****

**Title:** Moses When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom

**By:** Carole Boston Weatherford

**Illustrated by:** Kadir Nelson

**Book Jacket:** “I set the North Star in the heavens and I mean for you to be free…”

“Born into slavery, Harriet Tubman hears these words from God one summer night and decides to leave her husband and family behind and escape. Taking with her only her faith, she must creep through woods with hounds at her feet, sleep for days in a potato hole, and trust people who could have easily turned her in.

 But she was never alone.

 In lyrical text, Carole Boston Weatherford describes Tubman’s spiritual journey as she hears the voice of God guiding her north to freedom on that very first trip to escape the brutal practice of forced servitude. Tubman would make nineteen subsequent trips back south, never being caught, but none as profound as this first one. Courageous, compassionate, and deeply religious. Harriet Tubman, with her bravery and relentless pursuit of freedom, is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

 This is a unique and moving portrait of one of the most inspiring figures of the Underground Railroad. Kadir Nelson’s emotionally charged paintings embody strength, healing, and hope.

**First Line:** “On a summer night, Harriet gazes at the sky and talks with God.”
**Last Line:** “Well done, Moses, well done.”

**Vocabulary:** indigo, whippoorwill, twinkling, flee, murmurs, dusk, chants, chariot, farewell, plantation, screeches, swamp, croaking, reflection, saints, mortals, refuge, havens, cradles, clearing, staff, startles, wobbles, lulls, dawn, snarl, babbling, ceases, churns, glimpsed, patrollers, nabbing, shun, lash, sapling, Promised Land, Philadelphia, woes, kin, butterbeans, plot, risking, dreaded, yoke, heeds, Canada

****

**Title:** The Other Side

**By:** Jacqueline Woodson

**Illustrated by:** E.B. Lewis

**An ALA Notable Book**

**Back Cover:** “An unforgettable story of the power of friendship.”

“What a great metaphor Woodson has created for knocking down old beliefs and barriers that keep people apart.” – *Kirkus Reviews*

“Manages to plumb great depths with understated simplicity.” – *School Library Journal,* starred review

“Even young children will understand the fence metaphor and they will enjoy the quiet friendship drama.” – *Booklist,* starred review

**Book Jacket:**

*“That summer, the fence that stretched through our town seemed bigger. We lived in a yellow house on one side of it. White people lived on the other. And Mama said, “Don’t climb over that fence when you play.” She said it wasn’t safe.”*

“Clover has always wondered why a fence separates the black side of town from the white side. But this summer when Annie, a white girl from the other side, begins to sit on the fence, Clover grows more curious about the reason why the fence is there and about the daring girl who sits on it, rain or shine. And one day, feeling very brave, Clover approaches Annie.

 Originally published in 2001, *The Other Side* has established itself as a classic and has been praised for showing that change can happen little by little, one child at a time.”

**First Line:** “That summer the fence that stretched through our town seemed bigger.”

**Last Line:** “Someday.”

**Vocabulary:** damp, laundry, blouse, sideways, partners

****

**Title:** Martin’s Big Words The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**By:** Doreen Rappaport

**Illustrated by:** Bryan Collier

**Caldecott Honor Book**

**First Line:** “Everywhere in Martin’s hometown, he saw the signs, **WHITE ONLY**.”

**Last Line:** “His big words are alive for us today.”

**Vocabulary:** hymns, minister, Mahatma Gandhi, Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks, arrested, blistering, courage, protested, Washington, Nobel Peace Prize, Memphis, Tennessee, strike

****

**Title:** Rosa Parks

**By:** Wil Mara

**First Line:** “Rosa Parks changed the world in one day.”

**Last Line:** “Rosa Parks made life better for all African Americans by just saying “no.”

**Vocabulary:** African Americans, Alabama, arrest, boycott, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Supreme Court

****

**Title:** Ruby Bridges Goes To School My True Story

**By:** Ruby Bridges

**Back Cover:** “A long time ago, black children and white children could not go to the same school. I helped change that.”

**First Line:** “A long time ago, some people thought that black people and white people should not be friends.”

**Last Line:** “And most important, I tell children to be kind to each other.”

**Vocabulary:** tenants, restaurants, segregation, William Frantz Elementary School, marshals, John Steinbeck, Eleanor Roosevelt, Norman Rockwell

****

**Title:** Dear Mr. Rosenwald

**By:** Carole Boston Weatherford

**Illustrated by:** R. Gregory Christie (Coretta Scott King Honor Award Winner)

**Back Cover:** “Dear Sir, I like to read books. My best subject is arithmetic. My parents are counting on me to learn all I can. This school is the first new thing I ever had to call my own. I’m going to stitch me a dress in the sewing classroom. One day, I’ll be a teacher like Miss Shaw. Thank you, Mr. Rosenwald. Yours truly, Ovella”

**Book Jacket:** “Ovella’s one-room school is not much to speak of, so ehwn town gets word that a man named Julius Rosenwald, the president of Sears, Roebuck and Co., is donating money to help them build a brand-new school, Ovella can hardly believe her ears. No more leaky roofs, wind whistling through the walls, or a sheet that splits the classroom into two. But in order to have a new school, the community will have to raise a lot of money and build the school themselves. *How on earth will poor people find money to give away?* Ovella wonders.

 Based on the true story of the Rosenwald schools, which empowered thousands of African American communities to build schools for their children in the 1920s and ‘30s, *Dear Mr. Rosenwald* is a powerful and uplifting story for anyone who has ever dreamed of a better life.”

**1921: One-Room School**

**Vocabulary:** vessels, fidgeting, harvest, shacks, corncribs

**Sharecropping**

**Vocabulary:** bale, debt, spare, rock candy, Sears catalog, fretting

**Supper**

**Vocabulary:** rally, support

**New School Rally**

**Vocabulary:** pulpit, Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, Julius Rosenwald, Sears, Roebuck, pride, hurdle

**Taking Root**

**Vocabulary:** deacons, acre, sowed

**Box Party**

**Vocabulary:** plot, cinnamon, bid, carved, jig, harmonica

**Passing the Plate**

**Vocabulary:** homecoming, sermon

**Blueprints**

**Vocabulary:** beamed, blueprints, Tuskegee architect, cloakrooms

**Lumber**

**Vocabulary:** sprouted, lullabies, hauled, sawmill

**Raising the Roof**

**Vocabulary:** cold snap, weather

**Hand-Me-Downs**

**Vocabulary:** potbellied stoves, erasers, scribbles, doodles

**Playground**

**Vocabulary:** stake, horseshoes, ringer

**1922: White Oak School**

**Vocabulary:** sparkled, lobby, clammy

**Dear Mr. Rosenwald**

**Vocabulary:** bows, biscuits, stitch

****

**Title:** Sit-In How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down

**By:** Andrea Davis Pinkney

**Illustrated by:** Brian Pinkney

**Winner, 2011 Flora Stieglitz Straus Award for Nonfiction**

**Winner, 2011 Carter G. Woodson Award**

**Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People 2011**

“Masterful.” – ***School Library Journal,* starred review**

“Compelling…[A] powerful, elemental, and historic story.” – ***Booklist,* starred review**

**Book Jacket:**

“It was February 1, 1960.

They didn’t need menus.

Their order was simple.

A doughnut and coffee,

with cream on the side.”

“Courageously defying the WHITES ONLY edict of the era, four young black men took a stand against the injustice of segregation in America by sitting down at the lunch counter of a Woolworth’s department store. Countless others of all reaces soon joined the cause following Martin Luther King Jr.’s powerful words of peaceful protest. By sitting down together, they stood up for civil rights and created the perfect recipe for integration not only at the Woolworth’s counter, but on buses and in communities throughout the South.

 Poetic storytelling and exuberant illustrations combine to celebrate a defining moment in the struggle for racial equality.”

**Vocabulary:** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. , Woolworth, Greensboro, North Carolina, menus, invisible, segregation, bitter, ignore, refuse, integration, justice, absorb, reservations, determined, budge, Hampton, Virginia; Nashville, Tennessee; Montgomery, Alabama; Atlanta, Georgia, motivated, dose, flung, lash, violence, nonviolence, protest, patrons, opposed, committed, dignity, integrate, Ella Baker, activist, demonstrators, SNCC Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, slogan, President John F. Kennedy, Civil Rights Act of 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson, banned, savor, sip, conviction, unity

****

**Title:** Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington

**By:** Frances E. Ruffin

**Illustrated by:** Stephen Marchesi

**Back Cover:** “On a hot summer day in 1963, more than 250,000 people, poured into Washington, D.C. Why were they there? Find out in this book about a historic day and a very famous speech.”

**Vocabulary:** Washington, D.C., New York City, Chicago, Lincoln Memorial, Abraham Lincoln, statue, Civil War, slavery, protest, balcony, water fountains, colored, Lincoln Memorial, Georgia, Alabama, threats, President John F. Kennedy

****

**Title:** Birmingham, 1963

**By:** Carole Boston Weatherford

**Lion and the Unicorn Award for Excellence in North American Poetry Honor Book**

**Jefferson Cup Award –** Virginia Library Association

**Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award**  - Pennsylvania Center for the Book

**Jane Addams Children’s Book Award Honor Book, Books for Older Readers** – Jane Addams Peace Association

**Editor’s Choice for Younger Readers –** *Kirkus Reviews*

**Lasting Connections –** *Book Links*

**CCBC Choices –** Cooperative Children’s Book Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison

**Best Children’s Books –** *Christian Science Monitor*

“An emotional read…intimate and powerful.” – *School Library Journal,* starred review

“Exquisitely understated design lends visual potency to a searing poetic evocation of the Birmingham church bombing of 1963…A gorgeous memorial.” – *Kirkus Reviews,* starred review

“A book that should be in every library collection.” – *Library Media Connection,* starred review

“It’s the innocence of Weatherford’s details – a first sip of coffee, patent leather cha-cha heels – that sets the stage for the protagonist’s (and the reader’s) eventual horror.” – *Christian Science Monitor*

**Book Jacket:**

“In 1963, Birmingham, Alabama, was one of the most segregated cities in the United States. Civil rights demonstrators were met with police dogs and water cannons. The eyes of the world were on Birmingham, a flashpoint for the civil rights movement.

On Sunday, September 15, 1963, members of the Ku Klux Klan planted nineteen stick of dynamite under the back steps of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, which served as a meeting place for civil rights organizers. The explosion claimed the lives of four girls. Their murders shocked the nation and turned the tide in the struggle for equality.

Here is a book that captures the heartbreak of that tragic day as seen through the eyes of a fictional witness to the bombing. Pairing archival photographs with poignant text written in free verse, Carole Boston Weatherford offers a powerful tribute to the young victims.”

**Vocabulary:** chanted, “We Shall Overcome”, snarling, dozed, mass, sopped, tattled, patent-leather, gospel, pulpit, clammy, dynamite, clogged, crumbled, plaster, megaphone, deserve, appetite, stoning, cinders, ash, aprons, potholders, hopscotch, starched, patrolled, wisp, mudpie, Brownie, tea parties, fundraiser, carport, revue, muscular dystrophy, Girl Scouts, clarinet, Jack and Jill of America

****

**Title:** Birmingham 1963 How a Photograph Rallied Civil Rights Support

**By:** Shelley Tougas

**Back Cover:** “In May 1963 news photographer Charles Moore was on hand to document the Children’s Crusade, a civil rights protest. But the photographs he took that day did more than document an event; they helped change history. His photograph of a trio of African-American teenagers being slammed against a building by a blast of water from a fire hose was especially powerful. The image of this brutal treatment turned Americans into witnesses at a time when hate and prejudice were on trial. It helped rally the civil rights movement and energized the public, making civil rights a national problem needing a national solution. And it paved the way for Congress to finally pass laws to give citizens equal rights regardless of the color of their skin.”

**Table of Contents:**

Chapter One: The Children March

Chapter Two: The Growth of Conscience

Chapter Three: Rallying the Nation

Chapter Four: The Struggle Continues

Timeline

Glossary

Additional Resources

Source Notes

Select Bibliography

Index

**Glossary**

**activists:** people who act vigorously to support or oppose one side of a controversial issue

**adversary:** someone who fights or argues against another

**assassinate:** to murder someone who is well-known or important, such as a president

**civil rights:** individual rights that all members of a society have to freedom and equal treatment under the law

**discrimination:** unfair treatment of a person or group, often because of race, religion, gender, sexual preference, or age

**implicates:** suggests involvement with

**indignities:** acts that offend a person’s sense of dignity or self-respect

**influential:** having the power to change or affect someone or something

**loitering:** being in a public place with no reason; it is illegal in certain places and circumstances

**recruit:** to try to persuade a person to join

**sit-in:** form of protest in which one or more people peacefully occupy an area

**tactics:** plans or methods to win a game or battle or achieve

****

**Title:** Friend on Freedom River

**By:** Gloria Whelan

**Illustrated by:** Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen

**Back Cover:** “A tale of spirit, compassion, and the courage to do whtat is right when it would be safer to do nothing.”

**Book Jacket:** “It’s 1850 and the icy December wind will soon freeze the Detroit River and close it to boat traffic. It would be dangerous for anyone to travel. While his father is away up north, young Louis helps his mother get ready for the cold winter ahead, determined to be “the man” of the house. His father’s parting words to Louis are “If you don’t know what to do, just do what you think I would have done.”

“When runaway slaves ask Louis to help them by ferrying them across the river to freedom in Canada, he is not sure what to do. Traveling the river at night in this cold weather could be deadly, and if any of them are caught, it means prison for Louis and a return to slavery for the young mother and her children. What would his father have done?”

“Award-winning author Gloria Whelan weaves a tale of spirit, compassion, and the courage to do what is right when it would be safer to do nothing. Suspenseful artwork from Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen brings the story to life.”

**Author’s Note**

“It is estimated that 40,000 slaves traveled Michigan’s Underground Railway. For many of the slaves the road to freedom led through Detroit and across the Detroit River to Canada.

To commemorate those perilous journeys a “Gateway to Freedom” monument stands on Detroit’s Hart Plaza Riverfront Promenade. The 12-foot bronze monument depicts eight figures looking across the Detroit River to Windsor, Ontario in Canada.

Across the Detroit River on the Windsor Civic Esplanade, the 22-foot “Tower of Freedom” monument, with its bronze “Flame of Freedom,” celebrates Canada’s proud part in the Underground Railway.”

**First Line:** “Louis watched the last of the mallard ducks lift off.”

**Last Line:** “When Papa comes back,” Louis said, “I’ll tell him, ‘Papa, I did what I thought you would do.’”

**Vocabulary:** Detroit River, willow boughs, France, Detroit, steamboats, schooners, rustle, alder bushes, startled, slaves, seek, tatter, shawl, clung, Kentucky, Canada, Fugitive Slave Law, scowling, currents, shoals, shivering, kettle, aroma, whitefish stew, aloutette, gentile, pain au chocolat, quilt, skiff, Ohio River, Underground Railway, North Star, shuddered, lantern, drifting, herring, perch, sturgeon, oars, startled

****

**Title:**  Freedom on the Menu The Greensboro Sit-Ins

**By:** Carole Boston Weatherford

**Paintings by:** Jerome Lagarrigue

**Back Cover:** “Changes are coming…There were signs all through town telling eight-year-old Connie where she could and could not go. But when Connie sees four young men take a stand for equal rights at a Woolworth’s lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, she realizes that things may soon change. This event sparks a movement in her town and region. And while Connie is too young to march or give a speech, she helps her brother and sister make signs for Equality Now. Changes are coming to Connie’s town, and her family is excited and a little worried. As for Connie, she just wants to sit at the lunch counter and eat a banana split like everyone else. That seems fair, doesn’t it?”

“Simple and straightforward…a handsome book” – ***Booklist***

**First Line:** “Just about every week, Mama and I went shopping downtown.”

**Last Line:** “It was the best banana split I ever had.”

**Vocabulary:** swivel, banana split, cater, water fountains, swimming pools, movie theaters, bathrooms, obeyed, New York, sip, scolded, huffed, five-and-dime, NAACP National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, wringing, budge, jutted, shooed, peering, protests, bursting, picket, pouted, fretted, arrested, mule-stubborn, chanting, pleaded, Sears catalog, screeched, jolted, fancy, egg salad, sipped, plopped

****

**Title:** freedom summer

**Written by:** Deborah Wiles

**Illustrated by:** Jerome Lagarrigue

**Ezra Jack Keats Book Award**

**Coretta Scott King Award**

**A California Young Reader Medal Nominee**

**A Children’s Literature Choice Book**

**A *Library Talk* Editors’s Pick**

**Back Cover:** “John Henry swims better than anyone I know.

He crawls like a catfish,

blows bubbles like a swamp monster,

but he doesn’t swim in the town pool with me.

He’s not allowed.”

“Joe and John Henry are a lot alike. They both like shooting marbles, they both want to be firemen, and they both love to swim. But there’s one important way they’re different: Joe is white and John Henry is black, and in the South in 1964, that means John Henry isn’t allowed to do everything his best friend is. Then a law is passed that forbids segregation and opens the town pool to everyone. Joe and John Henry are so excited they race each other there…only to discover that it takes more than a new law to change people’s hearts.”

“Teachers and parents could use this book as a quiet but powerful introduction to the prejudice experienced by many Americans.” – ***Kirkus Reviews,* starred review**

“An excellent book…History will come alive for present-day students.” – ***Library Talk,* starred review**

**First Line:** “John Henry Waddell is my best friend.”

**Last Line:** “Then we walk through the front door together.”

**Vocabulary:** churn, spout, scoot, doodlebug, hollers, peeks, asphalt, spongy, blacktop, heaves

****

**Title:** A Picture Book of Jesse Owens

**By:** David A. Adler

**Illustrated by:** Robert Casilla

**First Line:** “Jesse Owens was born on September 12, 1913, on a small farm in Oakville, Alabama.”

**Last Line:** “The races Jesse Owens ran were over in seconds, but the story of his rise from a poor sharecropper’s son to a world hero has inspired young people to dream and to work hard to make their dreams come true.”

**Vocabulary:** Oakville, Alabama, James Cleveland, sharecroppers, planks, pneumonia, Cleveland, Ohio, Jesse Owens, steel mill, Ohio State University, Berlin, Germany, Adolf Hitler, prejudice, New York City, spectacle, autobiography, equality, President Gerald R. Ford, President Jimmy Carter, inspired

****

**Title:** Lincoln A Photobiography

**By:** Russell Freedman

**Newbery Medal**

“An eloquent work. Its authority comes both from its esthetic – photographs speak more powerfully today than paintings – and from the sophistication with which Mr. Freedman’s text combines personal and public lives into a human portrait of a politician honorably confronting the most vexing issues of his era. From the opening page, which depicts Lincoln in beak-nosed profile…to the homely inventory of the assassinated President’s pockets…this biography feels astonishingly real.” – ***The******New York Times Book Review***

“Freedman has set a worthy goal: to reveal something about the real man behind the Honest Abe legend…A biography of Lincoln based on a truly human definition of greatness.” – ***San Francisco Chronicle***

“Few, if any, of the many books written for children about Lincoln can compare with Freedman’s contribution…Well-organized and well-written, this is an outstanding example of what (juvenile) biography can be. Like Lincoln himself, it stands head and shoulders above its competition.” – ***School Library Journal***

“This eminently well-researched photobiography is outstanding; the man, his times, and his contemporaries are compellingly portrayed.” – ***ALA Booklist***

**Contents:**

One The Mysterious Mr. Lincoln

Two A Backwoods Boy

Three Law and Politics

Four Half Slave and Half Free

Five Emancipation

Six This Dreadful War

Seven Who Is Dead in the White House?

A Lincoln Sampler

In Lincoln’s Footsteps

Books About Lincoln

Acknowledgments and Picture Credits

Index

**Lincoln Quotes (beginning of each chapter)**

“If any personal description of me is thought desirable, it may be said, I am, in height, six feet, four inches, nearly; lean in flesh, weighing, on average, one hundred and eighty pounds; dark complexion, with coarse black hair and grey eyes – no other marks or brands recollected.”

“It is a great piece of folly to attempt to make anything out of my early life. It can all be condensed into a simple sentence, and that sentence you will find in Gray’s Elegy – ‘the short and simple annals of the poor.’ That’s my life, and that’s all you or anyone else can make out of it.”

“I had studied law, and removed to Springfield to practice it.”

“If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong. I cannot remember when I did not so think, and feel.”

“If my name ever goes into history, it will be for this act.”

“When I think of the sacrifice yet to be offered and the hearts and homes yet to be made desolate before this dreadful war is over, my heart is like lead within me, and I feel at times like hiding in a deep darkness.”

“I know I’m in danger, but I’m not going to worry about it.”

****

**Title:** Henry’s Freedom Box A True Story from the Underground Railroad

**By:** Ellen Levine

**Illustrated by:** Kadir Nelson

**Caldecott Honor Book**

**Back Cover:** “Henry “Box” Brown was one of the Underground Railroad’s most famous runaway slaves. And he had the most ingenious idea…”

**Book Jacket:** “Henry Brown wasn’t sure how old he was. Henry was a slave. And slaves weren’t allowed to know their birthdays.”

“Henry dreams of a world where his life belongs to him. But when his family is sold, he risks everything for what he knows is right. With the strength and conviction of the best kind of hero, Henry makes a harrowing journey in a wooden crate – and mails himself to freedom!

 In this powerful true story, Ellen Levine weaves the extraordinary events of Henry “Box” Brown’s life with poignancy and grace. Kadir Nelson’s luminous paintings shine their light into the soul of each character. Together, they make this inspiring account unforgettable.”

**First Line:** “Henry Brown wasn’t sure how old he was.”

**Last Line:** “Everyone called him Henry “BOX” Brown.”

**Vocabulary:** slave, master, staircase, quilt, beckoned, soar, swirled, mistress, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, vitriol, Washington D.C., pried