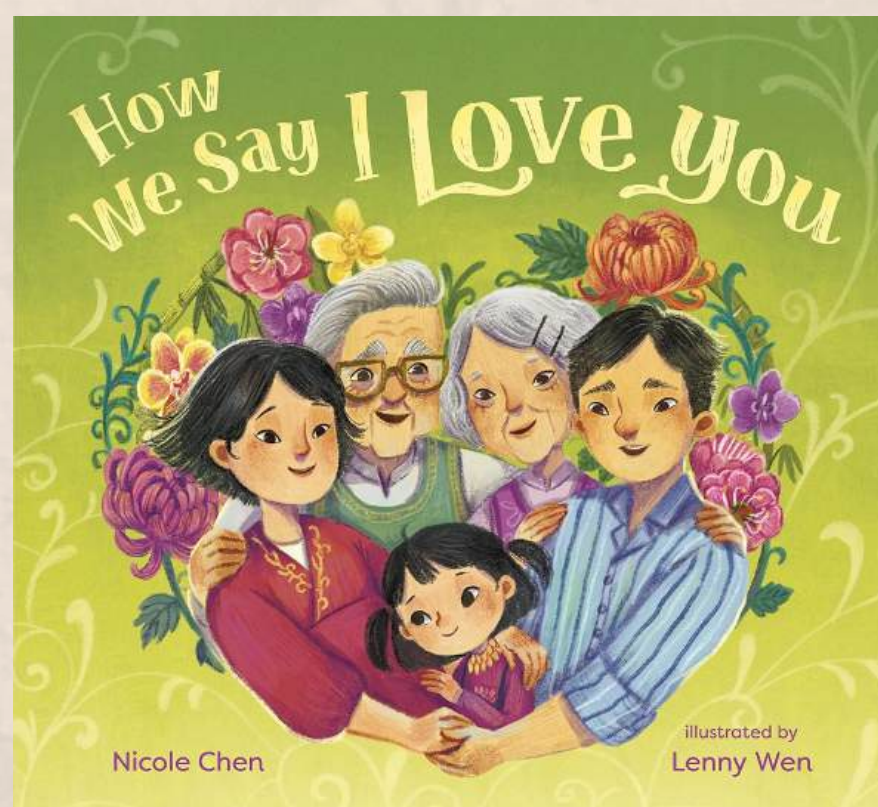
How We Say I Love You

Author: Nicole Chen

Illustrator: Lenny Wen

In this heartwarming picture book, an Asian American girl shares how her family expresses their love for one another through actions rather than words.

Knopf Books for Young Readers



Watercress

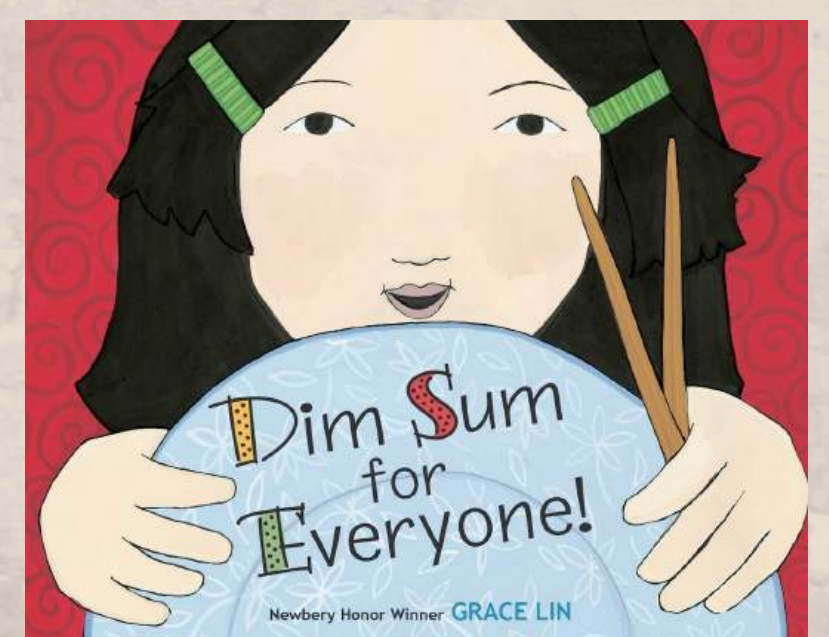
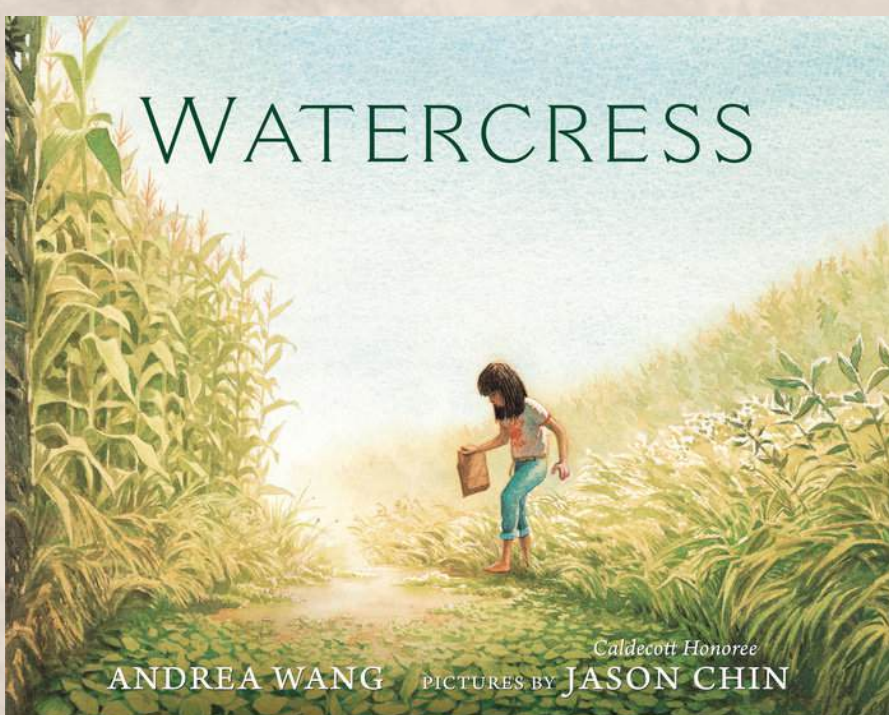
Author: Andrea Wang

Illustrator: Jason Chin

Driving through Ohio, a young girl's parents stop suddenly when they see wild watercress growing by the side of the road. Grabbing an old paper bag and some rusty scissors, the whole family wades into the muck to collect as much of the muddy, snail covered watercress as they can. At first, she's

embarrassed. Why can't her family get food from the grocery store? But when her mother shares a story of her family's time in China, the girl learns to appreciate the fresh food they foraged. Together, they make a new memory of watercress.

Neal Porter Books



Dim Sum for Everyone!

Author & Illustrator: Grace Lin

A Chinese American family sits down to enjoy a traditional dim sum meal. Dumplings, cakes, buns, and tarts are wheeled out in little dishes on trolleys, and each family member gets to choose a favorite treat!

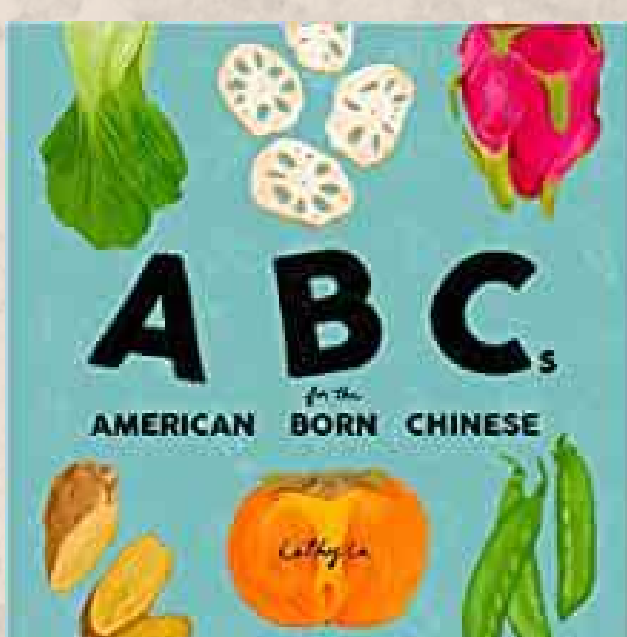
Dragonfly Books

ABC's for the American Born Chinese

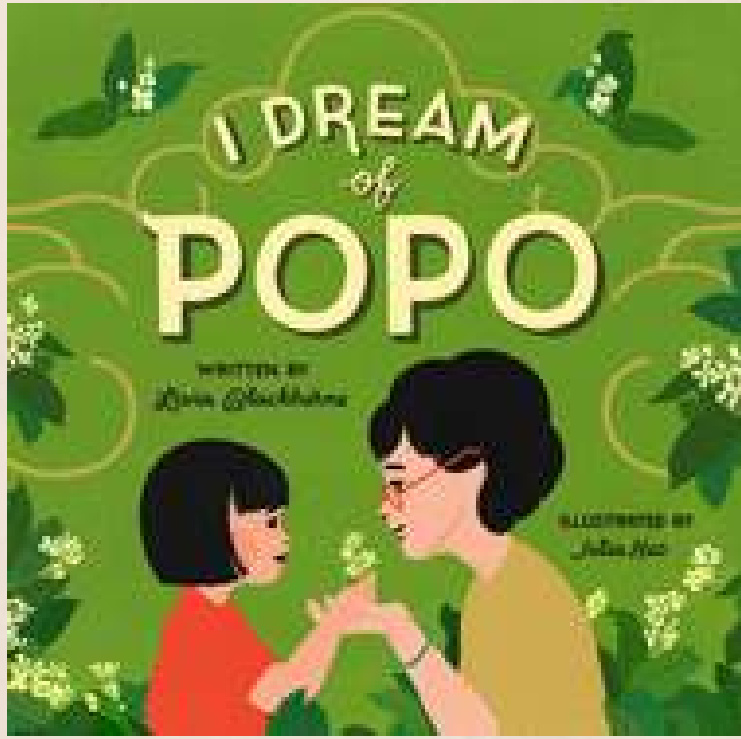
Author & Illustrator: Cathy Lu

Learn the ABCs with Chinese American vegetables, fruits, and other foods. A is for Asian Pear, B is for Bok Choy, C is for Century Egg, D is for Dragonfruit, E is for Eggplant...

Independently published



Featured Topic: Chinese Identity

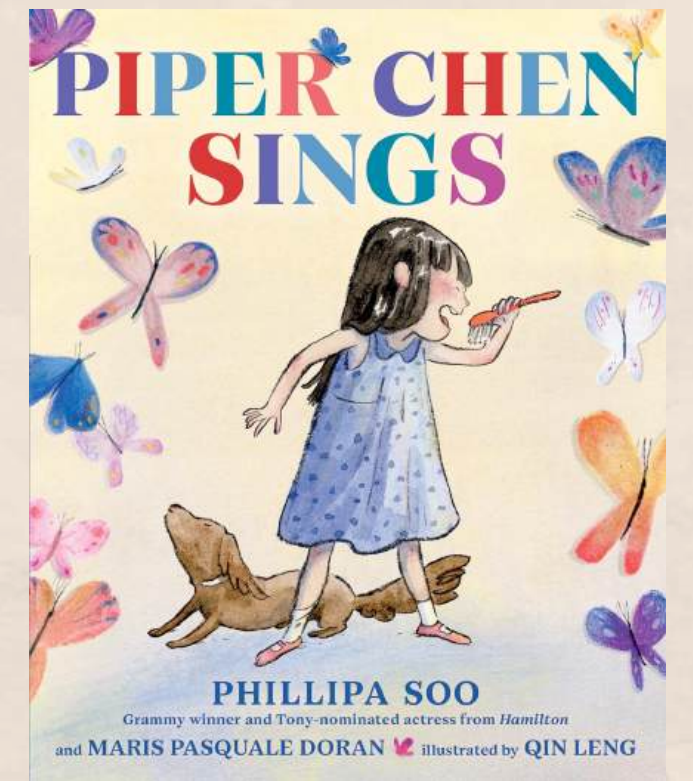


I Dream of Popo

Author: Livia Blackburne | Illustrator: Julia Kuo

When a young girl and her family emigrate from Taiwan to America, she leaves behind her beloved popo, her grandmother. She misses her popo every day, but even if their visits are fleeting, their love is ever true and strong.

Roaring Brook Press



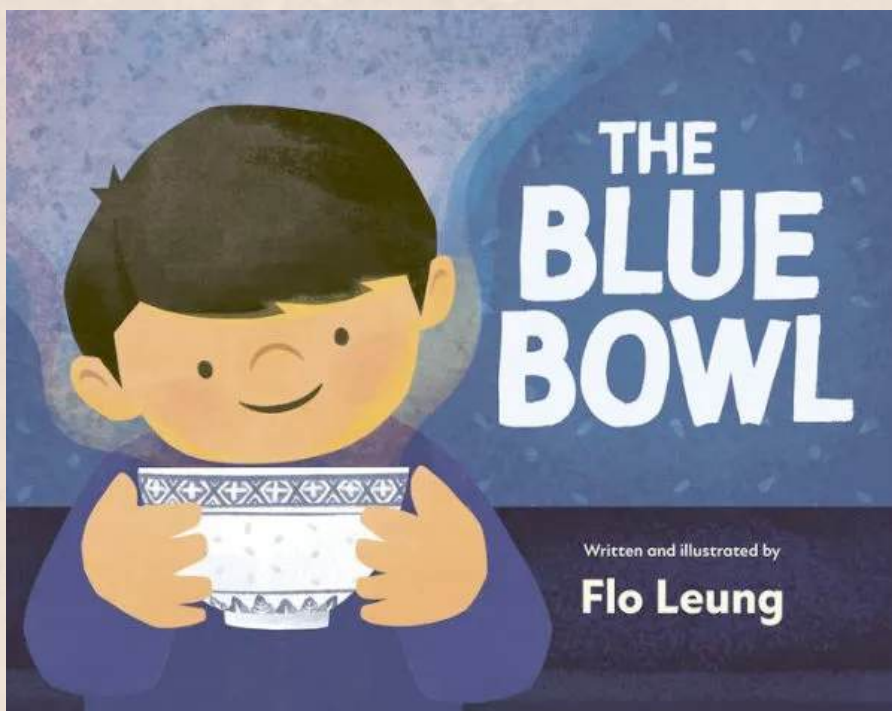
Piper Chen Sings

Authors: Phillipa Soo & Maris Pasquale Doran

Illustrator: Qin Leng

An empowering story about a girl who turns her performance jitters into confidence when faced with singing a solo at her school concert.

Random House Studio

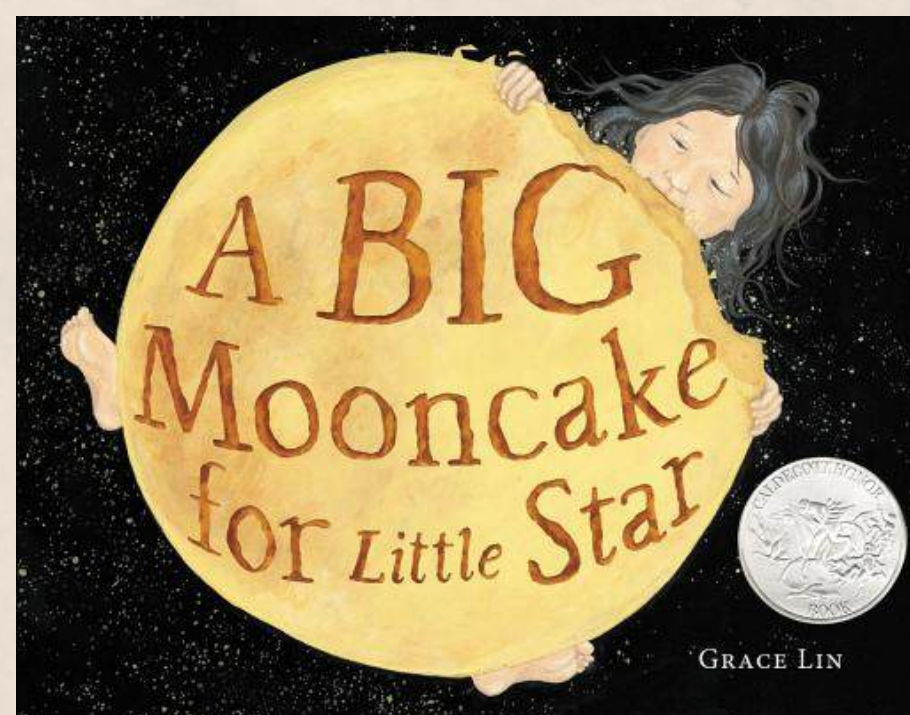


The Blue Bowl

Author & Illustrator: Flo Leung

Max loves his family's Cantonese meals, like steamed rice and gai lan greens with oyster sauce, homemade dumplings, and scallion bread. But sometimes he can't help thinking about French fries, tacos, and ice cream with rainbow sprinkles.

Owlkids

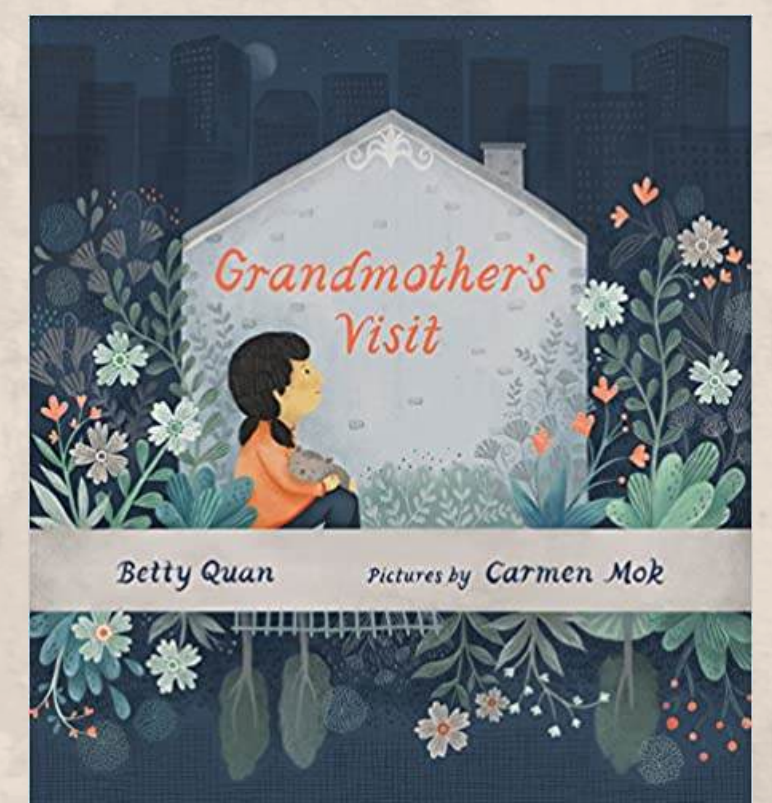


A Big Mooncake for Little Star

Author & Illustrator: Grace Lin

Little Star loves the delicious Mooncake that she bakes with her mama. But she's not supposed to eat any yet. What happens when she can't resist a nibble?

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



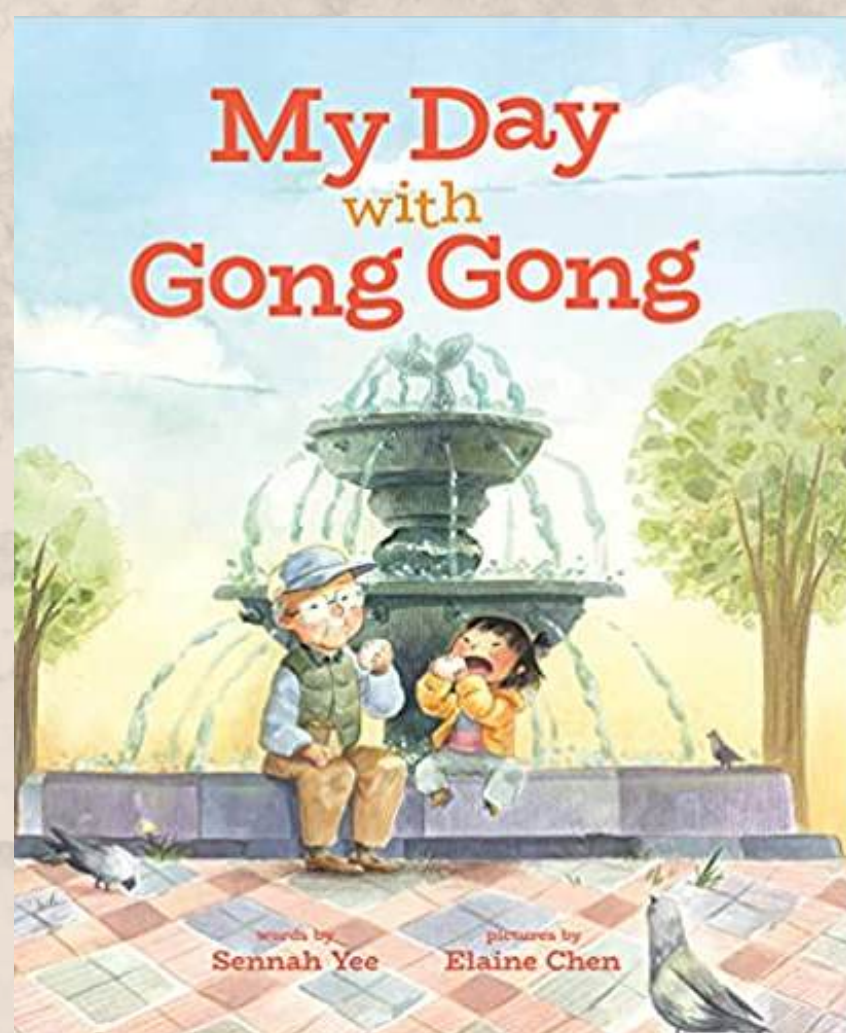
Grandmother's Visit

Author: Betty Quan

Illustrator: Carmen Mok

Grandmother lives with Grace's family. She teaches her how to measure water for rice. She tells her stories about growing up in China and together they savor the flavors of her childhood. But one day, Grandmother's room is empty. And one day, Grandmother is buried. A story about love and loss.

Groundwood Books



My Day with Gong Gong

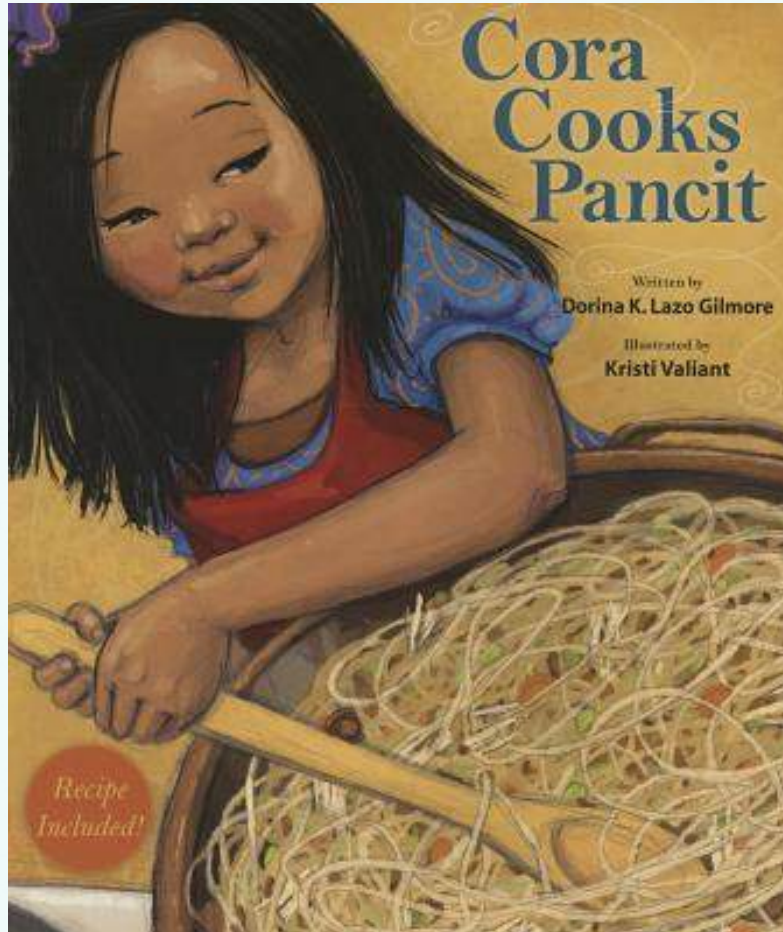
Author: Sennah Yee

Illustrator: Elaine Chen

May isn't having fun on her trip through Chinatown with her grandfather. Gong Gong doesn't speak much English, and May can't understand Chinese. She's hungry, and bored with Gong Gong's errands. Plus, it seems like Gong Gong's friends are making fun of her! But just when May can't take any more, Gong Gong surprises her with a gift that reveals he's been paying more attention than she thought.

Annick Press

Featured Topic: **Filipino Identity**



Cora Cooks Pancit

Author: Dorina Lazo Gilmore

Illustrator: Kristi Valiant

Cora and Mama work together to cook up pancit for the family in this celebration of Filipino heritage and foods.

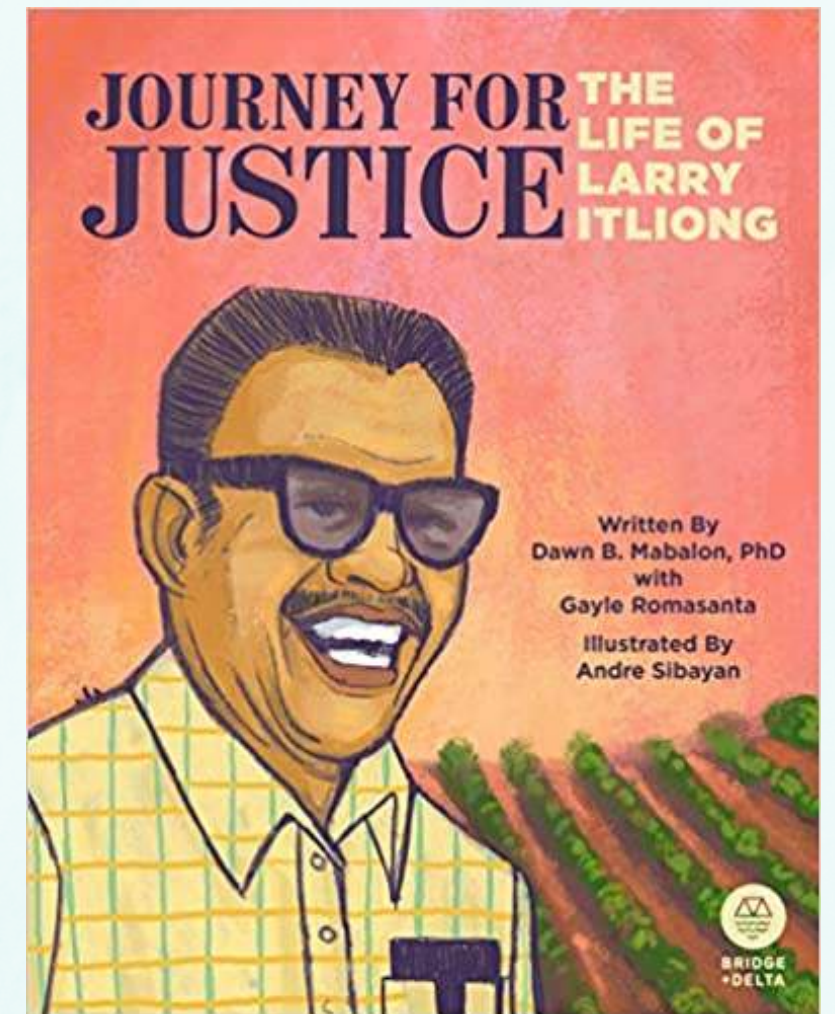
Lee & Low Books

Journey for Justice: The Life of Larry Itliong

Authors: Dawn Bohulano
Mabalon & Gayle Romasanta
Illustrator: Andre Sibayan

The story of labor leader and co-founder of the United Farm Workers Larry Itliong's lifelong fight for a farmworkers union, and the birth of one of the most significant American social movements of all time, the farmworker's struggle.

Bridge & Delta Publishing



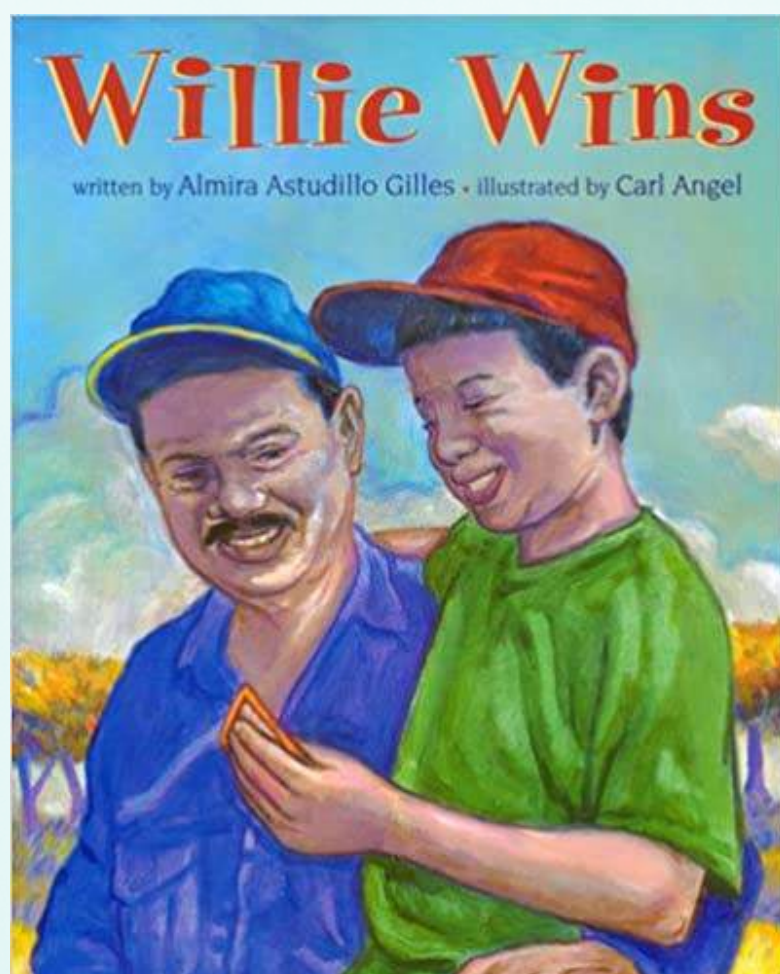
When Lola Visits

Author: Michelle Sterling

Illustrator: Aaron Asis

For one young girl, summer is the season of no school, of days spent at the pool, and of picking golden limes off the trees. But summer doesn't start until her lola—her grandmother from the Philippines—comes for her annual visit.

HarperCollins



Willie Wins

Author: Almira Astudillo Gilles

Illustrator: Carl Angel

When Willie needs a bank for a school contest, his father gives him one called an alkansiya, made from a coconut shell from the Philippines where Willie's Dad grew up. A story of a Filipino American boy who overcome peer pressure and learns about family love and heritage from his father.

Lee & Low Books

Featured Topic: Hmong Identity

The Most Beautiful Thing

Author: Kao Kalia Yang | Illustrator: Khoa Le

Weaving together Kalia's story with that of her beloved grandmother, the book moves from the jungles of Laos to the family's early years in the United States. When Kalia becomes unhappy about having to do without and decides she wants braces to improve her smile, it is her grandmother—a woman who has just one tooth in her mouth—who helps her see that true beauty is found with those we love most.

Carolrhoda Books



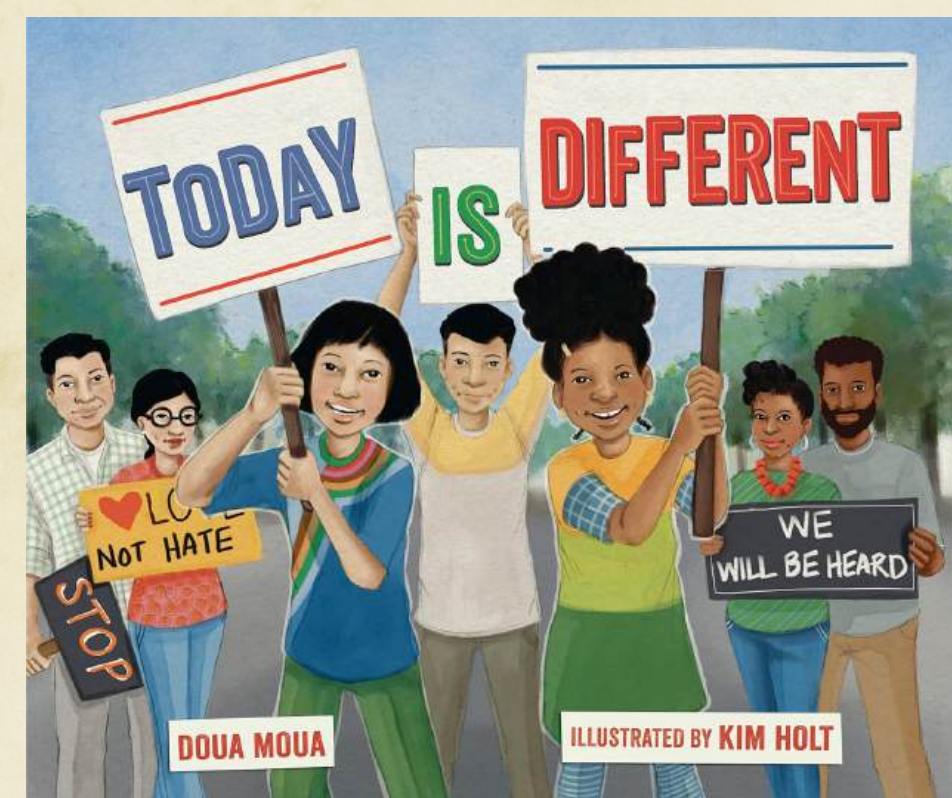
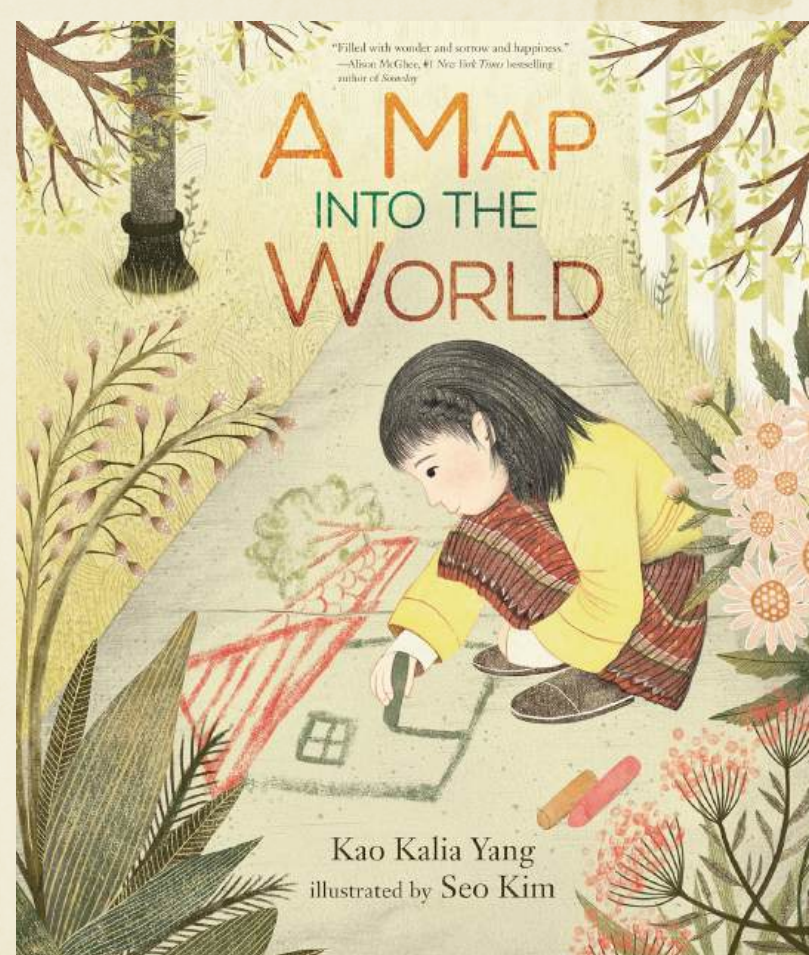
A Map into the World

Author: Kao Kalia Yang

Illustrator: Seo Kim

As the seasons change, so too does a young Hmong girl's world. She moves into a new home with her family and encounters both birth and death. As this curious girl explores life inside her house and beyond, she collects bits of the natural world. But who are her treasures for?

Carolrhoda Books



Today is Different

Author: Doua Moua

Illustrator: Kim Holt

Mai, a young Hmong girl, and Kiara, a young Black girl, are best friends. They do everything together—riding the bus, eating lunch, playing at recess. But one day Kiara misses school and Mai goes looking for answers. When she learns that her best friend is protesting an act of police violence against the Black community, Mai decides to join the protest too. Her parents at first want to protect her by keeping her at home, but she shows them that standing together makes all of us stronger.

Carolrhoda Books

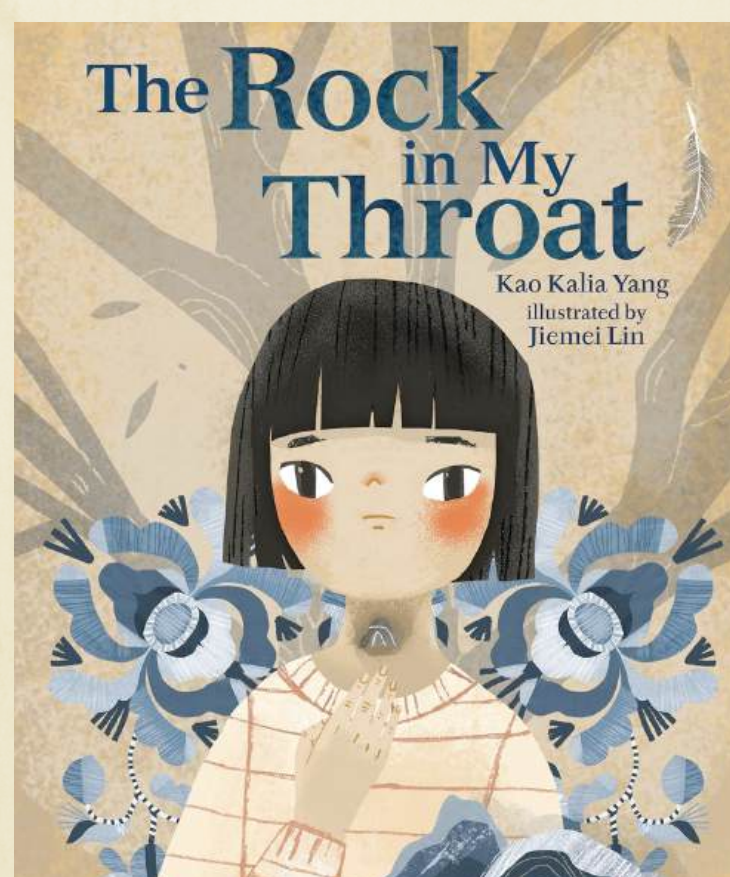
The Rock in My Throat

Author: Kao Kalia Young |

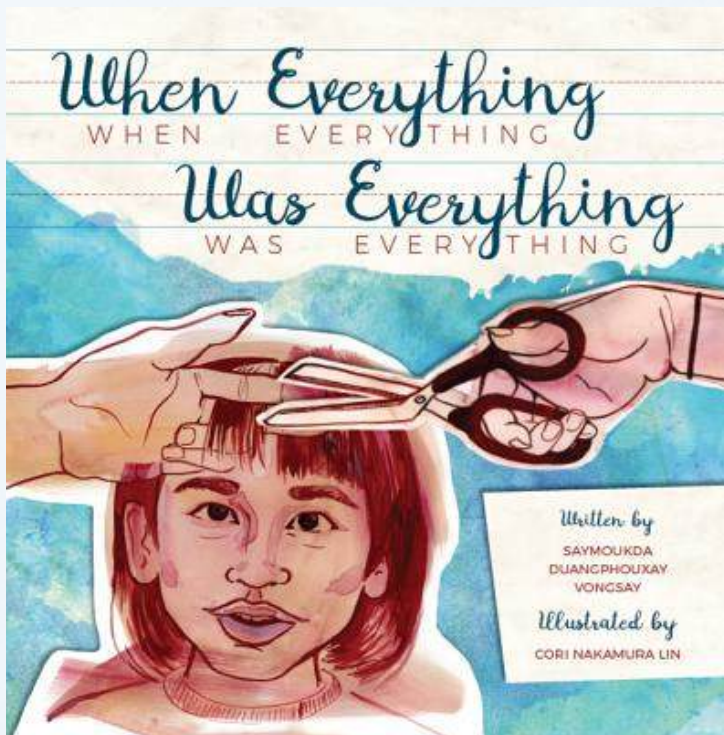
Illustrator: Jiemei Lin

Having seen the poor treatment her parents received when making their best efforts at speaking English, she no longer speaks at school. Kalia feels as though a rock has become lodged in her throat, and it grows heavier each day. Although the narrative is somber, it is also infused with moments of beauty, love, and hope.

Carolrhoda Books



Featured Topic: Immigration Stories



When Everything Was Everything

Author: Saymoukda Duangphouxay Vongsay

Illustrator: Cori Nakamura Lin

In the tumultuous years during and after the Vietnam War, thousands of ethnic Lao fled Southeast Asia to avoid persecution, imprisonment and even death. Many of these refugees eventually settled in the Upper Midwest. As trans-generational Lao American refugee story, this book is a love letter to survivors that is sure to resonate with all readers.

Full Circle Publishing



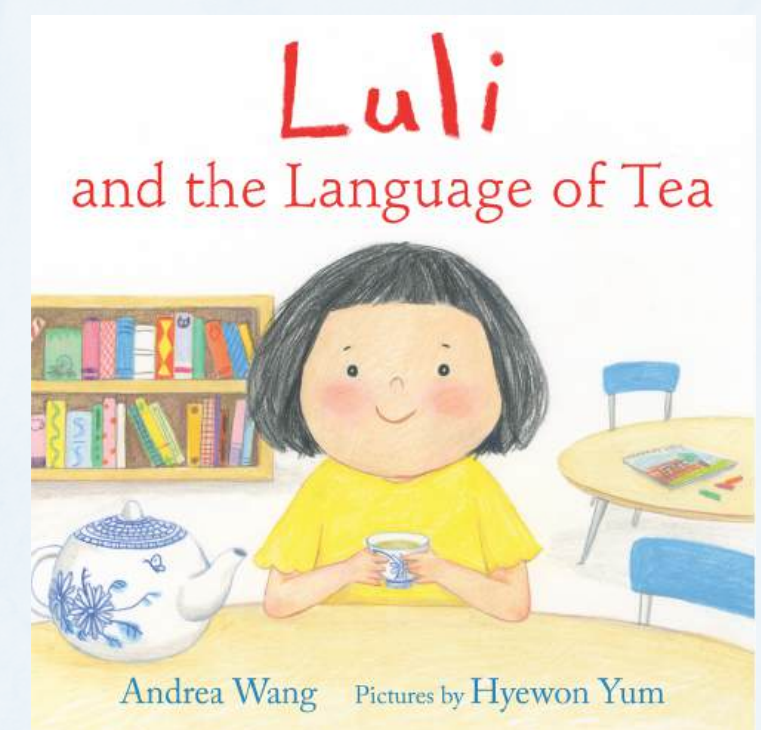
Sugar in Milk

Author: Thrity Umrigar

Illustrator: Khoa Le

A young immigrant girl joins her aunt and uncle in a new country that is unfamiliar to her. She struggles with loneliness, with a fierce longing for the culture and familiarity of home, until one day, her aunt takes her on a walk. As the duo strolls through their city park, the girl's aunt begins to tell her an old myth, and a story within the story begins.

Running Press Kids



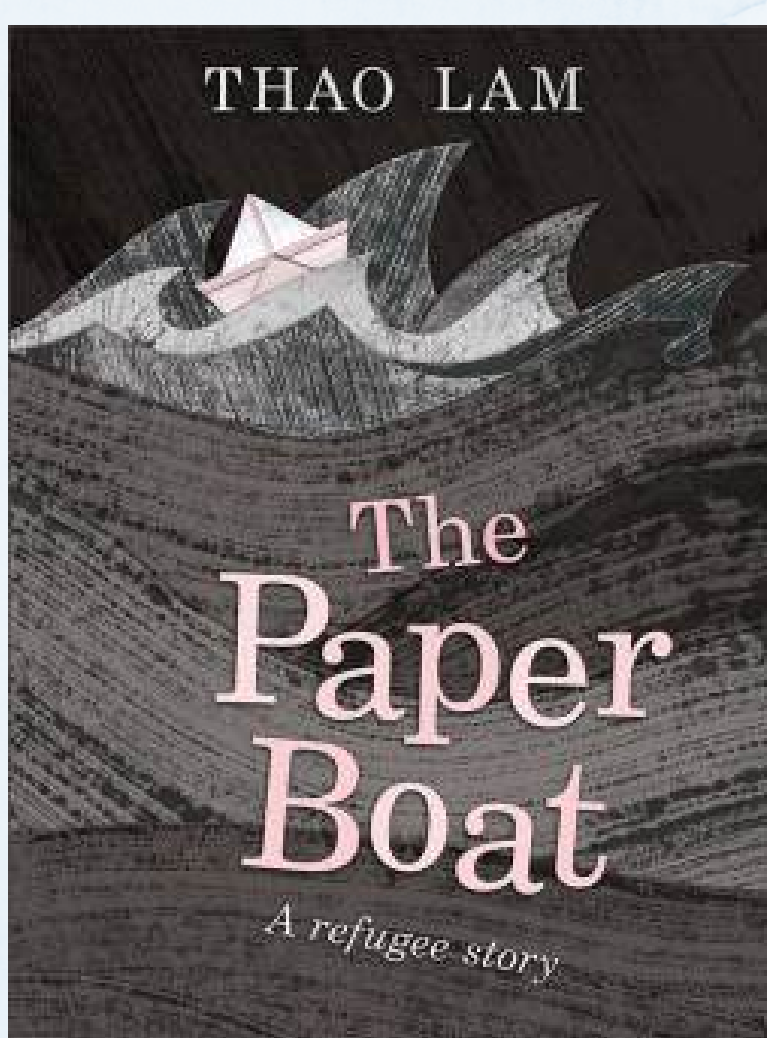
Luli and the Language of Tea

Author: Andrea Wang

Illustrator: Hyewon Yum

When five-year-old Luli joins her new English as a Second Language class, the playroom is quiet. Luli can't speak English, neither can anyone else. That's when she has a brilliant idea to host a tea party and bring them all together. Luli removes her teapot, thermos, and teacups from her bag and calls out "Chá!" in her native Chinese. One by one, her classmates pipe up in recognition: in Russian, Hindi, Turkish, Persian, Arabic, and Spanish, Portuguese, and Swahili. Tea is a tasty language they all know well, and it gives them a chance to share and enjoy each other's company. When all the tea is gone and it's time for dessert, Luli gets to use her favorite English word, cookie! After that, the playroom isn't so quiet.

Neal Porter Books



The Paper Boat

Author & Illustrator: Thao Lam

At her home in Vietnam, a girl rescues ants from the sugar water set out to trap them. Later, when the girl's family flees war-torn Vietnam, ants lead them through the moonlit jungle to the boat that will take them to safety. Before boarding, the girl folds a paper boat from a bun wrapper and drops it into the water, and the ants climb on. Their perilous

journey, besieged by punishing weather, predatory birds, and dehydration, before reaching a new beginning, mirrors the family's own.

Owlkids

Featured Topic: Immigration Stories

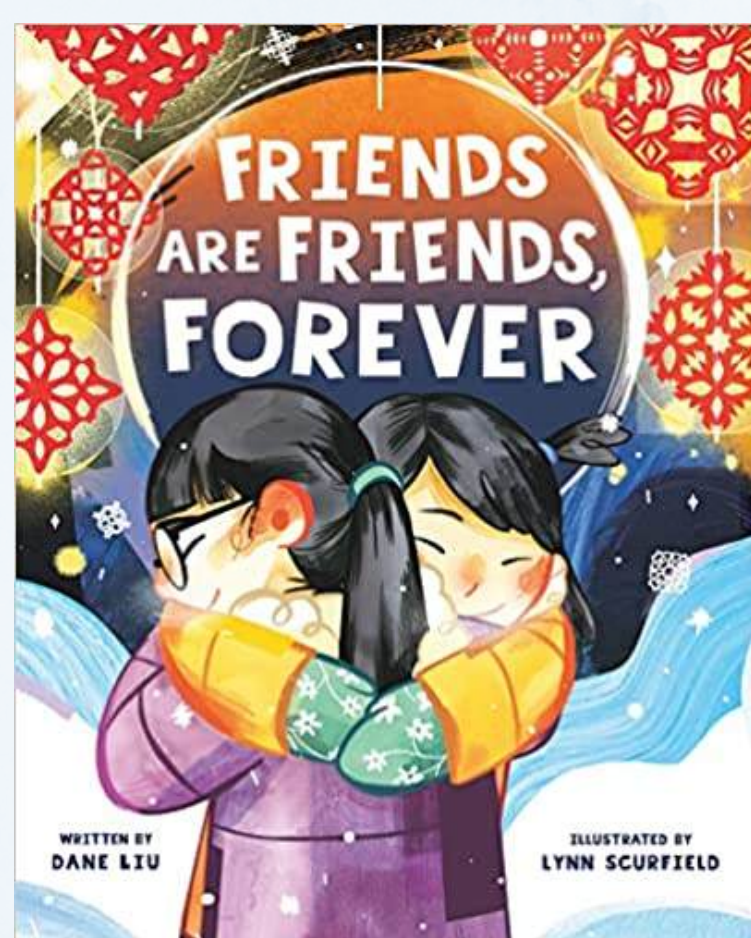


Home is In Between

Author: Mitali Perkins

Illustrator: Lavanya Naidu

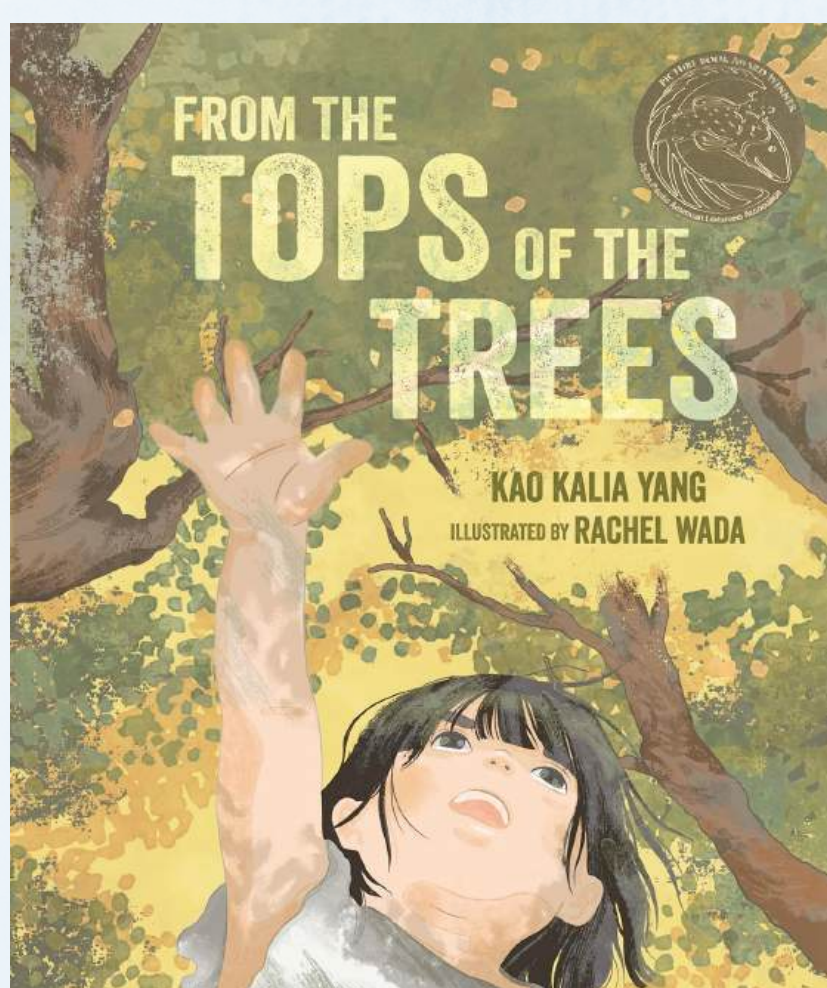
Shanti misses the warm monsoon rains in India. Now in America, she watches fall leaves fly past her feet. Still, her family's apartment feels like a village: Mama cooking *luchi*, funny stories in Bangla, and Baba's big laugh. But outside, everything is different – trick-or-treating, ballet class, and English books. She is Indian. She is also American. How should she define home?
Farrar, Straus, and Giroux



Friends are Friends, Forever

Authors: Dane Liu | Illustrator: Lynn Scurfield

On a snowy Lunar New Year's Eve in Northeastern China, it's Dandan's last night with Yueyue. Tomorrow, she moves to America. The two best friends have a favorite wintertime tradition: crafting paper-cut snowflakes, freezing them outside, and hanging them as ornaments. As they say goodbye, Yueyue presses red paper and a spool of thread into Dandan's hands so that she can carry on their tradition. But in her new home, Dandan has no one to enjoy the gift with—until a friend comes along.
Henry Holt & Co.



From the Tops of the Trees

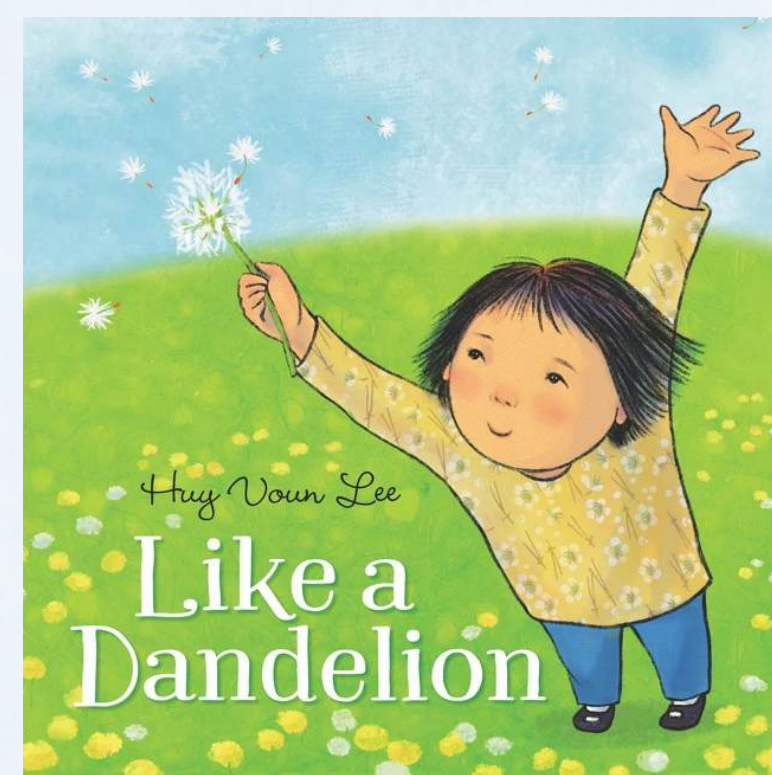
Author: Kao Kalia Yang

Illustrator: Rachel Wada

Young Kalia has never known life beyond the fences of the Ban Vinai Refugee Camp. The Thai camp holds many thousands of Hmong families who fled in the aftermath of the little-known Secret War in Laos that was waged during America's Vietnam War.

For Kalia and her cousins, life isn't always easy, but they still find ways to play, racing with chickens and riding a beloved pet dog. Just four years old, Kalia is still figuring out her place in the world. When she asks what is beyond the fence, at first her father has no answers for her. But on the following day, he leads her to the tallest tree in the camp and, secure in her father's arms, Kalia sees the spread of a world beyond.

Carolrhoda Books



Like a Dandelion

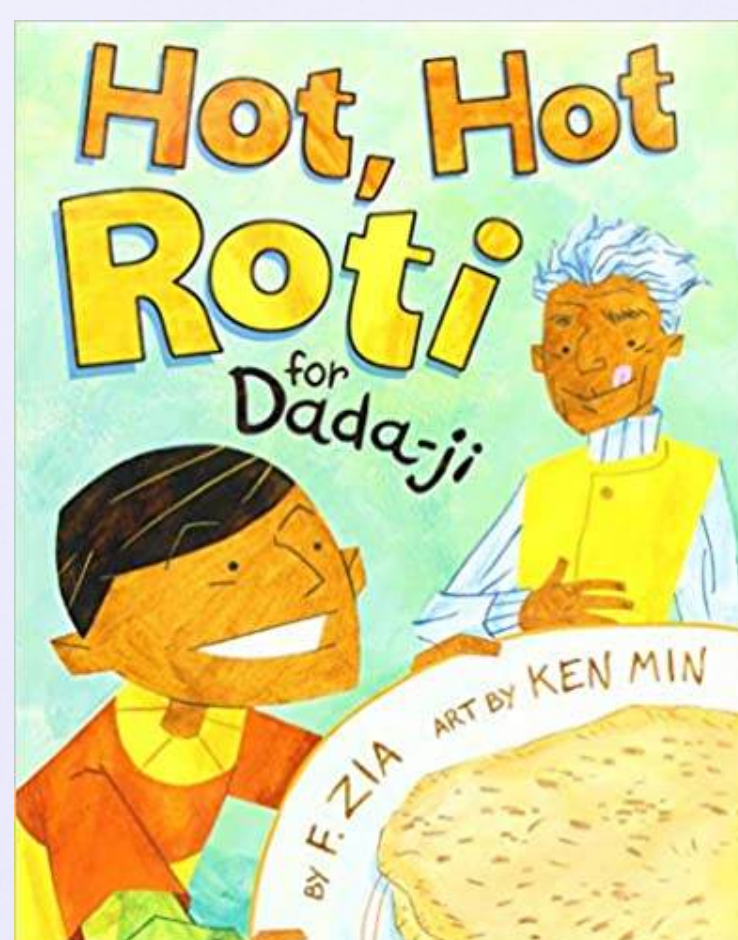
Author & Illustrator:

Huy Vuon Lee

Like feathery seeds, a young girl and her mother take flight, putting down roots in an adopted country. Soon they blossom in their new home, strong and beautiful among hundreds of others just like them. A poetic tribute to the bravery of immigrants and refugees, inspired by the author's childhood experience of moving to the United States from Cambodia.

Balzer + Bray

Featured Topic: **Indian Identity**



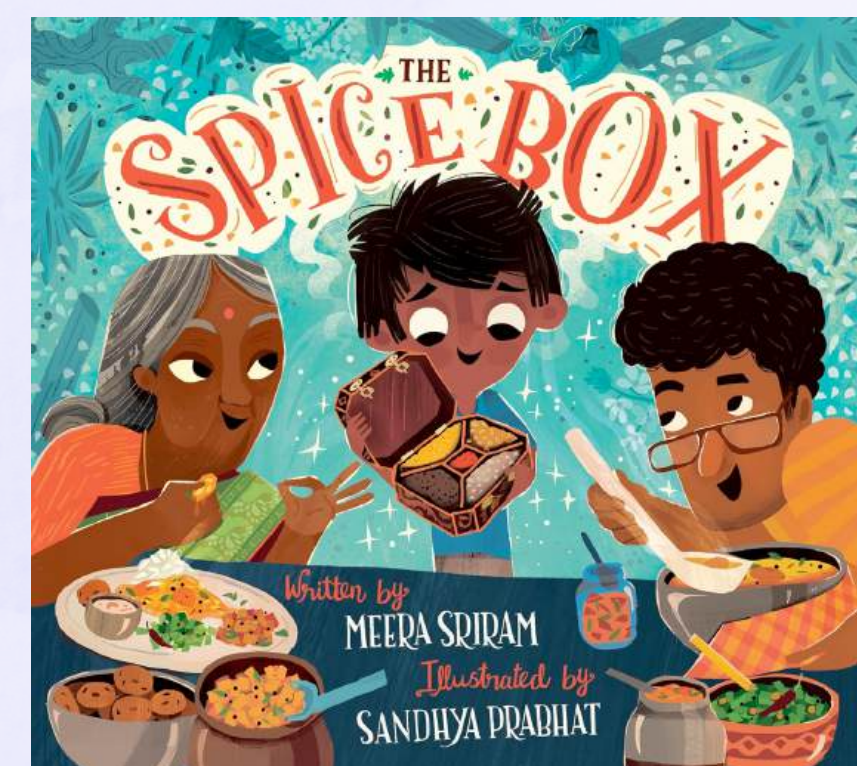
Hot, Hot Roti for Dada-ji

Author: Farhana Zia

Illustrator: Ken Min

Overflowing with family, food, and a tall stack of fun, Hot, Hot Roti for Dada-ji is sure to warm the heart and tickle the tummy. A fun way for children to learn about the cultural traditions and foods of India to be enjoyed by the whole family.

Lee & Low Books



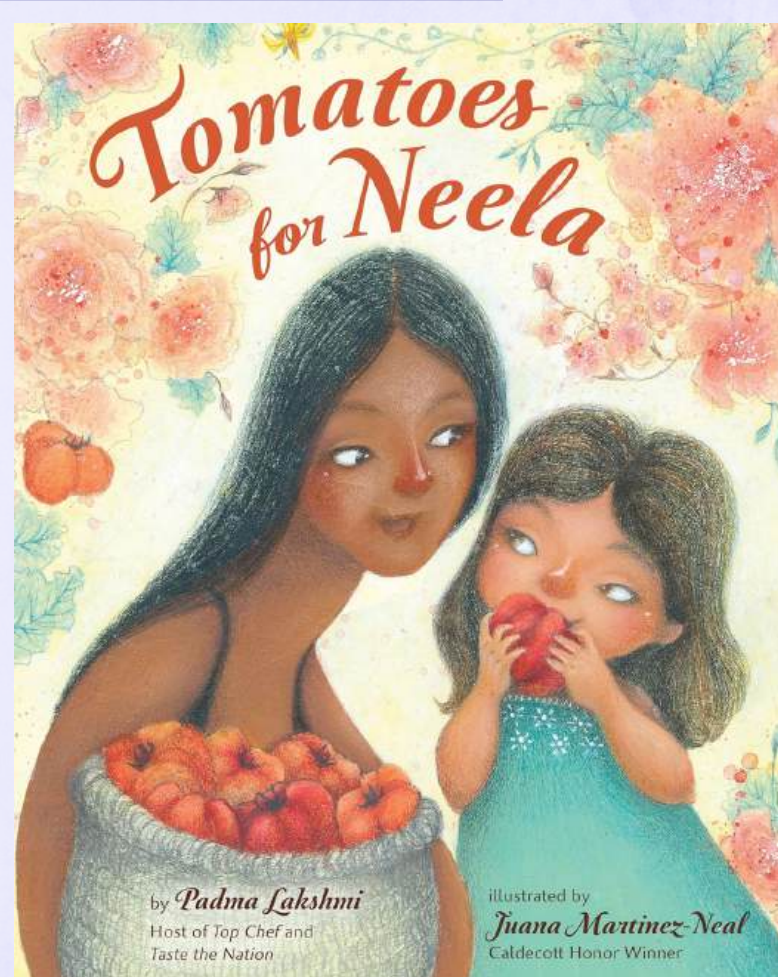
The Spice Box

Author: Meera Sriram

Illustrator: Sandhya Prabhat

A father and son share family stories through a spice box, handed down from generation to generation, in this tender picture book.

Knopf Books for Young Readers



Tomatoes for Neela

Author: Padma Lakshmi

Illustrator: Juana Martinez-Neal

Neela loves cooking with her amma and writing down the recipes in her notebook. It makes her feel closer to her paati who lives far away in India. On Saturdays, Neela and Amma go to the green market and today they are buying tomatoes to make Paati's famous sauce. But first, Neela needs to learn about all the different kinds of tomatoes they can pick from. And as Neela and Amma cook together, they find a way for Paati to share in both the love and the flavors of the day.

Viking Books for Young Readers

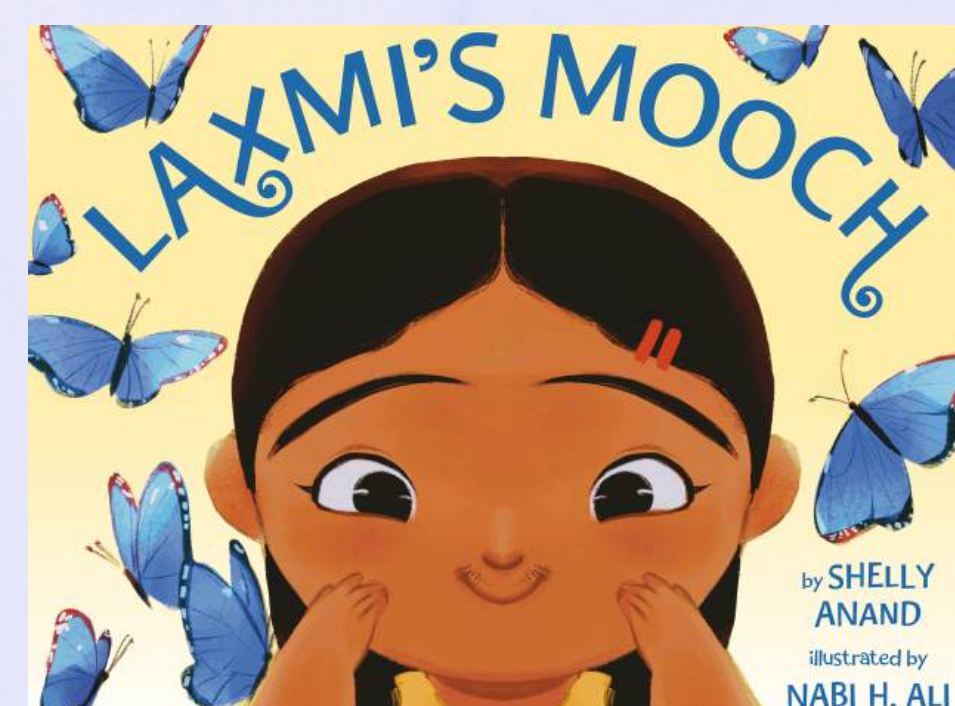
Hair Twins

Author: Raakhee Mirchandani

Illustrator: Holly Hatam

Every morning Papa combs through his daughter's waves like he does his own. Some days he braids her hair in two twists down the side of her face. Other days he weaves it into one long braid hanging down her back, just like a unicorn tail. But her favorite style is when he combs her hair in a tight bun on the top of her head, just like the joora he wears every day under his turban. They call this their hair twin look!

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



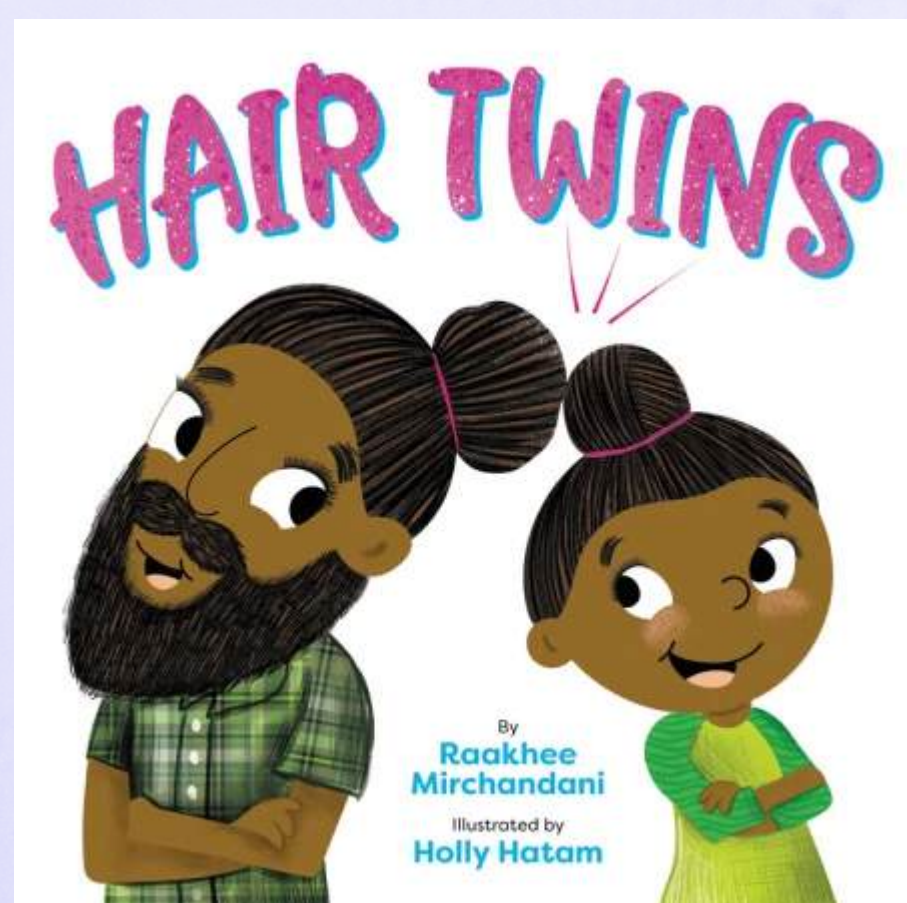
Laxmi's Mooch

Author: Shelly Anand

Illustrator: Nabi H. Ali

A joyful, body-positive picture book about a young Indian American girl's journey to accept her body hair and celebrate her heritage after being teased about her mustache.

Kokila



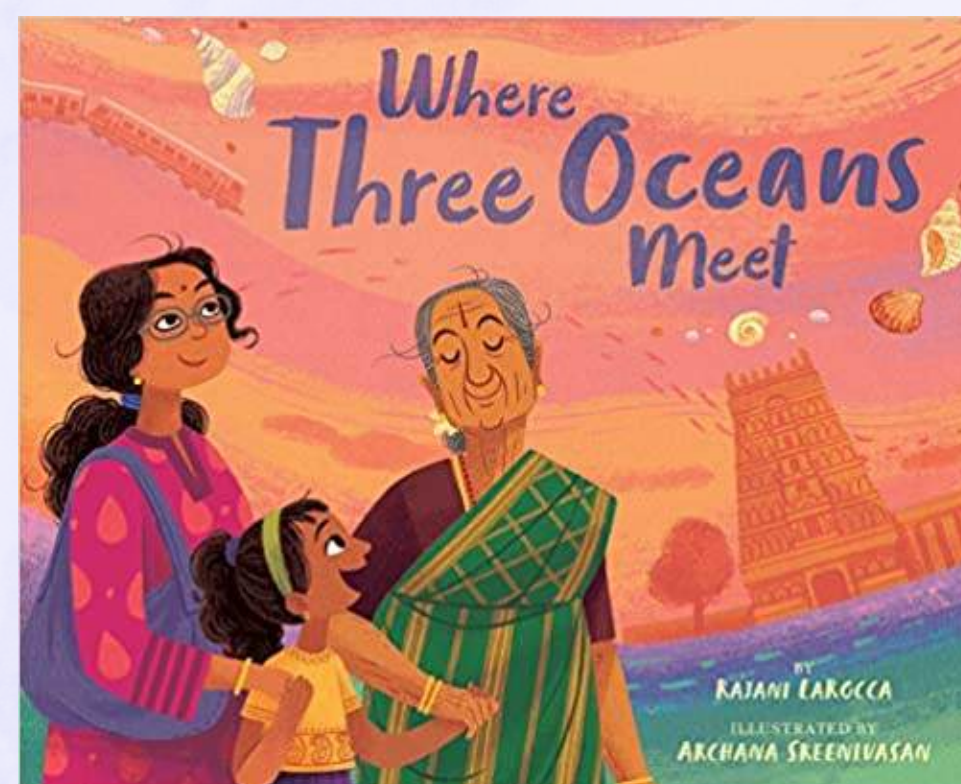
Featured Topic: Indian Identity

Where Three Oceans Meet

Authors: Rajani LaRocca | Illustrator: Archana Sreenivasan

Sejal, Mommy, and Pati travel together to the southern tip of India. Along the way, they share meals, visit markets, and catch up with old friends. For Pati, the trip retraces spaces she knows well. For Mommy, it's a return to the place she grew up. For Sejal, it's a discovery of new sights and sounds. The family finds their way to Kanyakumari, where three oceans meet, and delight in making it to the end of the earth together.

Harry N. Abrams

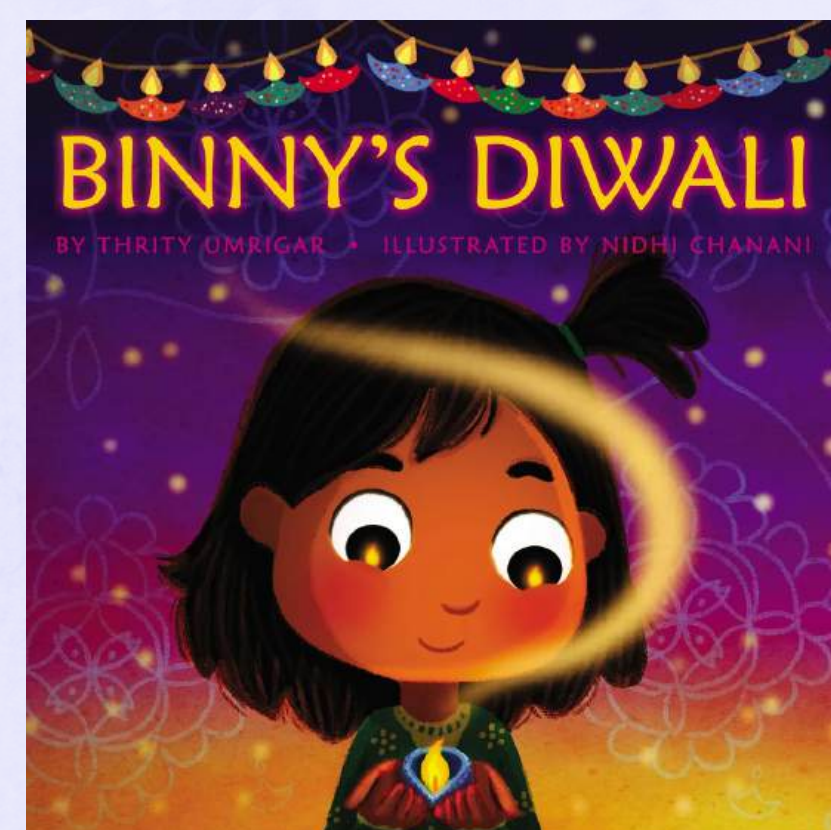
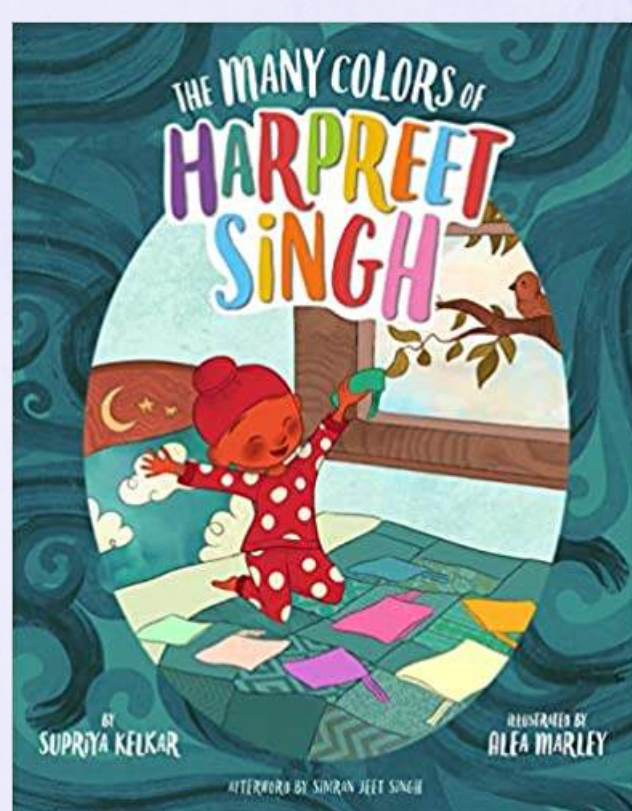


The Many Colors of Harpreet Singh

Author: Supriya Kelkar | Illustrator: Alea Marley

Harpreet Singh has a different color for every mood and occasion, from pink for dancing to bhangra beats to red for courage. He especially takes care with his patka—his turban—smoothing it out and making sure it always matches his outfit. But when Harpreet's mom finds a new job in a snowy city and they have to move, all he wants is to be invisible.

Union Square Kids



Binny's Diwali

Author: Thrity Umrigar

Illustrator: Nidhi Chanani

Binny is excited to talk to her class about her favorite holiday. But she struggles to find the words. Taking a deep breath, she tells her classmates about the fireworks that burst like stars in the night sky, shares delicious pedas and jalebis. And she shows them clay lamps, called diyas, which look so pretty all the children ooh and aah.

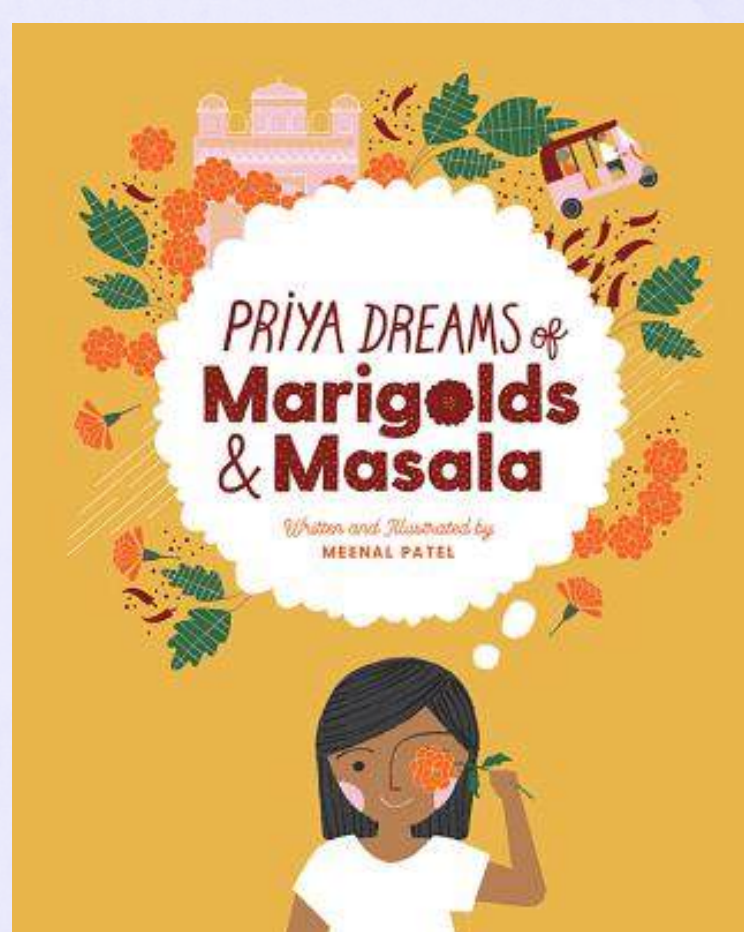
Scholastic Press

Priya Dreams of Marigolds & Masala

Author & Illustrator: Meenal Patel

Priya lives in the U.S. and her family is from India. She feels the magic of the place her family comes from through her Babi Ba's colorful descriptions of India. Together, Priya and Babi Ba make their heritage live on through the traditions that they infuse into their everyday lives.

Beaver's Pond Press



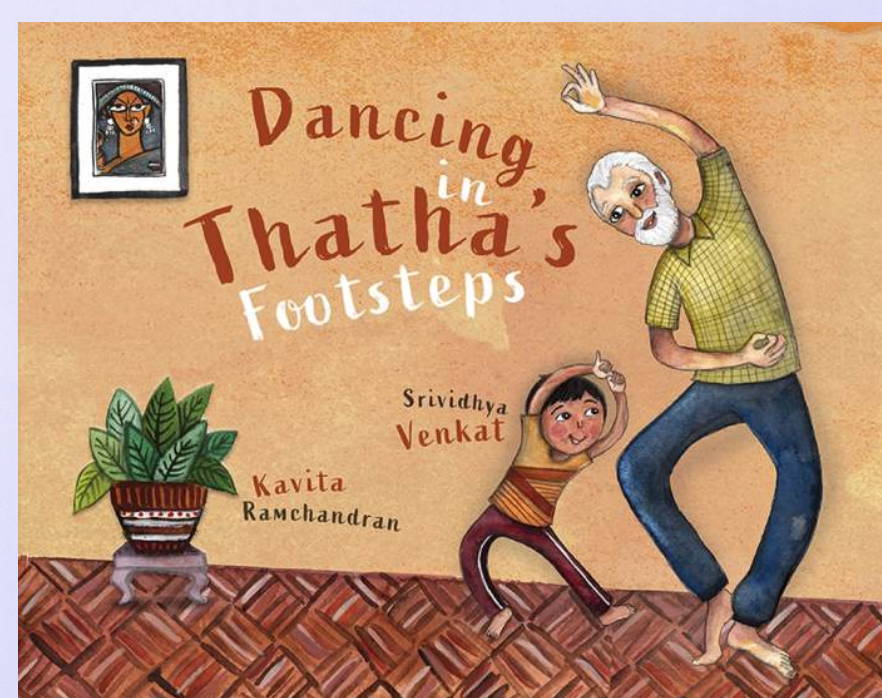
Dancing in Thatha's Footsteps

Author: Srividhya Venkat

Illustrator: Kavita Ramchandran

A heartwarming picture book about a multigenerational Tamil-American family discovering a shared love for bharatanatyam, an ancient classical dance form that continues to fascinate young dancers across the globe.

Yali Books



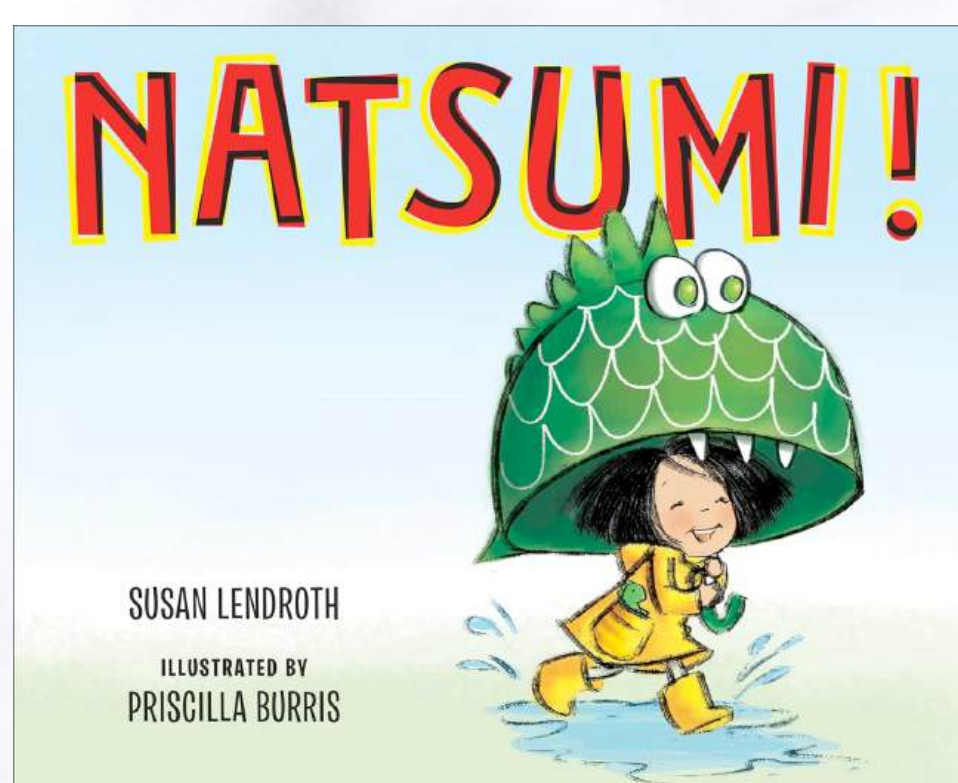
Featured Topic: Japanese Identity

I Really Want to See You, Grandma

Author & Illustrator: Tara Gomi

Yumi and her grandmother have the same great idea: They want to see each other. So they each head out to do just that, only to completely miss each other along the way! No problem—they'll just head back home and wait for the other to return. The trouble is that they have the same great idea—again—resulting in the ultimate missed connection! Will this duo ever find each other?

Chronicle Books



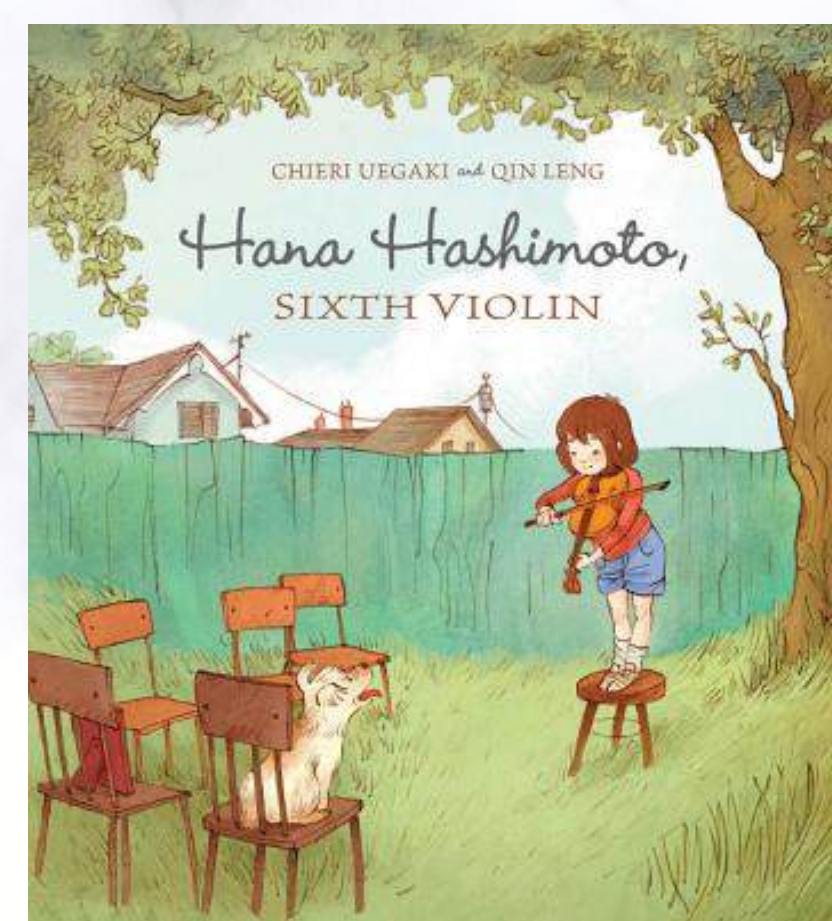
Natsumi!

Author: Susan Lendroth

Illustrator: Priscilla Burris

When Natsumi's family practices for their town's Japanese arts festival, Natsumi tries everything. But her stirring is way too vigorous for the tea ceremony, her dancing is just too imaginative, and flower arranging doesn't go any better. Can she find just the right way to put her exuberance to good use?

G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers



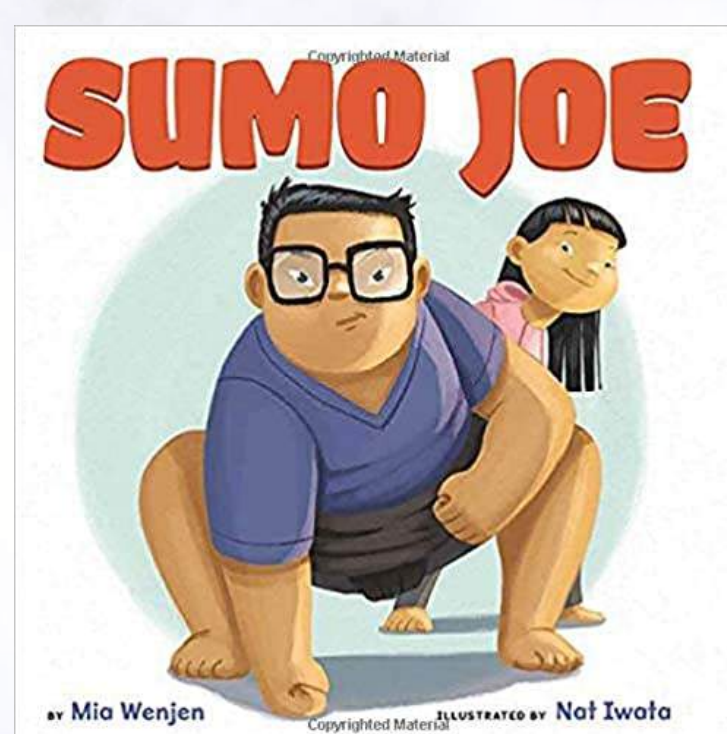
Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin

Author: Chieri Uegaki

Illustrator: Qin Leng

Hana Hashimoto has signed up to play her violin at her school's talent show. The trouble is, she's only a beginner. Hana remembers how wonderfully her talented grandfather, or Ojiichan, played his violin when she was visiting him in Japan. So, just like Ojiichan, Hana practices every day.

Kids Can Press



Sumo Joe

Author: Mia Wenjen | Illustrator: Nat Iwata

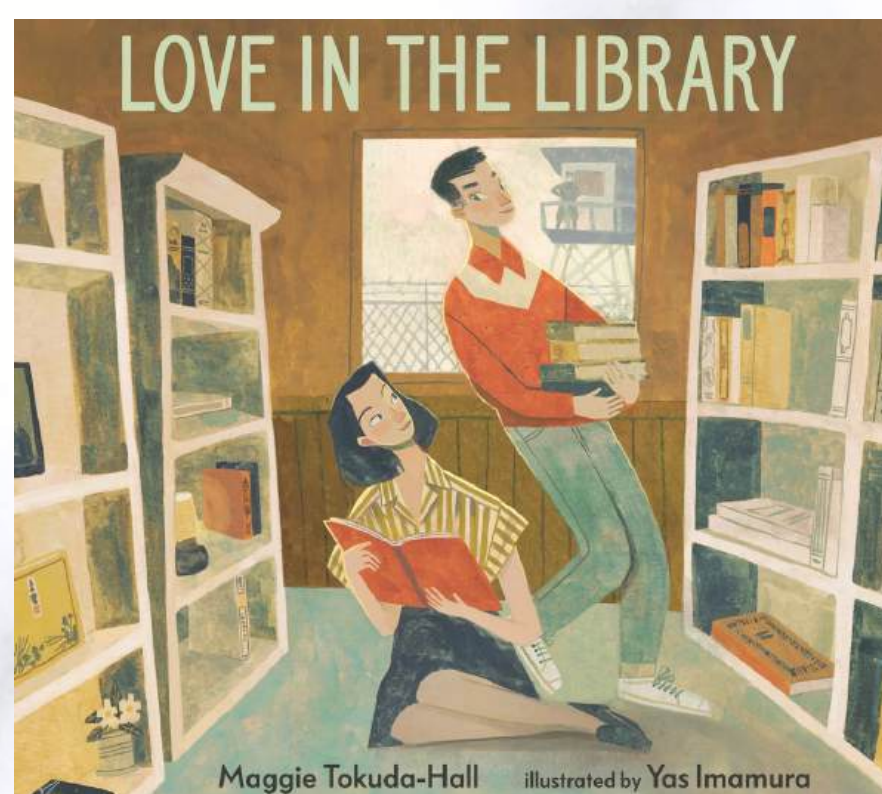
Sumo Joe and his friends enjoy pretending to be sumo wrestlers. But when his little sister wants to join their boy-only game, what should Sumo Joe do?

Lee & Low Books

Featured Topic: Japanese Internment

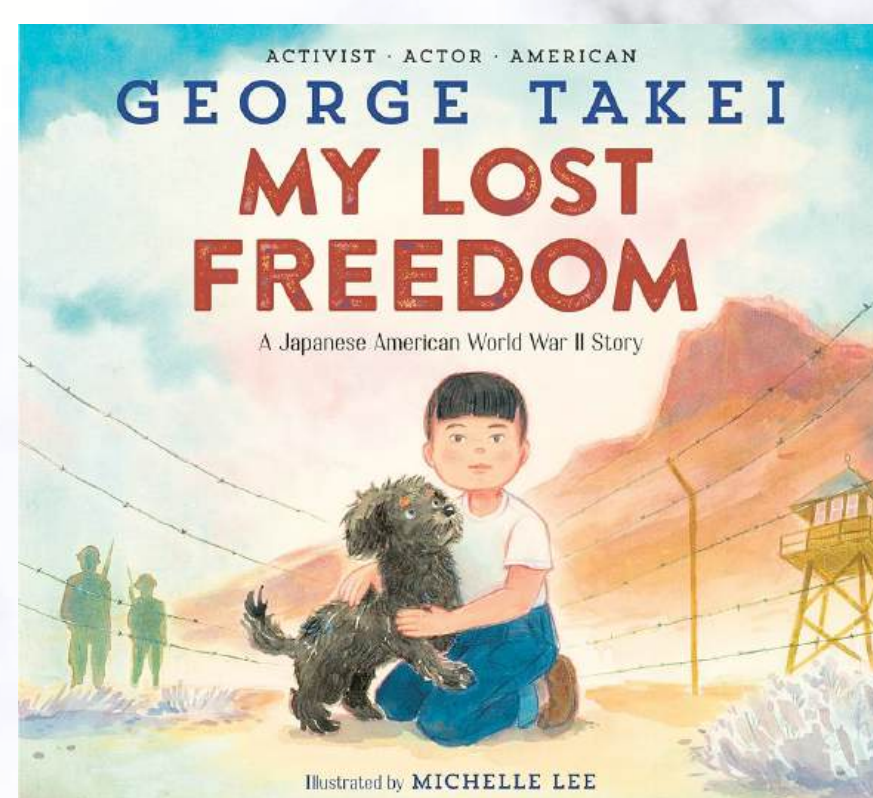
Love in the Library

Author: Maggie Tokuda-Hall | Illustrator: Yas Imamura



After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Tama is sent to live in a War Relocation Center in the desert. All Japanese Americans from the West Coast—elderly people, children, babies—now live in prison camps like Minidoka. To be who she is has become a crime, it seems, and Tama doesn't know when or if she will ever leave. Trying not to think of the life she once had, she works in the camp's tiny library, taking solace in pages bursting with color and light, love and fairness. And she isn't the only one. George waits each morning by the door, his arms piled with books checked out the day before. As their friendship grows, Tama wonders: Can anyone possibly read so much? Is she the reason George comes to the library every day?

Candlewick Press



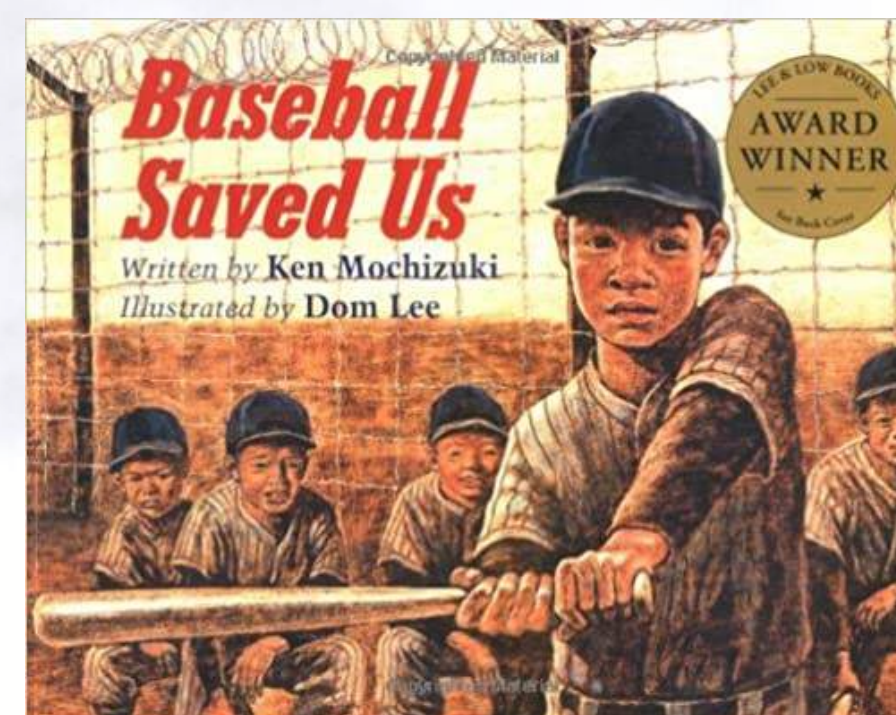
My Lost Freedom

Author: George Takei
Illustrator: Michelle Lee

In 1942, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared anyone of Japanese descent an enemy of the United States. George and his family were forced to leave their home in

California and put into camps with thousands of other families just because of their Japanese ancestry. Their family had done nothing wrong. A powerful story featuring a family's courage, a young boy's resilience, and the importance of staying true to yourself in the face of injustice.

Crown Books for Young Readers

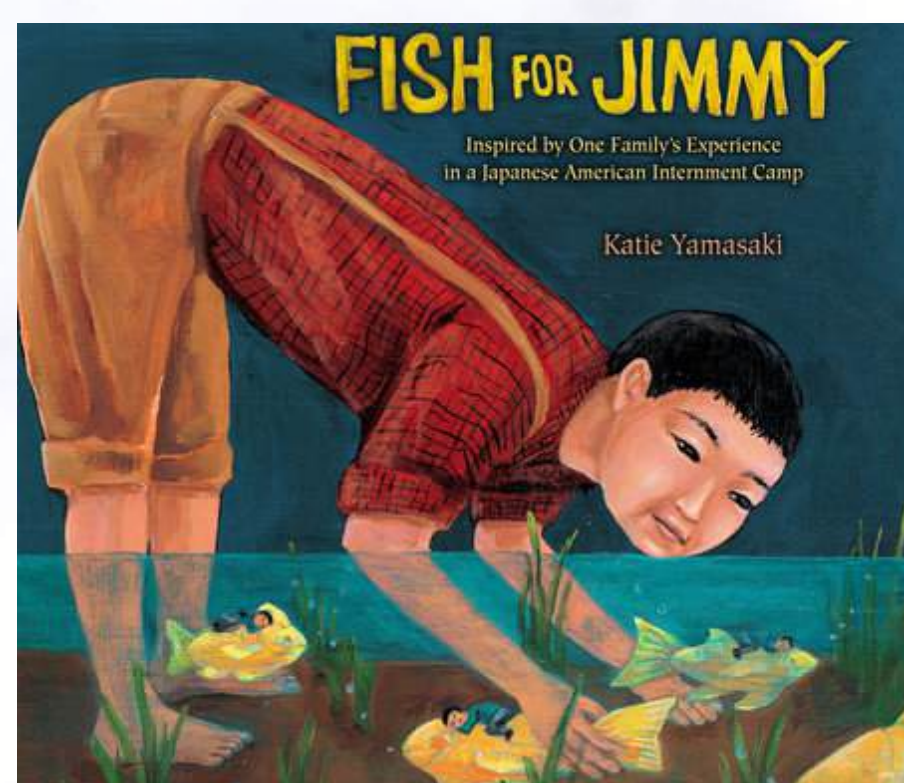


Baseball Saved Us

Author: Ken Mochizuki | Illustrator: Dom Lee

Shorty and his family, along with thousands of other Japanese Americans, have been forced to relocate from their homes to a camp after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. One day his dad looked out at the endless desert and decided then and there to build a baseball field.

Lee & Low Books



Fish for Jimmy

Author & Illustrator: Katie Yamasaki

For two boys in a Japanese American family, everything changed when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor and the United States went to war. With the family forced to leave their home and go to an internment camp, Jimmy loses his appetite. Older brother Taro takes matters into his own hands and, night after night, sneaks out of the camp and catches fresh fish for Jimmy to help make him strong again.

Holiday House

Featured Topic: Korean Identity

Where's Halmoni?

Author & Illustrator: Julie Kim

This graphic-novel style book follows a young Korean girl and boy whose search for their missing grandmother leads them into a world inspired by Korean folklore, complete with mischievous goblins (dokkebi), a greedy tiger, a clever rabbit, and a wily fox.

Little Bigfoot



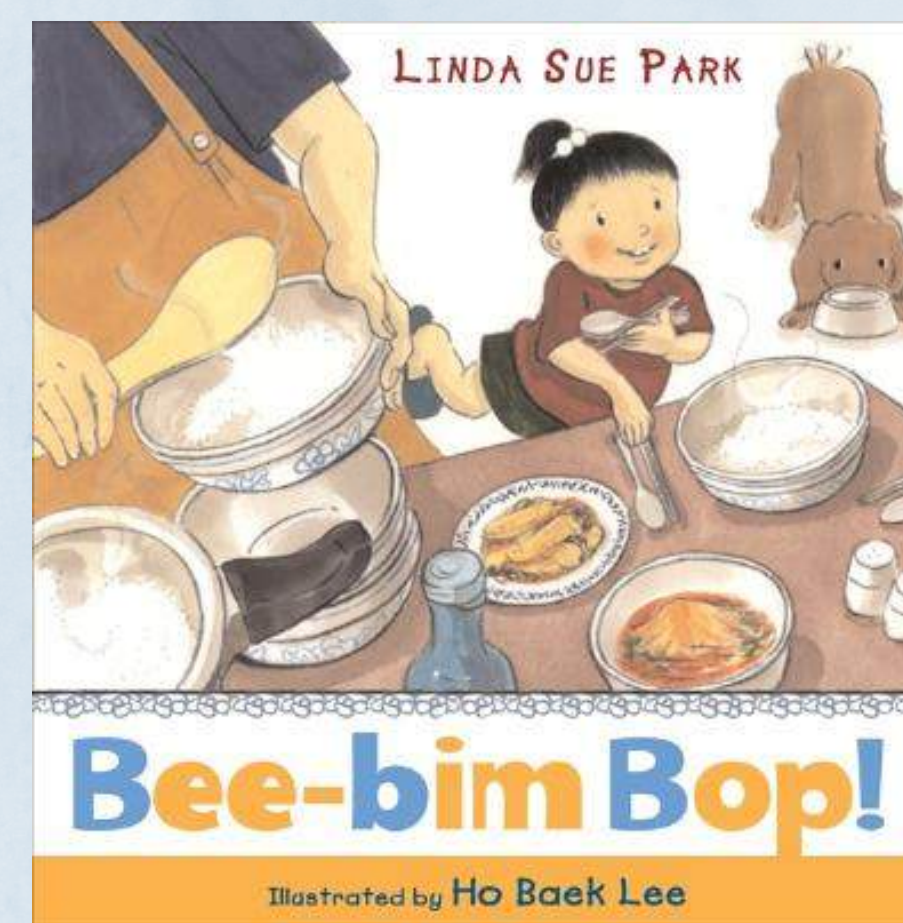
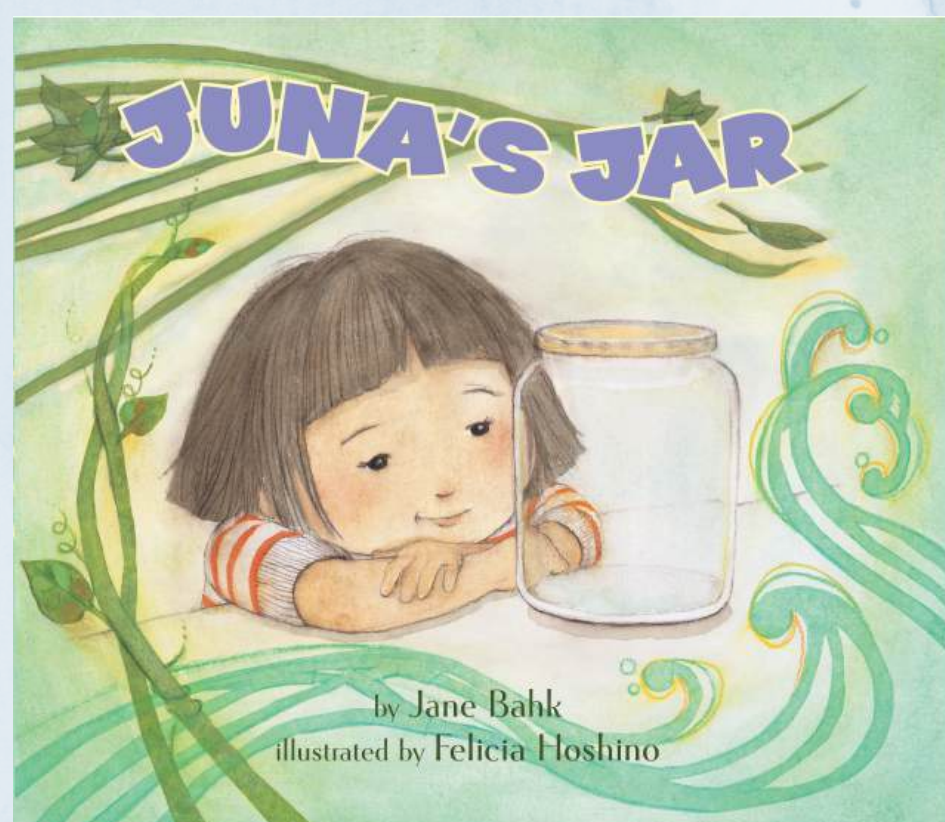
Juna's Jar

Author: Jane Bahk

Illustrator: Felicia Hoshino

After Juna's best friend moves away, Juna, an imaginative Korean American girl, goes on magical adventures by way of her special kimchi jar.

Lee & Low Books



Bee-Bim Bop!

Author: Linda Sue Park

Illustrator: Ho Baek Lee

A hungry child tells about helping her mother make bee-bim bop: shopping, preparing ingredients, setting the table, and finally sitting down with her family to enjoy a favorite meal.

Clarion Books

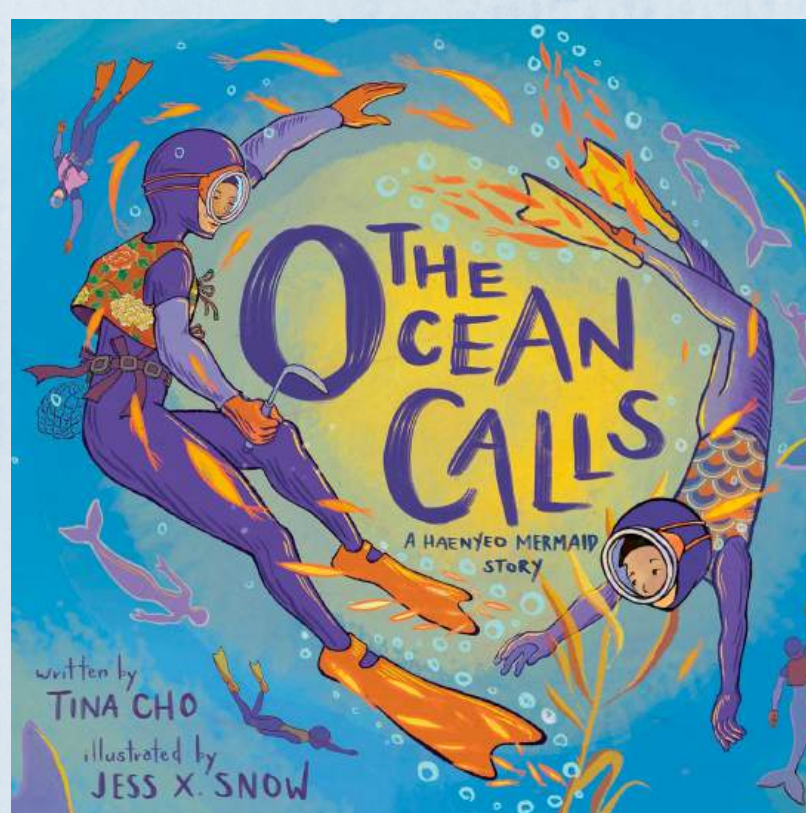
The Ocean Calls: A Haenyeo Mermaid Story

Author: Tina Cho

Illustrator: Jess X. Snow

A breathtaking picture book featuring a Korean girl and her haenyeo (free diving) grandmother about intergenerational bonds, finding courage in the face of fear, and connecting with our natural world.

Kokila



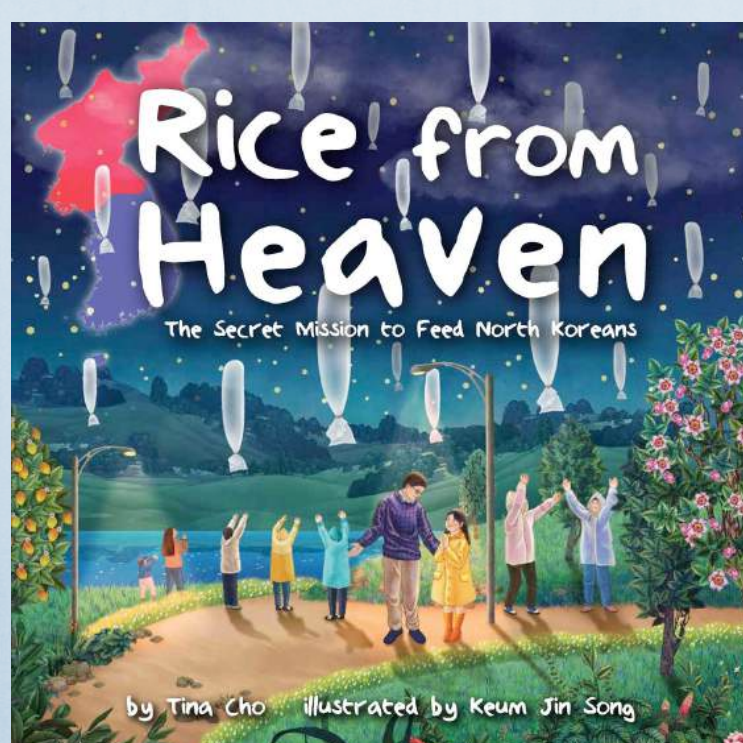
Rice from Heaven: The Secret Mission to Feed North Koreans

Author: Tina Cho

Illustrator: Keum Jin Song

A true story about compassion and bravery as a young girl and her community in South Korea help deliver rice via balloons to the starving and oppressed people in North Korea.

little bee books



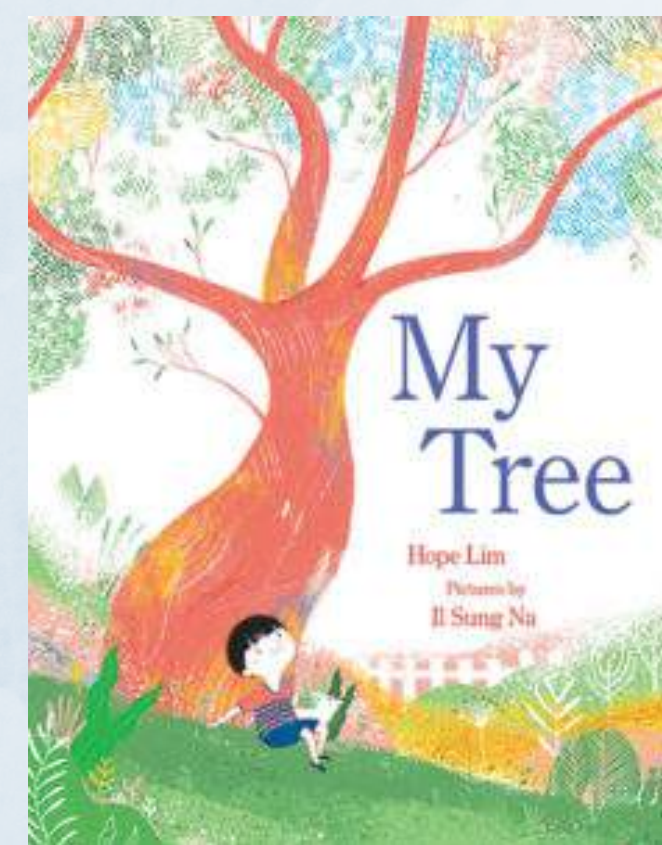
Featured Topic: Korean Identity

My Tree

Author: Hope Lim | Illustrator: Il Sung Na

A young boy, recently arrived from Korea, finds a glorious plum tree in his new backyard. It reminds him of a tree his family had back home, and he names it "Plumee" for the deep purple plums on its branches. And when a storm brings the old tree down, he and his friends have all kinds of adventures on its branches. But soon it's time to say good-bye to the trees remains.

Neal Porter Books

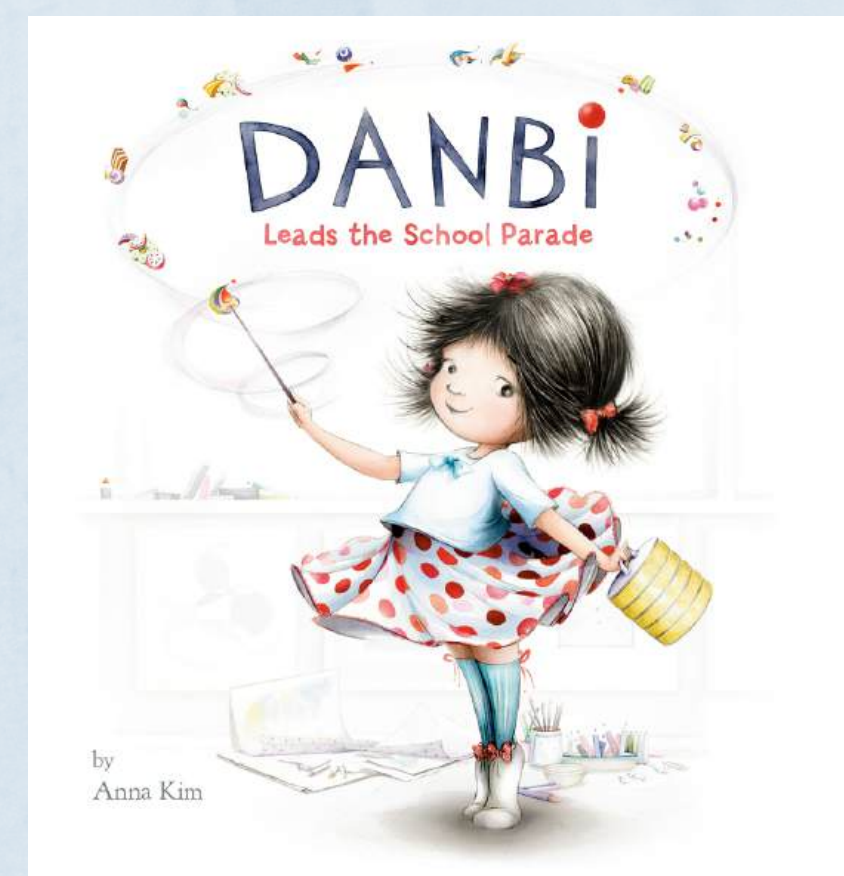
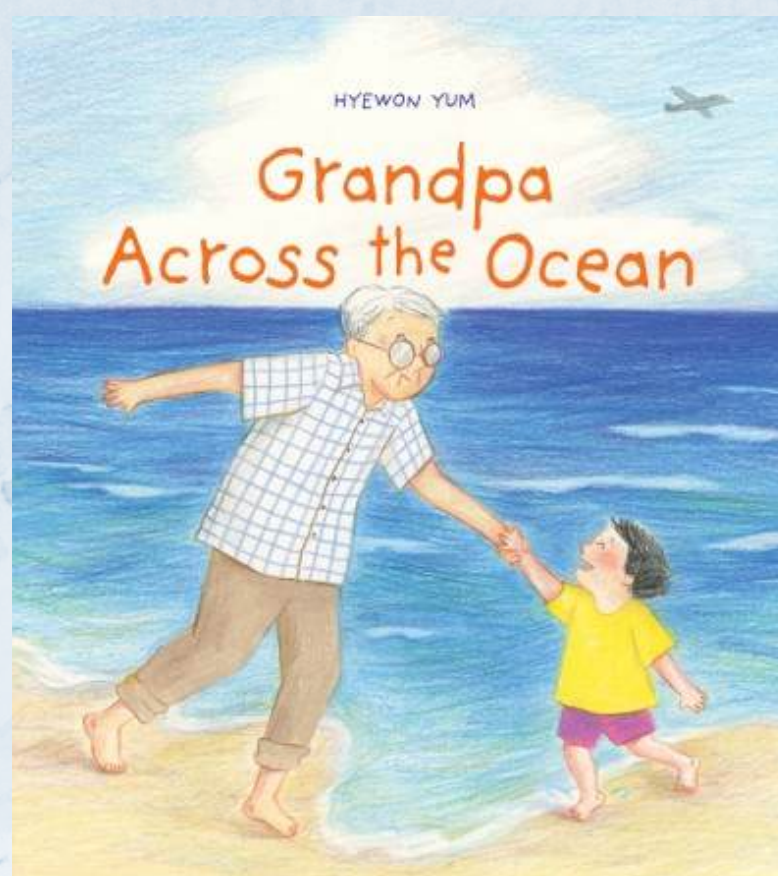


Grandpa Across the Ocean

Author & Illustrator: Hyewon Yum

Grandpa lives on the other side of the ocean. He takes naps all the time. He eats different foods. He speaks an unfamiliar language. His house is the most boring place on Earth! Or is it? A little time together just might reveal that Grandpa is also a great singer, an energetic sandcastle builder, and a troublemaker... just like his grandson!

Abrams Books for Young Readers

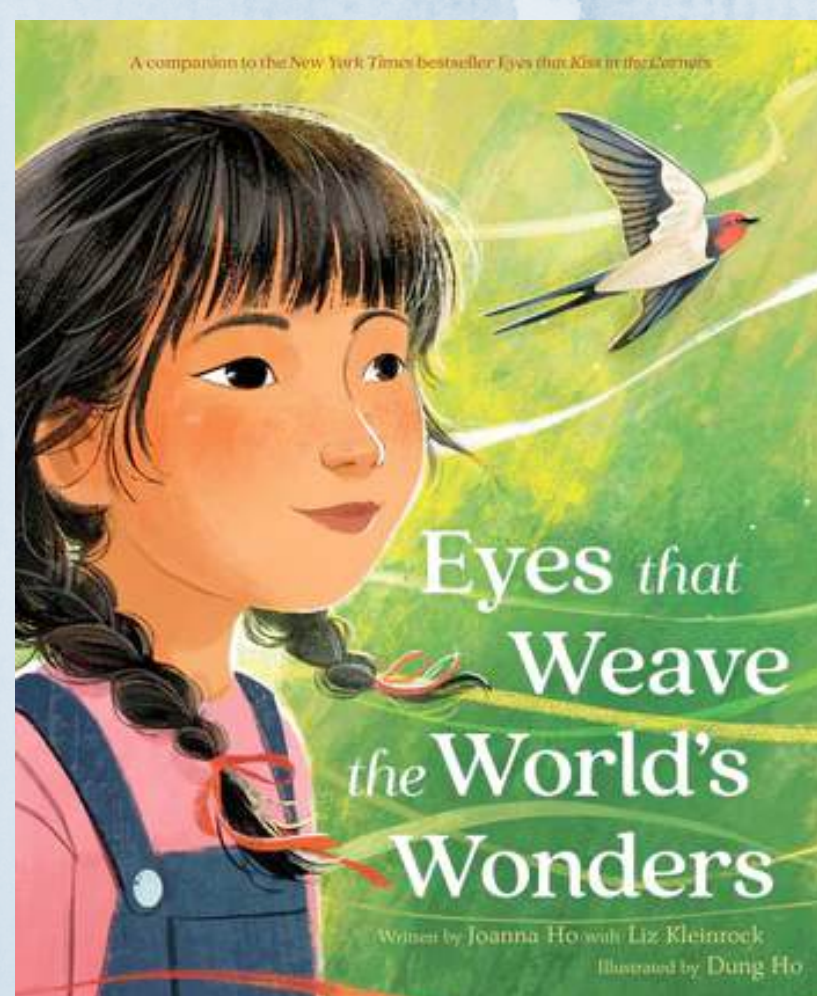


Danbi Leads the School Parade

Author & Illustrator: Anna Kim

Danbi is thrilled to start her new school in America. But a bit nervous too, for when she walks into the classroom, everything goes quiet. Everyone stares. Danbi wants to join in the dances and the games, but she doesn't know the rules and just can't get anything right. Luckily, she isn't one to give up. With a spark of imagination, she makes up a new game and leads her classmates on a parade to remember!

Viking Books for Young Readers



Eyes that Weave the World's Wonders

Authors: Joanna Ho
& Liz Kleinrock

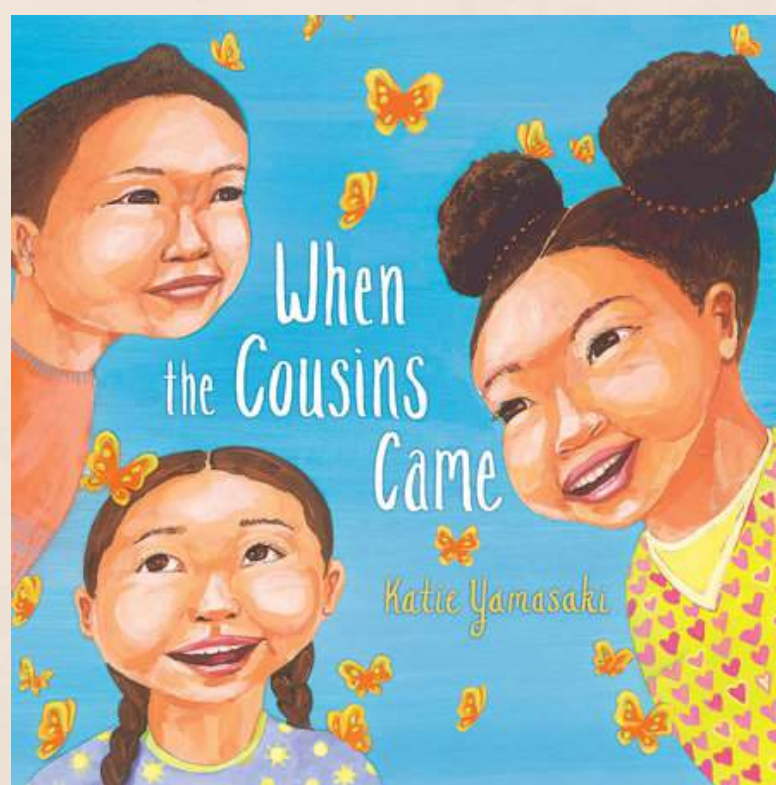
Illustrator: Dung Ho

A young girl who is a transracial adoptee learns to love her Asian eyes and finds familial connection and meaning through them, even though they look different from her parents'. Her family bond is deep and their connection is filled with love.

She wonders about her birth mom and comes to appreciate both her birth culture and her adopted family's culture, for even though they may seem very different, they are both a part of her, and that is what makes her beautiful. She learns to appreciate the differences in her family and celebrate them.

HarperCollins

Featured Topic: **Multiracial Identity**

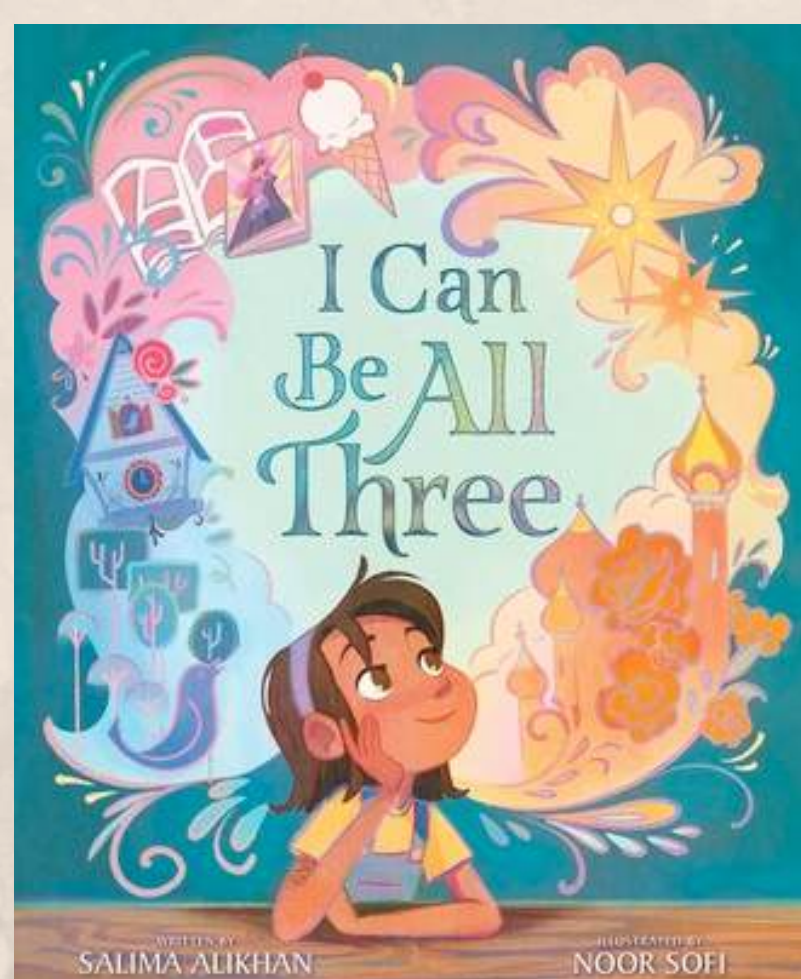


When the Cousins Came

Author & Illustrator: Katie Yamasaki

A multicultural family story that celebrates kindness and differences. Lila is excited for her cousins Takeo and Rosie to visit. They're going to ride bikes, paint, and camp together. But when the cousins arrive, everything's wrong: Rosie and Takeo are better painters than Lila, have skateboards instead of bikes, and don't want to camp outside. Lila is terribly disappointed until the cousins make her a surprise: a big banner for their "best cousin" Lila!

Holiday House



I Can Be All Three

Author: Salima Alikhan

Illustrator: Noor Sofi

When it's Multicultural Day at school, a young girl wonders how best to tell the story of who she is. With marigolds, mangoes, and stories of India? Fairy tales, cuckoo clocks, and German tales? Or cheeseburgers, superheroes, and American traditions? When choosing only one doesn't feel quite right, she realizes that stories from all three places make her who she is. With whole worlds inside her, she doesn't have to choose just one—she can be all three.

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

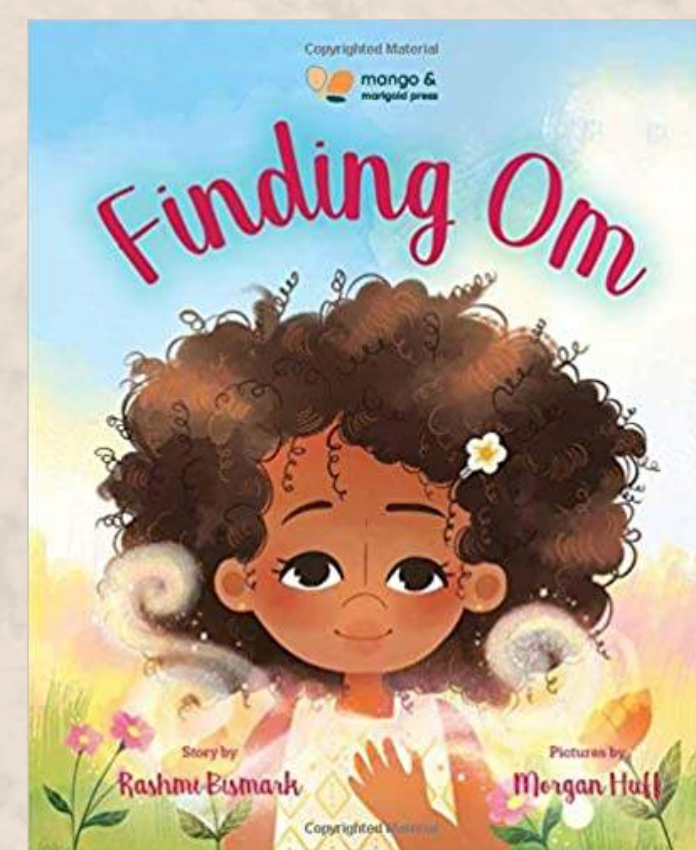


Let's Go on a Hike!

Author: Katrina Liu | Illustrator: Heru Setiawan

It's a beautiful day! Let's all go on a hike! Spend some time outdoors which I'm sure you will like! A family adventure with so much to explore... This hiking adventure features a biracial family and reminds us to appreciate nature and the outdoors.

Katrina Liu



Finding Om

Author: Rashmi Bismark |

Illustrator: Morgan Huff

Anu, an Indian-African girl explores the mantra Om with her much-loved grandfather, Appuppa. Anu discovers methods of mindfulness that readers of all ages can learn along with her.

Mango and Marigold Press



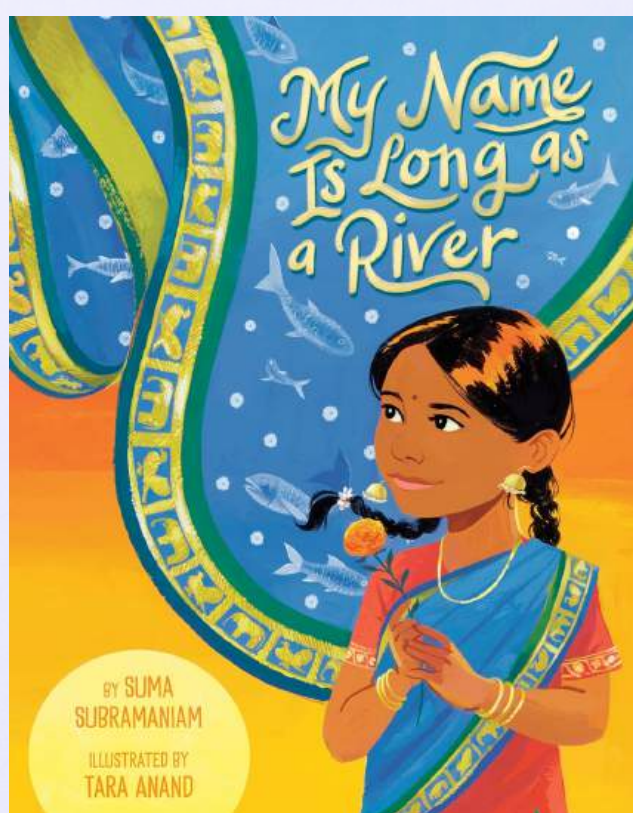
Queen of the Hanukkah Dosas

Author: Pamela Ehrenberg | Illustrator: Anjan Sarkar

Instead of latkes, this family celebrates Hanukkah with tasty Indian dosas. To her brother's chagrin, little Sadie won't stop climbing on everything both at home and at the Indian grocery store, even while preparing the dosas. As the family puts the finishing touches on their holiday preparations, they accidentally get locked out of the house. Sadie and her climbing skills just may be exactly what is needed to save the day.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Featured Topic: **Names**



My Name Is Long as a River

Author: Suma Subramaniam

Illustrator: Tara Anand

Kaveri Thanjavur Jayalakshmi Ganesan doesn't think there is anything special about her very long name—in fact, she would prefer to be called "Kav." But Paati reminds Kaveri that her name was inspired by her family's heritage, where she was born, and the powerful river they journey across for the Pushkaram Festival. Along the way, Kaveri's eyes and heart are opened to the beauty and magic her name holds.

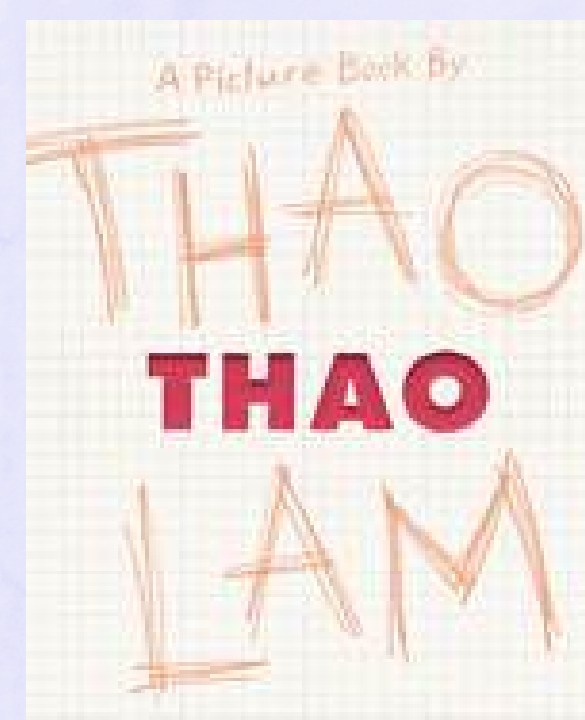
Penguin Workshop

Thao

Author & Illustrator: Thao Lam

Even though it's only four simple, familiar letters long, nobody can ever pronounce Thao's name. She's been called Theo, Tail, even Towel But the teasing names—Tofu, Tiny, China Girl—are worse. Maybe it's time to be someone else? Thao decides to try on a different name, something easy, like Jennifer. It works, but only until she opens her lunchbox to find her mother's Vietnamese spring rolls, gỏi cuốn—Thao's favorite.

Owlkids



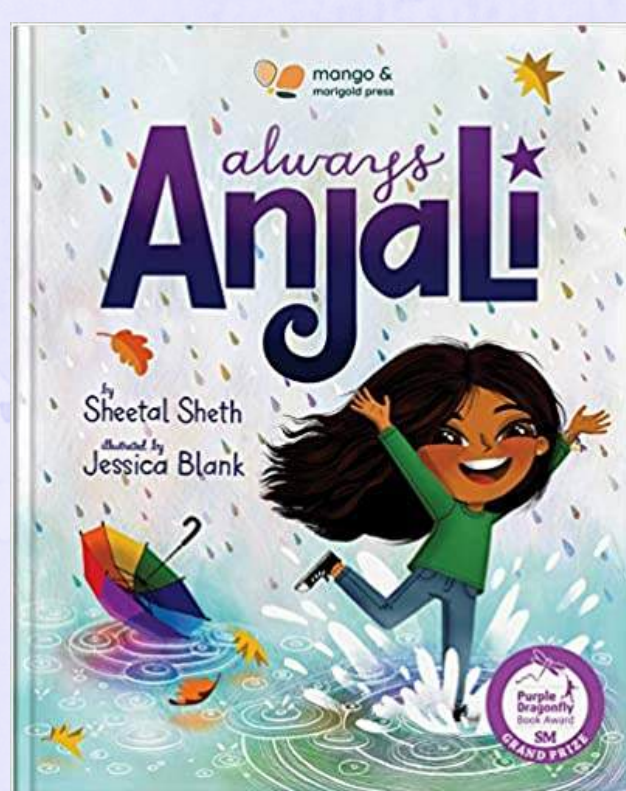
Always Anjali

Author: Sheetal Sheth

Illustrator: Jessica Blank

Anjali gets teased for her "different" name, and is so upset she demands that her parents change it. When they refuse, Anjali decides to take a closer look at who she is—beyond her name—and why being different means being *marvelous*.

Mango & Marigold

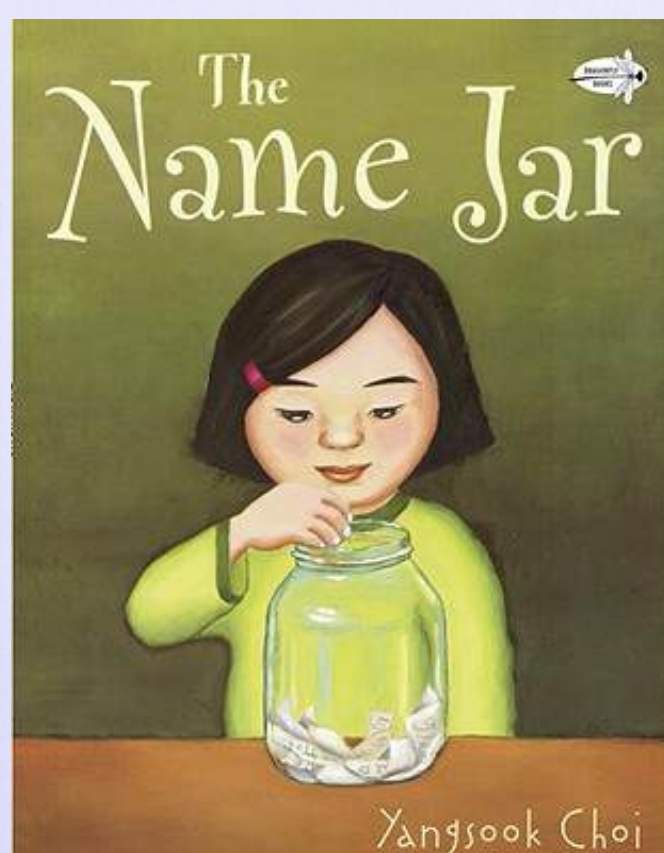


The Name Jar

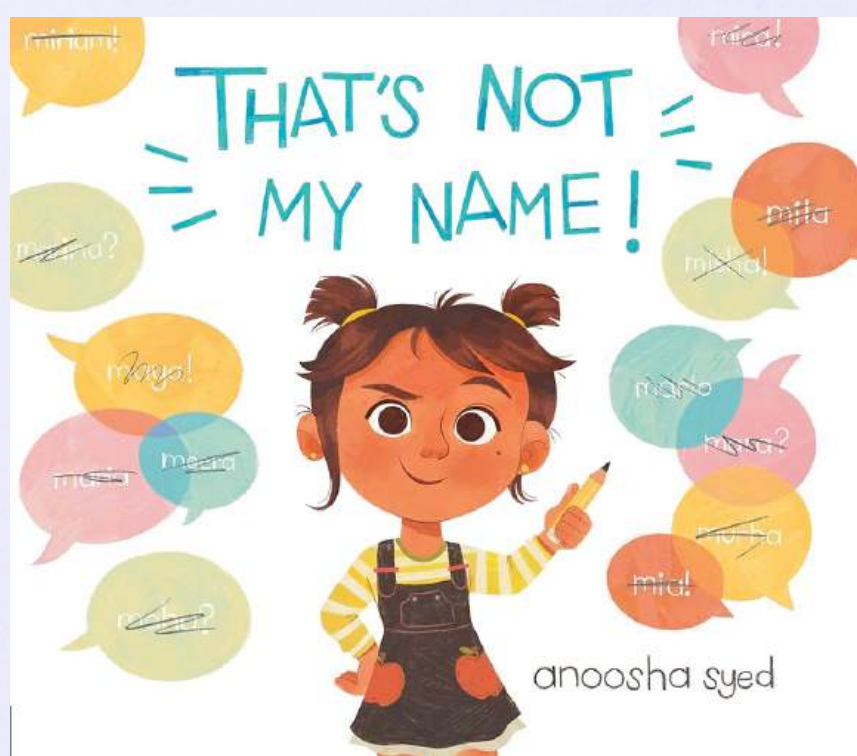
Author & Illustrator: Yangsook Choi

Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she decides to choose an American name from a glass jar. With the help of a new friend, Unhei will learn that the best name is her own.

Dragonfly Books



Featured Topic: **Names**



That's Not My Name!

Author & Illustrator: Anoosha Syed

Mirha is excited for her first day of school! She can't wait to make new friends. But when her classmates mispronounce her name, she wonders if she should find a new one. Mama helps Mirha to see how special her name is, and she returns to school the next day determined to help her classmates say it correctly—even if it takes a hundred tries.

Viking Books for Young Readers

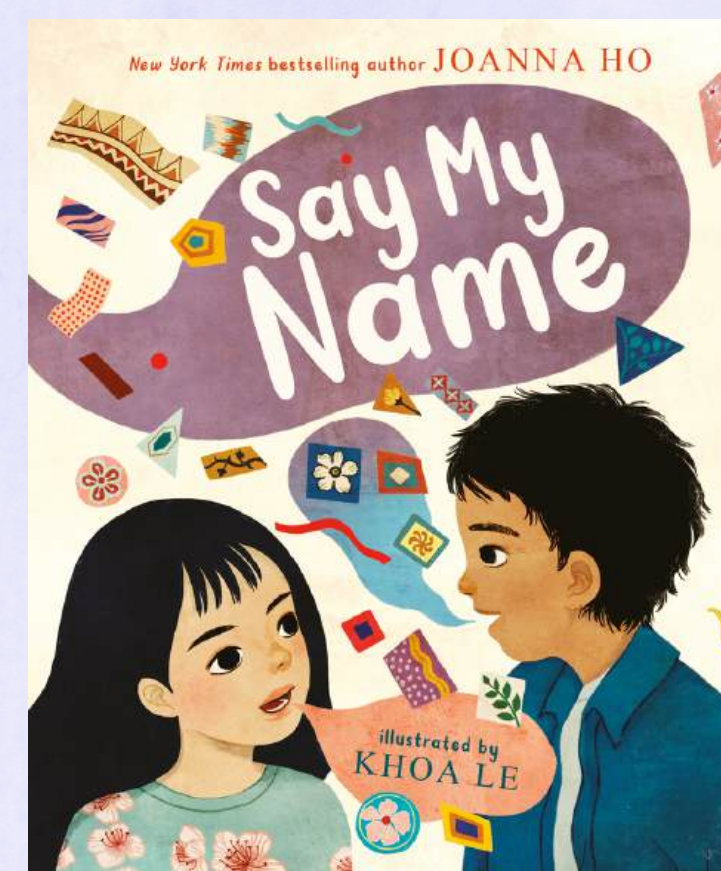
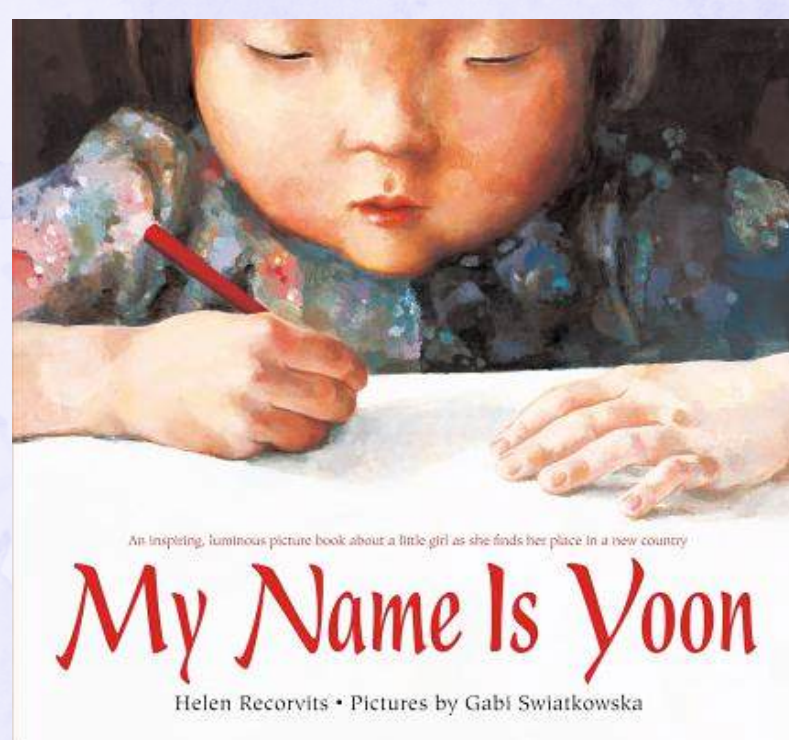
My Name is Yoon

Author: Helen Recorvits

Illustrator: Gabi Swiatkowska

Yoon's name means "shining wisdom," and when she writes it in Korean, it looks happy, like dancing figures. But her father tells her that she must learn to write it in English. In English, all the lines and circles stand alone, which is just how Yoon feels in the United States. Yoon isn't sure that she wants to be YOON. At her new school, she tries out different names—maybe CAT or BIRD. Maybe CUPCAKE!

Square Fish



Say My Name

Author: Joanna Ho

Illustrator: Khoa Le

Six children connect with the reader and proudly celebrate their names and backgrounds. These captivating kids of Chinese, Tongan, Persian, Navajo, Mexican, and Ghanaian descent also honor their ancestors and cultural histories.

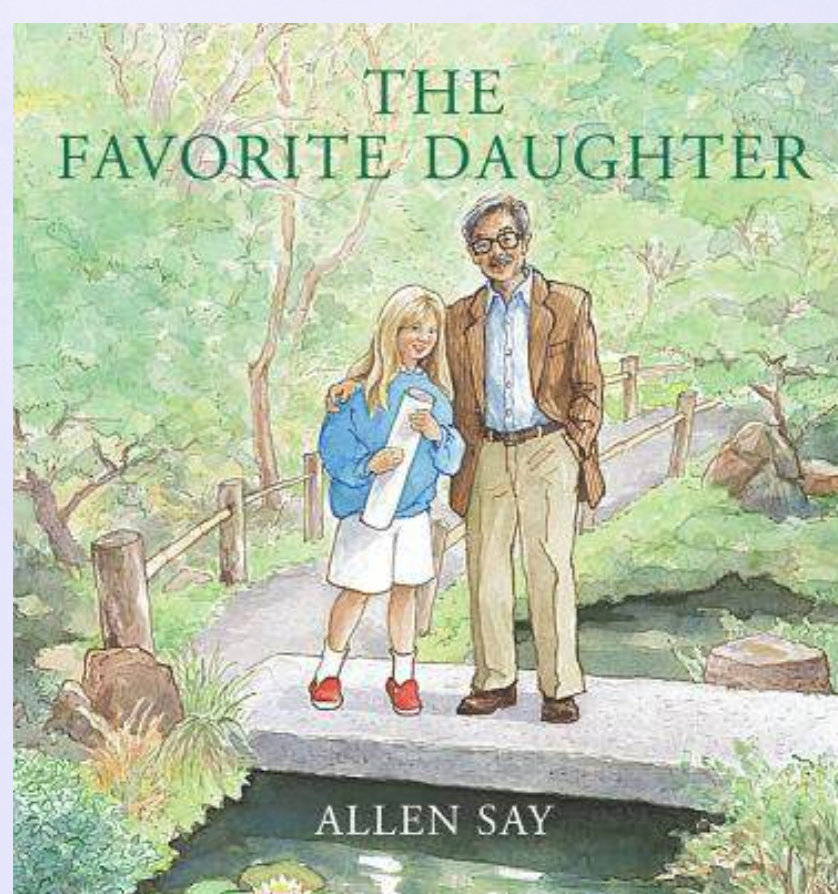
HarperCollins

The Favorite Daughter

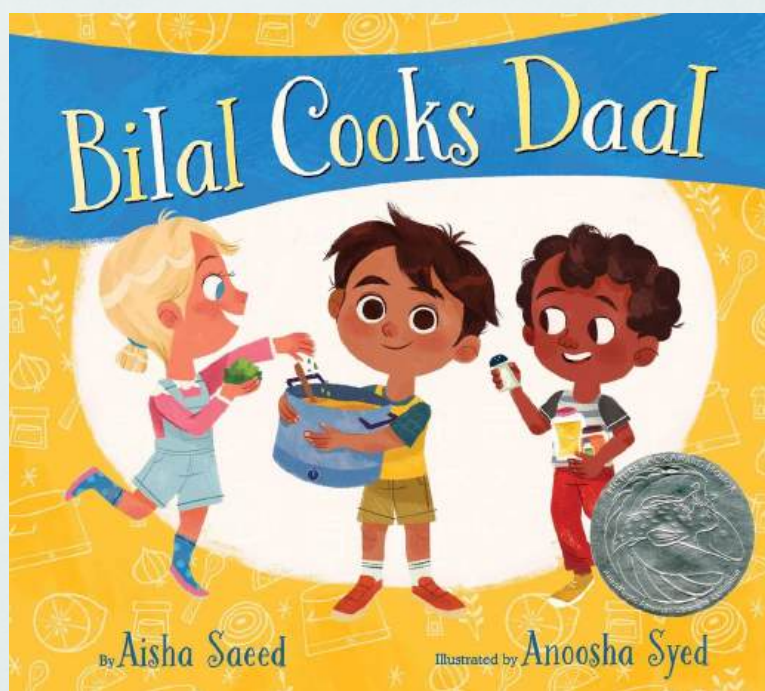
Author & Illustrator: Allen Say

Yuriko hates her name when the children make fun of it and call her Eureka. Though she is half Japanese, the teasing makes her want to hide, to retreat even from the art projects she used to love. Fortunately she has a patient, kind father who helps Yuriko face down her challenges with confidence.

Arthur A. Levine Books



Featured Topic: **Pakistani Identity**

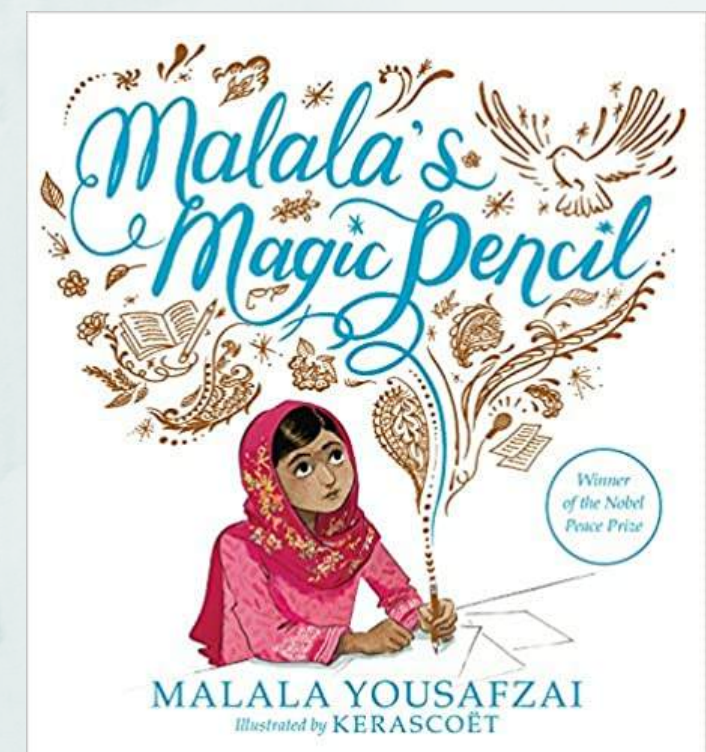


Bilal Cooks Daal

Author: Aisha Saeed

Illustrator: Anoosha Syed

Six-year-old Bilal is excited to help his dad make his favorite food of all-time: daal! Bilal wants to introduce his friends to daal. They've never tried it! *Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers*



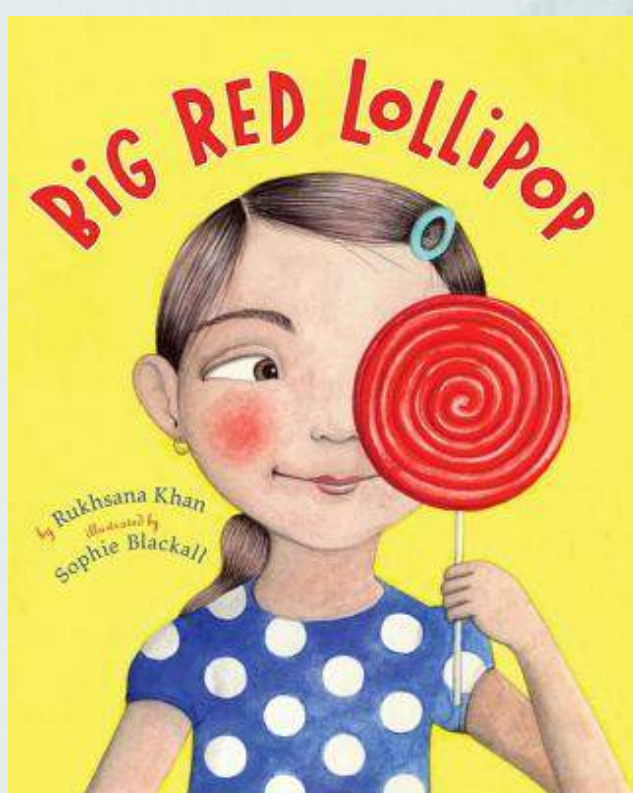
Malala's Magic Pencil

Author: Malala Yousafzai

Illustrator: Kerascoët

As a child in Pakistan, Malala made a wish for a magic pencil. As she grew older, she saw a world that needed fixing.

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



Big Red Lollipop

Author: Rukhsana Khan

Illustrator: Sophie Blackall

Rubina has been invited to her first birthday party, and her mother, Ami, insists that she bring her little sister along. Rubina is mortified, but she can't convince Ami that you just don't bring your younger sister to your friend's party.

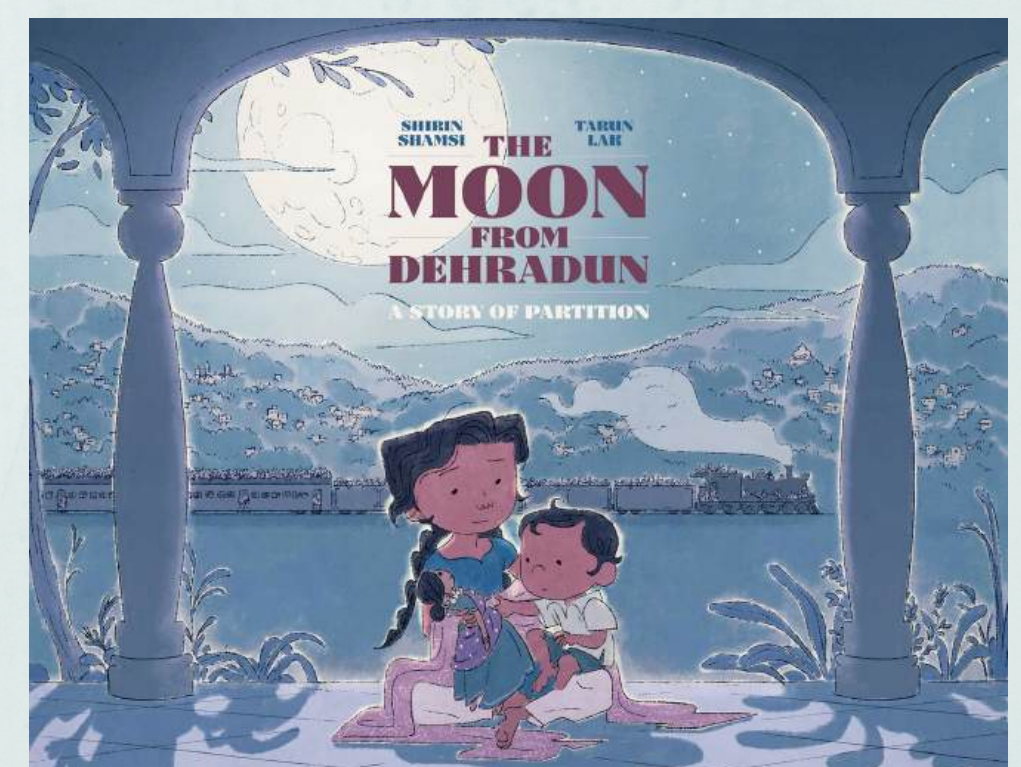
Viking Books

The Moon from Dehradun

Author: Shirin Shamsi | Illustrator: Tarun Lak

Azra knows that wherever she goes, her doll Gurya will follow. Even if it's on a train that will take her far away from the house her family has lived in for generations. Even if there is a new flag flying in Dehradun, and no place left in it for Azra. At least she will be taking a piece of home with her. But when Abba comes home and says they must leave right now, Gurya gets left behind in the scramble. Will Azra be strong enough to face the long journey alone? And what will happen to Gurya, now hundreds of miles behind them?

Atheneum Books for Young Readers

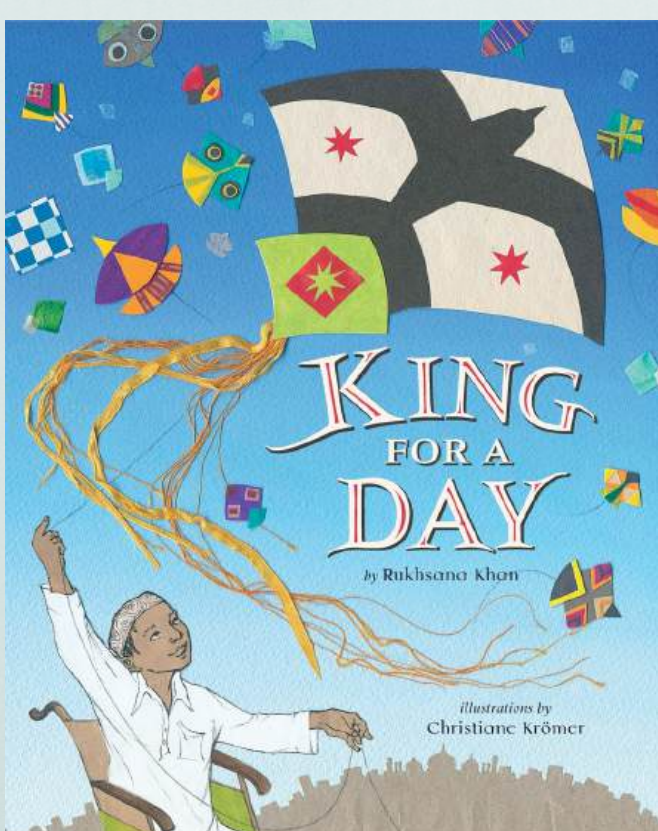


King for a Day

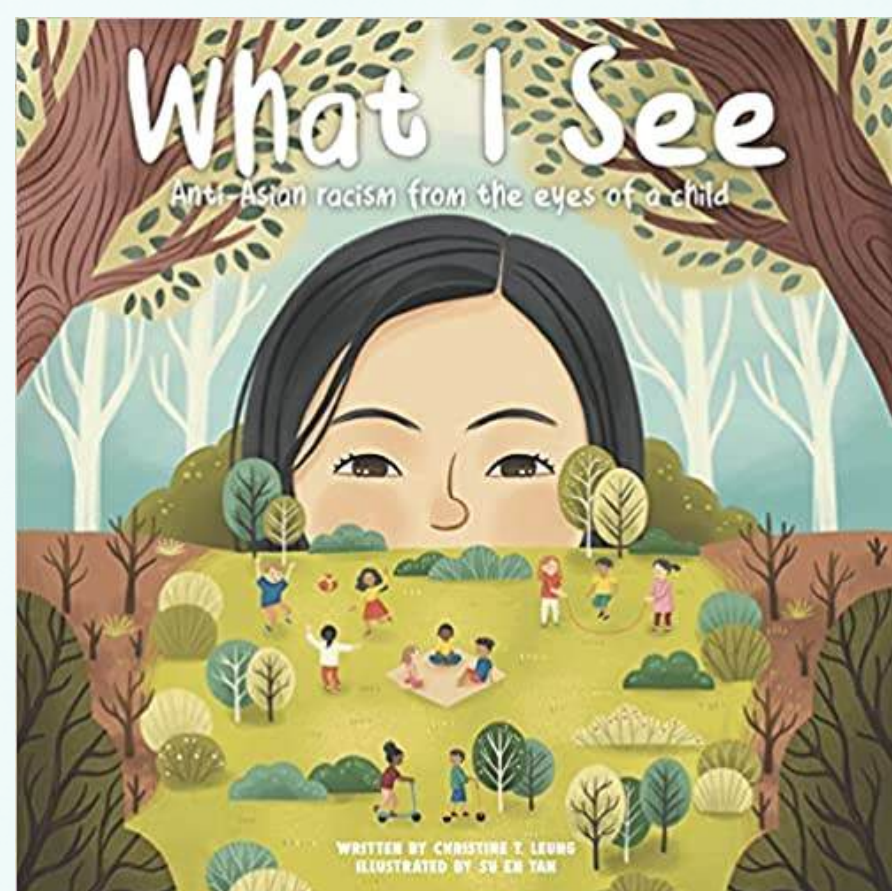
Author: Rukhsana Khan | Illustrator: Christiane Krömer

Basant is here, with feasts and parties to celebrate the arrival of spring. But what Malik is looking forward to most is doing battle from his rooftop with Falcon, the special kite he has built for speed. Today is Malik's chance to be the best kite fighter, the king of Basant. In two fierce battles, Malik takes down the kites flown by the bully next door. Then Malik moves on, guiding Falcon into leaps, swirls, and dives, slashing strings and plucking kites from the sky. By the end of the day, Malik has a big pile of captured kites. He is the king! But then the bully reappears, trying to take a kite from a girl in the alley below. With a sudden act of kingly generosity, Malik finds the perfect way to help the girl.

Lee & Low Books



Featured Topic: Racism and Bullying



What I See

Author: Christine T. Leung

Illustrator: Su En Tan

A lyrical picture book about anti-Asian racism, from the child's own perspective. The rise in xenophobia and anti-Asian hate incidents can be scary and confusing for kids. This book is an easy-to-follow guide for the child to reflect, ask questions, and learn more about this important topic.

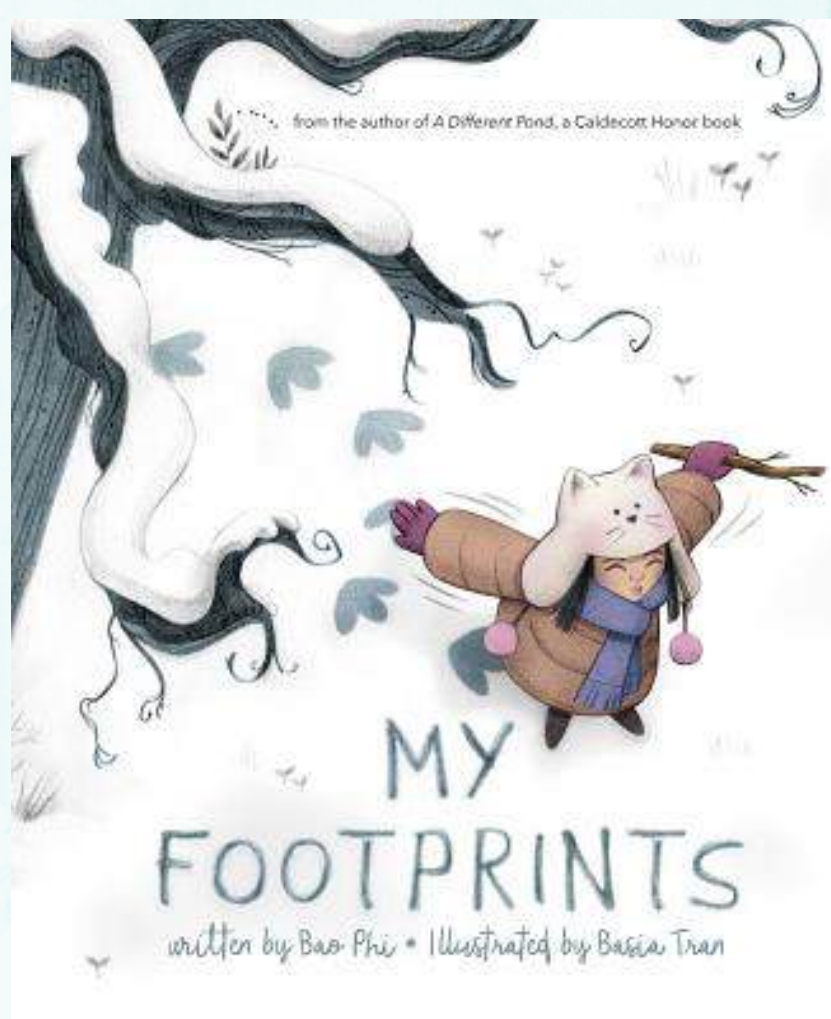
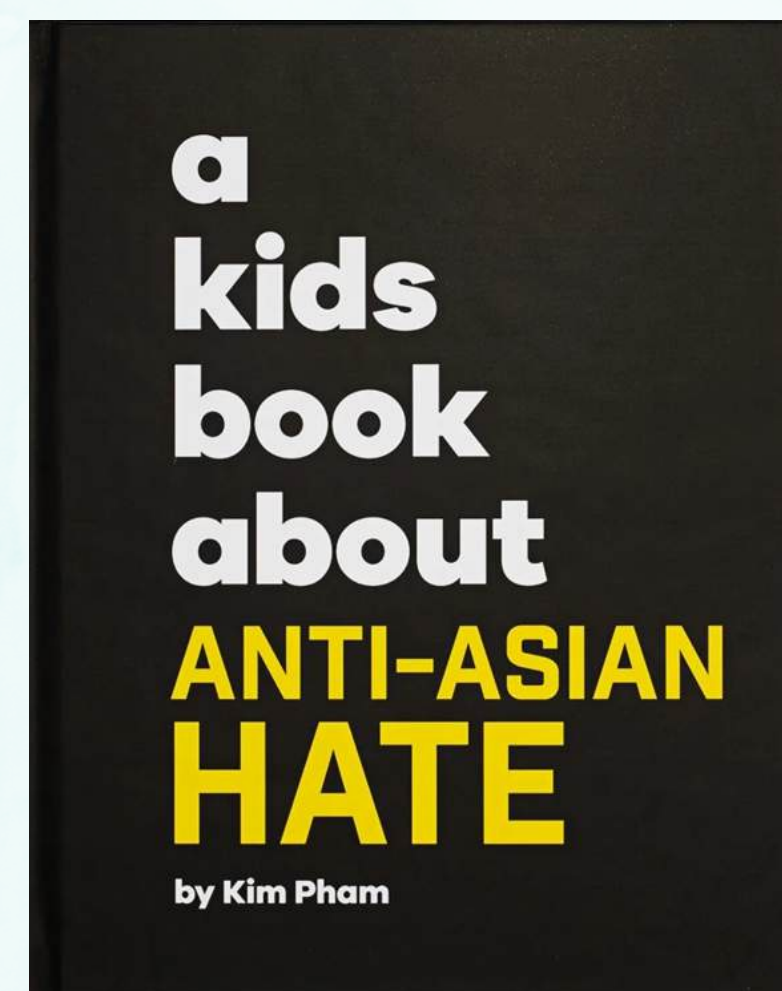
LegaC Publishing

a kids book about Anti-Asian HATE

Author: Kim Pham

We all know that hate and racism are bad, but what does it look like when an Asian person experiences racism? This book is here to start that conversation. To help explain the hate that Asian Americans experience in their lives and empower kids to not be afraid to talk about racism and help them find their voice to speak up against anti-Asian hate.

A Kids Book About

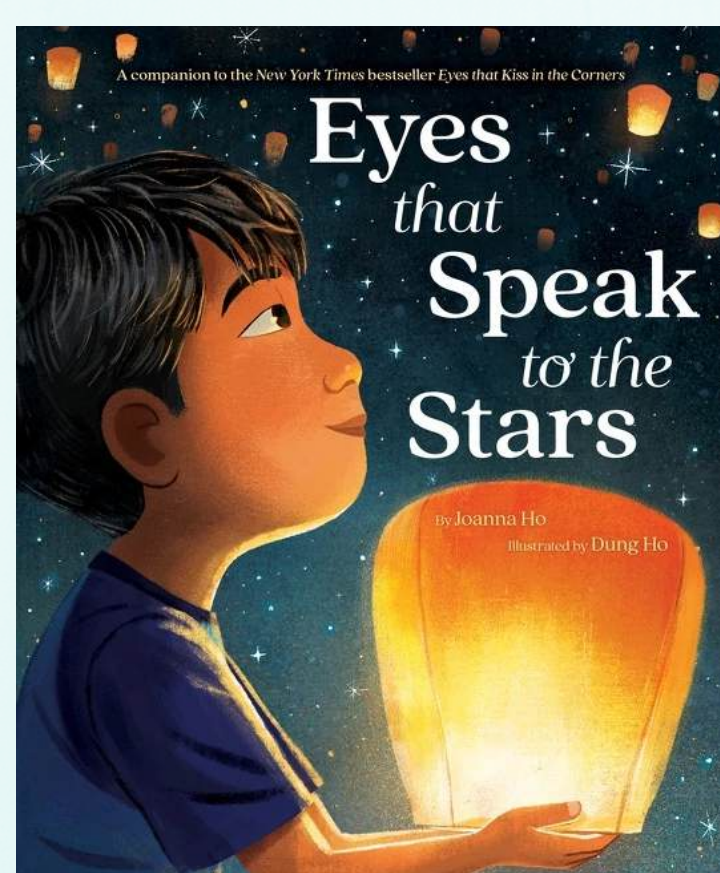


My Footprints

Author: Bao Phi | Illustrator: Basia Tran

Every child feels different in some way, but Thuy feels "double different." She is Vietnamese American and she has two moms. Thuy walks home one winter afternoon, angry and lonely after a bully's taunts. Then a bird catches her attention and sets Thuy on an imaginary exploration....

Capstone Editions



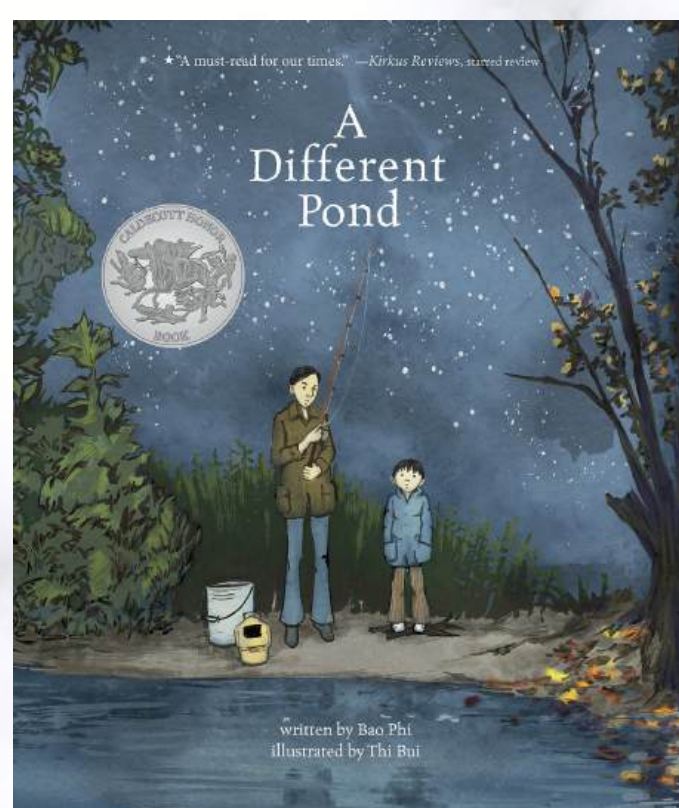
Eyes that Speak to the Stars

Author: Joanna Ho | Illustrator: Dung Ho

A young boy comes to recognize his own power and ability to change the future. When a friend at school creates a hurtful drawing, the boy turns to his family for comfort. He realizes that his eyes rise to the skies and speak to the stars, shine like sunlit rays, and glimpse trails of light from those who came before—in fact, his eyes are like his father's, his agong's, and his little brother's, and they are visionary. Inspired by the men in his family, he recognizes his own power and strength from within.

HarperCollins

Featured Topic: **Vietnamese Identity**



A Different Pond

Author: Bao Phi | Illustrator: Thi Bui

As a young boy, Bao and his father awoke early, hours before his father's long workday began, to fish on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis. Unlike many other anglers, Bao and his father fished for food, not recreation. A successful catch meant a fed family. Between hope-filled casts, Bao's father told him about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam.

Capstone Young Readers

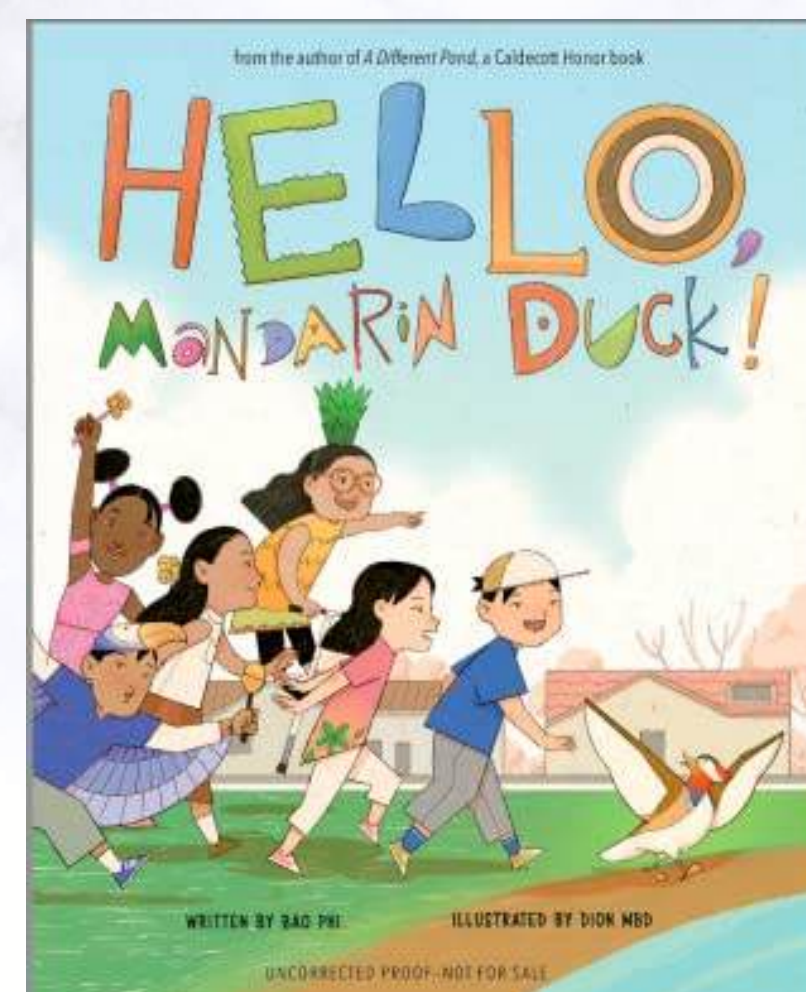
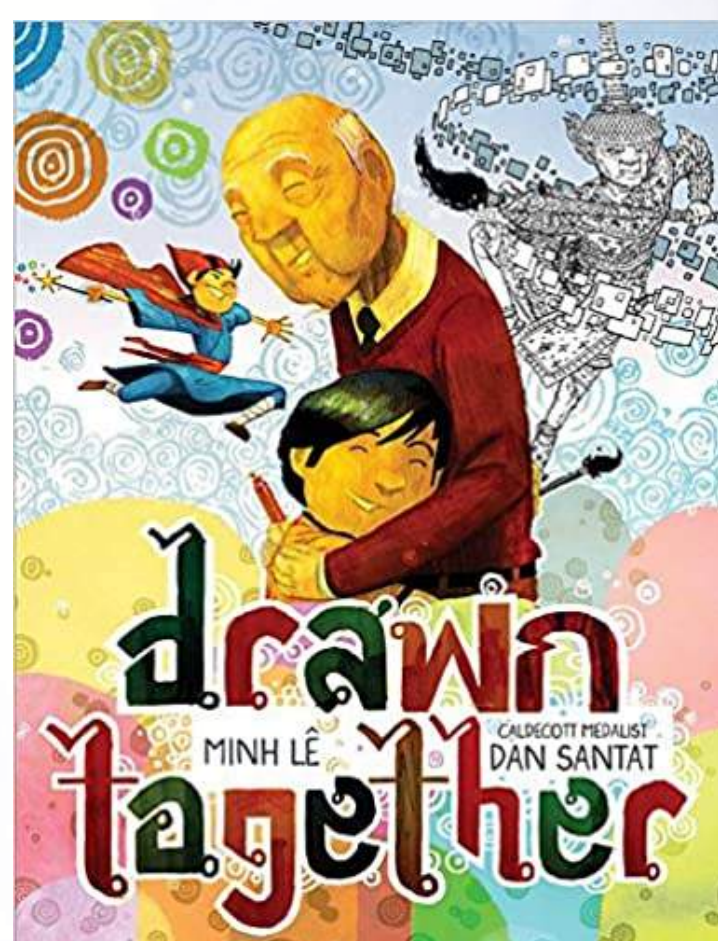
drawn together

Author: Minh Lê

Illustrator: Dan Santat

When a young boy visits his grandfather, their lack of a common language leads to confusion, frustration, and silence. But as they sit down to draw together, something magical happens—with a shared love of art and storytelling, the two form a bond that goes beyond words.

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



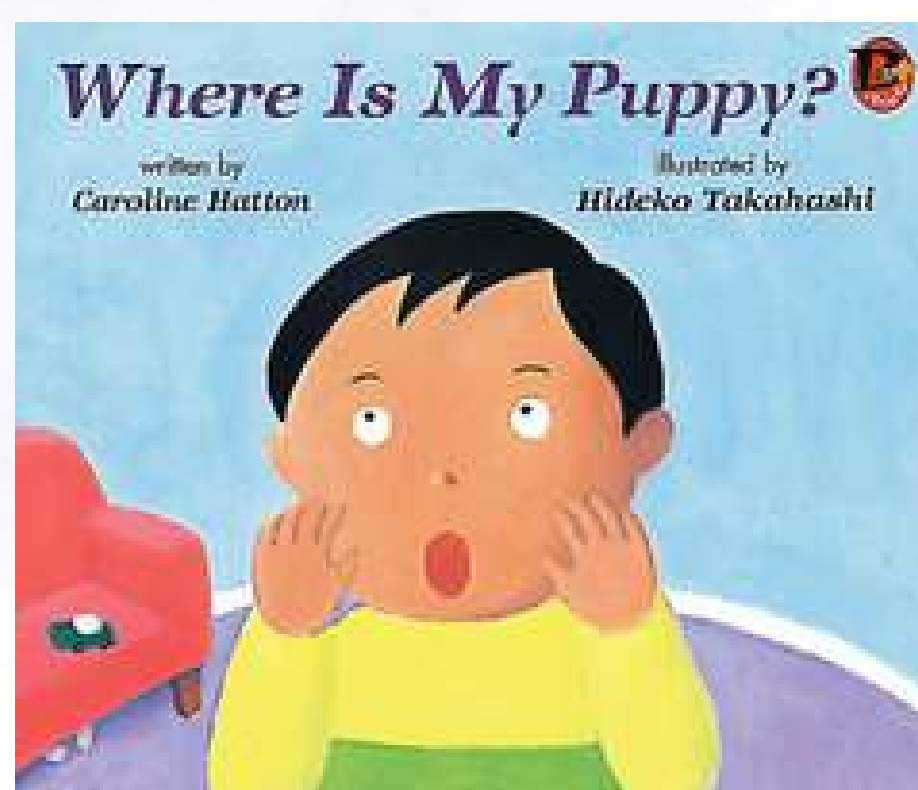
Hello, Mandarin Duck!

Author: Bao Phi

Illustrator: Dion Mbd

Twins Hue and Hoa are excited for the May Day parade! While waiting at the park for the parade to begin, they spot a little duck who seems new to the neighborhood—and looks confused. Many friends from the neighborhood stop to say hello and offer suggestions. Teamwork, collective brainstorming, and the duck's own inspiration finally help it reach its new home—with an entire community welcoming it with a parade!

Capstone Editions



Where Is My Puppy?

Author: Caroline Hatton

Illustrator: Hideko Takahashi

A Vietnamese American boy searches all over the house for his puppy, who is always hiding just out of sight.

Bebop Books

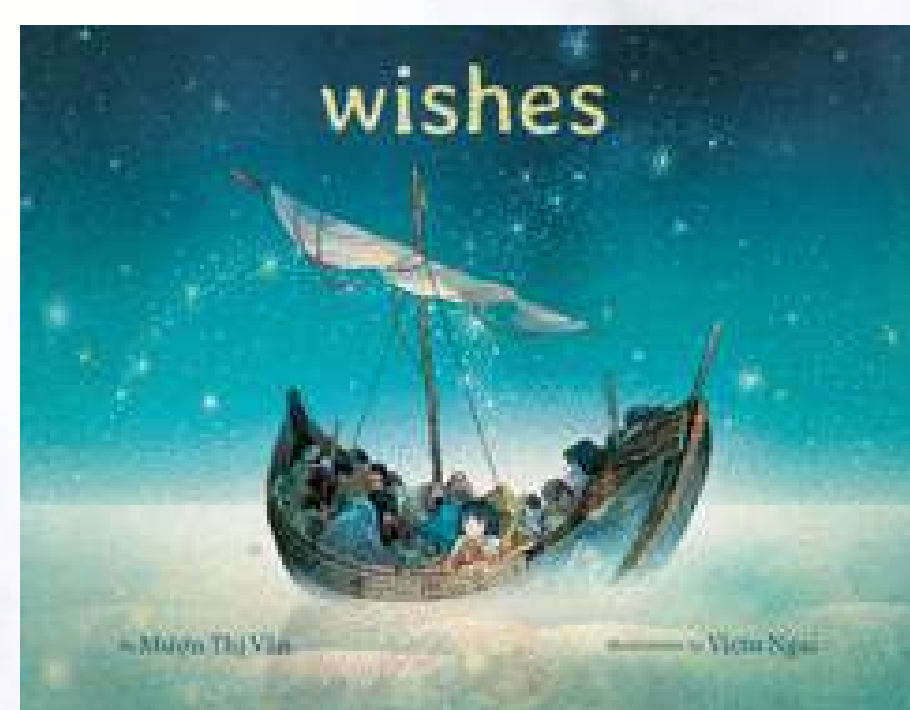
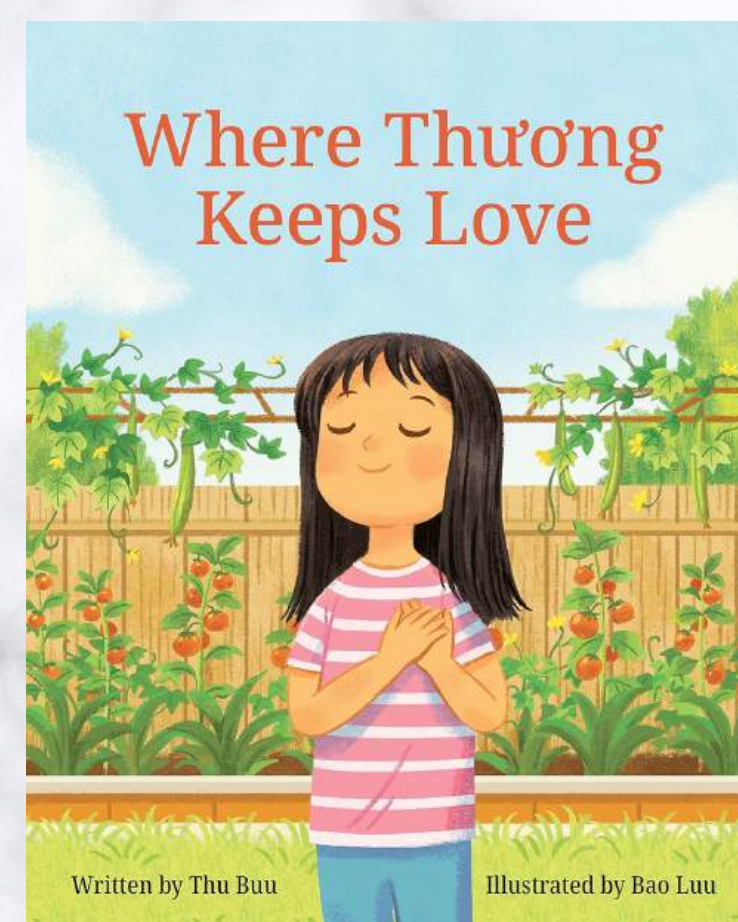
Featured Topic: **Vietnamese Identity**

Where Thuong Keeps Love

Author: Thu Buu | Illustrator: Bao Luu

Where do you feel and keep love for your parents? In your head, where you think kind thoughts? In your mouth, where you say special words? Or in your heart, where you feel good emotions? Inspired by the subtle yet unique cultural differences in how love is expressed, this book explores all the nonverbal ways love and affection are connected and held in every part of the body—from the top of the head all the way down to the tips of the toes.

West Margin Press



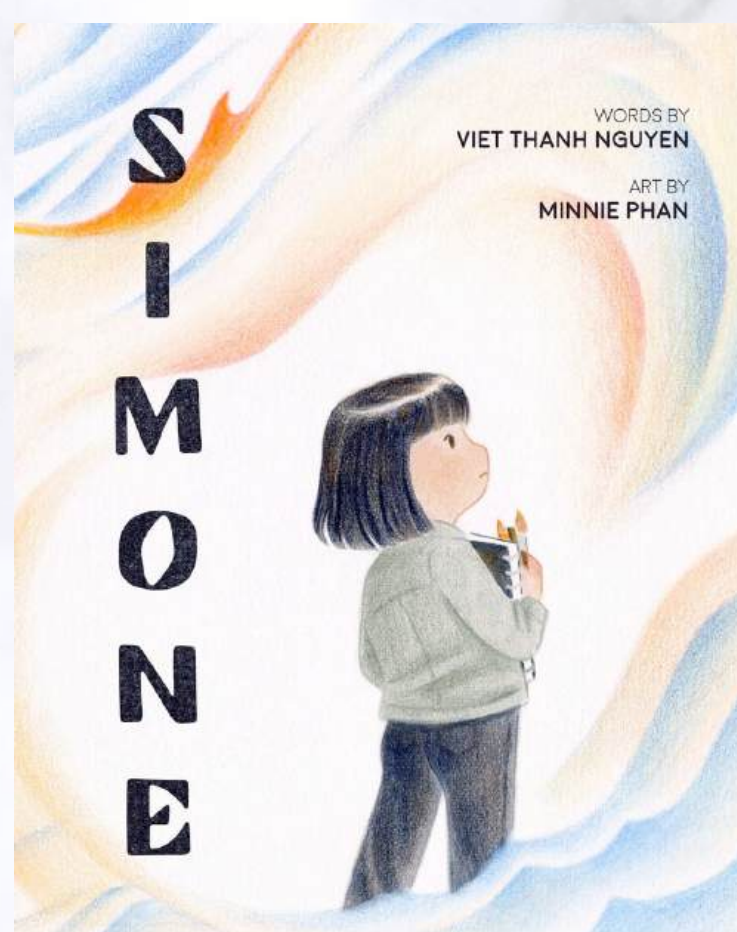
Wishes

Author: Muon Thi Van

Illustrator: Victo Ngai

A powerful, honest story about one Vietnamese family's search for a new home on the other side of the world, and the long-lasting and powerful impact that makes on the littlest member of the family.

Orchard Books



Simone

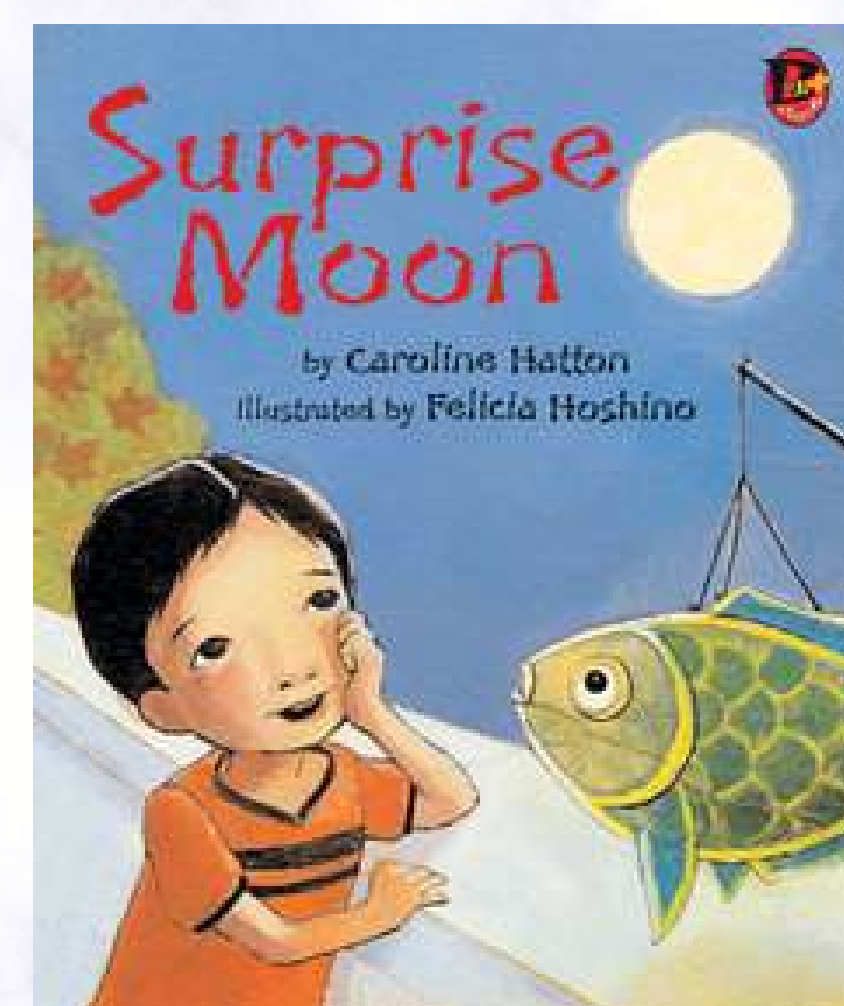
Author: Viet Thanh Nguyen

Illustrator: Minnie Phan

When Simone is awakened by her mom as a wildfire threatens their home, it is the beginning of a life-changing journey. On their way to take shelter in a high school gym, the family passes firefighters from a prison unit battling the fire. Simone's mom tells her that when she was a girl in Viet Nam, she was forced to evacuate her home after a flood. Joined by other children

sheltering in the gym, Simone, a budding artist, encourages everyone to draw as a way to process their situation. After a few days, Simone and her mom are able to return to their home, which is fortunately still standing, and her outlook has changed. As Simone begins creating a piece of art with one of her new friends, she realizes that even though they are young, they can dream and work together for a more sustainable future.

Minerva



Surprise Moon

Author: Caroline Hatton

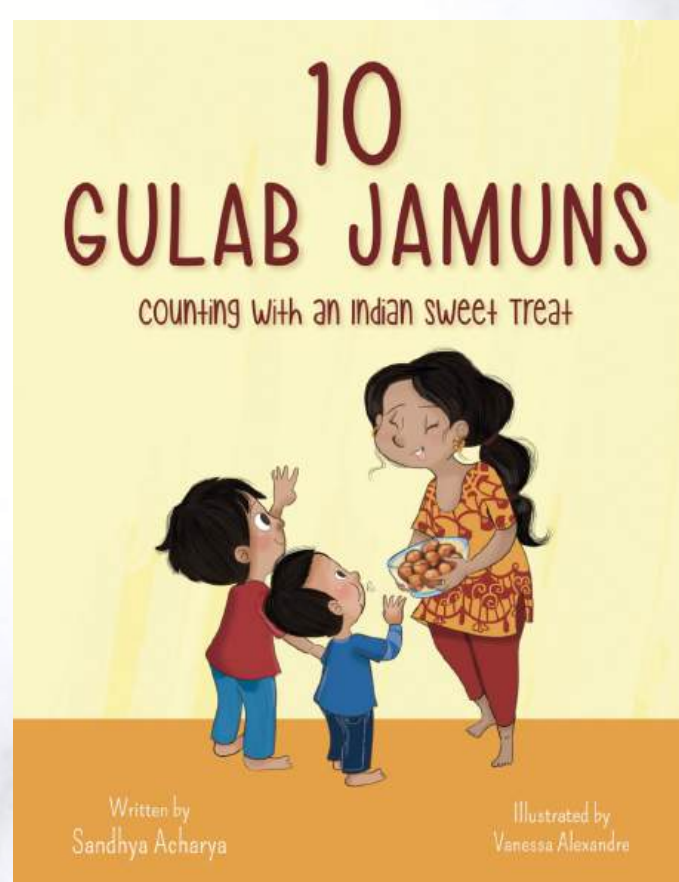
Illustrator: Felicia Hoshino

On a Fall night, a Vietnamese American boy named Nick shows his friends how to celebrate the Autumn Moon Festival, a special holiday in his father's home country. See which part of the celebration Nick likes the best.

Bebop Books

More to Explore:

A to Z Listing



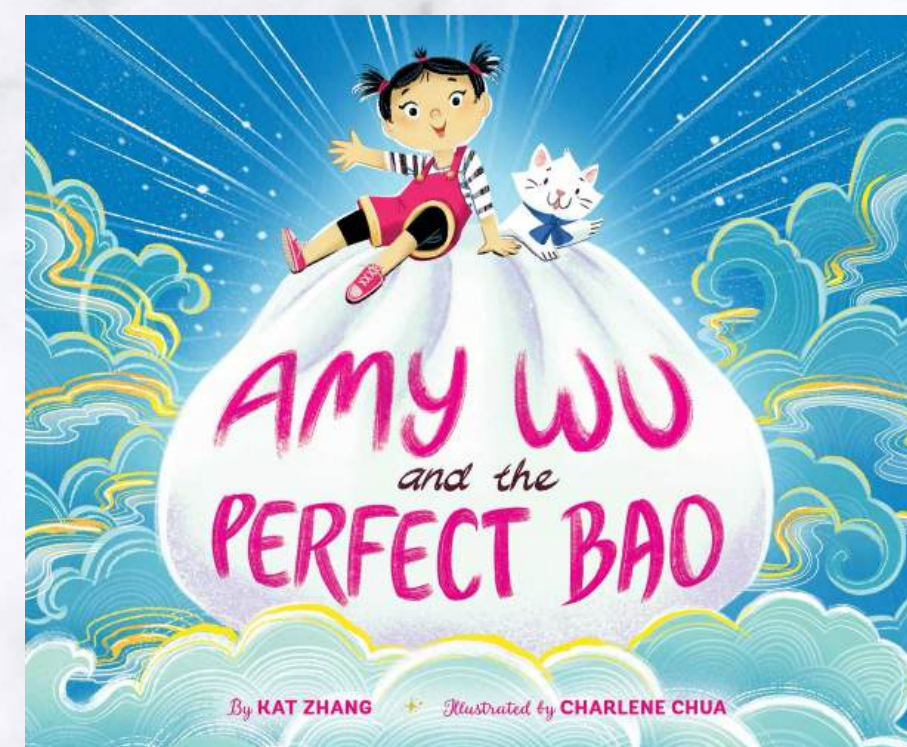
10 Gulab Jamuns

Author: Sandhya Acharya

Illustrator: Vanessa Alexandre

Siblings Idu and Adu are very excited. Guests are coming over for dinner and Mama is making a special dessert—Ten Gulab Jamuns! Sweet, golden, sugar-syrup-soaked Gulab Jamuns that melt in your mouth. But Mama asks them to stay away from the bowl of treats—they can only eat the ten Gulab Jamuns after the guests arrive. But can Idu and Adu wait?

Sandhya Acharya



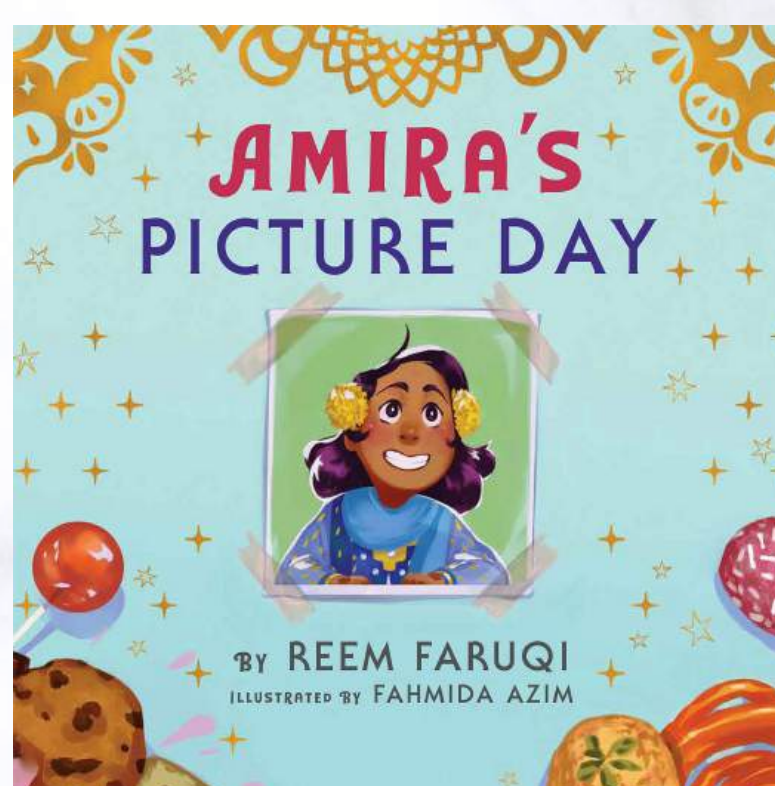
Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao

Author: Kat Zhang

Illustrator: Charlene Chua

Amy loves to make bao with her family. But it takes skill to make the bao taste and look delicious. And her bao keep coming out all wrong. Then she has an idea that may give her a second chance...Will Amy ever make the perfect bao?

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers



Amira's Picture Day

Author: Reem Faruqi

Illustrator: Fahmida Azim

Ramadan has come to an end, and Amira can't wait to stay home from school to celebrate Eid. There's just one hiccup: it's also school picture day. How can Amira be in two places at once?

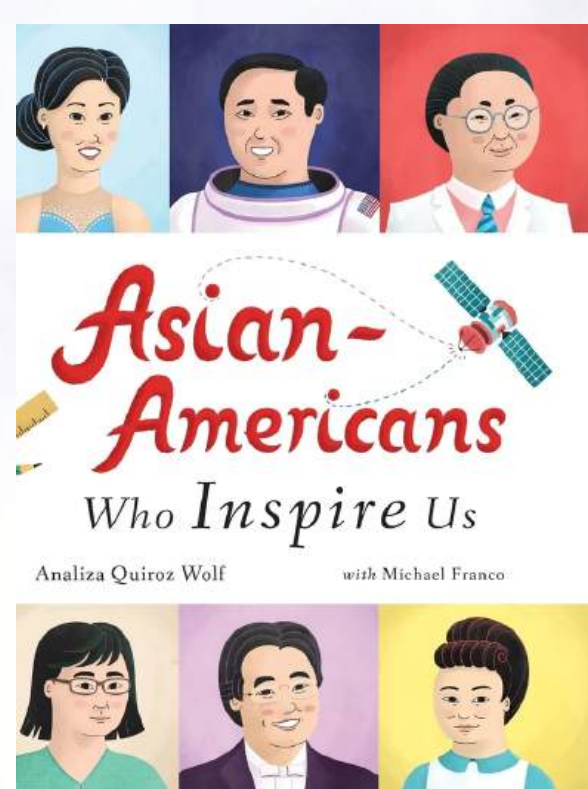
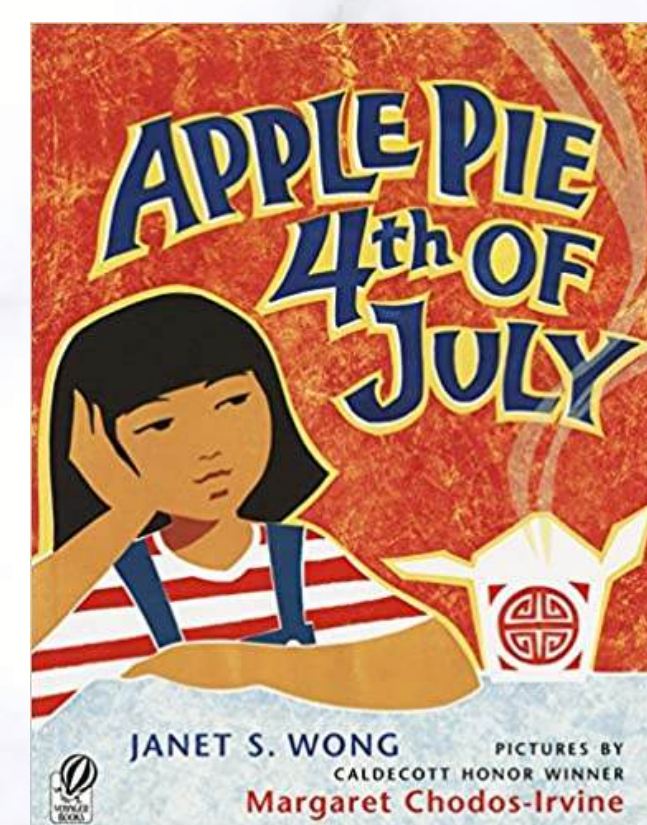
Holiday House

Apple Pie 4th of July

Author: Jane Wong | Illustrator: Margaret Chodos-Irvine

Shocked that her parents are cooking Chinese food to sell in the family store on an all-American holiday, a feisty Chinese American girl tries to tell her mother and father how things *really* are. But as the parade passes by and fireworks light the sky, she learns a surprising lesson.

Clarion Books

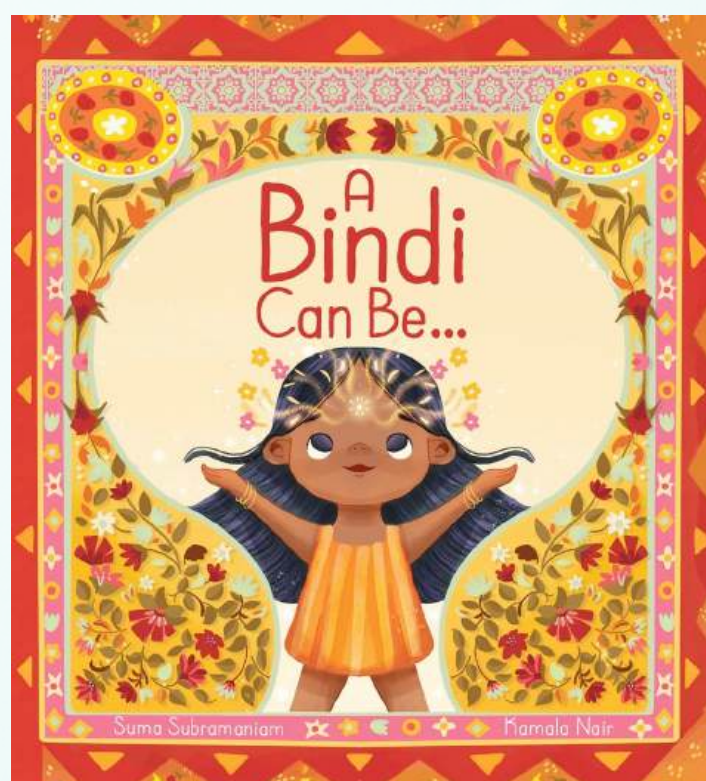


Asian-Americans Who Inspire Us

Author: Analiza Quiroz Wolf

This book shares engaging stories of 16 trailblazing Asian-Americans. The stories bring to life Vietnam Memorial architect Maya Lin, Olympian Kristi Yamaguchi, musician Yo-Yo Ma, astronaut Ellison Onizuka, anchorwoman Lisa Ling, activists Larry Itliong and Philip Vera Cruz, and more!

Analiza Wolf



A Bindi Can Be...

Author: Suma Subramaniam

Illustrator: Kamala Nair

A young girl makes a bindi with her grandmother and discovers what wearing one means to her.

Kids Can Press

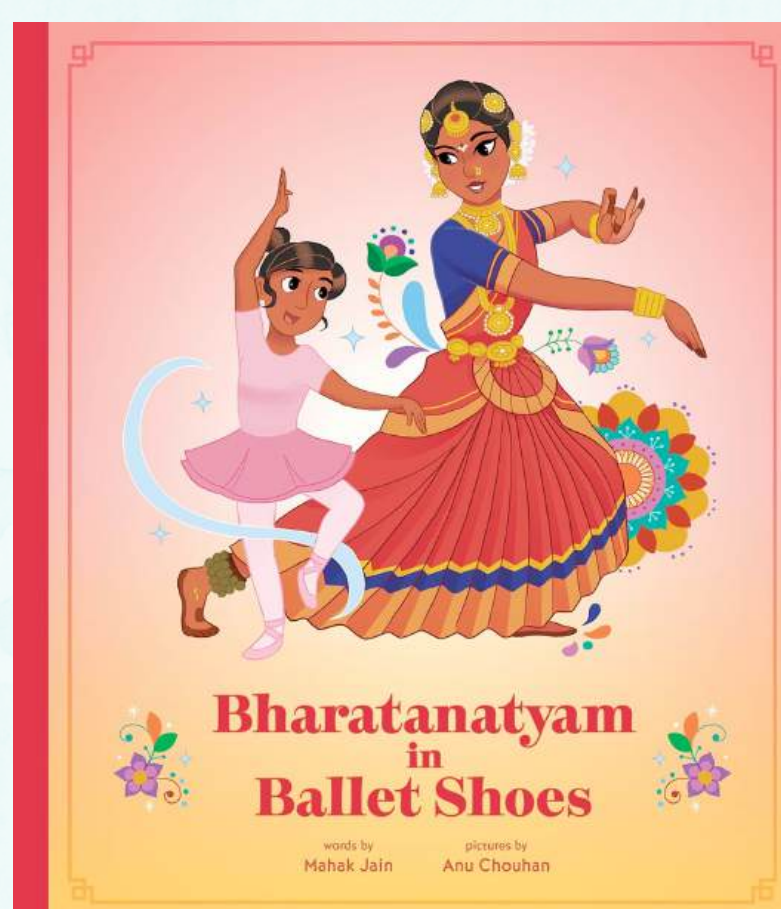


A Big Bed for Little Snow

Author & Illustrator: Grace Lin

Little Snow loves the new big, soft bed Mommy made him for the long, cold winter nights. But Mommy says this bed is for sleeping, not jumping! What happens when he can't resist jump, jump, jumping on his new fluffy, bouncy bed?

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



Bharatanatyam in Ballet Shoes

Author: Mahak Jain

Illustrator: Anu Chouhan

Paro comes from a dancing family. At home, she dances Bharatanatyam with her mom, and now she's excited to learn ballet. But what if she can't dance like the other kids in her class? Ballerinas move like fairies, while Bharatanatyam dancers seem like queens. Paro can't be both...can she?

Annick Press



Bringing in the New Year

Author & Illustrator: Grace Lin

In a brightly colored board book, perfect for the youngest child, Newbery Honoree Grace Lin tells the tale of a Chinese American family as they prepare for the Lunar New Year. Each family member lends a hand as they sweep out the dust of the old year, hang decorations, and make dumplings. Then it's time to celebrate. There will be fireworks and lion dancers, shining lanterns, and a great, long dragon parade at the end!

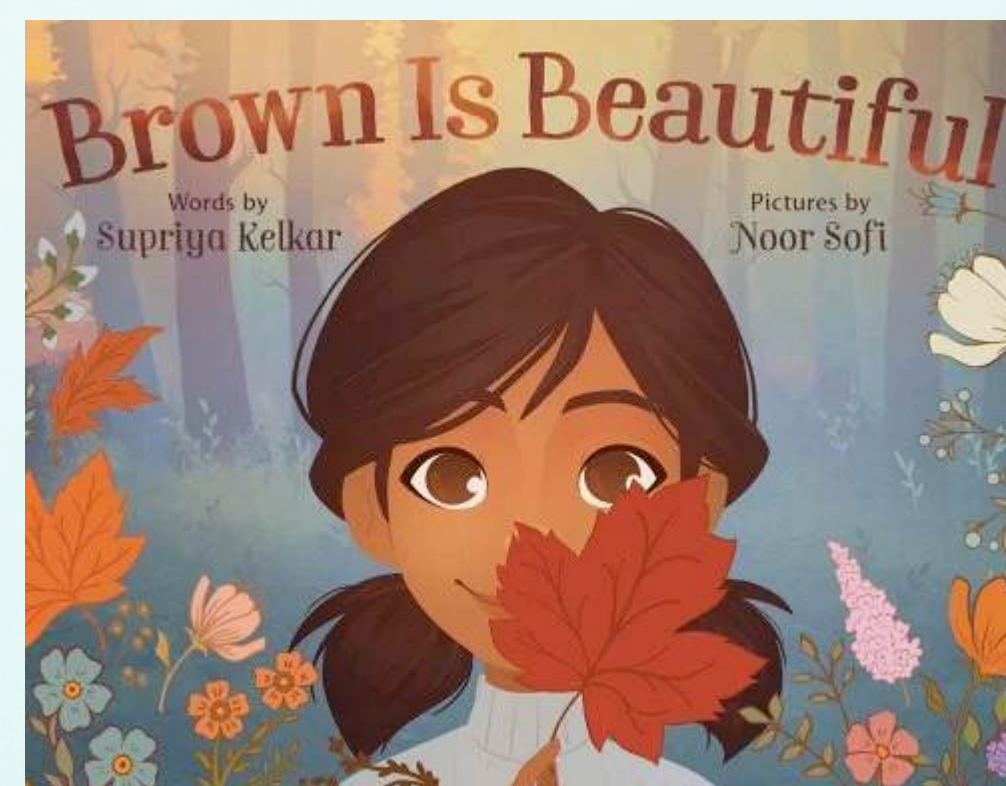
Knopf Books for Young Readers

Brown is Beautiful

Author: Supriya Kelkar | Illustrator: Noor Sofi

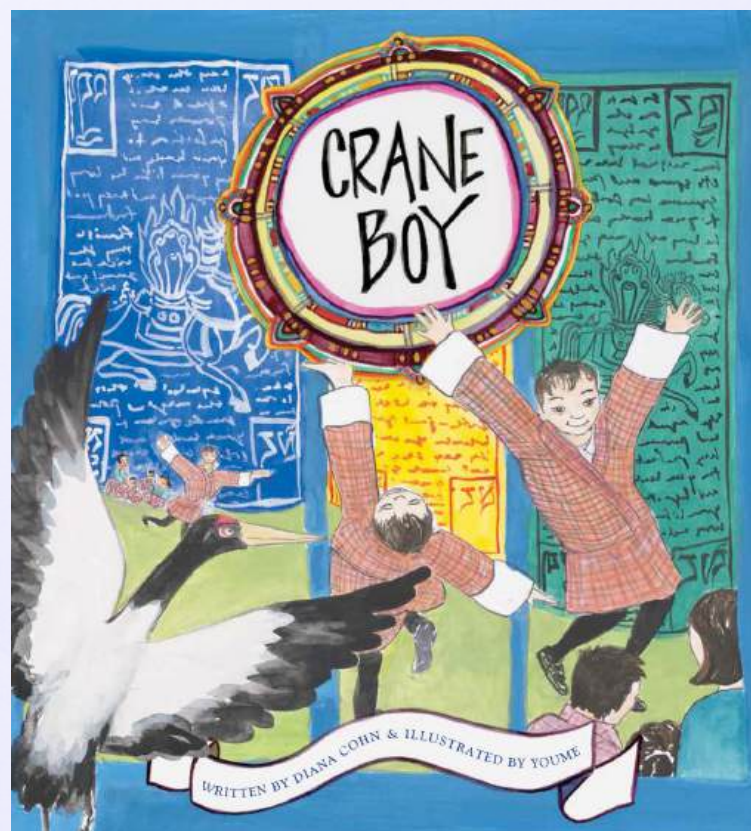
On a hike with her grandparents, a young Indian-American girl makes note of all the things in nature that are brown, too. From a nurturing mother bear, to the steadiness of deep twisting roots, to the beauty of a wild mustang, brown is everywhere! On her way, the girl collects the beautiful brown things she encounters as mementos for a scrapbook to share with a very special new addition to her family—a baby brother!

Farrar, Straus, and Giroux



Crane Boy

Author: Diane Cohn | Illustrator: Youme



Every year, Kinga and his classmates wait for the black-necked cranes to return to the kingdom of Bhutan. The birds fly south over the highest mountains in the world to winter in the valley where Kinga lives, deep in the Himalayas. The cranes have been visiting the valley since ancient times, but every year, fewer cranes return. Kinga is concerned. "What can I do?" he wonders. He and his classmates approach the monks for permission to create and perform a dance to honor the cranes and to remind the Bhutanese people of their duty to care for them. The monks caution them to first watch the cranes to see how they move and learn from them. The children watch and practice. And practice some more until the big day when they perform before the king of Bhutan.

Lee & Low Books

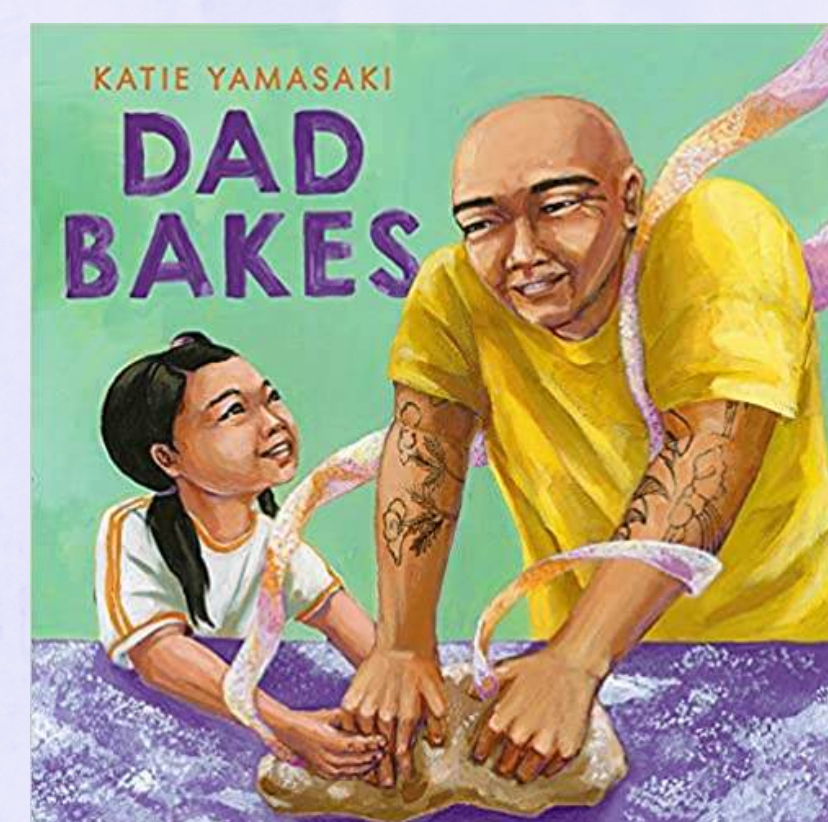
Dev and Ollie: Kite Crazy!

Author: Shweta Aggarwal

Illustrator: Somnath Chatterjee

Dev has just received his favourite birthday present - a cool new kite! But the problem is he doesn't know how to fly it. Ollie, Dev's magical bedtime owl, comes to rescue. Together, they set off on an action packed journey to one of the largest kite festivals in the world...in INDIA!

Curious Minds Press

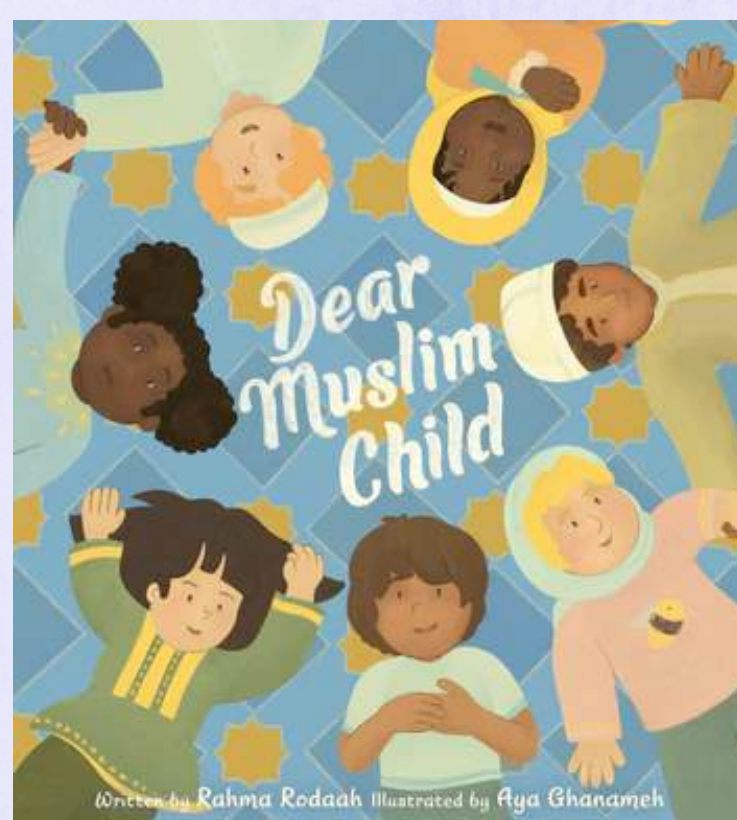


Dad Bakes

Author: Katie Yamasaki

Dad wakes early every morning before the sun, heading off to work at the bakery. He kneads, rolls, and bakes, and as the sun rises and the world starts its day, Dad heads home to his daughter. Together they play, read, garden, and—most importantly—they bake.

Norton Young Readers



Dear Muslim Child

Author: Rahma Rodaah

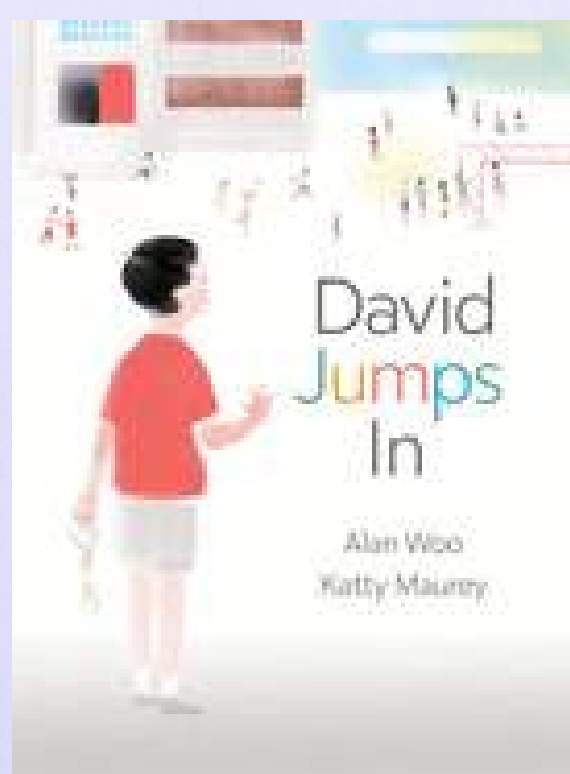
Illustrator: Aya Ghanameh

In this lyrical ode to Islam, Muslim children all over the world are encouraged to celebrate their faith and traditions.

Balzer & Brey

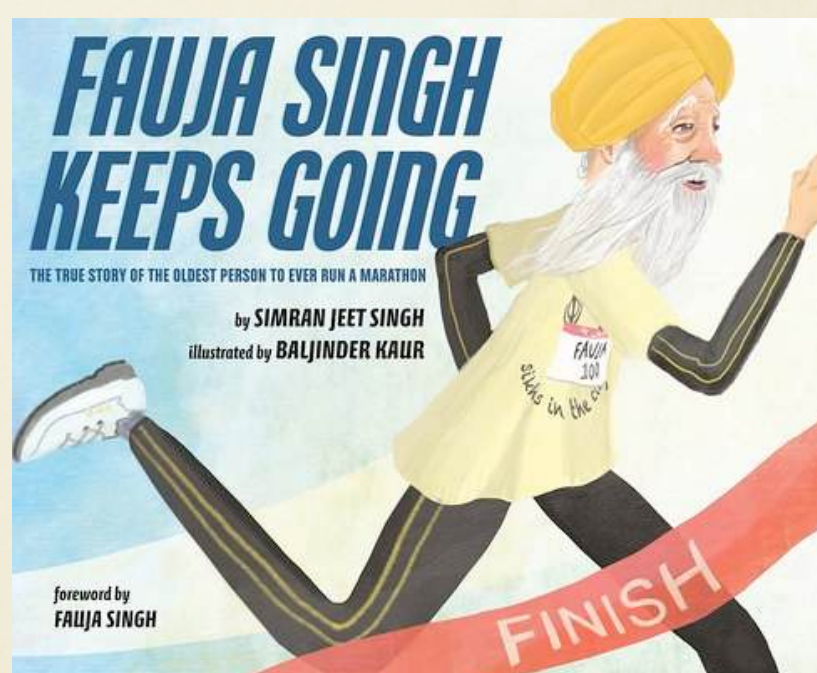
David Jumps In

Author: Alan Woo | Illustrator: Katty Maurey



It is David's first day at his brand-new school. He doesn't know anyone. At recess, he stands alone and watches the other children enjoying their activities on the playground, from practicing soccer moves and climbing monkey bars to playing hopscotch and daydreaming in the grass. Bundled deep inside David's pocket is a string of rubber bands, knotted and ready for a game of elastic skip. But will anyone want to try that game? he wonders. Will anyone want to play with him?

Kids Can Press

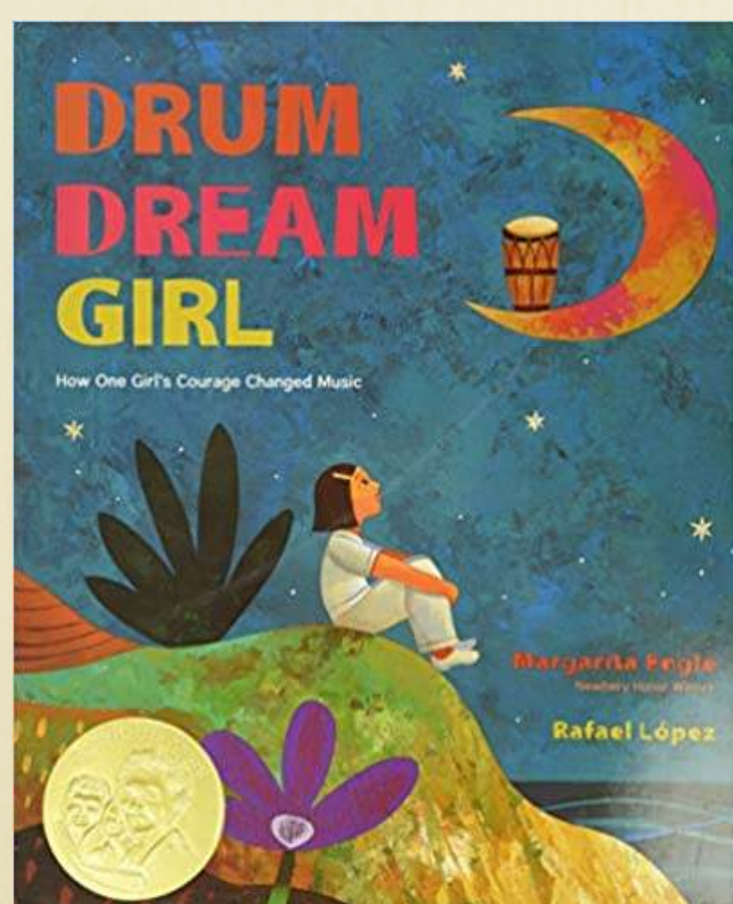


Fauja Singh Keeps Going

Author: Simran Jeet Singh
| Illustrator: Baljinder Kaur

Fauja Singh was born determined. He was also born with legs that wouldn't allow him to play cricket with his friends or carry him to school miles from his village in Punjab. But that didn't stop him. Working on his family's farm, Fauja grew stronger to meet his own full potential. He never stopped striving. At the age of 81, after a lifetime of making his body, mind, and heart stronger, Fauja decided to run his first marathon. He went on to break records all around the world and became the first person over 100 to complete the grueling long-distance race.

Kokila

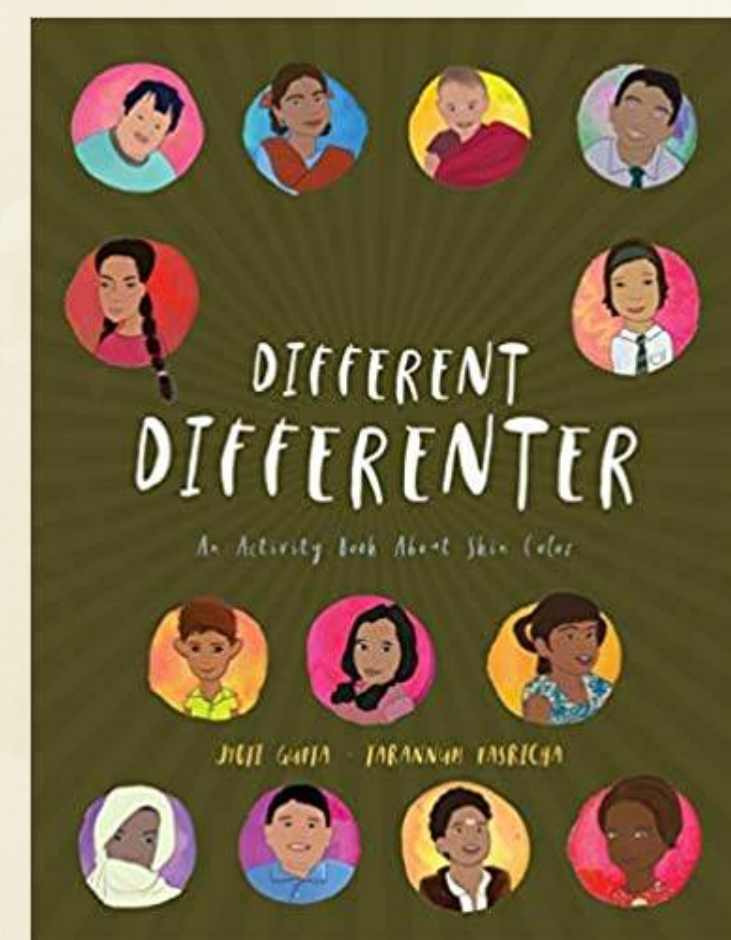


Different Differenter: An Activity Book About Skin Color

Author: Jyoti Gupta

Illustrator: Tarannum Pasricha

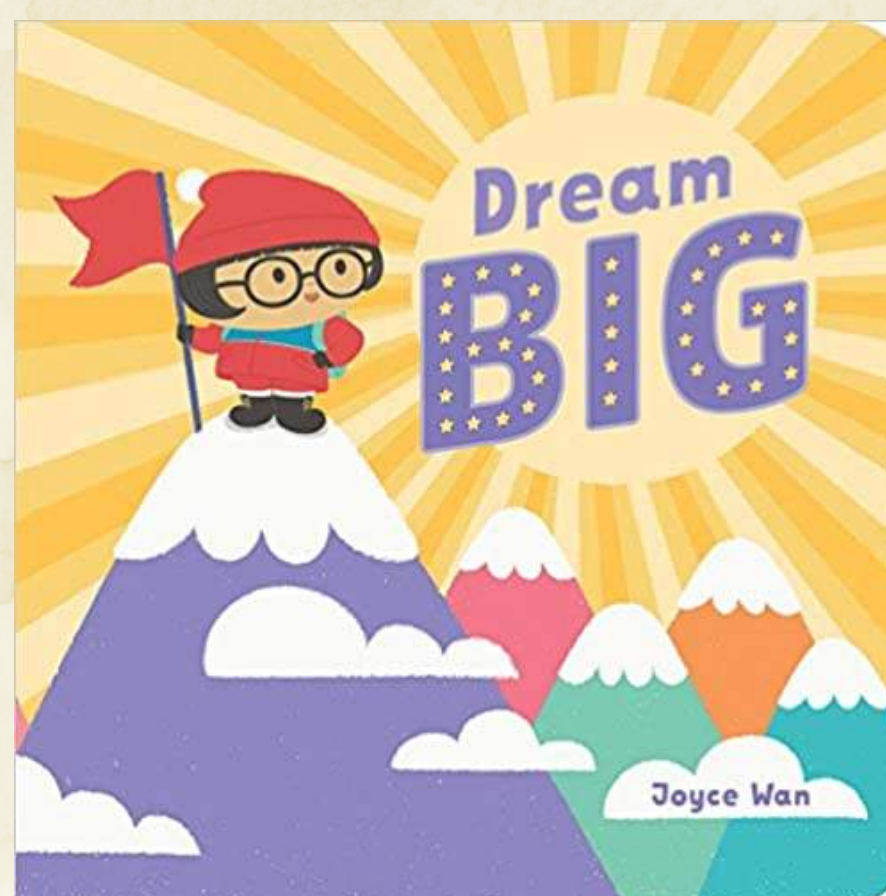
Activity book for children that thoughtfully addresses everyday skin color consciousness (and bias) in a way that's easy to understand.
Colo(u)rism Project



Dream Big

Author & Illustrator:
Joyce Wan

Dream your dreams with your eyes wide open and make them come true. This board book shares a bold, inspiring message for little graduates of today with a heartening homage to female trailblazers of the past.
Cartwheel Books

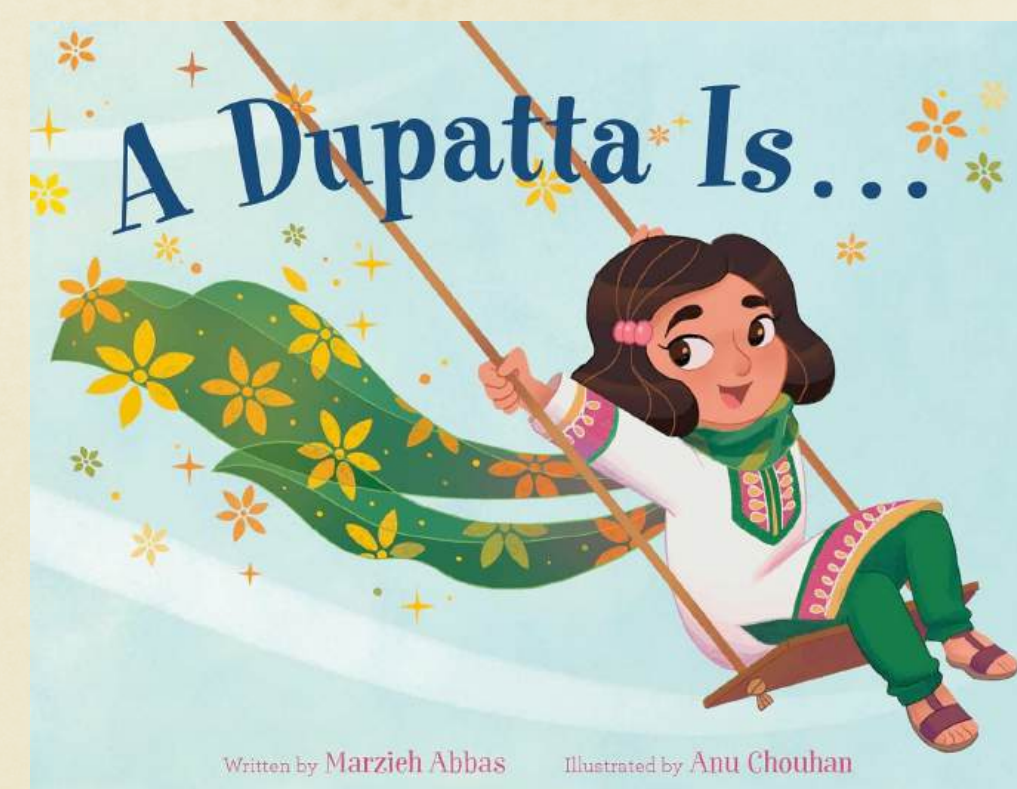


A Dupatta Is...

Author: Marzieh Abbas

Illustrator: Anu Chouhan

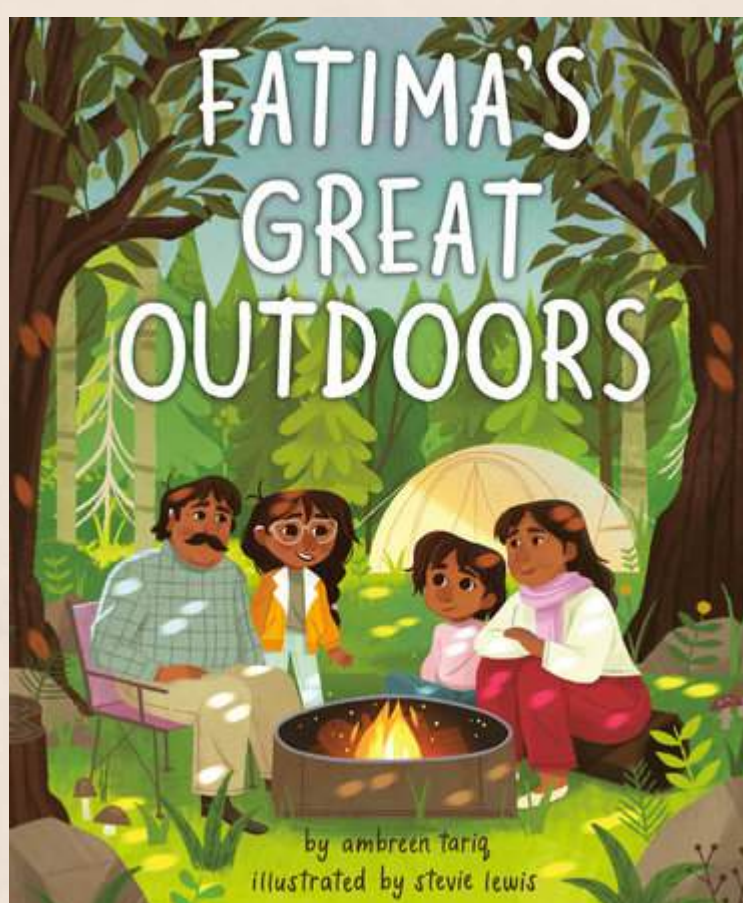
Dupattas—shawls traditionally worn by women in various cultures of South Asia—are beautiful and colorful of course, but they're also fun, functional, and carry the sounds and smells of family and identity.
Feiwei & Friends



Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music

Author: Margarita Engle | Illustrator: Rafael López

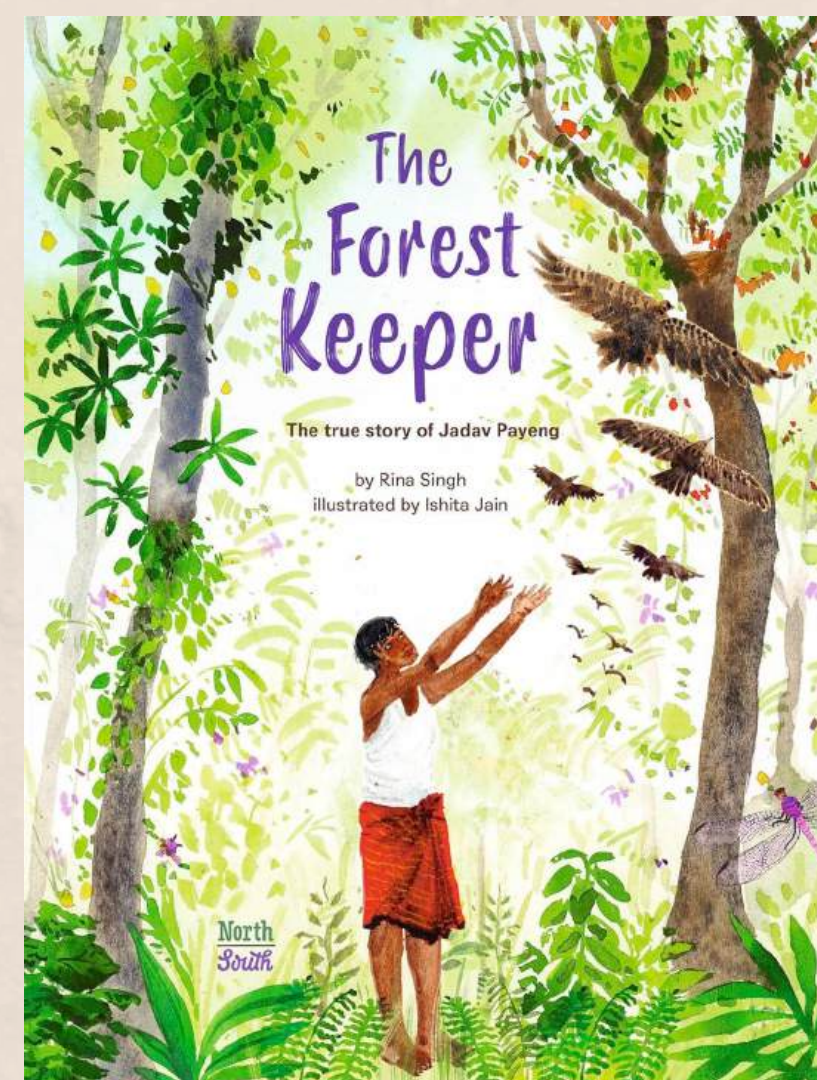
Girls cannot be drummers. Long ago on an island filled with music, no one questioned that rule—until the drum dream girl. Inspired by the childhood of Millo Castro Zaldarriaga, a Chinese-African-Cuban girl who broke Cuba's traditional taboo against female drummers.
HarperCollins



Fatima's Great Outdoors

Author: Ambreen Tariq
Illustrator: Stevie Lewis

Fatima Khazi is excited for the weekend. Her family is headed to a local state park for their first camping trip!
Penguin Workshop

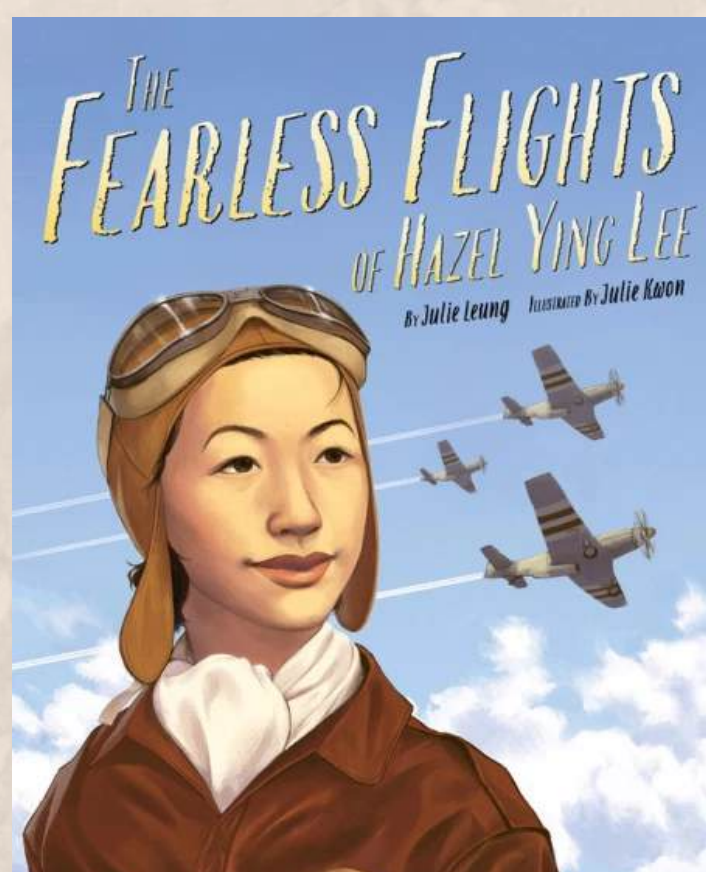


The Forest Keeper

Author: Rina Singh
Illustrator: Ishita Jain

What can one person do in the face of global environmental degradation? Indian Jadav Payeng has proven that each and every one of us can make a difference. As a boy, he began planting trees on a sandbank in the state of Assam. Nobody believed that he would succeed in doing so. But since 1979, a forest the size of Central Park has emerged, offering a home to countless animals and plants. It was not until 2007 that a photographer accidentally discovered the forest and made Payeng known to the world beyond India.

NorthSouth Books

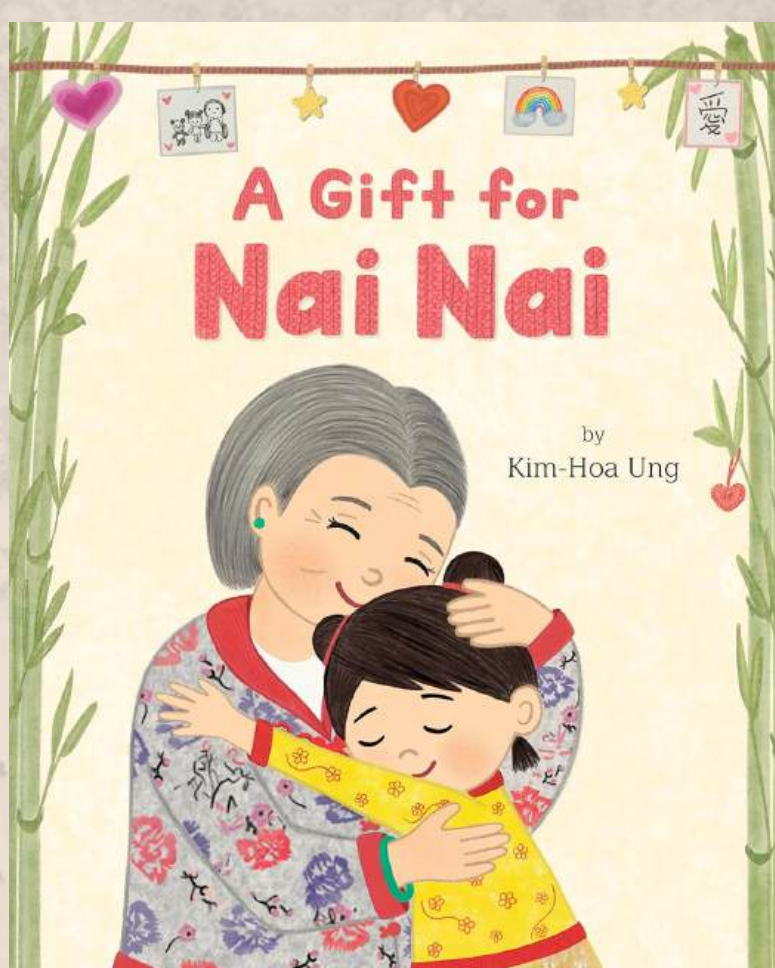


The Fearless Flights of Hazel Ying Lee

Author: Julie Leung
Illustrator: Julie Kwon

Hazel Ying Lee was born fearless—she was not afraid of anything, and the moment she took her first airplane ride, she knew where she belonged. When people scoffed at her dreams of becoming a pilot, Hazel wouldn't take no for an answer. She joined the Women Airforce Service Pilots during World War II. It was a dangerous job, but Hazel flew with joy and boldness.

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



A Gift for Nai Nai

Author & Illustrator: Kim-Hoa Ung

Lyn Lyn's beloved Nai Nai has a birthday party approaching! All Lyn Lyn wants to do is make a lucky hat for her very special grandma, but her crochet skills are not nearly as refined as Nai Nai's. So Lyn Lyn hatches a plan for the best crocheter she knows to help her make the perfect lucky hat for Nai Nai! Through perseverance and their special bond, Lyn Lyn comes to realize that the perfect gift for Nai Nai comes from within.

Fiewel & Friends

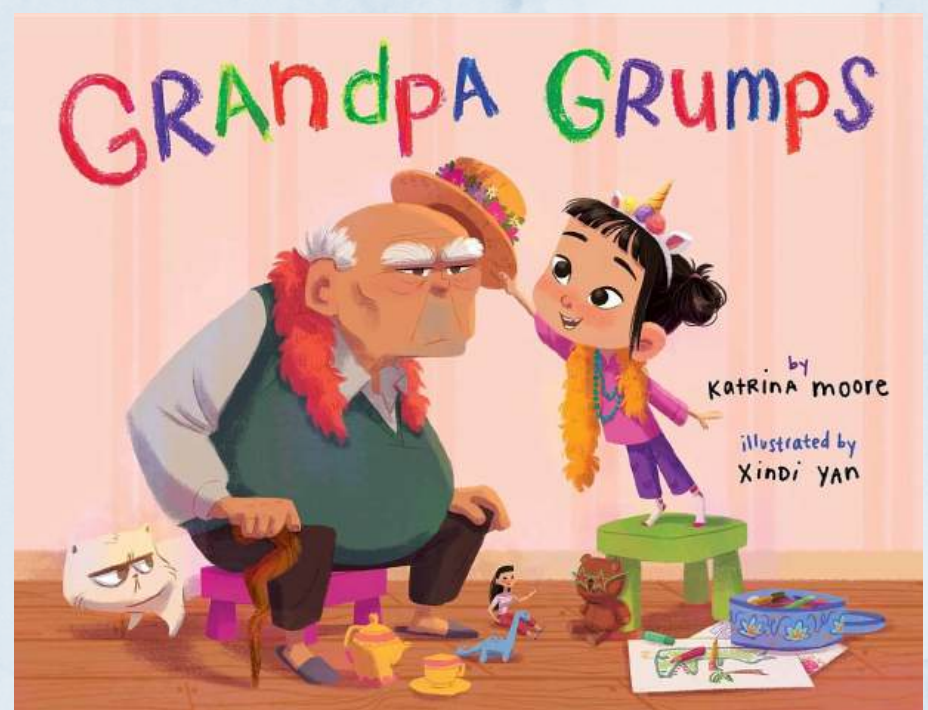


Goodbye Winter. Hello Spring

Author & Illustrator: Kenard Pak

As days stretch longer, animals creep out from their warm dens, and green begins to grow again, everyone knows—spring is on its way! Join a boy and his dog as they explore nature and take a stroll through the countryside.

Henry Holt and Co.



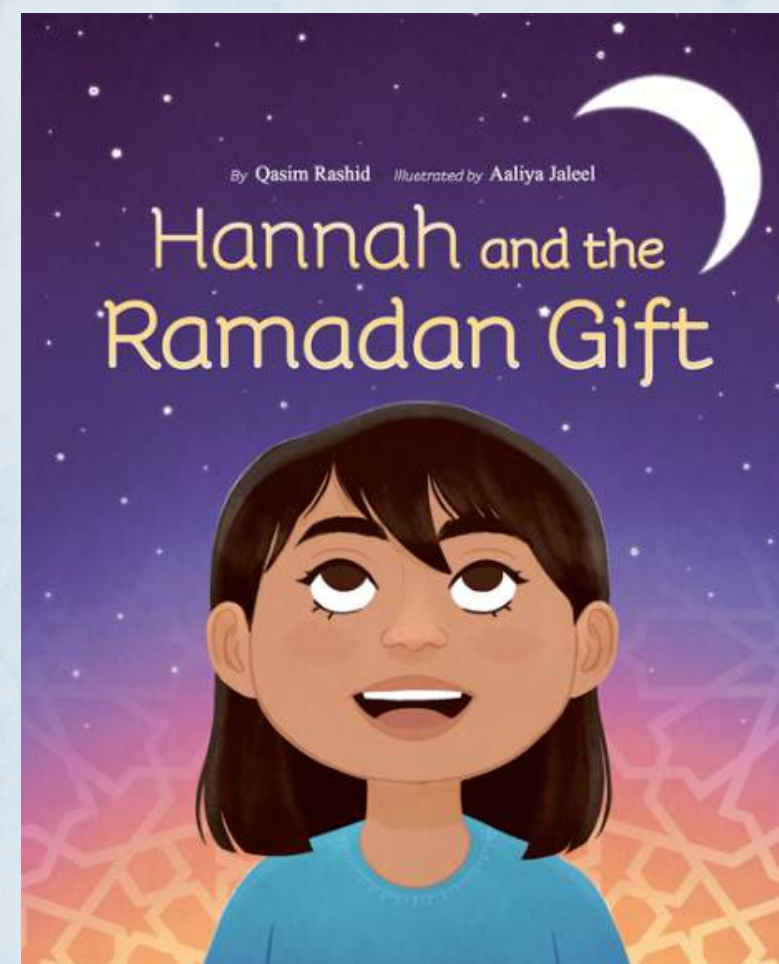
Grandpa Grumps

Author: Katrina Moore

Illustrator: Xindi Yan

Daisy's Yeh-Yeh is visiting from China, and try as she might, Daisy can't get her grumpy grandpa to smile!

Little Bee Books



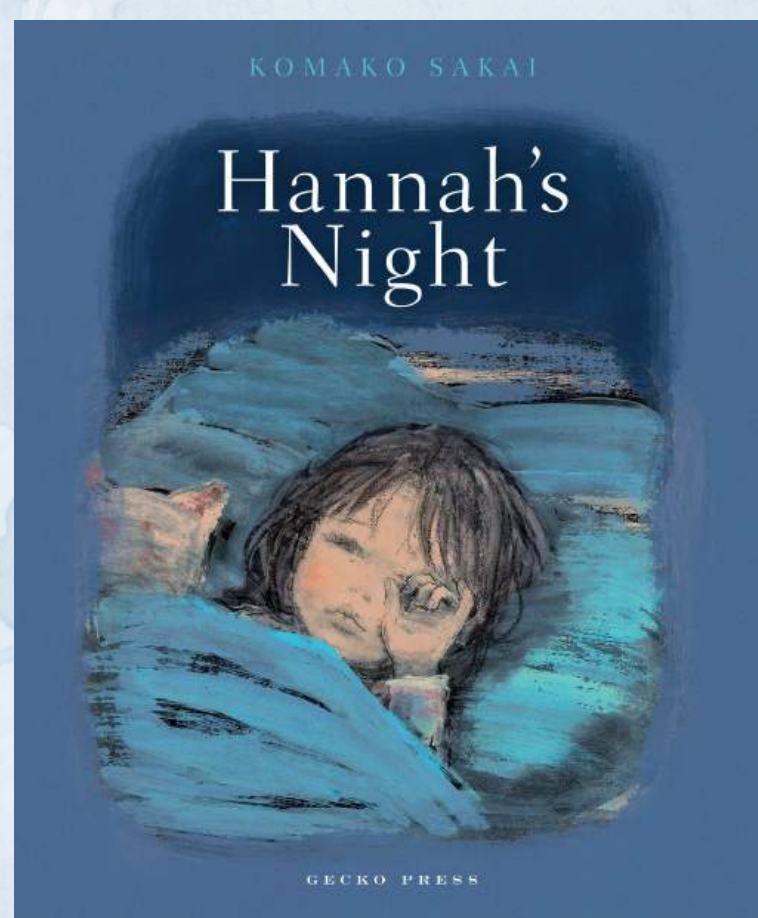
Hannah's Night

Author & Illustrator:

Komako Sakai

When everyone is asleep, Hannah wakes up and discovers the quiet, exciting night-time world. She discovers a whole new world of adventure. With nobody awake to tell her off, she can do just as she pleases.

Gecko Press



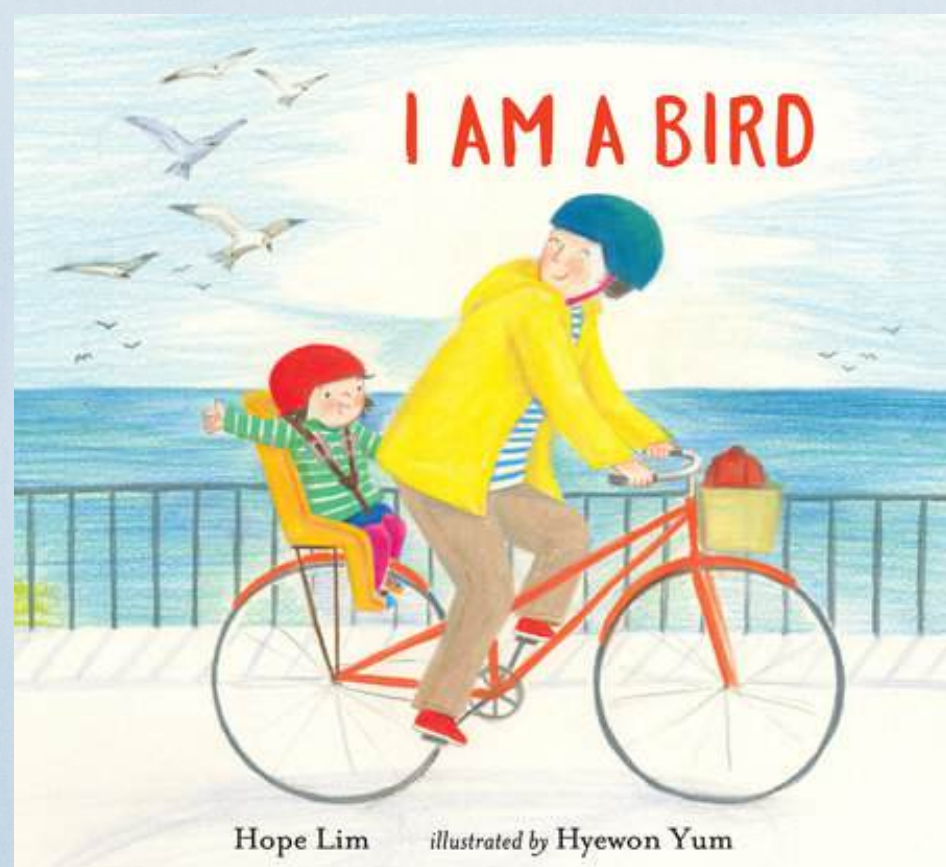
Hannah and the Ramadan Gift

Author: Qasim Rashid

Illustrator: Aaliya Jaleel

It's the first day of Ramadan and Hannah wants to be a part of this important month every way she can. But if she's too young to fast, how can she observe Ramadan? By saving the world, Dada Jaan tells her. And so Hannah learns that by helping her friends and neighbors and by showing kindness and generosity, she can make the world a better place.

Viking Books for Young Readers



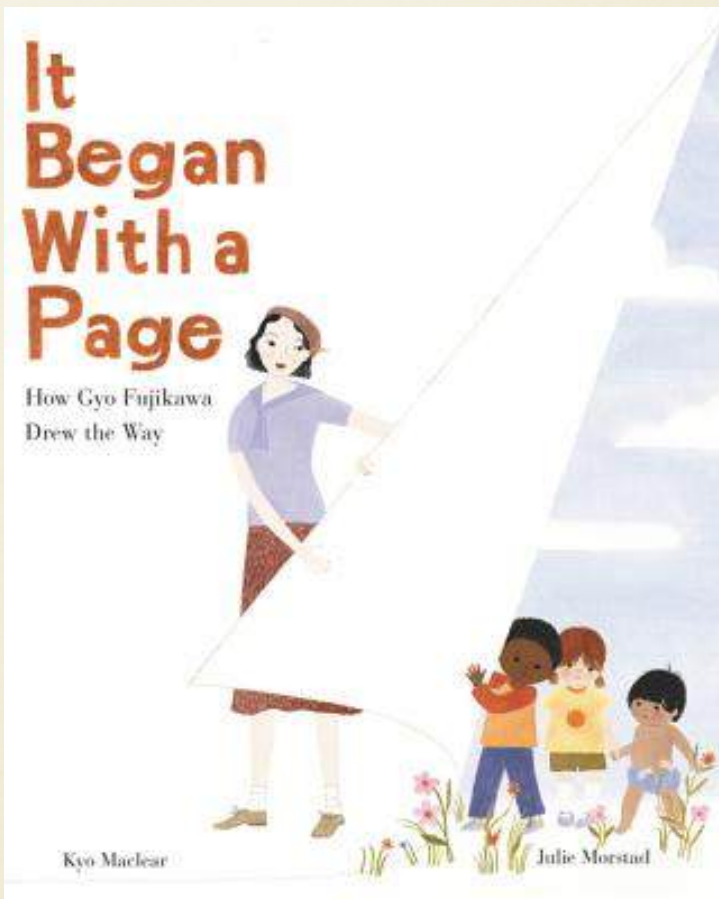
I am a Bird

Author: Hope Lim

Illustrator: Hyewon Yum

On her daily bike ride with her dad, a bird-loving little girl passes a woman who frightens her—until she discovers what they have in common.

Atheneum Books for Young Readers

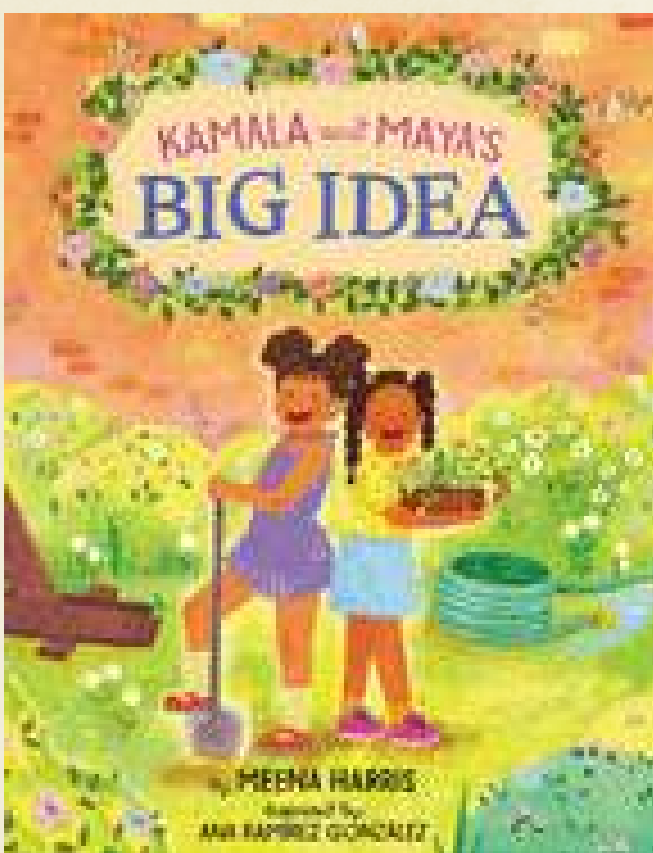


It Began with a Page: How Gyo Fujikawa Drew the Way

Author: Kyo Maclear | Illustrator: Julie Morstad

Growing up in California, Gyo Fujikawa always knew that she wanted to be an artist. During World War II, Gyo's family was taken to internment camps in Arkansas, but Gyo wasn't because she worked as an illustrator in New York. Gyo became determined to show all types of children in the pages of her books. Gyo's book *Babies* was initially rejected by her publisher, but after she insisted, they finally relented, and *Babies* went on to sell almost two million copies.

HarperCollins



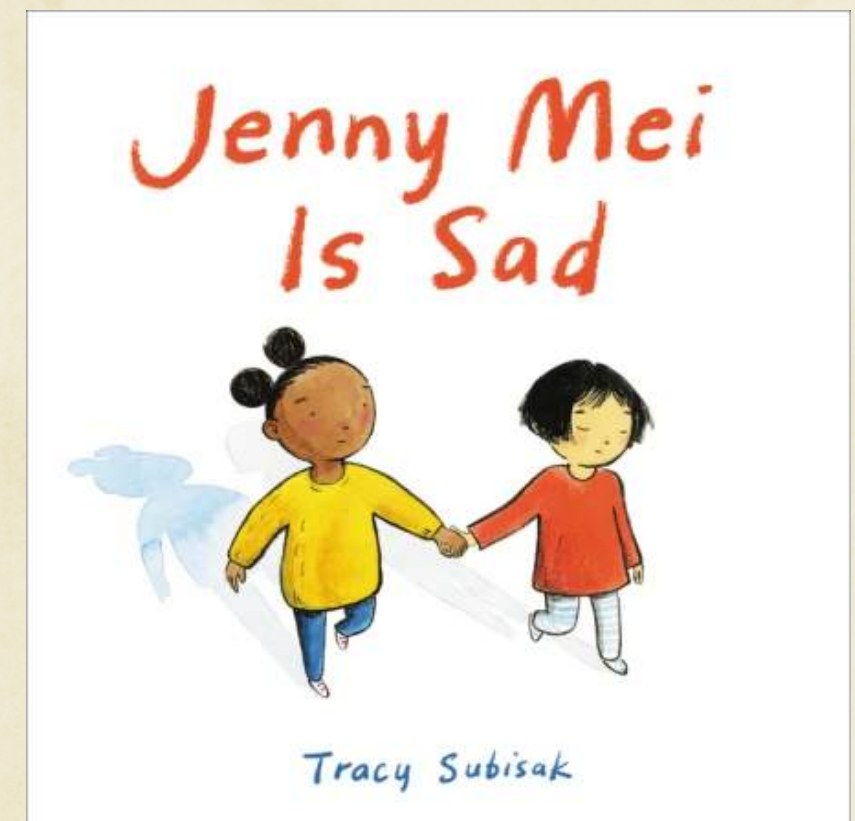
Kamala and Maya's Big Idea

Author: Meena Harris

Illustrator: Ana Ramirez Gonzalez

One day, Kamala and Maya had an idea. A *big* idea: They would turn their empty apartment courtyard into a playground!

Balzer + Bray

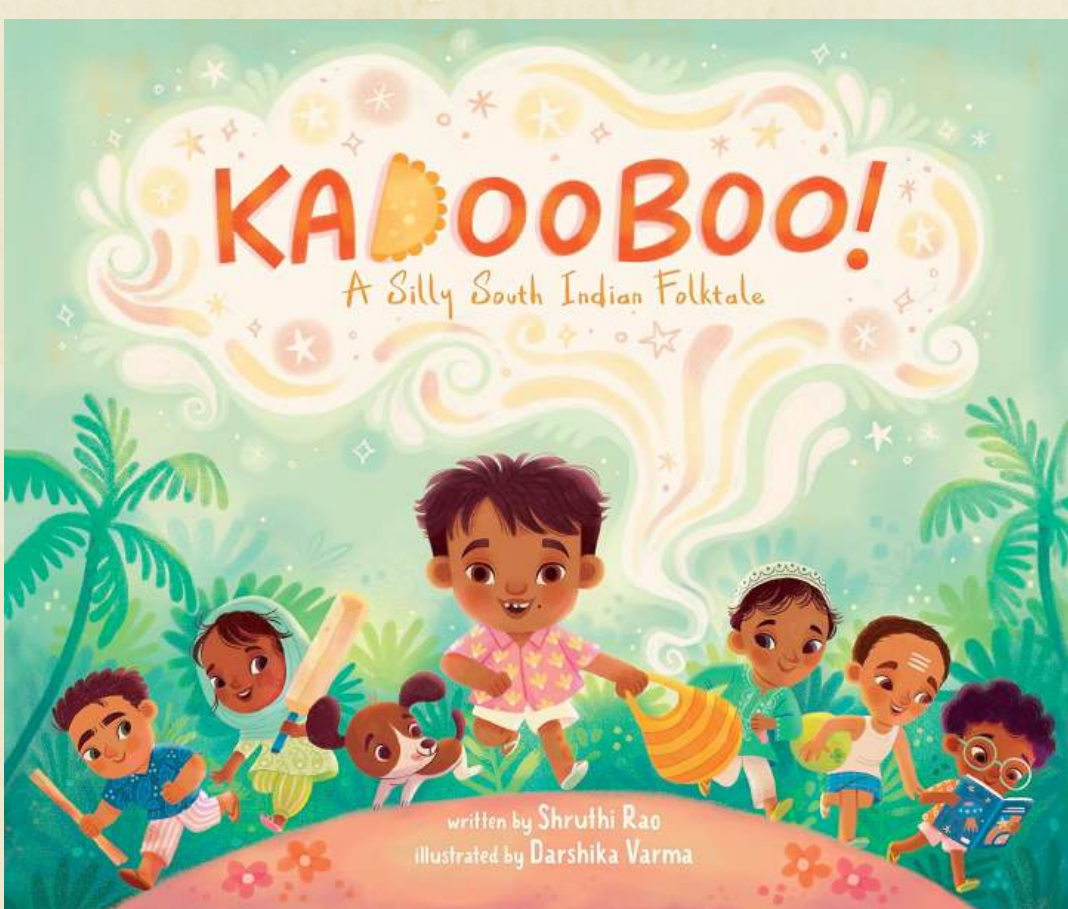


Jenny Mei is Sad

Author & Illustrator: Tracy Subisak

My friend Jenny Mei is sad. But you might not be able to tell. Jenny Mei still smiles a lot. She makes everyone laugh. And she still likes blue Popsicles the best. But, her friend knows that Jenny Mei is sad, and does her best to be there to support her.

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



Kadooboo!

Author: Shruthi Rao

Illustrator: Darshika Varma

Kadooboo! Golden brown, puffy, sweet, and crunchy, it's fresh from the pan—a delicious treat! As soon as it's ready, Kabir runs home with some to share. He's got to be quick, before the rain! But wait... can he remember the treat's name? (His Amma is sure to ask!) Of course he can. That is, if fun and friends aren't too distracting along the way.

Page Street Kids



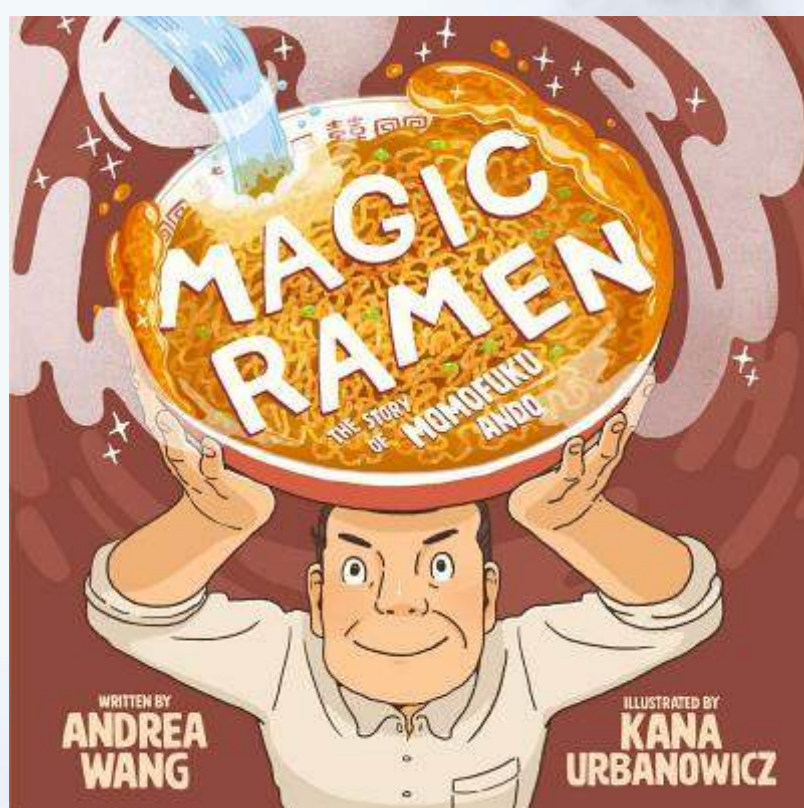
Let Me Finish!

Author: Minh Lê

Illustrator: Isabel Roxas

When our young hero settles in to read, the last thing he wants is for some noisy animals to ruin the ending of the story. But ruin it they do...

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



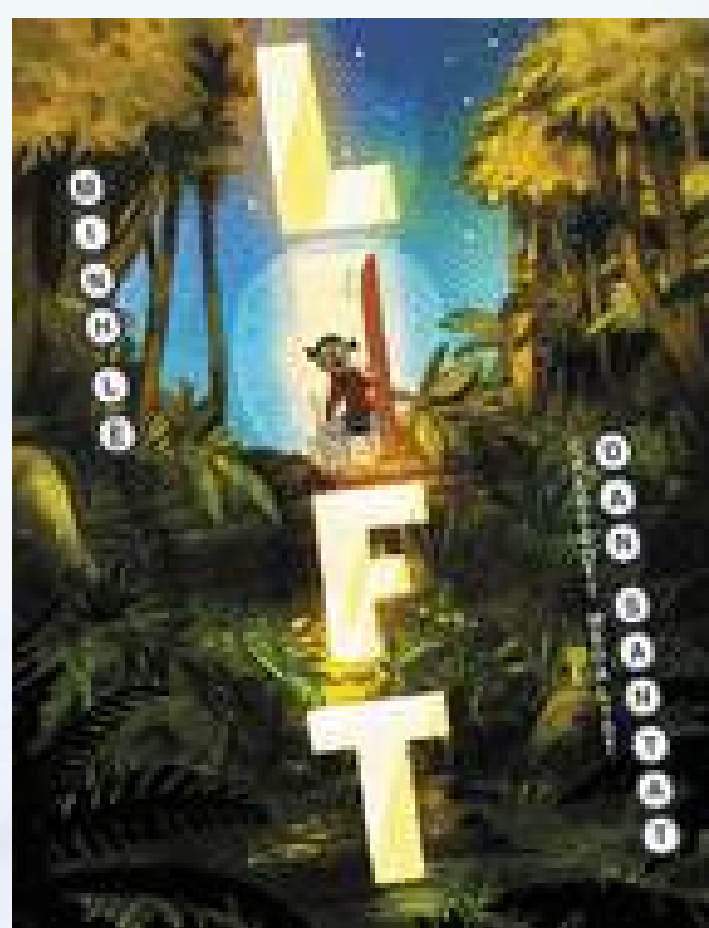
Magic Ramen: The Story of Momofuku Ando

Author: Andrea Wang

Illustrator: Kana Urbanowicz

The true story behind the creation of one of the world's most popular foods: instant ramen!

little bee books

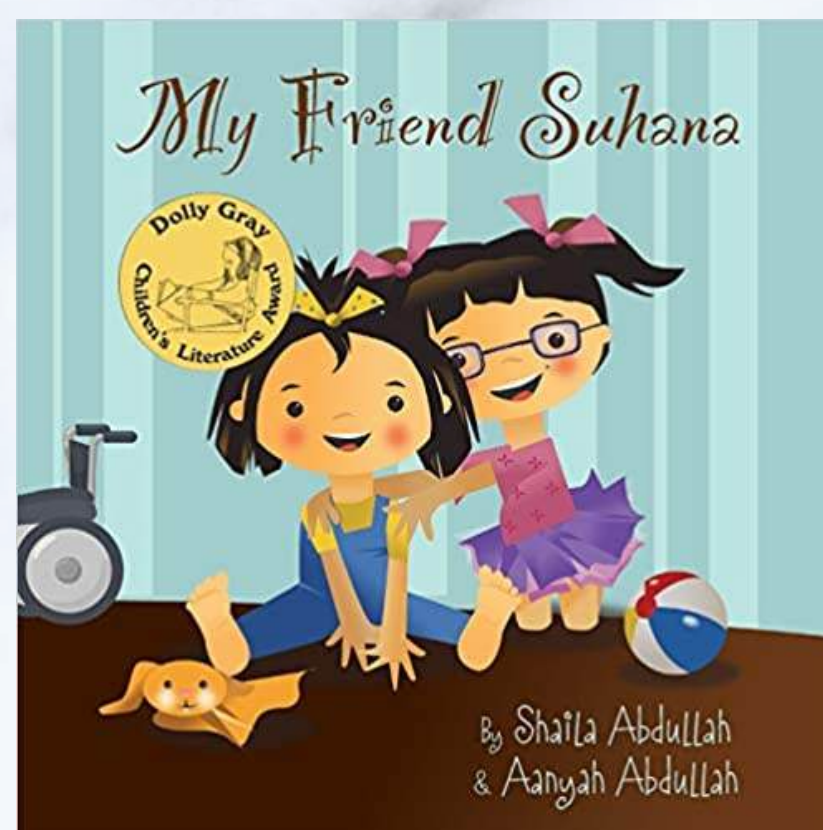


Lift

Author: Minh Lê | Illustrator: Dan Santat

Iris loves to push the elevator buttons in her apartment building, but when it's time to share the fun with a new member of the family, she's pretty put out. That is, until the sudden appearance of a mysterious new button opens up entire realms of possibility, places where she can escape and explore on her own.

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

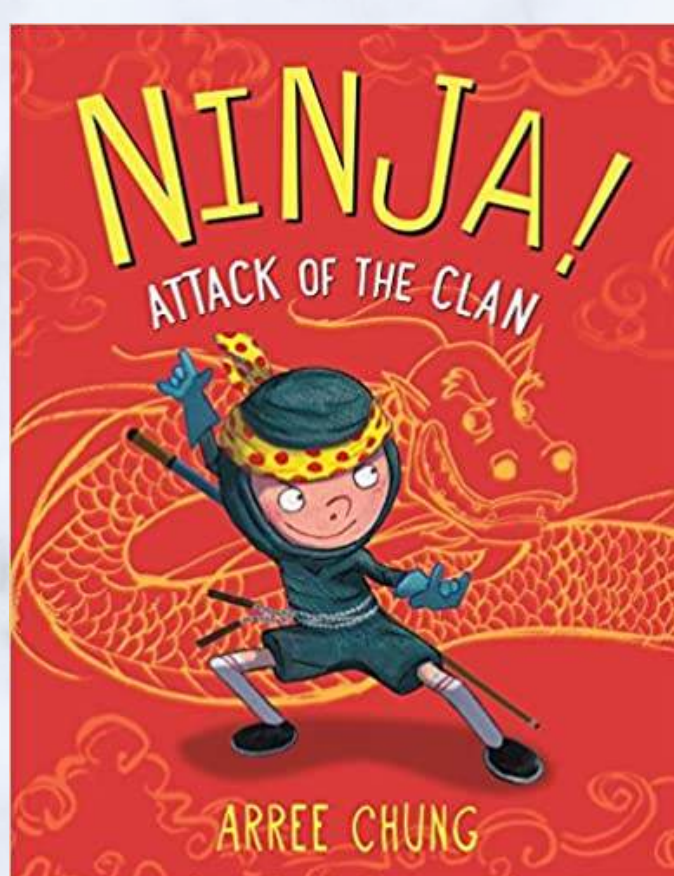


My Friend Suhana

Authors: Shaila Abdullah, Aanyah Abdullah

A tale of a little girl who forms a close bond with a child with cerebral palsy. The girl finds that through her art, she can reach her special friend Suhana.

Loving Healing Press



Ninja! Attack of the Clan

Author & Illustrator:
Arree Chung

A ninja must be ready for anything! Maxwell is a strong, courageous, silent ninja, but he also wants somebody to play with. Mama, Papa, and little sister Cassy are all too busy, leaving Maxwell disappointed and alone.

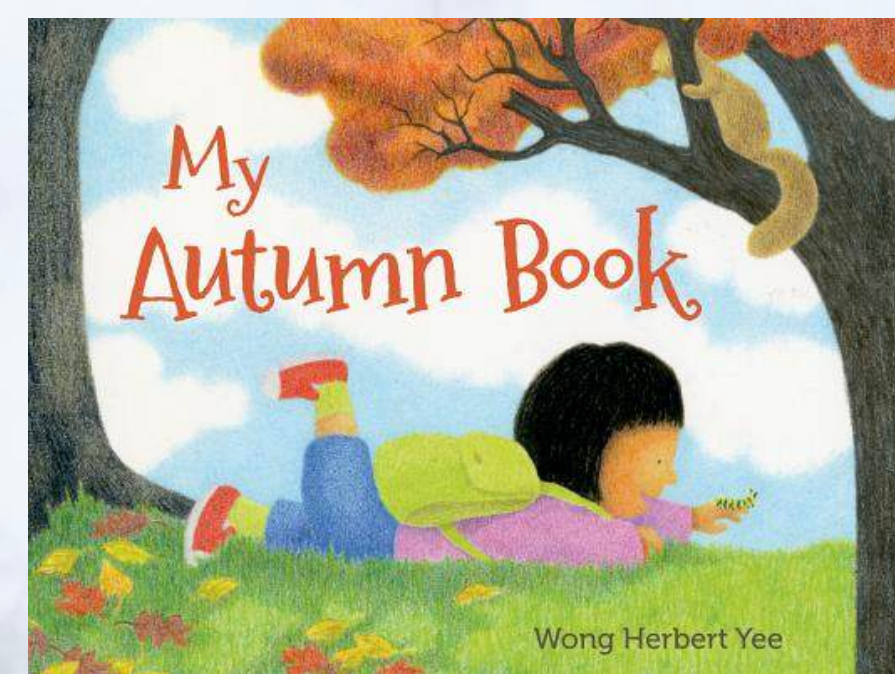
Henry Holt and Co.

My Autumn Book

Author & Illustrator: Wong Herbert Yee

Crisp air and gray skies beckon a little girl to thoroughly investigate the outside world: chipmunks, squirrels, insects, and fallen leaves all hint that a change of season is coming.

Henry Holt & Co.



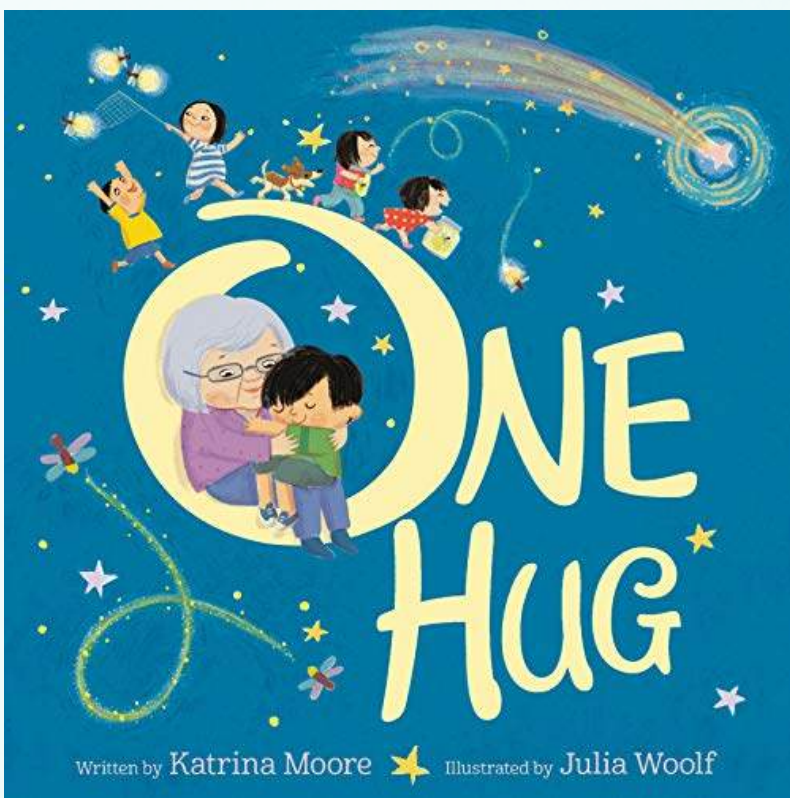
One Day

Author: Joanna Ho
Illustrator: Faith Pray

One Day is a mother's ode to her baby boy--she shares her hopes and dreams for her son as she envisions him exploring the world. Her son will be courageous and kind, powerful and curious, and blaze his own trail. He will know that it is okay to cry, or be scared, or uncertain. Above all, he will know that he is more than enough exactly as he is.

HarperCollins





One Hug

Author: Katrina Moore

Illustrator: Julia Woolf

As a family wakes up to begin preparing for the arrival of their immigrant relatives, the littlest girl begins to feel left out and nervous. But an encouraging brother and the welcoming arms of her grandma help end the day with a belly full of food, jars full of fireflies, and all in cozy, snuggly slumber.

Katherine Tegen Books

Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist

Author: Julie Leung | Illustrator: Chris Sasaki

Before he became an artist named Tyrus Wong, he was a boy named Wong Geng Yeo. He traveled across a vast ocean from China to America with only a suitcase and a few papers. Not papers for drawing—which he loved to do—but immigration papers to start a new life. Once in America, Tyrus seized every opportunity to make art, eventually enrolling at an art institute in Los Angeles. Working as a janitor at night, his mop twirled like a paintbrush in his hands. Eventually, he was given the opportunity of a lifetime—and using sparse brushstrokes and soft watercolors, Tyrus created the iconic backgrounds of Disney's *Bambi*.

Schwartz & Wade



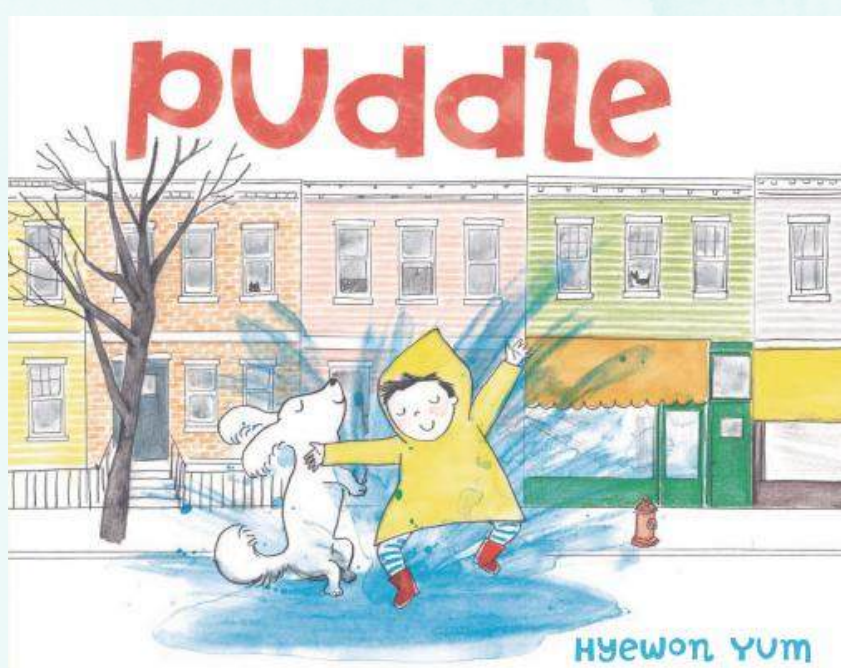
The Paper Kingdom

Author: Helena Ku Rhee

Illustrator: Pascal Campion

When the babysitter is unable to come, Daniel is woken out of bed and joins his parents as they head downtown for their jobs as nighttime office cleaners. But the story is about more than brooms, mops, and vacuums. Mama and Papa turn the deserted office building into a magnificent kingdom filled with paper.

Random House Studio



Puddle

Author & Illustrator:

Hyewon Yum

One rainy day, a little boy is upset because he can't go out and play. His mom comes up with a way to keep him entertained—by drawing a picture of herself and him going outside, playing in the rain, and splashing in a giant puddle.

Farrar, Straus, and Giroux

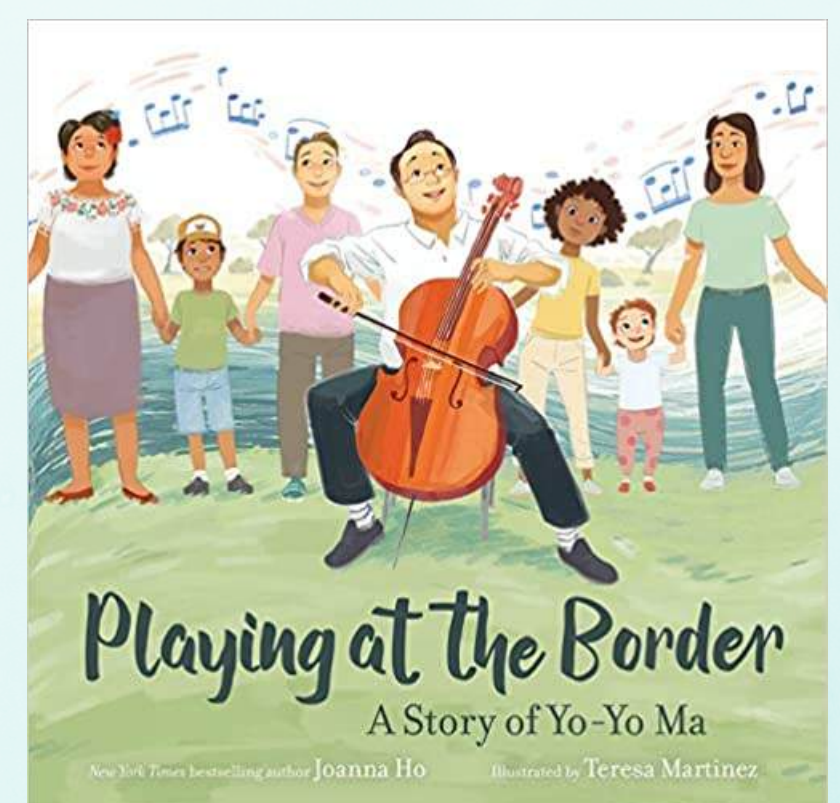
Playing at the Border: A Story of Yo-Yo Ma

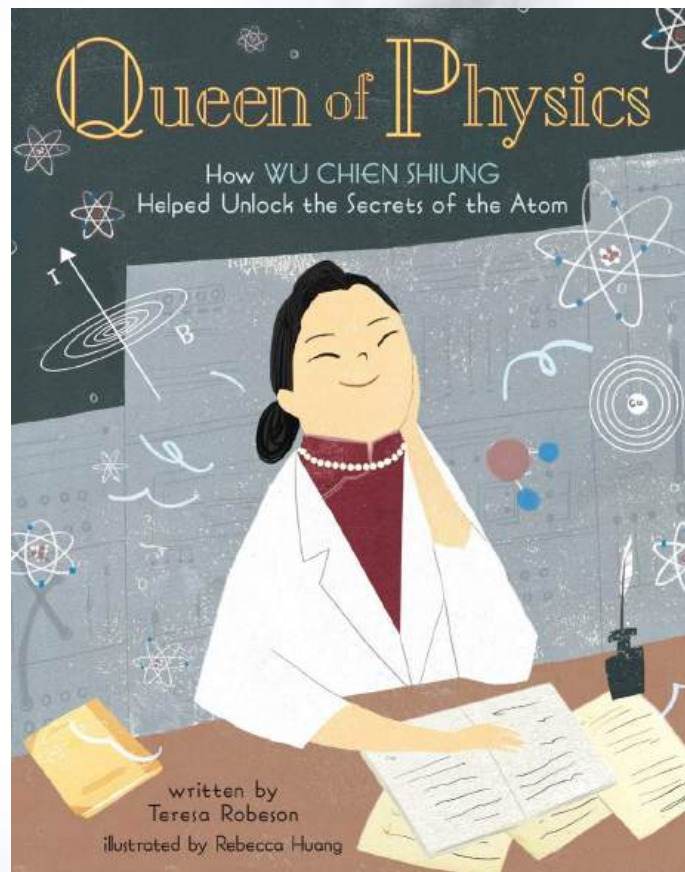
Author: Joanna Ho

Illustrator: Teresa Martinez

An inspiring story of Yo-Yo Ma, who performed at the US-Mexico border at the Rio Grande on April 13, 2019. Through music, we can build bridges rather than walls between different cultures.

HarperCollins





Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom

Author: Teresa Robeson

Illustrator: Rebecca Huang

When Wu Chien Shiung was born in China 100 years ago, most girls did not attend school; no one considered them as smart as boys. But her parents felt differently. Giving her a name meaning “Courageous Hero,” they encouraged her love of learning and science.

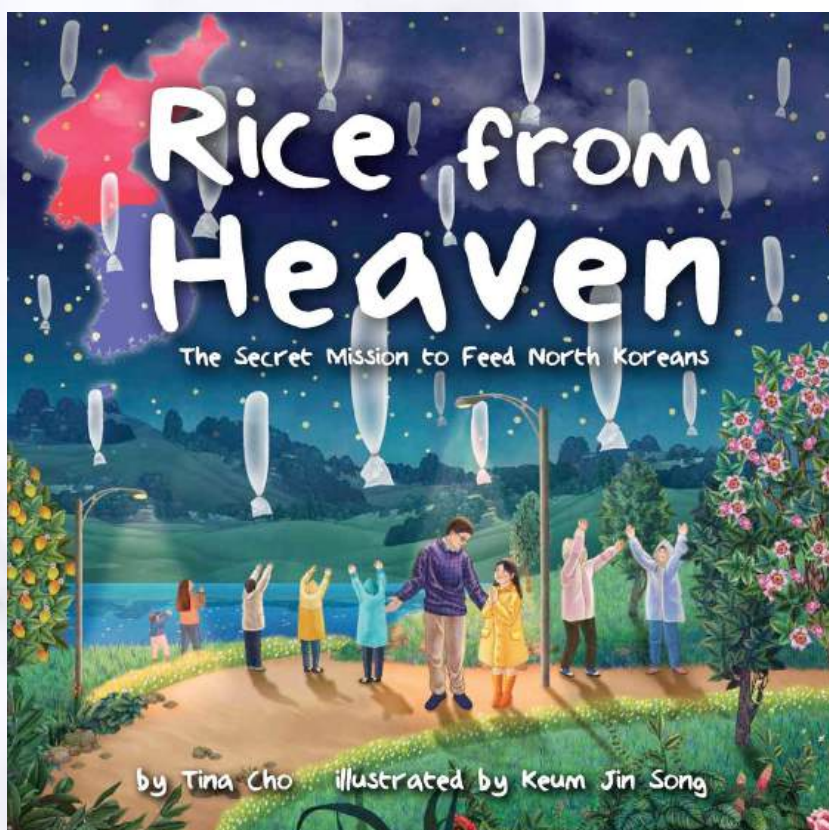
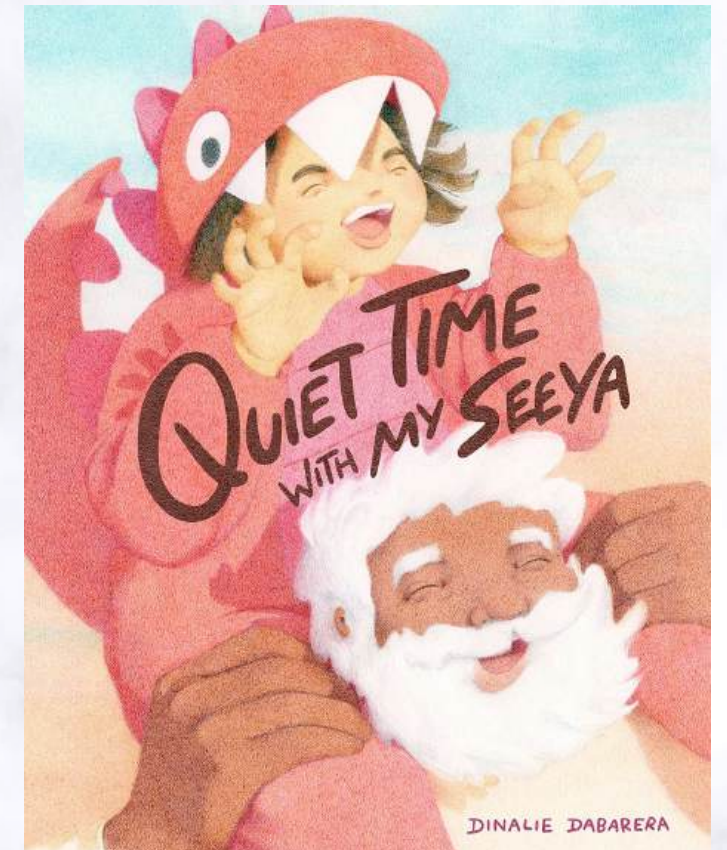
Union Square Kids

Quiet Time with My Seeya

Author & Illustrator: Dinalie Dabarera

Sometimes, the moments that Sona spends with her seeya are quiet. They speak different languages and don't always use words. But they do communicate in other ways. Sometimes, they're loud. They play dress-up, stomp in puddles, and pretend to be puppies. They cook pittu, tease each other when they're messy, and read to each other, even though they might not understand what the other is saying. Any time that Sona and Seeya share is special, whether quiet or loud, because they get to spend it together.

Roaring Brook Press



Rice from Heaven: The Secret Mission to Feed North Koreans

Author: Tina Cho | Illustrator:
Keum Jin Song

A true story about compassion and bravery as a young girl and her community in South Korea help deliver rice via balloons to the starving and oppressed people in North Korea.

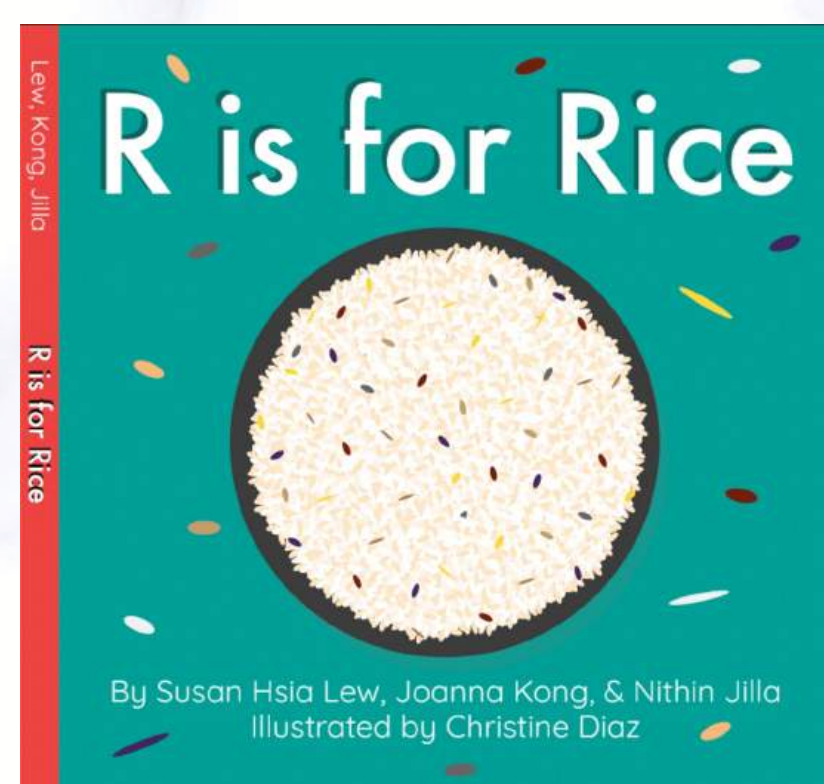
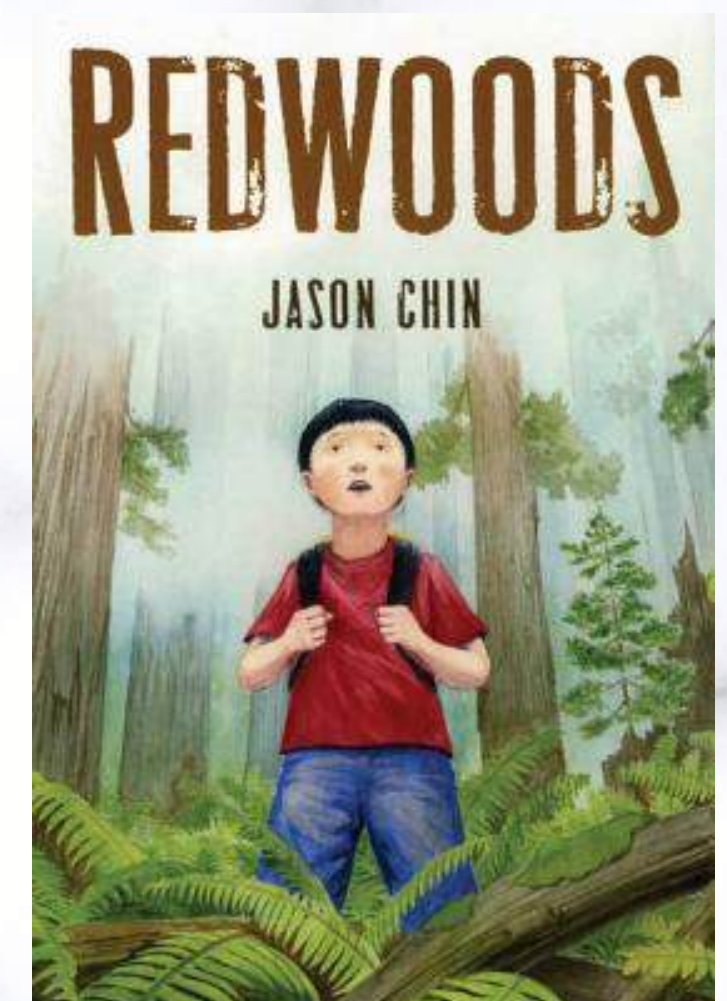
little bee books

Redwoods

Author & Illustrator: Jason Chin

A subway trip is transformed when a young boy happens upon a book about redwood forests. As he reads the information unfolds, and with each new bit of knowledge, he travels—all the way to California to climb into the Redwood canopy.

Square Fish

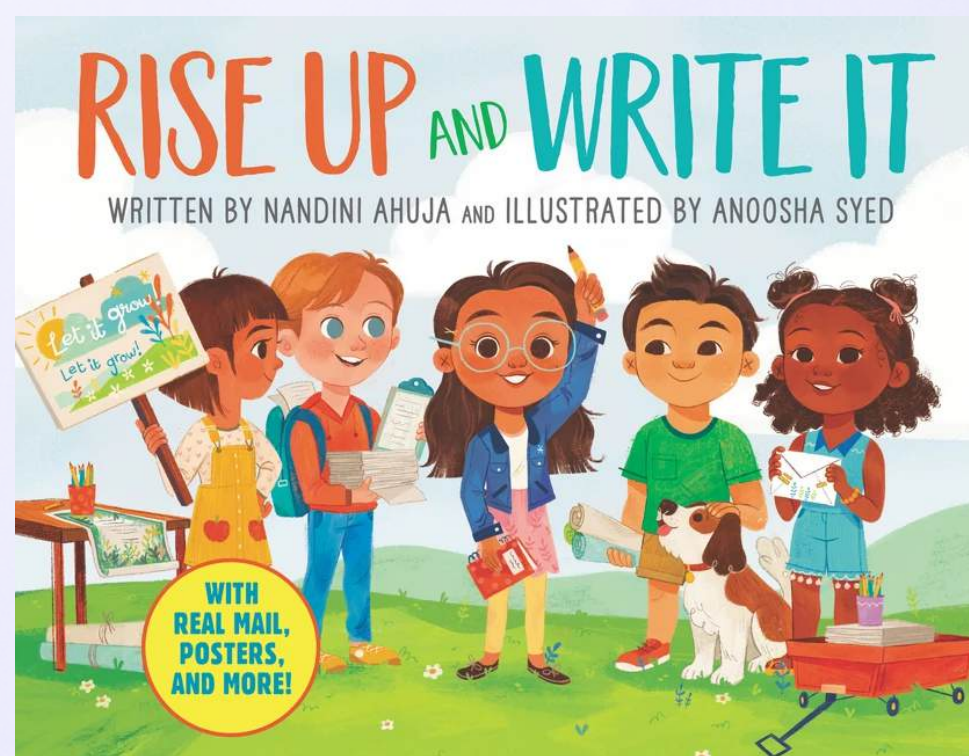


R is for Rice

Authors: Susan Hsia Lew,
Joanna Kong, & Nithin Jilla
Illustrator: Christine Diaz

Join us on a journey through the alphabet with the ABC's of Asian American foods!

Jkl Teahouse

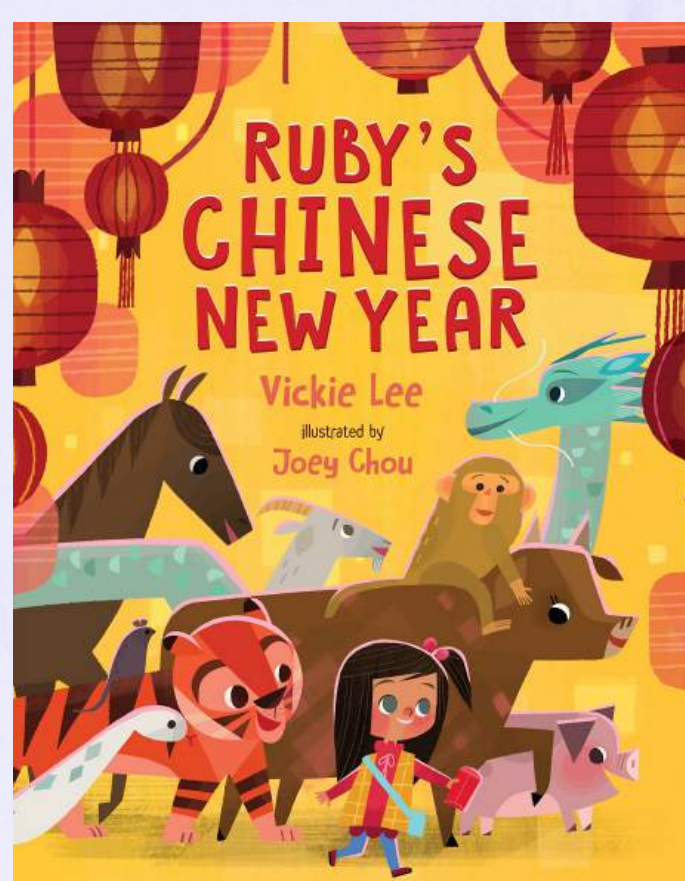


Rise Up and Write it

Author: Nandini Ahuja | Illustrator: Anoosha Syed

When Farah Patel realizes that the butterflies have disappeared from her neighborhood, she discovers that it's likely because there aren't enough flowers to attract them. She can't help but think, "This isn't right." Farah has the perfect idea to create a community garden to bring back a little green to their block! But when Farah finds out that she isn't the only one with a plan for the future of Grove Hills, she'll have to turn to her community for help.

HarperCollins



Ruby's Chinese New Year

Author: Vickie Lee

Illustrator: Joey Chou

Ruby has a special card to give to her grandmother for Chinese New Year. But who will help her get to grandmother's house to deliver it? Will it be clever Rat, strong Ox, or cautious Rabbit?

Godwin Books



Shreya's Very Own Style

Author: Suhani Parikh |

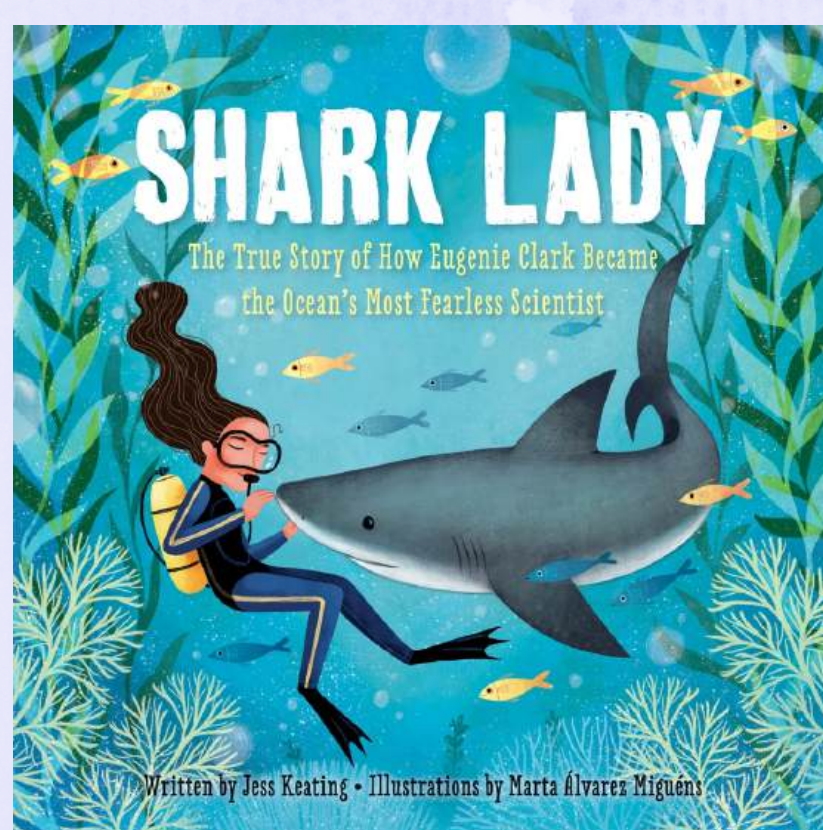
Illustrator: Lovyaa Garg

Though Shreya is a champion on the soccer field, the coolest scientist at her school and dances like a star, she just can't seem to figure out how else to style her hair. After all, how would she explain the patches on her head with no hair at all?

Modern Marigold Books

Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean's Most Fearless Scientist

Author: Jess Keating | Illustrator: Marta Álvarez Miguéns



Eugenie Clark fell in love with sharks from the first moment she saw them at the aquarium. But Eugenie quickly discovered that many people believed sharks to be ugly and scary--and they didn't think women should be scientists. As a biracial Japanese American, Eugenie proves the naysayers wrong by earning several college degrees and making countless discoveries.

Sourcebooks Explore

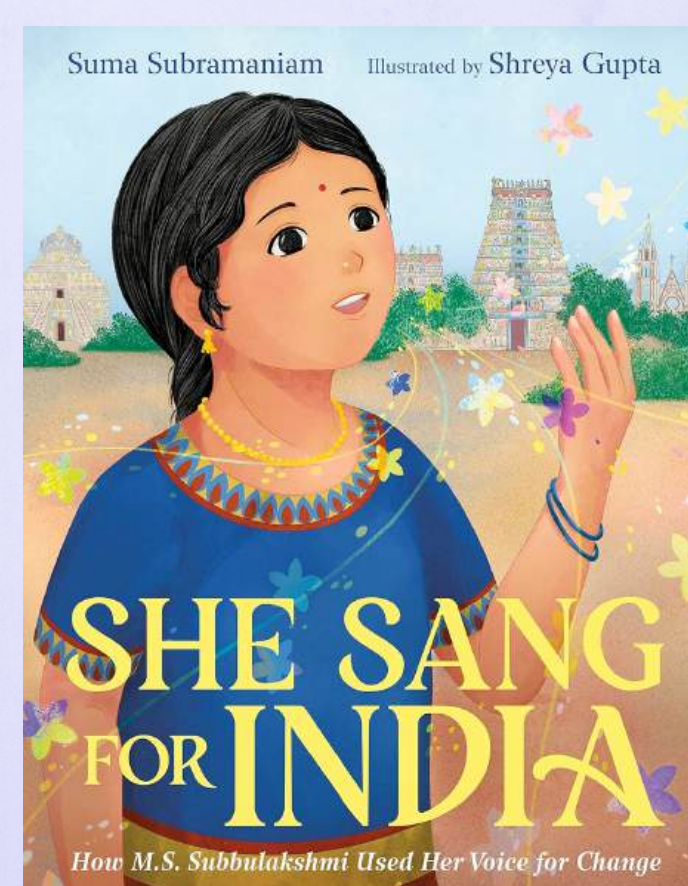
She Sang for India

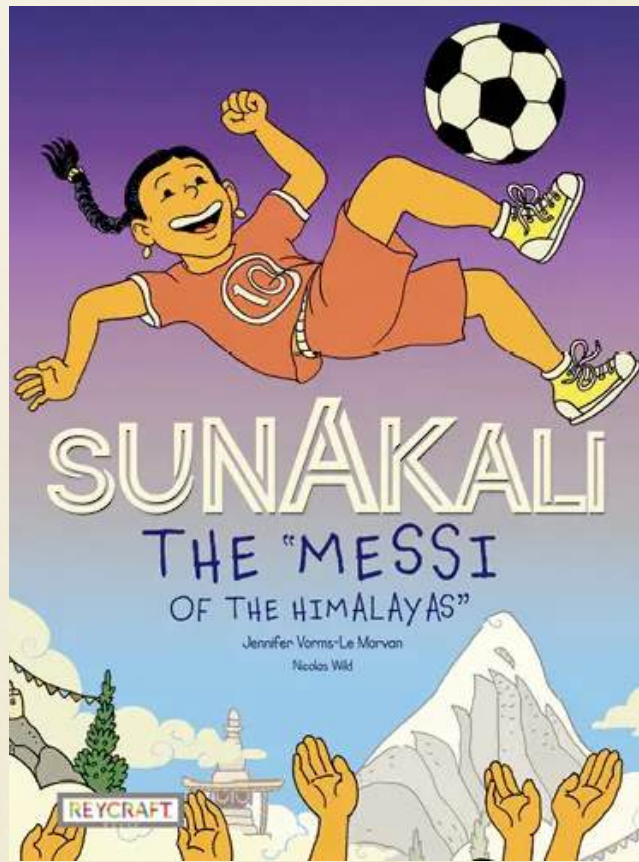
Author: Suma Subramaniam

Illustrator: Shreya Gupta

A picture book biography about M.S. Subbulakshmi, a powerful Indian singer who advocated for justice and peace through song.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux





Sunakali: The “Messi of the Himalayas”

Author: Jennifer Vorms-Le Morvan

Illustrator: Nicolas Wild

Sunakali, a small Nepalese country girl, keeps goats with her friends in the Himalayas. But the girls have a secret passion—soccer! They play it every afternoon in the pastures. One day, a visitor from Katmandu asks to meet them. “I want to start a national women’s soccer team. I will coach you and get you invited to tournaments.” It’s the beginning of an incredible true story.

Reycraft Books

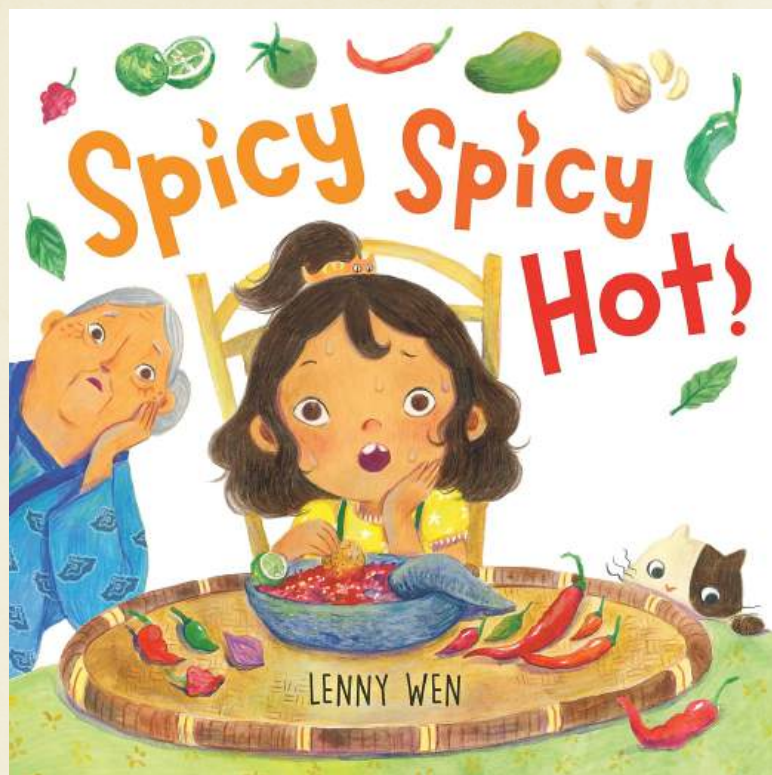
Shubh Diwali!

Author: Chitra Soundar

Illustrator: Charlene Chua

Diwali has arrived! Rangoli art decorates the floor, and strings of flowers hang around the doors. Now it's time to ring the bells, light the lamps, and welcome the New Year with family and friends. A sweet introduction to the Hindu festival of lights.

Albert Whitman & Co



Spicy Spicy Hot!

Author & Illustrator:

Lenny Wen

When Lintang finally gets to taste her nenek’s yummy, mouthwatering sambal, she’s delighted! But when she takes a bite it’s... SPICY!

Her lips burn, her mouth feels like it’s on fire, and her taste buds are crying for help.

Desperate to fit in with her family, Lintang tries many different types of sambal, but they’re... HOT!

With a little help from Nenek, will Lintang find a way to beat the heat and connect with her Indonesian heritage?

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

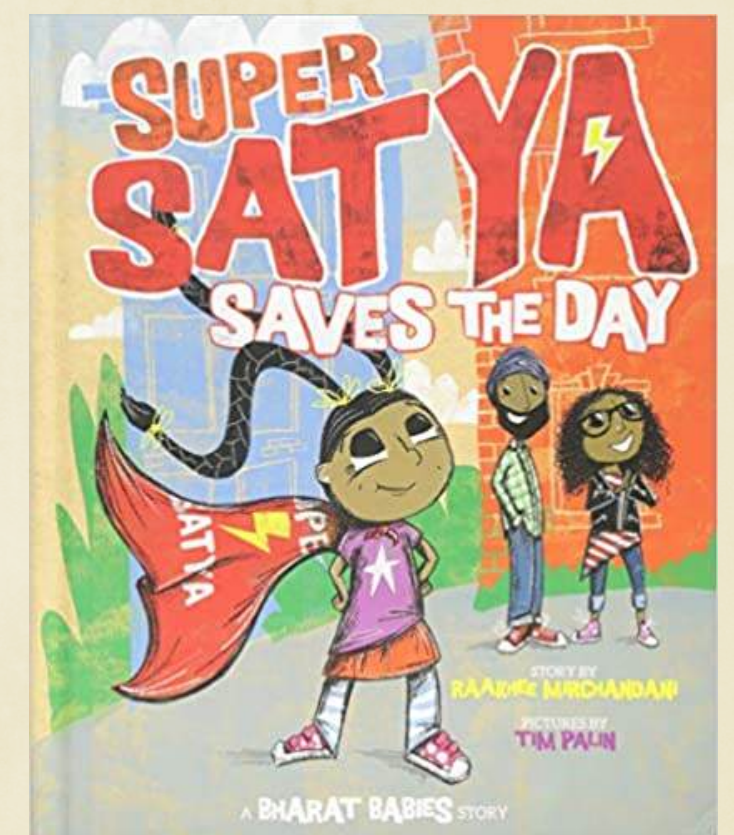
Super Satya Saves the Day

Author: Raakhee Mirchandani

Illustrator: Tim Palin

Super Satya is ready to have a super day, but things take a not-so-super turn when she realizes her superhero cape is stuck at the dry cleaner. Will she be able to face her fears, help her friends, and be the true hero everyone knows she is?

Bharat Babies



A Sweet New Year for Ren

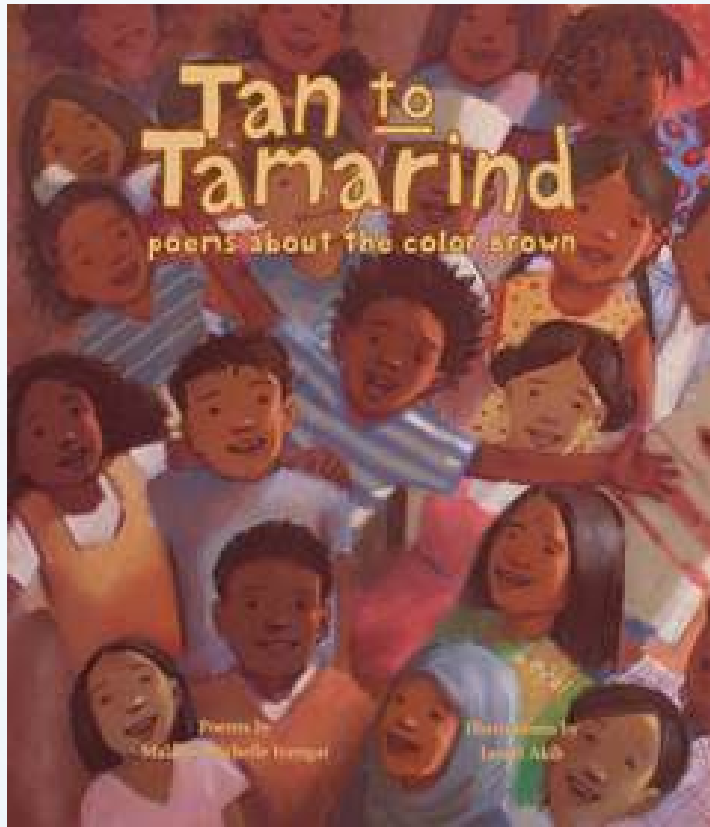
Author: Michelle Sterling

Illustrator: Dung Ho

Little Ren looks forward to the preparation for and festivities of Lunar New Year, but she is always too little to help make the delicious pineapple cakes that are her favorite. She watches family members rolling out the dough and loves the mouth-watering smell. Watching and waiting, when will Ren be old enough?

Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books





Tan to Tamarind: Poems About the Color Brown

Author: Malathi Iyengar

Illustrator: Jamel Akib

When you look in the mirror, what do you see? Tan, sienna, topaz, or tamarind? Swirls of henna decorate ocher hands and feet at an Indian wedding. Cinnamon lips smile over a cup of *café con leche*.

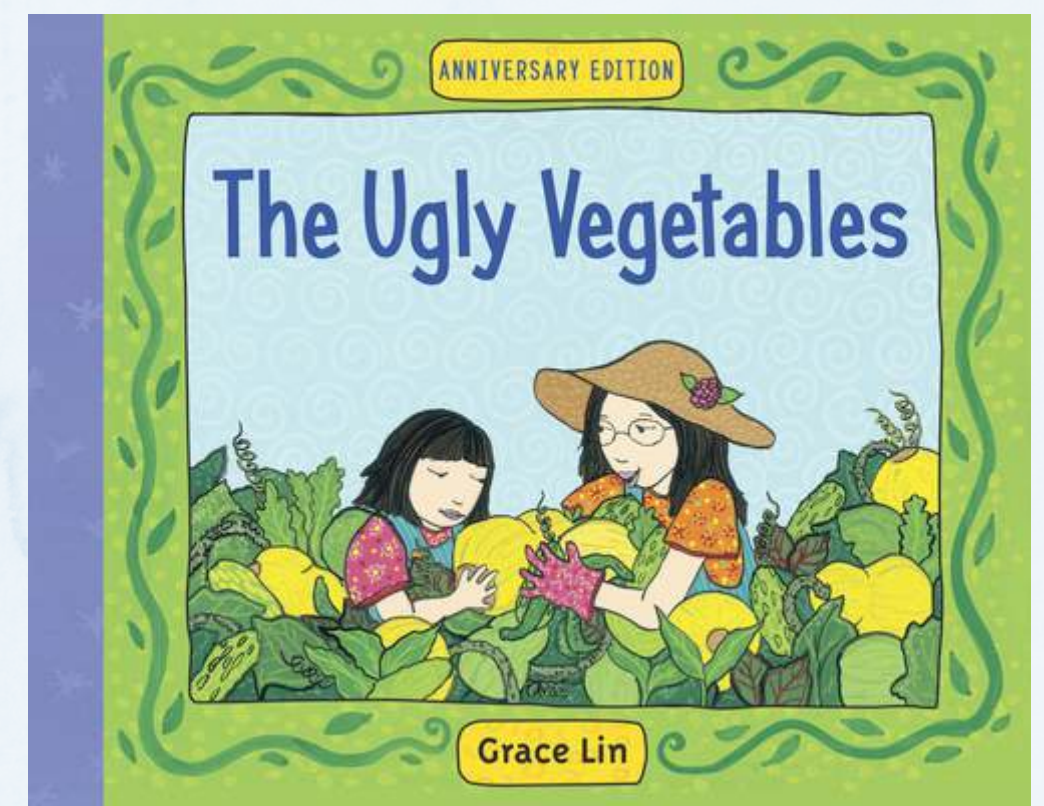
Lee & Low Books

The Ugly Vegetables

Author & Illustrator: Grace Lin

In this charming story about celebrating differences a Chinese-American girl wishes for a garden of bright flowers instead of one full of bumpy, ugly, vegetables. The neighbors' gardens look so much prettier and so much more inviting to the young gardener than the garden of "black-purple-green vines, fuzzy wrinkled leaves, prickly stems, and a few little yellow flowers" that she and her mother grow. Nevertheless, mother assures her that "these are better than flowers." Come harvest time, everyone agrees as those ugly Chinese vegetables become the tastiest, most aromatic soup they have ever known. As the neighborhood comes together to share flowers and ugly vegetable soup, the young gardener learns that regardless of appearances, everything has its own beauty and purpose.

Charlesbridge

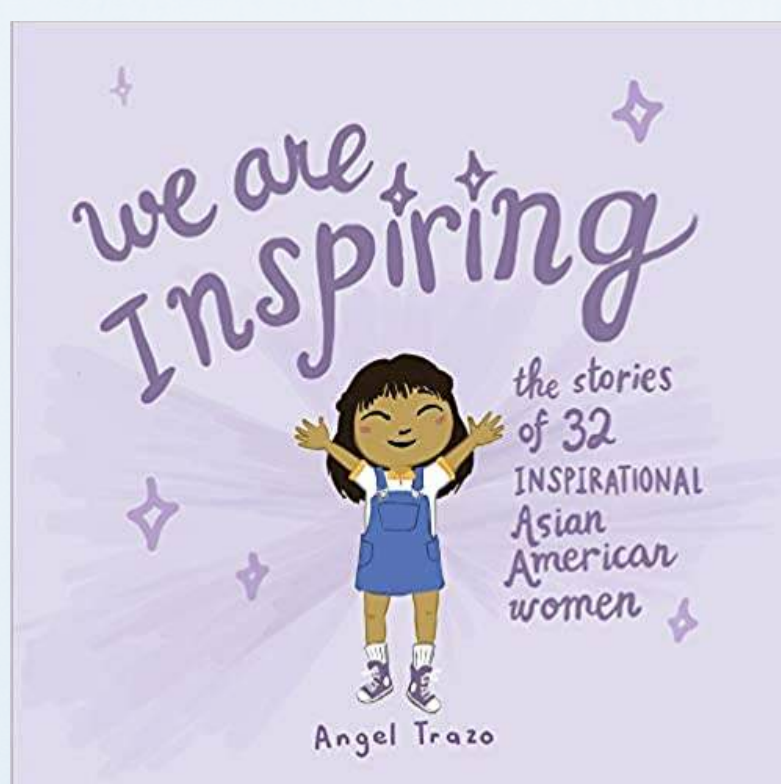
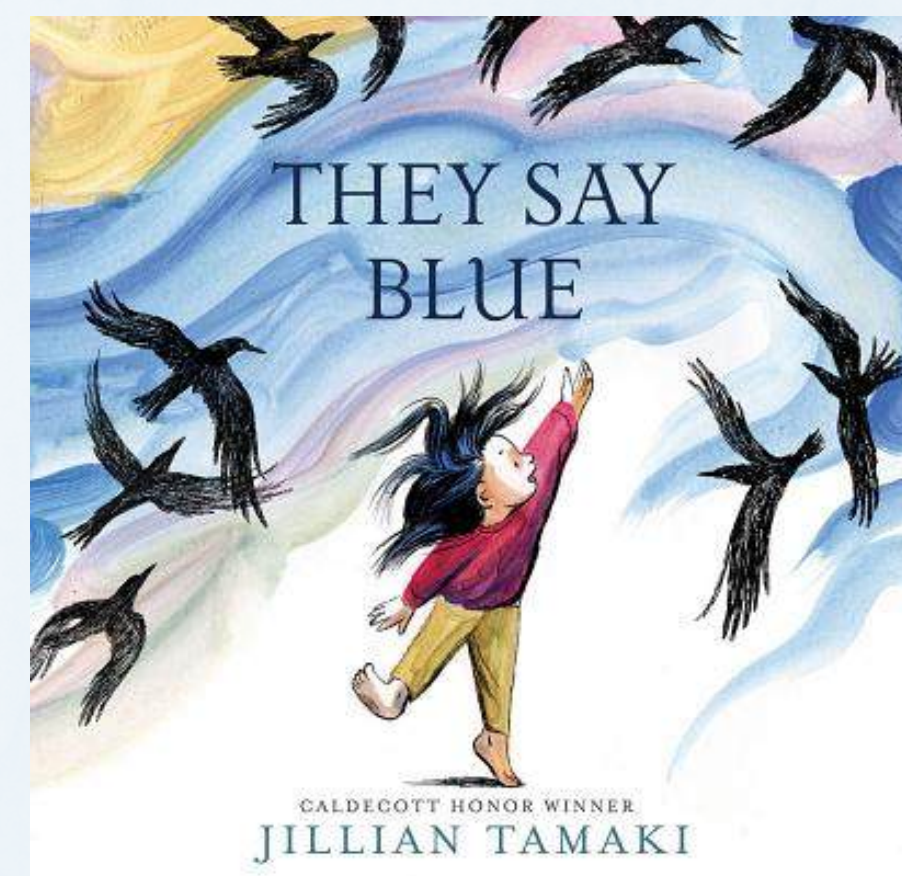


They Say Blue

Author & Illustrator: Jillian Tamaki

Follow a young girl through a year or a day as she examines the colors in the world around her. Egg yolks are sunny orange as expected, yet water cupped in her hands isn't blue like they say. But maybe a blue whale is blue. She doesn't know, she hasn't seen one!

Abrams Books for Young Readers

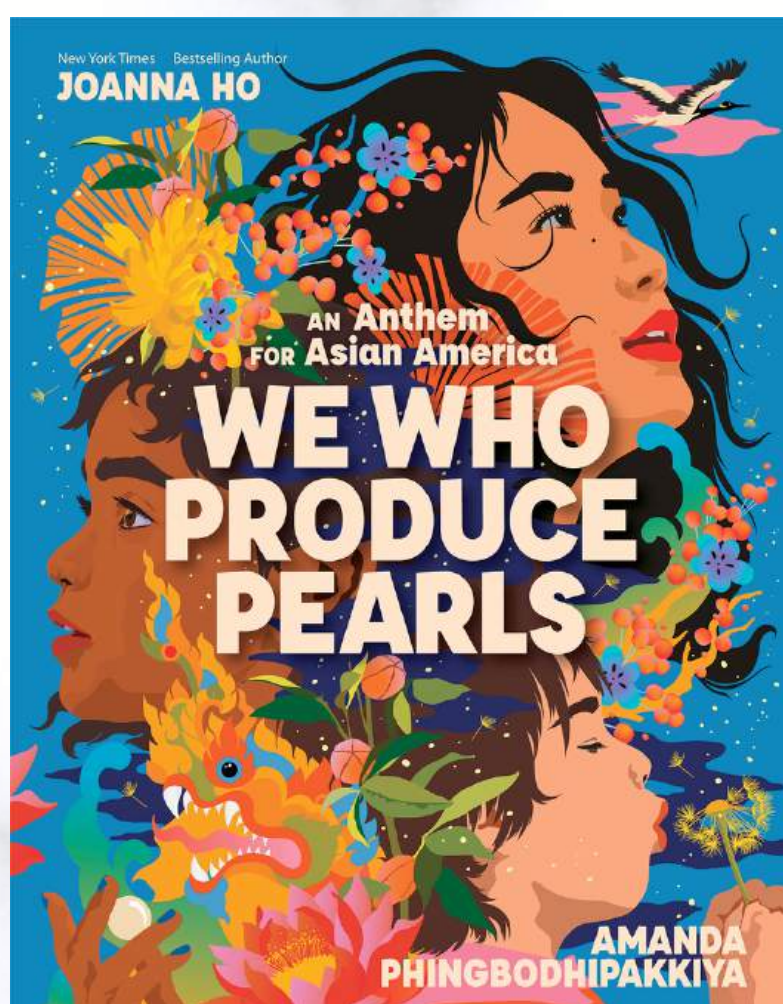


We are Inspiring

Author & Illustrator: Angel Trazo

This book brings to life the inspiring stories of 32 Asian American women like Grace Lee Boggs, Patsy Mink, Mindy Kaling, Tam Tran, Kamala Harris & so many more!

BookBaby



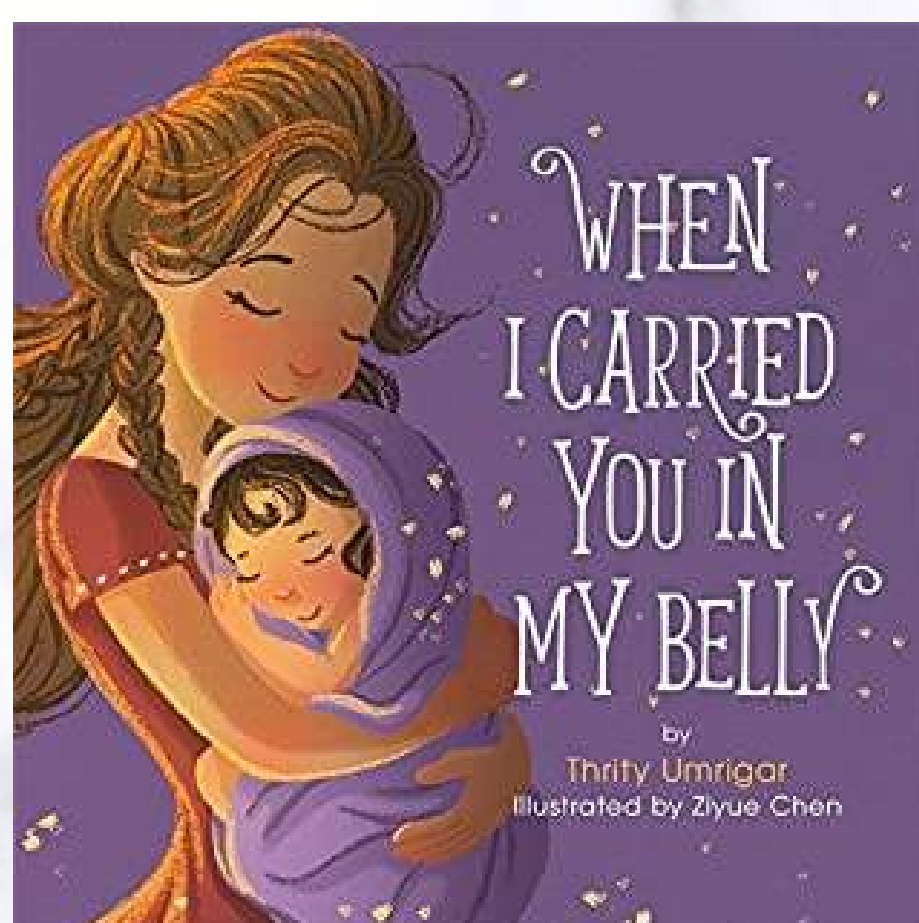
We Who Produce Pearls

Author: Joanna Ho

Illustrator: Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya

In Joanna Ho's true classic style, she creates a poetic ode that celebrates Asian American communities and their history. *We Who Produce Pearls* is an anthem for Asian America that celebrates the richness and diversity within the Asian American identity and serves as a reminder of our self worth, our legacy and most of all, our destiny. Together, Joanna and Amanda remind readers to rise up, speak out, and step into power.

Orchard Books



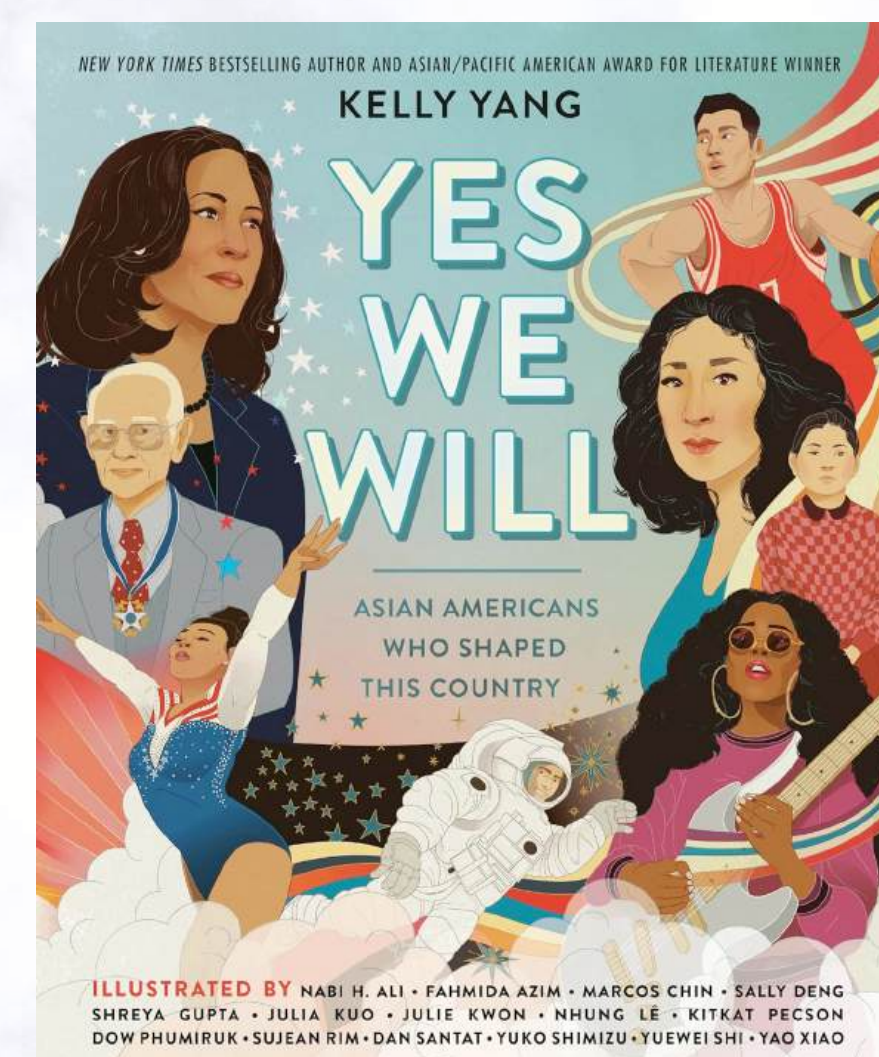
When I Carried You in My Belly

Author: Thrity Umrigar

Illustrator: Ziyue Chen

The special bond between a mother and her child begins well before the baby is born. But once the baby is born and starts to grow into her own person, traits from both parents begin to show themselves in delightful and humorous ways. A mother's song to her growing daughter, the book captures the warmth and magic of the time when her daughter was housed inside her belly.

Running Press Kids

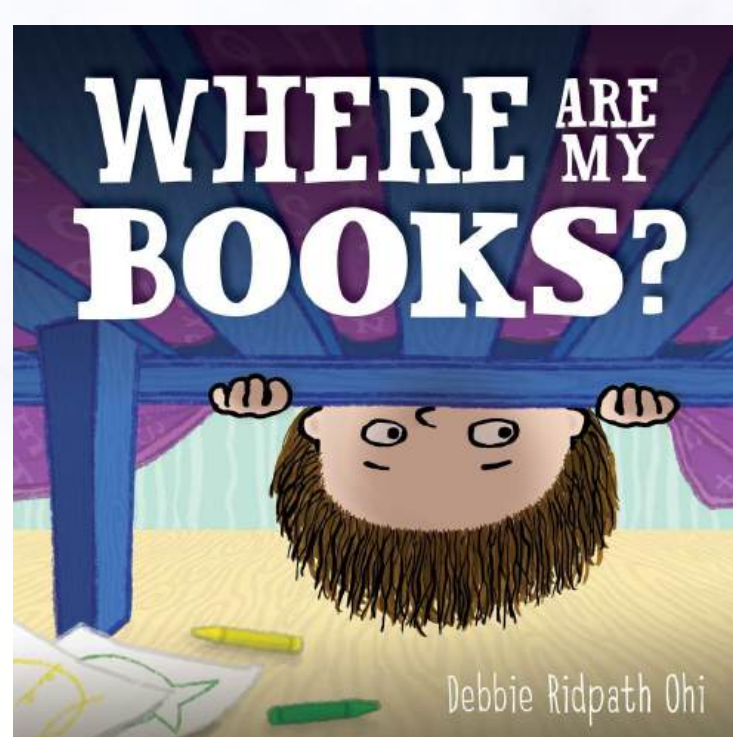


Yes We Will

Author: Kelly Yang

From creating beautiful music like Yo-Yo Ma to flying to outer space like Franklin Chang-Díaz; from standing up to injustice like Fred Korematsu to becoming the first Asian American, Black and female vice president of the United States like Kamala Harris, this book illuminates the power of Asian Americans all over the country, in all sorts of fields.

Dial Books



Where Are My Books?

Author & Illustrator:

Debbie Ridpath Ohi

A boy investigates a squirrely situation to track down his missing stories in this charming ode to book lovers of all kinds.

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers