

An Educator Guide Celebrating the Works of



**Tracey Baptiste**

Dear Readers,

I've always wanted to be a writer. I also wanted to be a ballerina, a fashion designer, an astrophysicist, and a teacher. I did become a teacher for a little while, and I still take ballet class. Being a writer is the one thing that stuck, and I'm glad it did because it's a lot of fun.

I grew up in Trinidad and Tobago, a twin-island nation in the Caribbean. Trinbago (as we sometimes call it) is home to many writers, and many of their books were required reading at school. It's also the land of calypso—a kind of music with uptempo beats and lyrics about relationships, politics, and current events. Calypsos are stories set to song, like the oral story traditions from west Africa that were brought to the Americas by enslaved people. You could say I was born in a land filled with storytellers, so it's not a surprise that I grew up to be one.

My journey to becoming an author started with stories I told my friends at lunchtime. This was my first experience entertaining people with things I made up, often on the fly. I started writing down those stories in a large red notebook. It was tall and thick and held as much as I could write. Then one day my dad brought home an electric typewriter which he told my brother and me we should never use. Naturally, I used it as soon as I got the chance. The story I wrote was divided into twelve chapters. My very first manuscript!

In January 2005, my first novel, *ANGEL'S GRACE*, was published. The story is about a 12-year-old who finds a picture of someone with a birthmark that looks exactly like her own. That idea came from meeting my baby cousin when I was 12, who was born with an exact match to one of my own birthmarks. Unlike me, Grace doesn't know the identity of the person in the photo. She spends the whole novel trying to figure it out.

After that, I wrote several nonfiction books. My next novel came out ten years later. It became the book I am best known for: *THE JUMBIES*.

Over the years I've written many different kinds of books for readers from preschool to high school: magical stories, science fiction adventures, mythology, historical nonfiction, and biographies. It's a joy to be able to do what I love for a living. My favorite part of the job is talking to readers who enjoy my stories, reading fan letters, and seeing kids' drawings of characters I've created.

This guide is meant to help educators and readers engage with my work in a more comprehensive way. I'm glad you're here. I'm glad I get to share my writing with you. Thank you for supporting my books.

~Tracey



# Bibliography

*Angel's Grace*, 2005

*The Jumbies*, 2015

*Rise of the Jumbies*, 2015



*Sycorax's Daughters*, "Ma Laja," 2017

*Minecraft: The Crash*, 2018

*The Creativity Project*, "The Portal to Anywhere," 2018

*Black Enough*, "Gravity," 2019

*The Jumbie God's Revenge*, 2019

*The Talk*, "Ten," 2020

*Looking for a Jumbie*, 2021

*African Icons: Ten People Who Shaped History*, 2021



*Joyful, Joyful*, "Best Laid Plans," 2022

*Because Claudette*, 2022

*Marley and the Family Band*, 2022



*Magic Has No Borders*, "Kiss Me Goodbye," 2023

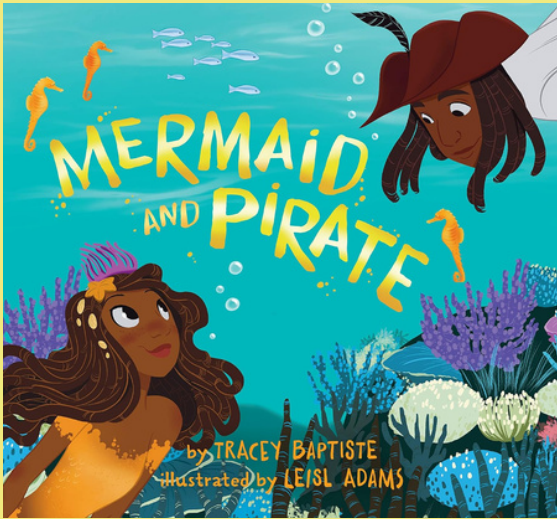
*Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin: Civil Rights Heroes*, 2023

*Mermaid and Pirate*, 2023

*Moko Magic: Carnival Chaos*, 2024

*Boy 2.0*, 2024

*On the Block*, 2024



Glub glub...

Aargh...

Mermaid and Pirate cannot understand each other. They speak different languages and come from different worlds. But they're quick to lend a hand, or a tail, when the sky grows stormy and waters get rough, and a friendship is born. Sometimes kindness and generosity speak louder than words.

**"Created with a pleasing palette, the illustrations have an appealing, cartoonlike simplicity...well worded and concise, the text tells the story of a friendship overcoming obstacles." — Booklist**

### Activities

- As a group, identify all of the action verbs used throughout the story (roll, dance, whip, snap, etc.). Then, invite students to write a short story on a different topic, using the same verbs.
- Identify the different sea creatures found throughout the story. Put students into groups and assign each group a sea creature to research and present on.
- Discuss: if you were the pirate, would you have helped the mermaid? If you were the mermaid, would you have helped the pirate? Why is it important to help our neighbors and community members, even if we don't know them?

I'm looking for a jumbie, I'm going to find a scary one.  
But Mama says jumbies exist only in stories. So Naya sets out on a nighttime adventure to find out for herself.  
No such thing, say the friends she makes along the way.  
But Naya is sure that jumbies are real. Some have big mouths.  
Or thick fur. Or glowing skin. Or sharp teeth. Kind of like her new friends....

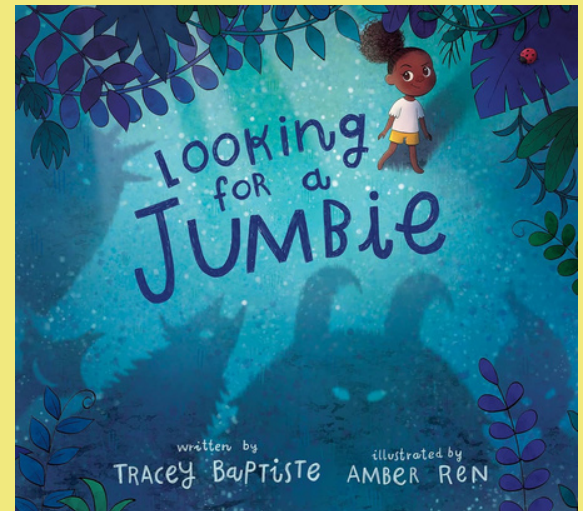
**"The illustrations are colorful and dreamlike, and Ren pays special attention to accentuating the features of characters. A nice addition to offerings on being afraid of the dark, monsters, or nighttime adventures."**

— Booklist

- ◆ School Library Journal Best Book selection

### Activities

- Before reading: read aloud the descriptions of some of the jumbies, and ask students to draw their interpretation of what they think the jumbie looks like. Compare drawings with the book's illustrations afterwards.
- Invite students to dream up their own jumbie, with its own unique design and name. Include details like where does the jumbie live? Is your jumbie a helpful jumbie, a sneaky jumbie, or a scary jumbie?
- Host a dance party and introduce students to different styles of Caribbean music, including calypso, reggae, dembow, salsa, mambo, and more!



# Picture Books



When Marley and her family move from Jamaica to Delaware, she knows life is about to change in big ways. And she's got the perfect plan to help her and her siblings make friends: an outdoor concert for the whole neighborhood! But when weather ruins their plans, she discovers help in the most unlikely places as her new neighbors quickly become the kindest of friends.

**"A well-played serenade to the power of kindness and community."**

— Kirkus Reviews

**"This picture book shows readers the importance of helping people in the community and being there for them when they're in need. A beautiful and necessary purchase that celebrates family and community."**

— School Library Journal

## Activities

- Before reading: discuss with students what the term "resilience" means. Ask students to draw a picture or write a short story about a time when something didn't go their way. How did they react to the situation? What was the outcome?
- Music is made in this story with real instruments, but also by rain, thunder, and even boots walking through a park. Using everyday items found in the classroom, make instruments and start a class band!
- After reading, teach the students about the real Marley family, and play music by Bob Marley or Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers. Or watch Bob Marley's family and friends perform "One Love" at the 1994 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony.



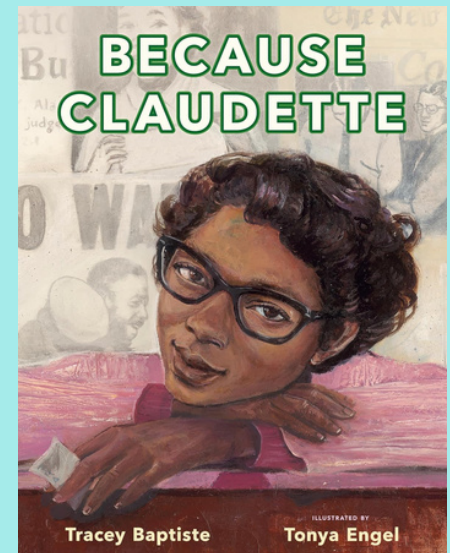
When fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin boarded a segregated bus on March 2, 1955, she had no idea she was about to make history. At school she was learning about Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, which helped inspire her decision to refuse to give up her seat to a white woman, which led to her arrest, which began a crucial chain of events. Because of Claudette's brave stand against injustice, history was transformed. Now it's time for young readers to learn about this living legend, her pivotal role in the civil rights movement, and the power of one person reaching out to another in the fight for change.

**"A powerful narrative that showcases generative energy of acts of resistance both big and small."** — Publishers Weekly, starred review

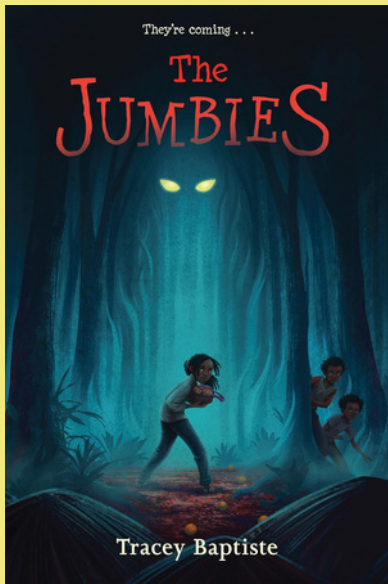
- ◆ *Jane Addams Children's Book Award finalist*
- ◆ *Recipient of School Library Journal and Kirkus starred reviews*

## Activities

- Invite students to write a short story about a civil rights figure, using the "because..." storyline format. Note significant events and people that shaped their life.
- Watch the linked video. In it, Tracey Baptiste says "I think young kids understand that you don't have to be the biggest name in the room. You don't have to do the biggest things. You can do your little part and have it be meaningful." Afterwards, discuss what little things students can do today that helps their community and the world.
- Invite students to research other notable figures highlighted in the book: Aurelia Browder, Mary Louise, Smith, Susie McDonald, and Sarah Mae Flemming. Discuss the differences and similarities between their stories and Claudette's.



# Middle Grade Fiction



Corinne La Mer claims she isn't afraid of anything. Not scorpions, not the boys who tease her, and certainly not jumbies. They're just tricksters made up by parents to frighten their children. Then one night Corinne chases an agouti all the way into the forbidden forest, and shining yellow eyes follow her to the edge of the trees. They couldn't belong to a jumbie. Or could they?

When Corinne spots a beautiful stranger at the market the very next day, she knows something extraordinary is about to happen. When this same beauty, called Severine, turns up at Corinne's house, danger is in the air. Severine plans to claim the entire island for the jumbies. Corinne must call on her courage and her friends and learn to use ancient magic she didn't know she possessed to stop Severine and to save her island home.

**"Far more than just your average spooky supernatural story, Baptiste uses the underpinnings of a classic folktale to take a closer look at colonization, rebellion, and what it truly takes to share the burden of tolerating the 'other.' Plus there are monsters. Gotta love the monsters." — Elizabeth Bird, Fuse 8**

◆ Junior Library Guild Selection    ◆ New York Public Library Staff Pick    ◆ We Need Diverse Books Must Read

## Activities

- Select a jumbie described in the book, and draw your interpretation of what it looks like. Afterwards, compare it to the illustration found in the *Jumbies Field Guide*, linked to the side.
- Discuss: do the jumbies deserve to live on the island more, do the humans? Why?
- Reflect on Corinne's mother, and the love she showed Corinne. Think of other stories in which a mother's love is integral to the plot. Compare and contrast the similarities, and the differences.



## Discover the rest of *The Jumbies* trilogy!



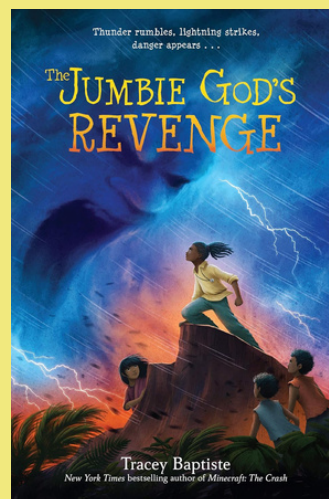
An NPR Best Book of 2017

A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2017

A School Library Journal Best Book of 2017

A Junior Library Guild selection

Starred reviews from Kirkus and School Library Journal



"With this strong return to the *Jumbies* series, Baptiste engages all the senses, from the taste of sweet oranges to the scent of salty air . . . [Corinne's] determination, compassion, and bravery will inspire readers to face down any challenges crossing their paths. Baptiste carefully represents Caribbean diversity . . . A tremendous return."

— Kirkus, starred review

# Middle Grade Fiction



Win "Coal" Keegan has just landed in his latest foster home, with a big, noisy, slightly nosy family named the McKays. They seem eager to welcome Coal, but he's wary of trusting them. So, he doesn't tell them that he went for a walk with chalk in his pocket to cover a nearby street with his art. He doesn't tell them that a neighbor found Coal drawing, pulled a gun on him, and fired it. He doesn't tell them the police chased him. And he definitely doesn't tell them that when everything went down, Coal somehow turned invisible.

As Coal searches for answers and slowly learns to control his invisibility, he turns to the McKay kids and friends both new and old for help. But they soon discover they're not the only ones looking for a Black boy with superpowers, and the situation is far stranger--and more dangerous--than they ever could have expected.

**"Baptiste beautifully weaves in a variety of significant topics like racial justice, science, and mindfulness..."**

**— School Library Journal, starred review**

## Activities

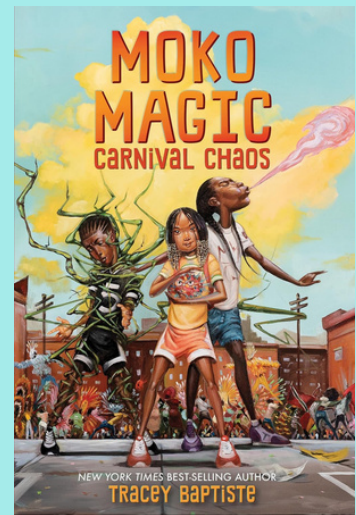
- Discuss: *BOY 2.0* borrows its framework from the fairy tale of Snow White. What elements of the original fairy tale, including plot, characters, locations, etc., are evident in Coal's story?
- Discuss the significance of the symbols on Coal's baby blanket.
- Coal's ability is the subject of "family lore," a story that is handed down from generation to generation and retold over many years. Invite students to reflect on any stories like that their family may hold, and to interview a family member to hear stories. Students can then share the funny/incredible/strange things that their family members have been involved in as a cartoon, graphic novel panel, video clip, or other media.

Twelve-year-old Misty and her mother have just moved from Trinidad to Brooklyn in time for the annual carnival celebrations over Labor Day weekend. But really strange things begin to happen, and Misty discovers that she and her cousins come from a long line of mokos, people who have special powers meant to help them protect their community. Misty can see impending danger, Aiden can heal, and Brooke can project protective strength. The trio is just learning about their skills when Misty senses something watching her. And then each of the carnival events is disrupted by a different disaster. Some kind of evil force is clearly trying to stop the festivities. But why? And will moko magic be enough to save the day?

**"The power of storytelling on full, colorful, exciting display." — Kirkus Reviews**

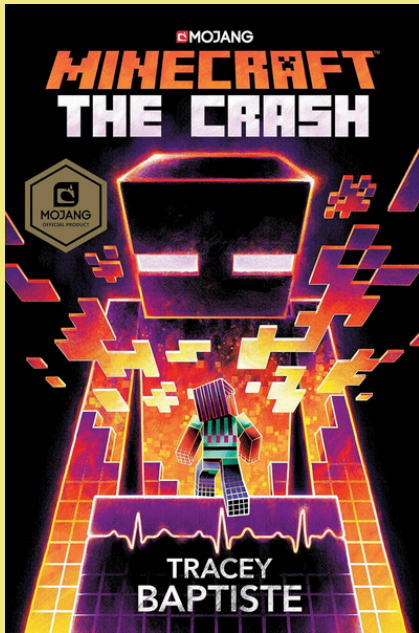
## Activities

- Misty and Brooke struggle to understand each other throughout the story, but still love and support each other. Invite students to create a character map that shows what Misty and Brooke have in common, and what is unique about them.
- Aidan takes notes throughout the story as he learns new things about his powers, his cousins, and more. Ask students to keep a journal for a week, noting their daily activities and interactions. After the week, invite students to review their journal entries. Discuss the power of recording history in writing, versus relying on oral history only. What are the pros and cons of each?
- When discussing mythology with Aidan and Misty, Melanie Emersyn says "It's all the usual stuff—you know, Greek, Roman..." Discuss why some mythologies are more widely known than others. Then, assign each student a different type of mythology. Invite them to each prepare a digital presentation highlighting their mythology and what they learned about it.



**Coming Fall 2025:  
Moko Magic:  
Museum Mayhem**

# Upper Middle Grade Fiction



Bianca has never been good at following the plan. She's more of an act-now, deal-with-the-consequences-later kind of person. But consequences can't be put off forever, as Bianca soon learns. She and her friend Lonnie are in a terrible car crash. After waking up in the hospital, almost paralyzed by injuries, Bianca is faced with questions she's not equipped to answer. She chooses instead to try a new virtual-reality version of Minecraft that responds to her every wish, giving her control over a world at the very moment she thought she'd lost it. As she explores the new realm, she encounters a mute, glitching avatar she believes to be Lonnie. But the road to recovery isn't without its own dangers, and Bianca must deal with uncertainties while trying to help return Lonnie to reality..

◆ Debuted at #5 on the New York Times Bestseller List, July 2018

## Activities

- Research the meaning of the characters' names: Elon, Bianca, Esme, and Anton. Why do you think these names were selected?
- Bianca makes many mistakes throughout the novel, some in the Minecraft world and others in real life. Describe three mistakes she made and explain the life lessons she learned from each. Use examples from the book, and provide a short title, similar to a "headline" or "bumper sticker," that captures the essence of each lesson.
- Create a timeline that documents Bianca's travel in and out of the game, as well as between biomes, and to the end of the game. Include with each timeline entry a specific page that supports your work.

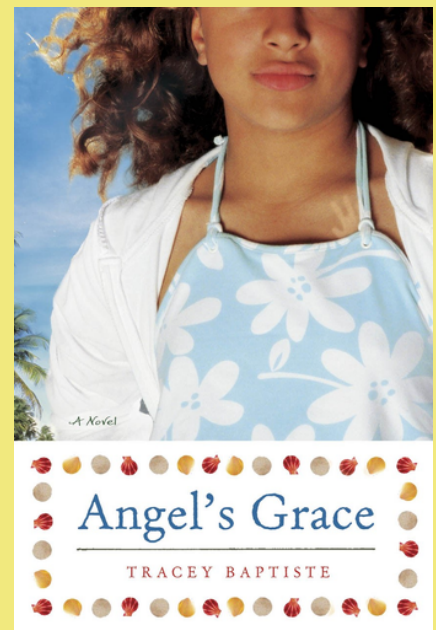
While on vacation on the island of Trinidad, twelve-year old Grace Brewster discovers a faded photo of a man who has the same hand-shaped birthmark over his heart that she has. She remembers the story her mother always told her about an angel who watched over her when she was a baby, sick in the hospital. And somehow, she knows that this must be her real father. The only problem is: how will she find him before her vacation is over?

**"A moving debut that is as frank and authentic about sibling rivalry and family anger as it is about the earthy, fruit-scented tropical setting." — Booklist**

◆ New York Public Library Best Books for Teens selection

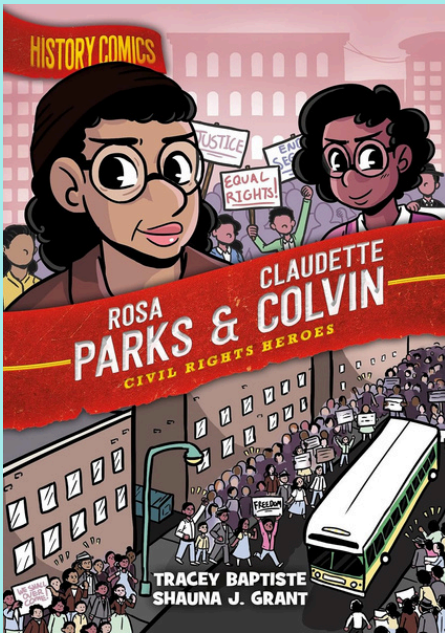
## Discussion Questions

- How does Grace's "angel mark" affect her sense of identity at different points throughout the story?
- What does Grace mean when she says some secrets "are sweet little things that are simply too delicious to let slip"?
- Discuss the theme of family portrayed in the story. What message is the author trying to convey?





# Middle Grade Nonfiction



A Black woman who refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus sparked a bus boycott and became part of one of the most iconic moments in American history. Yet, few know that Rosa Parks had actively worked toward social justice her whole life. And even fewer know that the seeds of the statewide bus boycott were first planted by a teenager named Claudette Colvin, who was arrested on similar charges months earlier. Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin inspired a nation, showing how positive change can start with a single defiant act. Their actions have become the stuff of legend, but there is so much more to their lives, their stories, and the movement they began.

**"The full-color, cartoon-style illustrations will [...] draw in readers of all ages to this raw look at history." — School Library Journal**

◆ 2024 Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People Award winner

## Activities

- While Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks actually *did* know each other, select two historical figures that may not have. What projects would they have collaborated on? What could they have learned from each other? Create a short graphic novel depicting the pair meeting and working together.
- Watch the video linked on the side, then discuss with students the importance of Claudette Colvin's record being cleared over sixty years after she refused to give up her bus seat.

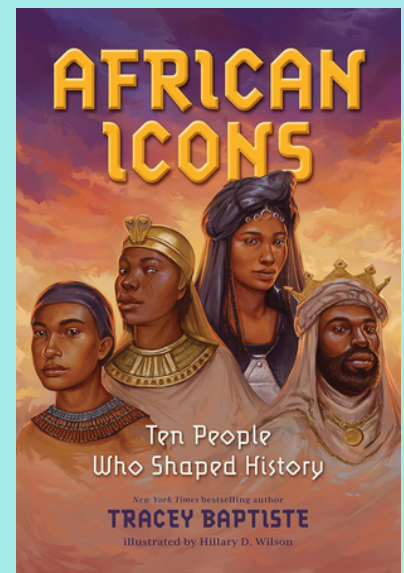


Meet ten real-life kings, queens, inventors, scholars, and visionaries who lived in Africa thousands of years ago and changed the world.

Black history is a rich and thrilling collection of stories that begins thousands of years ago with the many cultures and people of the African continent. Through portraits of ten heroic figures, bestselling author Tracey Baptiste takes readers on a journey across Africa to meet some of the great leaders and thinkers whose vision built a continent and shaped the world.

**"In African Icons, Baptiste engages in the hard work of unveiling the myths about the African continent to young readers . . . This is a great beginner's guide to pre-colonial Africa." — Ibram X. Kendi, National Book Award-winning author**

- ◆ New York Public Library Best Books for Kids selection
- ◆ Recipient of School Library Journal, Publishers Weekly, and Kirkus starred reviews



## Activities

- Before reading, invite students to guess if the following countries are larger or smaller than Africa: China, India, Japan, Italy, the United Kingdom, the United States, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain, and Portugal. Afterwards, read the book's introduction and refer students to the map on page xi. Have students reflect on the accuracy of their predictions. Ask them to discuss how they acquired their knowledge of Africa's size, and what the effects are of misconceptions about its size?
- Create a timeline that connects the lifetime of each individual profiled in the book to one another and/or major historical events.



From chudails and peris to jinn and goddesses, this lush collection of South Asian folklore, legends, and epics re-imagines stories of old for a modern audience.

In Baptiste's "Kiss Me Goodbye" the snake goddess Manasa reincarnates in the body of a New Jersey High School teen, bent on repeating the poisonous murder of Lakhindar, an ill-fated bridegroom. In the legend, Manasa is successful but her revenge is upended by Lakhindar's bride, Behula. In this reincarnation, Manasa is tired of their roles, heady with venom, and determined to end the legend once and for all.

**"A collection of fantastically diverse South Asian stories reimagining and recentring ancient tales by beloved and well-known names from young adult literature as well as intriguing new voices...this anthology pushes the boundaries of fantasy, drawing on a broad range of settings, figures, and tales from South Asian religions, mythologies, and history...engrossing, and entertaining." — Kirkus Reviews**

### Activities

- Prepare two containers with slips of paper in each: one with the names of various mythological gods and goddesses and one with specific places and times in history. Have students select a paper from each and use the two prompts to write a short story, create a skit, or prepare a piece of artwork depicting the combination of the two.
- Discuss: what makes for a good surprise ending? When writing, what should be included or avoided to achieve this?

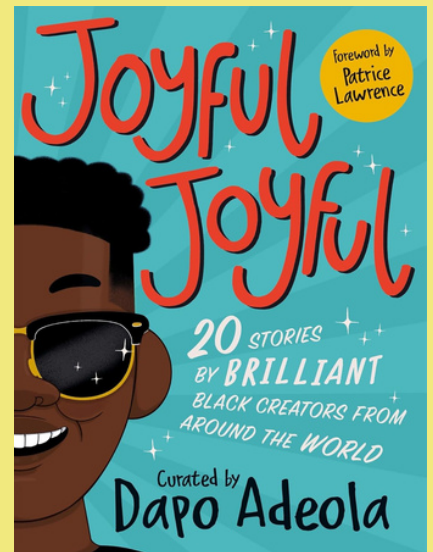
With stories featuring a mythical whale, a message from the future, a Halloween dance competition, a talking book, a miraculous discovery in a moment of lost hope, the joy of Jollof rice and much more, this gorgeous collection of stories and poems celebrates joy and showcases forty talented Black writers and artists from across the world. Curated by British Book Awards Illustrator of the Year Dapo Adeola, with a foreword by the acclaimed Patrice Lawrence.

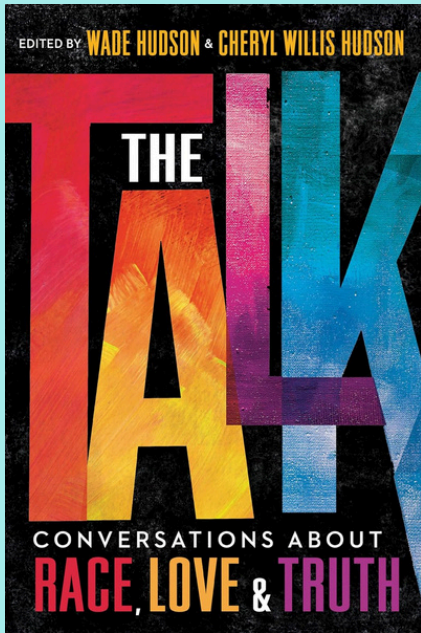
In "Best Laid Plans," a young pan aficionado wants to sneak out to enjoy a nearby competition. But her neighbor's rottweiler has other plans.

**"Joyful Joyful is a visual feast and a collection of dazzling stories and poems . . . could make any child fall in love with books forever." — David Walliams**

### Activities

- Various sayings come to mind after reading this story, including "good things come to those who wait," and of course the saying by Robert Burns that inspired the story's title, "The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry." What other well-known sayings could relate to the story? Select one and create a motivational poster, using inspiration from the story.
- Taking into account details from the story, and additional research as needed, create either a postcard for Trinidad, or a poster for the pan competition.





Thirty diverse, award-winning authors and illustrators invite you into their homes to witness the conversations they have with their children about race in America today in this powerful call-to-action that invites all families to be anti-racists and advocates for change. Baptiste takes on the delicate discussion between a parent and child when they are pulled over for a traffic stop in “Ten.”

**“The essays, stories, poems and letters . . . make plain that the hard conversations we all need to have about race are part of a broad reckoning with our nation’s history. The book’s black-and-white images project love and support.”**

— The New York Times

- ◆ New York Times Best Children’s Book of the Year selection
- ◆ NPR Best Book of the Year selection
- ◆ Recipient of Kirkus, Booklist, The Bulletin, and Publishers Weekly starred reviews

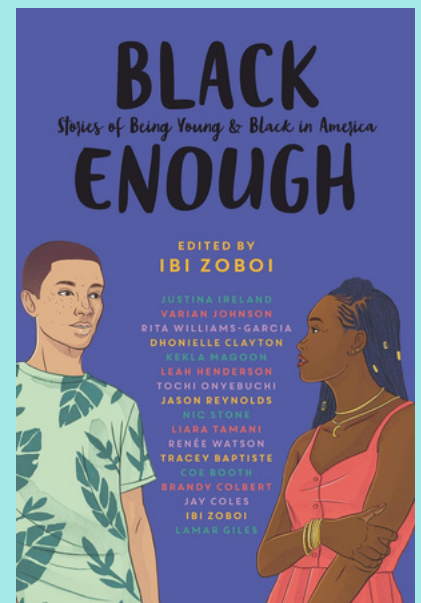
### For Discussion and Reflection

- Discuss: In “Ten” (p. 71), Tracey Baptiste begins, “Because the lights are flashing behind us, I need to tell you some things. . . .” She then lists ten important pieces of advice that are necessary for her Black children to be safe when stopped by the police. What is on your list of ten things for you and your friends to do to be safe in today’s world?
- Reflect: how do you as individuals work to learn about race and social justice? What else can you do?
- The title of this book is *The Talk: Conversations About Race, Love & Truth*. Discuss how race, love, and truth each play a role in “Ten.”

Black authors writing for teens today—*Black Enough* is an essential collection of captivating stories about what it’s like to be young and Black in America. In “Gravity” a young immigrant attends a late summer fête where she is groped by someone on the dance floor, mid-jump. In the split second it takes for her to land, she contemplates what her options are as a young, black, female immigrant with an unreliable support system, by reflecting on what she knows about sex and relationships from the people in her life.

**“Each entry is deftly woven and full of such complex humanity that teens will identify with and see some of their own struggles in these characters... This collection presents the beauty of black humanity in all its many forms.”**

— School Library Journal, starred review

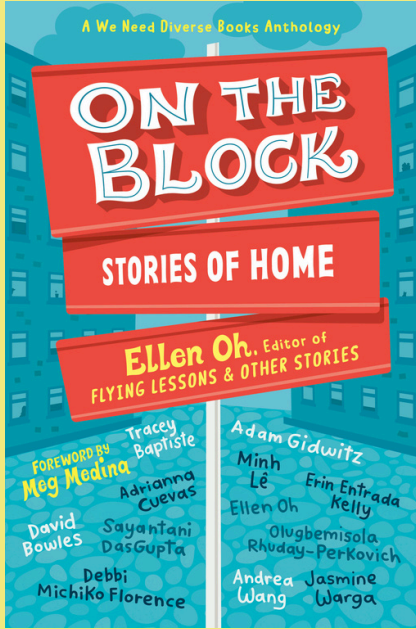


### Activities

- Watch the book trailer; create a piece of art inspired by one of the responses to “Black is...” in the video.
- The majority of “Gravity” takes place within one second, but with flashbacks to the past. Select a moment from your life that lasted only a few seconds but felt like a lifetime. Write a poem inspired by that moment.
- Put yourself in the narrator’s shoes, and compose a letter to Myesha.



Scan to watch the book trailer!



From *We Need Diverse Books* comes an inspiring middle-grade anthology that follows the loosely interconnected lives of multigenerational immigrant families, the residents at the Entrada apartment building. In “Apt. 5B,” Lila becomes acquainted with the Entrada, and her new neighbors, after moving from Trinidad to the United States.

**“With candor and sensitivity, the authors take on both lighthearted issues such as burgeoning romance as well as more serious ones, including bigotry and the harsh realities of the American dream.” — Kirkus Reviews**

**“These stories ebb and flow together in such a way that the reader feels like a resident of the Entrada themselves, and thus feels part of a vibrant, loving community where everyone can belong.” — Booklist**

◆ Recipient of Kirkus, Publishers Weekly, and Booklist starred reviews

## Activities

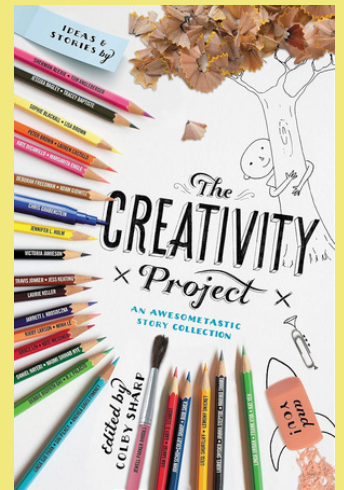
- Discuss the meaning behind Lila thinking “Knowing a little bit of the neighbors’ languages was better than just saying hello.” How is that better? Why is it important?
- Create a Venn diagram that compares Lila’s old home and new one, and their similarities and differences. Or, compare Lila’s new home at the Entrada with where you live!
- After you’ve read the rest of the book, create either an acrostic or concrete poem for The Entrada.

Colby Sharp invited more than forty beloved, award-winning, diverse and bestselling authors and illustrators to provide story starters for each other; photos, drawings, poems, prose, or anything they could dream up. When they received their prompts, they responded by transforming these seeds into any form of creative work they wanted to share. The result is a stunning collection of words, art, poetry, and stories by some of our most celebrated children book creators.

**“Anyone reading this book will discover the joy and wonder in each and every prompt and response.”**  
— School Library Connection, starred review

## Activities

- Show students Lauren Castillo’s prompt, then invite them to write a short story based on the image. Afterwards, read “The Portal to Anywhere” and ask students to reflect on any similarities or differences between their response and Tracey’s.
- Ask each student to create their own writing prompt and write it on a piece of paper. Mix the pieces all together and invite each student to randomly draw one, then to write a short story inspired by the prompt they selected.
- Randomly select two of the image prompts in the book and invite students to write a short story that incorporates both.
- Watch Colby Sharp’s video that highlights other ways to use *The Creativity Project*.



# How Many Have You Read?

Color in the books you've read so far!

Looking for a JUMBiE

**THE TALK**

The JUMBiE GOD'S REVENGE

**BLACK ENOUGH**

*The CREATIVITY Project*

**MIMICROBOTS: THE GRASSHOPPER**

Sycorax's Daughters

RISE of the JUMBiES

The JUMBiES

Angel's Grace

**ON THE BLOCK**

**BOY 2.0**

**MOKO MAGIC:  
CARNIVAL CHAOS**

MERMAID AND PIRATE

ROSA CLAUDETTE  
**PARKS & COLVIN**

**MAGIC HAS NO BORDERS**

*Marley and the Family Band*

**BECAUSE CLAUDETTE**

Joyful, Joyful

**AFRICAN ICONS**



# Tracey Baptiste Trivia



**1. What is Tracey's favorite color?**

- a) blue
- b) pink
- c) green

**3. What is the title of Tracey's first book?**

- a) *Minecraft: The Crash*
- b) *Angel's Grace*
- c) *The Jumbies*

**5. What is Tracey's favorite candy?**

- a) Almond M&M's
- b) Whatchamacallit
- c) Cadbury's Fruit and Nut Bar

**7. What is Tracey's favorite activity?**

- a) Writing poems
- b) Swimming in the ocean
- c) Napping

**9. What is Tracey's favorite way to relax?**

- a) Take a yoga class
- b) Take a ballet class
- c) Take a sewing class

**11. What was the name of Tracey's first dog?**

- a) Haysley
- b) Thunder
- c) Barkley

**2. Which book inspired Tracey to become an author?**

- a) *Grimm's Fairy Tales*
- b) *Mother Goose Rhymes*
- c) *Charlotte's Web*

**4. Who is Tracey's favorite author?**

- a) Gabriel García Márquez
- b) Rosa Guy
- c) Agatha Christie

**6. What college did Tracey graduate from?**

- a) New York University
- b) Lesley University
- c) University of the West Indies

**8. What is Tracey's favorite children's book?**

- a) *There's a Monster at the End of This Book*
- b) *Mother Goose Rhymes*
- c) *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*

**10. What is Tracey's favorite animal?**

- a) Tiger
- b) Koala bear
- c) Sloth

**12. If Tracey wasn't a writer, what job would she like to have instead?**

- a) Ballet dancer
- b) Astrophysicist
- c) Librarian

## Trivia Answers

1. b) pink 2. a) *Grimm's Fairy Tales* 3. b) *Angel's Grace* 4. a) Gabriel García Márquez 5. c) Cadbury's Nut and Fruit Bar 6. a) New York University 7. b) Swimming in the ocean 8. a) *There's a Monster at the End of This Book* 9. b) Take a ballet class 10. c) sloth 11. b) Thunder 12. b) Astrophysicist

# Cumulative Activities

Whether prepping for a school visit, or recognizing her birthday (March 7!) there are lots of reasons to read and celebrate Tracey's books.

Here are a few cumulative activities to get you started:

## ***Mermaid and Pirate + Looking for a Jumbie***

Provide students with materials to make paper bag puppets (paper bags, markers, construction paper, scissors, glue, crayons, yarn, etc.). Assign each student a character from one of the two stories, and invite them to make a puppet version of that character. Then, sort students into small groups, and ask them to create a puppet show! How will the characters interact with each other? What will the problem be in the story, and how will the characters overcome it? If time allows, invite each group to act out their puppet show for the class.

## ***The Jumbies + Moko Magic***

Create a visual dictionary and encyclopedia by assigning each student a term learned from either book. Each entry can include an original illustration, the definition or meaning, and an example of the term used in a sentence. Hang the pages around the classroom, hallway, or library, for all to see and learn from.

## **Anthologies**

In celebration of the various anthologies Tracey has contributed to, ask each student to write a one-page short story. Assign a variety of themes and topics, including mythology, family, history, friendship, magic, growing up, challenges, etc. Compile the stories into a class anthology. Bonus activity: ask each student to design their own cover for the collection.

# Word Search

Six names from Tracey's picture books are hidden in the puzzle below. How many can you find?

B	H	A	V	J	P	M	Y	Y	D
D	H	A	R	A	E	O	E	L	A
S	E	L	L	R	Q	L	X	I	R
M	H	I	M	E	R	Q	J	N	G
M	V	A	B	A	C	T	N	V	L
H	I	B	M	M	V	K	A	G	H
D	J	V	T	N	U	W	Y	J	T
J	D	R	Z	I	C	J	A	S	N
C	L	A	U	D	E	T	T	E	J
S	N	E	T	A	R	I	P	Y	B

**CLAUDETTE  
MERMAID**

**JUMBIE  
NAYA**

**MARLEY  
PIRATE**



# Word Search

The names of twelve historical figures featured in Tracey's books are hidden in the word search below. Can you find them all?

A I A E I J H B A B C M T C Q O A F  
W E L S Z M F Z M L A E N Y L W B I  
P V S M A B F N A N G R V H F M I U  
A V J O M W S U N P X E N I V L O C  
L C F M P U D W I E Q N D Y D F Q G  
O J R D E E M K R T N E I U I S T Q  
O E J A T N P P E O F I L C C M U N  
F A C T B V E V N H W T C P W E A A  
N N E N D L L S A M M H K X E H T N  
Y Q O W E Q A U S I M A R N Y A A I  
S K J C D R M B B I S E I X L D C H  
U B O G F D E J I N N D G P N Q I N  
N K A V Z N A T A N I Z Z W D Y N I  
O B E W K G P M F A N K B I O O G T  
S K R A P A S O R X S A Z D Q L Y C  
W H F V U L I B U V X B H P M D B K  
P Z N Y C S B K F Y P C E Q K Z H N  
F I G S Q P X B N U S A B F O U K E

**AESOP AMANIRENAS CLAUDETTE COLVIN  
HANNIBAL BARCA IMHOTEP MANSA MUSA  
MENES MERENEITH QUEEN IDIA  
ROSA PARKS TERENCE TIN HINAN**

# Standards

The following resources were utilized in pairing activities and discussion questions with educational standards/frameworks:

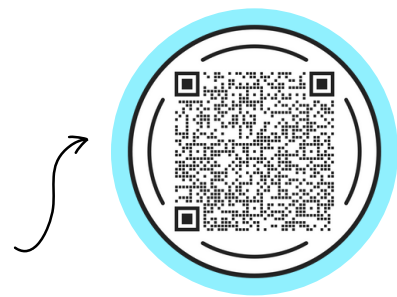
[Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects](#)  
(Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening, and Language)

[The College, Career, and Civil Life \(C3\) Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#)

[National Core Arts Standards](#)

[CASEL Framework](#)  
(Social and Emotional Learning)

For a full list of activities and corresponding standards, scan here:



## Additional Resources

[Team Tracey](#)

[Resources for Educators](#)

[Resources for Kids](#)

[Resources for Writers](#)

...and more, all at [TraceyBaptiste.com!](#)

## Guide Credits

Guide Creation: [Anna Brannin](#)

Cover Photo: [Viscose Illusion](#)

*Angel's Grace* discussion questions: [Tracey Baptiste](#)

*African Icons* activities: [Amy Jurkis](#)

*Boy 2.0* activities: [Tracey Baptiste](#)

*Minecraft: The Crash* activities: [Mary Anne Butler](#)

*The Talk* discussion questions: [Edith Campbell](#)

