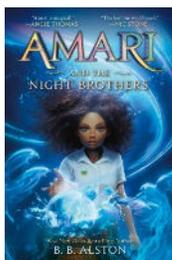




## Children's Booklist 2022: Black Joy

### Chapter Books and Fiction



#### Amari and the Night Brothers (Series)

by B. B. Alston

Discovering that she has a supernaturally enhanced talent, Amari Peters enters a summer tryout at the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs, where she is considered the enemy, in order to find her missing brother.



#### Just Right, Jillian

by Nicole D. Collier

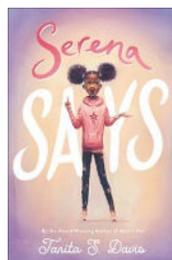
To keep her promise to her grandmother, fifth-grader Jillian must learn to speak up, break out of her shell and show everyone her true self to win the school's biggest academic competition.



#### Zoey and Sassafras (Series)

by Asia Citro

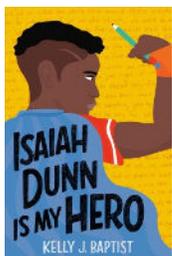
Learning an amazing secret while discovering a glowing photo, young Zoey assists injured magical animals that begin showing up in her family's backyard barn, an effort that includes caring for a particularly challenging baby dragon.



#### Serena Says

by Tanita S. Davis

Dumped by a popular best friend who had recently undergone a kidney replacement, a lonely Serena works on her vlogs in the hope of becoming a classroom reporter, before discovering that she has a worthwhile voice of her own. By the Coretta Scott King Honor-winning author of *Mare's War*.



#### Isaiah Dunn is My Hero

by Kelly J. Baptist

Referring to his late father's journal for advice on how to be the man of the house, young Isaiah taps the support and ideas of two school friends who help him navigate rules and manage without superpowers.



#### Dragons in a Bag (Series)

by Zetta Elliott

A witch neighbor enlists young Jaxon and his friends to help deliver a clutch of baby dragons to the safe magical world where they belong, a quest that is thrown into chaos by the trio's inability to follow strict dragon-care rules.



#### Maya and the Rising Dark (Series)

by Rena Barron

Struggling to understand why nobody else in her South Side Chicago neighborhood can see strange phenomena, 12-year-old Maya discovers that her missing father has been protecting a supernatural boundary between worlds.



#### Maya and the Robot

by Eve L. Ewing

In desperate need of a friend—and a science project—Maya finds a robot named Ralph in Mr. Mac's convenience store, and once she gets him up and running, a new world of connection opens up.

# Black Joy

## Chapter Books and Fiction



### Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky (Series)

by Kwame Mbalia

Haunted by the bus accident that ended his best friend's life, seventh grader Tristan Strong dreads a visit to his grandparents' Alabama farm before a bizarre living doll snatches away his friend's notebook and draws him into a world of burning seas, iron

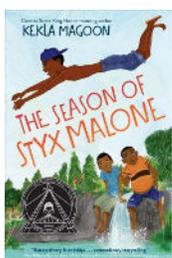
monsters and exhausted black folk heroes.



### The Last Last-Day-of-Summer (Series)

by L. R. Giles

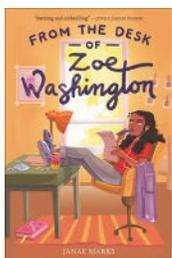
When two adventurous cousins accidentally extend the last day of summer by freezing time, they discover that the secrets they find hidden between the unmoving seconds, minutes and hours are not as much fun as expected.



### The Season of Styx Malone

by Kekla Magoon

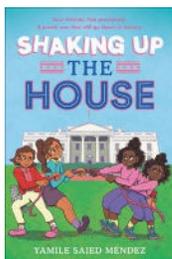
Longing for summertime adventures outside of their small Indiana community, two boys are enthralled by a cool newcomer who enlists their help in a series of escalating trade cons that rapidly put them in over their heads.



### From the Desk of Zoe Washington

by Janae Marks

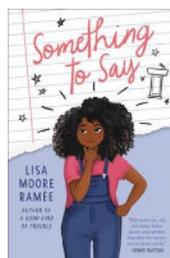
Receiving an unexpected letter on her 12th birthday from the incarcerated father she has never met, a courageous young baker prepares for a cooking-show competition while scrambling to determine her father's innocence.



### Shaking Up the House

by Yamile Saied Méndez

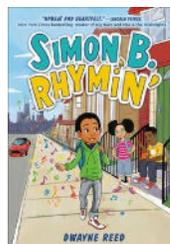
The outgoing First Daughters play a prank on their incoming counterparts, sparking an epic prank war at the White House that spins out of control in this hilarious graphic novel.



### Something to Say

by Lisa Moore Ramée

A friendless girl who has developed a knack for keeping her head down at school resists a red-headed newcomer who wants to make friends, before the two are paired for a class assignment that she hopes will secure her position on the debate team.



### Simon B. Rhymin'

by Dwayne Reed

Dreaming of becoming a world-famous rapper, Chicago fifth grader Simon Barnes is forced to confront his shyness and fear of speaking in public to demonstrate his talents during an oral presentation at school.



### It's the End of the World and I'm in My Bathing Suit

by Justin A. Reynolds

When the electricity goes out, twelve-year-old Eddie and his friends set out to investigate what is going on when they make the startling discovery that they are the only ones left in their neighborhood--and perhaps the only people left anywhere.



### Ways to Make Sunshine

by Renée Watson

The Hart family of Portland, Oregon, faces many setbacks after Ryan's father loses his job, but no matter what, Ryan tries to bring sunshine to her loved ones.



### Mia Mayhem (series)

by Kara West

Invited to attend the after-school Program for In-Training Superheroes upon discovering that she has superpowers, 8-year-old Mia Macaroonery struggles to balance her regular everyday life with the responsibilities of her secret identity.



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