

Cherokee girl, tries to find her mother, while finding lost pets along the way.

**SHEPARD, RAY ANTHONY**  
**A Long Time Coming: A Lyrical Biography of Race in America from Ona Judge to Barack Obama**

**Illus. by R. Gregory Christie**

CALKINS CREEK, 2023  
 9781662680663

This biography in verse focuses on six Black Americans and how they fought racism in different eras of U.S. history.

**TANG, BETTY C.**

**Parachute Kids**

**Illus. by the author**

GRAPHIX, 2023  
 9781338832693

This graphic novel, inspired by the author's life, follows three siblings as they navigate a surprise move to a new country and culture

while their parents remain in Taiwan.

**TREUER, ANTON**  
**Where Wolves Don't Die**

LEVINE QUERIDO, 2024  
 9781646143818

Still reeling from the death of his mother, Ezra Cloud wishes he could spend less time in Northeast Minneapolis and more time on the rez with his grandparents. When a school bully's house burns down and Ezra is a prime suspect, a winter season reconnecting with his roots on the trapline with his grandfathers proves to be the balm that he may have needed.

**WALLS, JASMINE**

**Brooms**

**Illus. by Teo DuVall**  
 LEVINE QUERIDO, 2023  
 9781646142675

This fantasy graphic novel takes place in 1930s Mississippi,

where a diverse cast of teens participate in forbidden broom races to feel autonomy in their life choices.

**WANG, JEN**

**Ash's Cabin**

**Illus. by the author**  
 FIRST SECOND, 2024  
 9781250754059

With basic supplies, newfound wilderness skills, and their beloved dog by their side, 15-year-old Ash, lonely and alienated, spends several weeks surviving in solitude in their late grandfather's cabin, forging a life with the land until the risks become too great. An immersive graphic novel for fans of climate fiction and wilderness adventure stories.

**Día**

**El día de los niños/  
 El día de los libros  
 (Children's Day/Book Day)**

is a celebration of children and wonderful books. Día honors the cultures and languages of all children.

**dia.ala.org**

This **DÍA BOOKLIST** was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA).

Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSA's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit  
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**Each Story  
 MATTERS  
 Every Child  
 COUNTS**

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# Día

## BOOKLIST

### Grades 6–8

Each Story  
**MATTERS**  
Every Child  
**COUNTS**

ALESSANDRI,  
ALEXANDRA

#### Grow Up, Luchy Zapata

ATHEANEUM, 2024  
9781665935968

As they enter middle school, a group of friends face new challenges and the realities of growing up.

CHAN, RUTH

#### Uprooted: A Memoir about What Happens When Your Family Moves Back

Illus. by the author  
ROARING BROOK, 2024  
9781250855336

When Ruth's family moves from Canada to Hong Kong, reuniting with her mother's family in the process, Ruth begins to learn that home is a place inside us all.

EDINGER, MONICA,  
AND LESLEY YOUNGE

#### Nearer My Freedom: The Interesting Life of Olaudah Equiano by Himself

ZEST, 2023  
9781728464077

By transforming Olaudah Equiano's 1789 autobiographical slavery narrative into poetry, this book makes an important historical

document accessible and relatable. While reading like a classic adventure, Equiano's suffering, terror, and unique voice are kept intact as the original language is skillfully transformed into verse.

FARMER, CRAIG KOFI  
**Kwame Crashes the Underworld**

ROARING BROOK, 2024  
9781250900265

Twelve-year-old Kwame helps his grandmother save humanity. The only problem is he has to go to the Ghanaian underworld to do it.

FIPPS, LISA

#### And Then, Boom!

NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, 2024  
9780593406328

How do you handle the surprises, heartbreaks, and fears that turn your world upside down? In this novel in verse, Joseph faces many tough challenges, but he stays strong and never gives up with the help of his friends. *Also available in Spanish.*

GONZALEZ,  
CHRISTINA DIAZ

#### Invisible

Illus. by Gabriela Epstein  
GRAPHIX, 2022  
9781338194555

Nothing and no one is what they seem in this graphic novel about five

very different Latinx students thrown together for a community service project at Conrad Middle School. *(Bilingual)*

HWANG, AARON

#### A Kid's Guide to the Chinese Zodiac: Animal Horoscopes, Legendary Myths, and Practical Uses for Ancient Wisdom

Illus. by Qu Lan  
RUNNING PRESS, 2023  
9780762482115

The Chinese zodiac is far more intricate than restaurant placemats suggest! Learn about zodiac animals and elements, the Four Pillars of Destiny, and how to use the Eight Words (your complete birth chart) to inform decisions, plans, and relationships.

KLEINROCK, LIZ,  
AND CAROLINE  
KUSIN PRITCHARD

#### What Jewish Looks Like

Illus. by Iris Gottlieb  
HARPERCOLLINS, 2024  
9780063285712

Thirty-six vibrantly illustrated biographies, organized by six core Jewish values and with a particular focus

on intersectionality, highlight the geographic and cultural diversity of Judaism.

LAPERA, ANNA

#### Mani Semilla Finds Her Quetzal Voice

LEVINE QUERIDO, 2024  
9781646143719

Protagonist Mani contends with the challenges of middle school, including an upcoming family trip, constant harassment from male classmates (which goes ignored by her school administration), and learning about the mysteries of her family's activist past, all while anxiously awaiting her first period.

LEVY, JOSHUA S.

#### Finn and Ezra's Bar Mitzvah Time Loop

KATHERINE TEGEN BOOKS, 2024  
9780063248243

Every Sunday at 1:36 p.m., Finn and Ezra are sent back to Friday morning, perpetually reliving their bar mitzvah weekend in an interminable time loop. Why are they stuck in this time loop? Can they escape?

LEWERS, NEDDA

#### Daughters of the Lamp

PUTNAM, 2024  
9780593619308

During a family trip to Egypt, Sahara finds herself the unexpected guardian of Ali Baba's treasure.

MÉNDEZ, YAMILE SAIED

#### The Beautiful Game

ALGONQUIN, 2024  
9781643753980

Valeria "Magic" Salomón is the best soccer player in her town, so good, in fact, that she plays on the top boys' team in the state. Due to an unfortunate incident, her teammates turn their backs on her, and she ends up playing for the Amazons, a girls' team she had previously ignored.

ORTEGA, JENNA

#### It's All Love: Reflections for Your Heart & Soul

RANDOM HOUSE, 2021  
9780593174562

This inspirational book explores Ortega's relationships with her family, her faith, her Hollywood career, and more. *Also available in Spanish.*

PEARSON, P. O'CONNELL

#### We Are Your Children Too: Black Students, White Supremacists, and the Battle for America's Schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia

SIMON & SCHUSTER, 2023  
9781665901390

Chronicles the powerful story of Black students in Prince Edward County, Virginia, who fought against white supremacists for their right to an education. Set during a time when schools were shut down to resist integration, the book unveils a pivotal yet often overlooked chapter in the battle for civil rights in America.

RENO, GINGER

#### Find Her

HOLIDAY HOUSE, 2024  
9780823454808

This middle-grade novel shines a light on missing and murdered Indigenous women as Wren, a young

