

Social Justice Books – 2024

Fiction

- Does My Head Look Big in This* by Randa Abdel-Fattah (Religion - hijab)
- Orange for the Sunsets* by Tina Athaide (Colonialism, refugees)
- All You Have To Do* by Autumn Allen (Racism, Protest)
- Count Me In* by Varsha Bajaj (Racism, immigrant issues, community protest)
- Thirst* by Varsha Bajaj (Water hoarding, environmental issues)
- Where the Watermelons Grow* by Cindy Baldwin (Mental illness)
- Hold Fast* by Blue Balliett (Homelessness)
- The Benefits of Being an Octopus* by Ann Braden (Poverty and class differences)
- Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling (Disability - amputee, Tourette's syndrome)
- Fighting Words* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (Child abuse/sexual abuse)
- Ask Me No Questions* by Marina Budhos (9/11, Islamophobia)
- Tell Us We're Home* by Marina Budhos (Immigration)
- Hurricane Child* by Kacen Callender (LGBTQ+ issues)
- King and the Dragonflies* by Kacen Callender (LGBTQ+ issues)
- Efrén Divided* by Ernesto Cisneros (Immigration/undocumented immigrants)
- The Only Black Girls in Town* by Brandy Colbert (Black identity)
- The Voting Booth* by Brandy Colbert (Voting/voter's rights/voter suppression)
- Counting Thyme* by Melanie Conklin (Illness - cancer)
- All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* by Connor, Leslie (Mass incarceration/foster care)
- Where I Belong* by Gillian Cross (Somali refugee in London)
- Boy, Everywhere* by Dassu, A.M (Refugees)
- I Can Make This Promise* by Christine Day (Transracial adoption/Native American identity)
- We Still Belong* by Christine Day (Indigenous identity)
- The Sea in Winter* by Christine Day (Native American identity, depression, anxiety)
- Halfway Normal* by Barbara Dee (Illness - cancer)
- Maybe He Just Likes You* by Barbara Dee (#MeToo/sexual harassment)
- My Life in the Fish Tank* by Barbara Dee (Mental illness)

The Only Road by Alexandra Diaz (Fleeing violence)

Santiago's Road Home by Alexandra Diaz (Immigration/undocumented immigrants)

Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper (Disability - cerebral palsy)

Out of My Heart by Sharon M. Draper (Disability - cerebral palsy)

The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis (Taliban)

A Thousand Questions by Saadia Faruqi (Democracy, immigration, Pakistan)

Dress Coded by Carrie Firestone (School dress codes, sexism)

The First Rule of Climate Club by Carrie Firestone (Climate change, activism)

90 Miles to Havana by Enrique Flores-Galbis (Immigration, Refugees)

Operation Redwood by Susannah T. French (Environment)

My Mixed Up Blueberry Summer by Jennifer Gennari (LGBTQ issues)

Take Back the Block by Chrystal Giles (Gentrification)

Alice Austen Lived Here by Alex Gino (LGBTQ issues, Hidden history)

Melissa by Alex Gino (Gender identity)

Ban this Book by Alan Gratz (Censorship)

Refugee by Alan Gratz (Refugees - three countries)

Two Degrees by Alan Gratz (Climate change)

My Life in Pink and Green by Lisa Greenwald (Environment)

Wildoak by C.C. Harrington (Environment and animal conservation, Disability - Stutter)

The Sky at Our Feet by Nadia Hashimi (Immigration/undocumented immigrants)

One Shadow on the Wall by Leah Henderson (Child orphans/poverty)

Hoot/Flush by Carl Hiaasen (Environment)

Minnie McClary Speaks Her Mind by Valerie Hobbs (Speaking up for others)

Hurricane Girls by Kimberly Willis Holt (Natural disasters)

Same Sun Here by Silas House and Neela Vaswani (Immigration and environment)

The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson (Institutional racism, Racial identity)

The Color of My Words by Lynn Joseph (Oppressive government/developers - Dominican Republic)

American as Paneer Pie by Supriya Kelkar (Immigrant issues, bullying, community protest)

Amina's Voice by Hena Khan (Pakistani-American, mosque vandalization)

Stand Up Yumi Chung by Jessica Kim (Immigration, Korean identity)

Attack of the Black Rectangles by A.S. King (Censorship, book banning)

Butterfly Yellow by Thanh Hà Lai (Immigration, refugees, Vietnam)

The Civil War of Amos Abernathy by Michael Leali (LGBTQ+ issues, hidden history)

Hummingbird by Natalie Lloyd (Disability - Brittle Bone Disease)

For Black Girls Like Me by Mariama J. Lockington (Transracial adoption/African American identity)

Different Kinds of Fruit by Kyle Lukoff (LGBTQ+ issues, transgender parent)

Too Bright to See by Kyle Lukoff (Gender identity)

Heat by Mike Lupica (Orphaned immigrants - Cuba)

From the Desk of Zoe Washington by Janae Marks (Mass incarceration, incarcerated parent)

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin (Disability - autism)

Moxie by Jennifer Mathieu (Girls' empowerment)

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (Disability - dyslexia, learning differences)

One for the Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (Foster care)

What Lane? by Torrey Maldonado (Biracial identity, Black Lives Matter)

Nowhere Boy by Katherine Marsh (Refugees, immigration, Islamophobia)

How to Become a Planet by Nicole Melleby (Mental health)

Breakout by Kate Messner (Mass incarceration, racism)

Chirp by Kate Messner (Sexual harassment/abuse)

A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramée (Black Lives Matter)

Something to Say by Lisa Moore Ramée (Speaking up/public speaking, school name change)

Trash by Andy Mulligan (Poverty in developing world)

No Fixed Address by Susin Nielsen (Homelessness)

How to Steal a Dog by Barbara O'Connor (Homelessness)

Just a Drop of Water by Kerry O'Malley Cerra (9/11, Islamophobia)

The Insiders by Mark Oshiro (Bullying, LGBTQ+ issues)

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park (Refugees, Sudan)

Black Brother, Black Brother by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Racism/Colorism)

Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Racism/Black Lives Matter)

Paradise on Fire by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Climate change, environment, Black identity)

The Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Race and class in aftermath of Hurricane Katrina)

The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson (Foster care)

Strange Birds: A Field Guide to Ruffling Feathers by Celia C. Pérez (Animal rights, environment)

Hope in the Valley by Mitali Perkins (Affordable housing)

Bamboo People by Mitali Perkins (Child soldiers - Burma)

Uprising by Margaret Peterson Haddix (Labor unions and workplace abuse)

Angel of Greenwood by Randi Pink (Racism, Tulsa Race Massacre)

World Made of Glass by Ami Polonsky (AIDS crisis; LGBTQ+ issues)

Gracefully Grayson by Ami Polonsky (LGBTQ+ issues, Transgender student)

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed (Girls' education & indentured servitude)

Shooting Kabul by N.H. Senzai (Refugees - Afghanistan)

Boys Without Names by Kashmira Sheth (Sweatshops - India)

Running by Natalia Sylvester (Politics/presidency, privacy, Latinx identity)

Trouble on Tarragon Island by Nikki Tate (Environment)

Property of the Rebel Librarian by Allison Varnes (Censorship)

Born Behind Bars by Padma Venkatraman (Incarceration, poverty, India)

The Bridge Home by Padma Venkatraman (Homelessness, poverty, disability, India)

Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga (Immigration issues, Syria)

Mascot by Charles Waters (Indigenous identity and racism)

Piecing Me Together by Renée Watson (Education - race and class)

Watch Us Rise by Renée Watson and Ellen Hagan (Feminism)

The Renegade Reporters by Elissa Brent Weissman (Student journalism, data privacy)

The Assignment by Liza Wiemer (Student activism, antisemitism)

Shark Teeth by Sherri Winston (Foster care, mental health)

Genesis Begins Again by Alicia D. Williams (Colorism/internalized oppression)

Indian No More by Charlene Willing Mcmanis and Traci Sorell (Indigenous identity)

Front Desk by Kelly Yang (Immigration and race)

Finally Seen by Kelly Yang (Immigration and censorship)

Owl's Outstanding Donuts by Robin Yardi (Environment)

Healer of the Water Monster by Brian Young (Indigenous identity)

Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam (Mass incarceration, prison reform, racism)

Non-Fiction

Orphan Train Girl (The Young Readers' Edition) by Christina Baker Kline

I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda with Liz Welch

The Book of Awesome Women: Boundary Breakers, Freedom Fighters, Sheroes and Female Firsts by Becca Anderson

Babylon's Ark: The incredible wartime rescue of the Baghdad Zoo by Lawrence Anthony

March forward, girl : from young warrior to Little Rock Nine by Melba Pattillo Beals

Lion: A Long Way Home (Young Reader's Edition) by Saroo Brierley

Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg (Young Readers' Edition) by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik

Resist: 35 Profiles of Ordinary People Who Rose Up Against Tyranny and Injustice by Veronica Chambers

It's Your World: Get informed, get inspired, and get going! by Chelsea Clinton

Votes for Women!: American Suffragists and the Battle for the Ballot by Winifred Conkling

Don't Look Back: A Memoir of War, Survival, and My Journey from Sudan to America by Achut Deng and Keely Hutton

Lifting as We Climb: Black Women's Battle for the Ballot Box by Evette Dionne

An Indigenous Peoples' History of the US for Young People by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz and adapted by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese

Waste: One Woman's Fight Against America's Dirty Secret by Catherine Coleman Flowers

Dark Sky Rising: Reconstruction and the Dawn of Jim Crow by Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Tonya Bolden

Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders And The Birth Of The FBI (Adapted for Young Readers) by David Grann

The Distance Between Us (Young Reader's Edition) by Reyna Grande

Rolling Warrior: The Incredible, Sometimes Awkward, True Story of a Rebel Girl on Wheels Who Helped Spark a Revolution by Judith Heumann (Disability Justice)

My Family Divided by Diane Guerrero and Erica Moroz (Immigration and deportation)

Defiant: Growing Up in the Jim Crow South by Wade Hudson

We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson
When They Call You a Terrorist: A Story of Black Lives Matter and the Power to Change the World (Young Adult Edition) by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele (Black Lives Matter)

Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer and Monique Gray Smith

This Book Is Anti-Racist: 20 lessons on how to wake up, take action, and do the work by Tiffany Jewell

The Black Friend: On Being a Better White Person by Frederick Joseph

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Reader's Edition) by William Kamkwamba

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin

A Bigger Picture: My Fight to Bring a New African Voice to the Climate Crisis by Vanessa Nakate (Climate Change)

Enrique's Journey: The Story of a Boy's Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother by Sonia Nazario

It's Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah

How to Be a (Young) Antiracist by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi and Nic Stone (Racism/Antiracism)

Shark Teeth by Sherri Winston

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds and Dr. Ibram X. Kendi (Racism/Antiracism)

Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition by Margot Lee Shetterly

Up Home: One Girl's Journey by Ruth J. Simmons (Racism and Poverty)

Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed by Dashka Slater

Just Mercy: A True Story of the Fight for Justice (Adapted for Young Adults) by Bryan Stevenson

Outcasts United: the story of a refugee soccer team that changed a town by Warren St. John

The Compton Cowboys: And the Fight to Save Their Horse Ranch (Young Reader's Edition) by Walter Thompson-Hernandez

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

We Are Displaced: My Journey and Stories from Refugee Girls Around the World by Malala
Yousafzai

Roses and Radicals: The Epic Story of How American Women Won the Right to Vote by Susan
Zimet and Todd Hasak-Lowy

The Kaepernick Effect: Taking a Knee, Changing the World by Dave Zirin

Short Stories

Shattered: Stories of Children and War edited by Jennifer Armstrong

Out of Bounds by Beverly Naidoo

Take the Mic: Fictional Stories of Everyday Resistance edited by Bethany Morrow