

## Historical Fiction Picture Books

### AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

The following titles are located in the Picture Book (JE) Collection, alphabetically under the author's last name.

Cline-Ransome, Lesa. [Freedom's School](#)

Hungry for learning, Lizzie and her brother Paul attend a new school built for freed slaves.

Hopkinson, Deborah. [Sweet Clara and the freedom quilt](#) A young slave stitches a quilt with a map pattern which guides her to freedom in the North.

Johnson, Angela. [All Different Now](#)

In 1865, members of a family start their day as slaves, working in a Texas cotton field, and end it celebrating their freedom on what came to be known as Juneteenth.

Levine, Ellen. [Henry's Freedom Box](#)

A fictionalized account of how in 1849 a Virginia slave, Henry "Box" Brown, escapes to freedom by shipping himself in a wooden crate from Richmond to Philadelphia.

Lyons, Kelly Starling. [Ellen's broom](#)

Ellen has always known that the broom hanging on her family's cabin wall is a special symbol of her parents' wedding during slave days, so she proudly carries it to the courthouse when the marriage becomes legal.

Lyon, Kelly Starling. [Hope's gift](#)

A runaway slave during the Civil War, Hope's father returns after the Emancipation Proclamation as a member of the U.S. Colored Troops.

Mason, Margaret. [These hands](#)

An African American man tells his grandson about a time when, despite all the wonderful things his hands could do, they could not touch bread at the Wonder Bread factory. Based on stories of bakery union workers; includes historical note.

Meyer, Susan. [New shoes](#)

Ella Mae and her cousin Charlotte, both African American, start their own shoe store when they learn that they cannot try on shoes at the shoe store.

Miller, William. [Richard Wright and the library card](#)

Based on a scene from Wright's autobiography, *Black Boy*, in which the seventeen-year-old African American borrows a white man's library card and devours every book as a ticket to freedom.

Reynolds, Aaron. [Back of the bus](#)

From the back of the bus, an African American child watches the arrest of Rosa Parks.

Ringgold, Faith. [Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the sky](#)

With Harriett Tubman as her guide, Cassie retraces the steps escaping slaves took on the Underground Railroad and is reunited with her younger brother.

Ringgold, Faith. [Harlem Renaissance Party](#)

Lonnie and his uncle journey back in time to the Harlem Renaissance.

Uhlberg, Myron. [Dad, Jackie, and me](#). In Brooklyn, New York, in 1947, a boy learns about discrimination and tolerance as he and his deaf father share their enthusiasm over baseball and the Dodger's first baseman, Jackie Robinson.

Wiles Deborah. [Freedom Summer](#)

In 1964, Joe is pleased that a new law will allow his best friend John Henry, who is black, to share the town pool and other public places with him, but he is dismayed to find that prejudice still exists.

Winter, Jonah. [Lillian's right to vote](#)

As an elderly woman, Lillian recalls that her great-great-grandparents were sold as slaves in front of a courthouse where only rich white men were allowed to vote, then the long fight that led to her right--and determination--to cast her ballot since the Voting Rights Act gave every American the right to vote.

Woodson, Jacqueline. [This is the rope](#)

A rope passed down through the generations frames an African American family's story as they journey north during the time of the Great Migration.

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