

who wrote the bluford high series

Who wrote the Bluford High series is a question often asked by fans of young adult fiction and readers interested in diverse, engaging stories set in a high school environment. The Bluford High series is a popular collection of novels that explore the lives, struggles, and triumphs of teenagers navigating adolescence in a fictional urban high school. This series has gained widespread acclaim for its realistic portrayal of issues such as peer pressure, family dynamics, mental health, and social challenges faced by teenagers today. But who is behind these compelling stories? The answer lies primarily with author Anne Schraff, along with contributions from other writers who have expanded the series over time.

Origins of the Bluford High Series

Background and Concept

The Bluford High series was created to fill a niche in young adult literature that emphasizes diverse perspectives and authentic experiences. The series was designed to resonate with middle and high school students, especially those from urban environments, providing them with relatable stories that reflect their realities. The goal was to foster empathy, understanding, and resilience among young readers by tackling real-life issues in an accessible format.

Initial Publication

The first book in the series was published in the early 2000s, and it quickly gained popularity among educators and students alike. Publishers recognized the series' potential to engage reluctant readers and to serve as a conversation starter around difficult topics. As demand grew, more authors and writers contributed to expanding the universe of Bluford High, making it a collaborative effort rather than the work of a single author.

Primary Author: Anne Schraff

Biographical Background

Anne Schraff is the most prominent and recognized author associated with the Bluford High series. She is an accomplished writer and educator with a background in teaching and a passion for young adult literature. Schraff's personal experiences working with teenagers in various educational settings have deeply influenced her approach to storytelling, enabling her to craft authentic and compelling characters and plots.

Role in the Series

Anne Schraff is credited with writing the original books and many subsequent installments in the series. Her storytelling often focuses on realistic depictions of teenage life, addressing issues like bullying, family conflicts, mental health struggles, and the pursuit of dreams amid adversity. Schraff's writing style is accessible yet impactful, making her works appealing to both young readers and adult educators.

Notable Works and Contributions

Some of the most well-known titles in the Bluford High series authored by Anne Schraff include:

- **Twist of Faith**
- **Breaking Point**
- **Lost and Found**
- **Shattered Dreams**
- **Secrets and Lies**

These titles often serve as standalone stories but are interconnected through the shared setting of Bluford High and recurring characters.

Other Contributors to the Series

Expansion Through Multiple Authors

While Anne Schraff is the central figure behind the series, other writers have contributed to its growth. This collaborative approach has allowed the series to diversify its themes and storytelling styles, keeping it fresh and relevant. Several writers have been brought on to write additional installments, often under the guidance or oversight of the original publisher.

Notable Co-Authors and Writers

Some of the notable contributors include:

- **Sharon M. Draper** – Known for her powerful narratives addressing social issues and her expertise in young adult literature.
- **Walter Dean Myers** – An influential author whose stories often focus on urban youth and social justice themes.
- **Other emerging writers** – Many newer writers have contributed short stories or full-length novels to expand the series, bringing fresh perspectives and voices.

This collective effort has helped the series remain contemporary and resonant with diverse audiences.

Themes and Writing Style

Core Themes Addressed

The Bluford High series tackles a wide array of themes relevant to teenagers, including:

- Peer pressure and bullying
- Family relationships and conflicts
- Academic struggles and aspirations
- Mental health and emotional well-being
- Identity and self-discovery
- Socioeconomic challenges
- Romantic relationships and friendships

By addressing these themes, the series aims to provide hope, guidance, and understanding to its readers.

Writing Style

The writing style employed in the series is characterized by:

- Accessible language suitable for middle and high school students
- Authentic dialogue that reflects teenagers' voices
- Fast-paced narratives that maintain engagement
- Realistic portrayals of emotions and situations

This approach ensures that readers can relate to the characters and situations, fostering empathy and reflection.

Impact and Legacy of the Series

Educational Use

Many educators incorporate Bluford High books into their curricula to promote reading among reluctant learners. The series' relatable content and compelling storytelling help motivate students to read and discuss complex social issues.

Promoting Diversity and Inclusion

The series is celebrated for its diverse cast of characters, representing various ethnicities, backgrounds, and experiences. This inclusivity is a deliberate effort by the authors, primarily Anne Schraff, to reflect the realities of modern urban youth.

Continued Popularity

Even after years since its initial publication, the Bluford High series continues to be popular among young readers, educators, and parents. Its enduring relevance underscores the importance of authentic storytelling in young adult literature.

Conclusion

In summary, the Bluford High series was primarily written by Anne Schraff, whose dedication to authentic storytelling and understanding of teenage issues has shaped the series into a beloved collection of novels. Over time, contributions from other talented writers have expanded and enriched the series, ensuring its relevance and diversity. The collaborative effort behind Bluford High has created a powerful platform for discussing real-life challenges faced by teens today, making it a significant and impactful work in young adult literature. Whether through Schraff's original novels or the collective contributions of other authors, the series continues to inspire, educate, and resonate with readers worldwide.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the author of the Bluford High series?

The Bluford High series is written by various authors, primarily authored by Paul L. Benjamin, Charles R. Smith Jr., and other contributors as part of the series' collaborative effort.

Are all books in the Bluford High series written by the same author?

No, the Bluford High series features multiple authors, each contributing different titles to the series, which focuses on diverse stories about teenage life.

When was the first book of the Bluford High series published and who wrote it?

The first book, 'A Matter of Time' by Paul L. Benjamin, was published in 1997, marking the beginning of the series.

What author is most associated with the Bluford High series?

Paul L. Benjamin is one of the most recognized authors associated with the series, having written several of its early titles.

Is the Bluford High series written by a single author or multiple authors?

The series is written by multiple authors, each contributing stories that reflect the experiences of high school students.

Can you name some authors besides Paul L. Benjamin who contributed to the Bluford High series?

Other authors include Charles R. Smith Jr., and various writers who have contributed to different books within the series to showcase diverse perspectives.

Additional Resources

Bluford High Series Author

When it comes to contemporary young adult literature that tackles real-world issues faced by teenagers, the Bluford High series stands out as a compelling and influential collection. This series, known for its authentic portrayal of adolescent life, has captivated readers across generations. But who is the creative mind behind this impactful series? In this in-depth exploration, we will delve into the author or authors behind the Bluford High series, examining their backgrounds, writing style, contributions, and the legacy they have crafted through these compelling stories.

Origins of the Bluford High Series

Before exploring the authors behind the series, it's essential to understand what the Bluford High series is and why it has garnered such widespread acclaim.

What Is the Bluford High Series?

The Bluford High series is a collection of young adult novels that focus on the lives of students at a fictional high school called Bluford High in the city of Los Angeles. The series aims to depict the real

struggles, aspirations, and challenges faced by contemporary teenagers, including issues like bullying, teen pregnancy, violence, drug abuse, racial identity, and mental health.

Series Overview

- Number of Books: Over 50 novels and counting
- Target Audience: Teenagers, educators, and young adult readers
- Themes: Diversity, social issues, personal growth, resilience
- Approach: Each book is written from a first-person perspective, giving readers intimate insights into the characters' thoughts and feelings

Purpose and Impact

The series has been praised for its honesty and its ability to foster empathy and understanding among its readers. It's often used in educational settings to promote discussions about difficult topics and support at-risk youth.

The Creator Behind the Series: Who Wrote the Bluford High Books?

The question of authorship is a common point of curiosity. The Bluford High series is not the work of a single individual but rather a collective effort involving multiple writers. This approach has allowed the series to expand rapidly, maintaining fresh voices and perspectives.

The Role of the Series Editor

The series was originally conceived by Charles R. Smith, who envisioned a collection of stories that would resonate with at-risk youth and reflect their realities. As the series grew, he took on the role of series editor, coordinating contributions from various authors and ensuring thematic consistency.

Multiple Contributing Authors

Unlike traditional series penned by a single author, the Bluford High series features contributions from numerous writers, each bringing their unique voice and expertise. This collaborative model has been instrumental in covering a broad spectrum of issues and perspectives.

Notable Authors Involved in the Series

- Anne Schraff: One of the most prolific writers in the series, known for her compelling storytelling and sensitivity to adolescent issues.
- Barbara Conroy: Contributed stories focusing on mental health and family struggles.
- L. J. Adlington: Known for narratives involving racial identity and social justice.
- Other Writers: Several educational and professional writers have contributed, often with backgrounds in social work, psychology, or education to ensure authenticity.

The Role of Educational Publishers

The series is published by Lerner Publishing Group, which collaborates closely with educators and social workers to ensure content relevance and appropriateness. The publisher often commissions writers with expertise in adolescent issues or with personal experience relevant to the themes.

How Are Series Writers Selected?

Given the importance of authenticity in the series, the selection process for contributing writers is meticulous:

- Expertise in Young Adult Literature: Writers are often published authors with a background in YA fiction.
- Experience with Social Issues: Many writers have personal or professional experience with the issues depicted.
- Ability to Write from a Teen's Perspective: Empathy and understanding of adolescent psychology are key.
- Diversity of Voices: The series aims to reflect diverse experiences, so writers from varied backgrounds are preferred.

The series editor and publisher often seek writers through literary agents, writing workshops, or professional networks. Some authors have also been invited to write based on their previous work or expertise.

Key Contributors and Their Impact

While no single author can be singularly credited with creating the entire series, certain names stand out for their prolific contributions and influence.

Anne Schraff

Background & Style

Anne Schraff is perhaps the most recognized author within the Bluford High series. She has a background in education, having worked as a teacher and counselor, which informs her realistic portrayals of teen issues.

Notable Works

- Bluford Series Titles: "Breaking Point," "A Matter of Trust," "Betrayed," among others.
- Her stories often focus on themes of trust, friendship, and personal integrity.

Impact

Schraff's works have been praised for their authentic voice and emotional depth, helping readers navigate complex issues like betrayal, peer pressure, and identity.

Other Notable Authors

- Barbara Conroy: Her stories often explore mental health challenges and familial relationships.
- L. J. Adlington: Known for tackling social justice themes.
- Various Educators and Social Workers: Their contributions help maintain the series' relevance and educational value.

The Writing Style and Approach of the Series

The collaborative nature of the series means that the writing style varies from book to book. However, common elements include:

- First-Person Narrative: Offers an intimate look into characters' thoughts.
- Accessible Language: Designed for teen readers, with language that is engaging but not overly complex.
- Authentic Voice: Emphasis on realistic dialogue and scenarios.
- Focus on Moral and Social Lessons: Each story often aims to teach a lesson or provoke thought about important issues.

The diversity in authorship allows for a multiplicity of perspectives, making the series rich and varied while maintaining a core focus on authenticity and relevance.

The Legacy and Continuing Evolution of the Series

The Bluford High series has grown significantly since its inception, with new titles continually added. The collaborative authorship model has allowed it to remain dynamic and responsive to current social issues.

Educational and Social Impact

Many schools incorporate the series into their curricula or reading programs, using it as a tool for discussion and awareness. The stories serve as mirrors and windows—reflecting students' own experiences or introducing them to perspectives different from their own.

Future Directions

As societal challenges evolve, the series continues to expand, with new authors bringing fresh voices and stories. The emphasis remains on authenticity, diversity, and fostering empathy among young readers.

Conclusion: The Collective Voice Behind Bluford High

While there is no single author behind the Bluford High series, it is the collaborative effort of multiple talented writers, editors, and social advocates that have brought these stories to life. Figures like Anne Schraff have played a pivotal role in shaping the series, but the collective contribution of diverse authors ensures a wide-ranging, authentic, and impactful collection.

The series stands as a testament to the power of collaborative storytelling in young adult literature—serving not just as entertainment but as a mirror and guide for teenagers navigating their complex worlds. Its ongoing success reflects the dedication of its creators to authentic representation and social awareness, making the series a significant fixture in young adult literature and educational circles.

In essence, the Bluford High series is a collective masterpiece, crafted by a community of writers committed to making a difference in the lives of young readers around the world.

Who Wrote The Bluford High Series

who wrote the bluford high series: Let Them Have Books Gaby Chapman, 2010-11-10
Reading is the most important skill children can learn and provides a lifetime of benefits. But most children do not become proficient or lifelong readers. In *Let Them Have Books*, author Gaby Chapman offers a formula for delivering the gift of avid reading to every child. Using research and her experience as a teacher, Chapman presents a detailed discussion of the reading habits of children. She covers why children should read, why they don't, and what we can do to ensure that all children become enthusiastic readers. *Let Them Have Books* outlines a new model for reading education. This model recognizes that the process of learning to read begins at birth and that different brains learn to read in different ways. This reading education centers on creating a dynamic reading culture in schools, one that encourages students to choose the books they read and provides ample time in school to read them.

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Children's Literature in the United States focuses much more on the history of the development of this literature, from the nineteenth century to the present day. This book provides much more of a cultural and political context for the early development of this literature. It emphasizes the "self-determining" viewpoints and activities of diverse people as they produce materials for the young. *Multicultural and Ethnic Children's Literature...* describes organizations, events, activities, and other contributions of diverse writers, illustrators, publishers, researchers, scholars, librarians, educators, and parents. It also describes trends in the research on the literature. It elaborates more on ways in which diversity is still an issue in publishing companies and an extended list of related industries. It describes related literature from outside of the U.S. and makes connections to traditional global literature. Last, *Multicultural and Ethnic Children's Literature*, shows the impact of multiculturalism on education, libraries, and the mainstream culture, in general. While the other books on multiculturalism focus on how to find, evaluate, and use multicultural materials, especially in schools and libraries, this book is concerned over whether and how books are produced in the first place and how this material impact the broader society. In many ways, it supplements other books on multicultural children's literature.

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Vanessa Irvin Morris, 2012 Emphasizing an appreciation for street lit as a way to promote reading and library use, Morris's book helps library staff establish their "street cred" by giving them the information they need to provide knowledgeable guidance.

who wrote the bluford high series: *Fictions of Integration* Naomi Lesley, 2017-03-03 This book examines how children's and young adult literature addresses and interrogates the legacies of American school desegregation. Such literature narrates not only the famous battles to implement desegregation in the South, in places like Little Rock, Arkansas, but also more insidious and less visible legacies, such as re-segregation within schools through the mechanism of disability diagnosis. Novelizations of children's experiences with school desegregation comment upon the politics of getting African-American children access to white schools; but more than this, as school stories, they also comment upon how structural racism operates in the classroom and mutates, over the course of decades, through the pedagogical practices depicted in literature for young readers. Lesley combines approaches from critical race theory, disability studies, and educational philosophy in order to investigate how the educational market simultaneously constrains how racism in schools can be presented to young readers and also provides channels for radical critiques of pedagogy and visions of alternative systems. The volume examines a range of titles, from novels that directly engage the Brown v. Board of Education decision, such as Sharon Draper's *Fire From the Rock* and Dorothy Sterling's *Mary Jane*, to novels that engage less obvious legacies of desegregation, such as Cynthia Voigt's *Dacey's Song*, Sharon Flake's *Pinned*, Virginia Hamilton's *The Planet of Junior Brown*, and Louis Sachar's *Holes*. This book will be of interest to scholars of American studies, children's literature, and educational philosophy and history.

who wrote the bluford high series: *Readers' Advisory for Children and 'Tweens* Penny Peck, 2010-04-09 This complete guide to youth readers' advisory covers genres, reading interests, and issues, as well as provides lists of sample titles and recommended reading. Finding children and 'tweens great books to read is still a key library service, even in the age of computers. *Readers' Advisory for Children and 'Tweens* is an easy-to-use, practical guide that will help any library staff member become more comfortable offering this service—and more adept at producing satisfying results. Beginning with basic advice on the readers' advisory interview, the book details how to find books for different age groups, including young children and their parents, emergent readers, transitional readers, and adept readers. It explores genre fiction for 'tweens, nonfiction, poetry and folklore, and graphic novels, and it offers techniques on promoting books and reading. Potentially sensitive issues such as book challenges, assisting English language learners, serving children from various cultures, working with teachers, and helping reluctant readers are addressed, as well. The advice is augmented with handy booklists and descriptions of dozens of websites that aid in youth readers' advisory.

who wrote the bluford high series: Between the Lines Michael Anthony, Joan F. Kaywell, 2016-09-23 Michael Anthony, 20-year reading workshop practitioner at the secondary level, and Joan Kaywell, acclaimed author and advocate for young adult literature in learning, present *Between the Lines*, a creative paradigm shift for the English Language Arts workshop classroom. In contrast to the traditional sustained silent reading and individual conferencing model, an impractical commitment for most teachers, BtL invites collaborative engagement and active inquiry among students as well as on-demand writing and integrated YA literature, all designed to support existing middle and secondary level ELA classroom curriculum instruction and national academic learning standards while empowering English educators toward improved student literacy achievement and the creation of lifelong readers. The classroom activities, with student-friendly names like Book Chat Check and Pop Goes the Question, promote animated discussions in social learning contexts and produce writings supported by textual evidence from student selected texts. Clear step by step directions for facilitation and authentic models of resulting student writing are shared along with a standards-based lesson plan suitable for grades 6-12. Ongoing teacher/student journal conversations validate independent reader thought processes and provoke differentiated learning experiences. The book includes Common Core State Standards-based strategies for responding to students meaningfully and for inviting extensions beyond the book, motivating increasingly complex and connective writings. Sample dialogue journal entries are shared along with insightful commentary and practical analysis. Everything needed for implementing *Between the Lines* is contained within these pages, including a user friendly appendix filled with fully reproduceable classroom workshop materials, tips for reducing the teacher reading and writing loads, and suggestions for building an enviable classroom library stocked with award-winning adolescent literature.

who wrote the bluford high series: Once Upon a Time in a Different World Neal A. Lester, 2010-06-21 *Once Upon a Time in a Different World*, a unique addition to the celebrated Children's Literature and Culture series, seeks to move discussions and treatments of ideas in African America Children's literature from the margins to the forefront of literary discourse. Looking at a variety of topics, including the moralities of heterosexism, the veneration of literacy, and the politics of hair, Neal A. Lester provides a scholarly and accessible compilation of essays that will serve as an invaluable resource for parents, students, and educators. The much-needed reexamination of African American children's texts follows an engaging call-and-response format, allowing for a lively and illuminating discussion between its primary author and a diverse group of contributors; including educators, scholars, students, parents, and critics. In addition to these distinct dialogues, the book features an enlightening generational conversation between Lester and his teenage daughter as they review the same novels. With critical assessments of Toni and Slade Morrison's *The Big Box* and *The Book of Mean People*, bell hooks' *Happy to Be Nappy*, and Anne Schraff's *Until We Meet Again*, among many other works, these provocative and fresh essays yield a wealth of perspectives on the intersections of identity formations in childhood and adulthood.

who wrote the bluford high series: Alone John Langan, Tanya Savory, 2021-11-01 There is no refuge for fourteen-year-old Michael Tatem. A childhood injury has made him a target at Bluford High. And deeper wounds at home have left him shy, isolated, and friendless. But an unexpected connection at school gives Michael a glimpse at a new life. Can he embrace it and forge a new path for himself? Or will his attempt backfire, leaving him more vulnerable and alone than ever?

who wrote the bluford high series: Opportunities and Challenges in Teacher Recruitment and Retention Carol R. Rinke, Lynnette Mawhinney, 2019-05-01 *Opportunities and Challenges in Teacher Recruitment and Retention* serves as a comprehensive resource for understanding teachers' careers across the professional lifespan. Grounded in the notion that teachers' voices are essential for understanding teachers' lives, this edited volume contains chapters that privilege the voices of teachers above all. Book sections look closely at the particular issues that arise when recruiting an effective, committed, and diverse workforce, as well as the challenges that arise once teachers are immersed in the classroom setting. Promising directions are also included for particularly high-need areas such as early childhood teachers, Black male teachers, STEM teachers, and urban teachers.

The book concludes with a call for self-care in teachers' lives. Chapter contributions come from a variety of contexts across the United States and around the world. However, regardless of context or methodology, these chapters point to the importance of valuing and respecting teachers' lives and work. Moreover, they demonstrate that teacher recruitment and retention is a complex and multifaceted issue that cannot be addressed through simplistic policy changes. Rather, attending to and appreciating the web of influences on teachers' lives and careers is the only way to support their work and the impact they have on our next generation of students.

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who wrote the bluford high series: The Chosen Karen Langhorne Folan, Paul Langan, 2020-11-03 Cooper, I'm sorry, Darcy said quickly, trying to control the damage. I didn't mean that. This has nothing to do with you or this party. I just-- Girl, you better leave or things are gonna get ugly in here real quick, Tarah warned. Cooper stepped in between the girls then. Tarah, you don't wanna do this. Please... Darcy Wills feels the pressure. Her best friend, Tarah Carson has grown distant and hostile since the start of the school year. And a medical crisis in Darcy's family has stress boiling over at home. When surprising news forces Darcy to look at the future beyond Bluford High, she realizes huge decisions are looming. Unsure what to do but unable to avoid what's coming, Darcy has no easy options. Her choices will cut both ways. Some doors will open, but others may close forever.

who wrote the bluford high series: Black Authors and Illustrators of Books for Children and Young Adults Barbara Thrash Murphy, Deborah L. Murphy, 2006-12-21 Black Authors and Illustrators of Books for Children and Young Adults is a biographical dictionary that provides comprehensive coverage of all major authors and illustrators – past and present. As the only reference volume of its kind available, this book is a valuable research tool that provides quick access for anyone studying black children's literature – whether one is a student, a librarian charged with maintaining a children's literature collection, or a scholar of children's literature. The Fourth Edition of this renowned reference work illuminates African American contributions to children's literature and books for young adults. The new edition contains updated and new information for existing author/illustrator entries, the addition of approximately 50 new profiles, and a new section listing online resources of interest to the authors and readers of black children's literature.

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who wrote the bluford high series: 20 Years at the Top Tyrone Taborn, Garland Thompson, 2006-02-01 History of the Black Engineer of the Year Honorees.

who wrote the bluford high series: Tacit Racism Anne Warfield Rawls, Waverly Duck, 2020-06-30 We need to talk about racism before it destroys our democracy. And that conversation needs to start with an acknowledgement that racism is coded into even the most ordinary interactions. Every time we interact with another human being, we unconsciously draw on a set of

expectations to guide us through the encounter. What many of us in the United States—especially white people—do not recognize is that centuries of institutional racism have inescapably molded those expectations. This leads us to act with implicit biases that can shape everything from how we greet our neighbors to whether we take a second look at a resume. This is tacit racism, and it is one of the most pernicious threats to our nation. In *Tacit Racism*, Anne Warfield Rawls and Waverly Duck illustrate the many ways in which racism is coded into the everyday social expectations of Americans, in what they call Interaction Orders of Race. They argue that these interactions can produce racial inequality, whether the people involved are aware of it or not, and that by overlooking tacit racism in favor of the fiction of a “color-blind” nation, we are harming not only our society’s most disadvantaged—but endangering the society itself. Ultimately, by exposing this legacy of racism in ordinary social interactions, Rawls and Duck hope to stop us from merely pretending we are a democratic society and show us how we can truly become one.

who wrote the bluford high series: Praising Girls Henrietta Rix Wood, 2016-01-22 In *Praising Girls*, Henrietta Rix Wood explores how ordinary schoolgirls engaged in extraordinary rhetorical activities during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the United States. Focusing on high school girls’ public writing, Wood analyzes newspaper editorials and articles, creative writing projects, yearbook entries, and literary magazines, revealing how young women employed epideictic rhetoric—traditionally used to praise and blame in ceremonial situations—to define their individual and collective identities. Many girls, Wood argues, intervened rhetorically in national and international discourses on class, race, education, immigration, racism, and imperialism, confronting the gender politics that denigrated young women and often deprived them of positions of authority. The site of the study—Kansas City, Missouri—reflects the diverse rhetorical experiences of girls in cities across the United States at the beginning of the last century. Four case studies examine the writing of privileged white girls at a college preparatory school, Native American girls at an off-reservation boarding school, African American girls at a segregated high school, and working- and middle-class girls at a large whites-only public high school. Wood’s analysis reveals a contemporary concept of epideictic rhetoric that accounts for issues of gender, race, class, and age.

who wrote the bluford high series: *Integrating African American Literature in the Library and Classroom* Dorothy Littlejohn Guthrie, 2011-09-14 In this book, African American literature is illuminated through a project-based curriculum that incorporates national curriculum standards. It is important that the school curricula be representative of the diversity of the American student population. *Integrating African American Literature in the Library and Classroom* is designed to help teachers and librarians achieve that goal. The book recommends and annotates more than 200 titles that touch on African American life from slavery through the present time, most of them by black authors, and many of them winners of the Coretta Scott King, Caldecott, and/or Newbery awards. This guide offers cross-curricular lesson plans for grades K-12. Each chapter identifies areas in which instructional attention is most needed to help students develop a greater appreciation for diversity, perseverance, and ethnicity. Examples and ideas for activities are offered to reinforce related concepts. With this book, teachers and librarians will be better able to motivate and inform, helping students discover the richness of African American culture now and through time.

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behaviorally engaging students with a wealth of specific strategies, techniques, and tools which create an engaging educational experience. Utilizing cornerstones of professional learning communities, suggestions are offered for utilizing action research, collaborative inquiry, journal study, and shared practice to integrate ideas into practice.

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