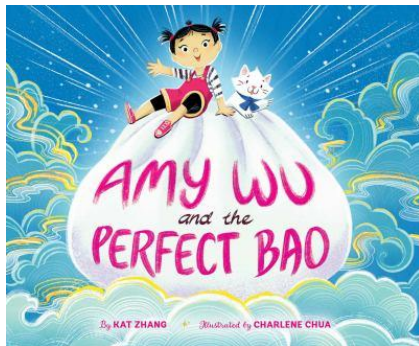


# DUKE READ-A-THON RECOMMENDED READS



## EARLY READERS



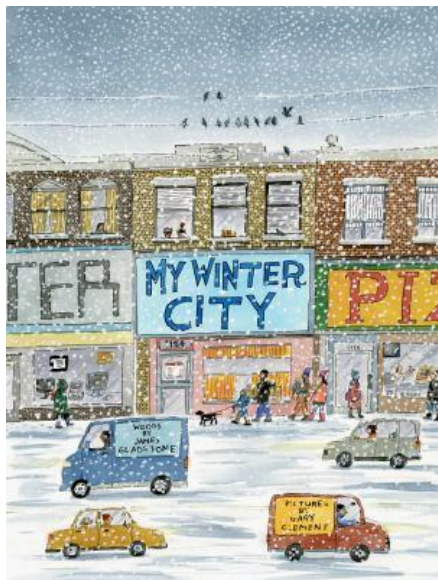
### ***Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao***

**By Kat Zhang**

Meet the funny, fierce, and fearless Amy Wu, who is determined to make a perfect bao bun today. Can she rise to the occasion?

Amy loves to make bao with her family. But it takes skill to make the bao taste and look delicious. And her bao keep coming out all wrong. Then she has an idea that may give her a second chance...Will Amy ever make the perfect bao?

[Find \*Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao\* at the Toronto Public Library](#)

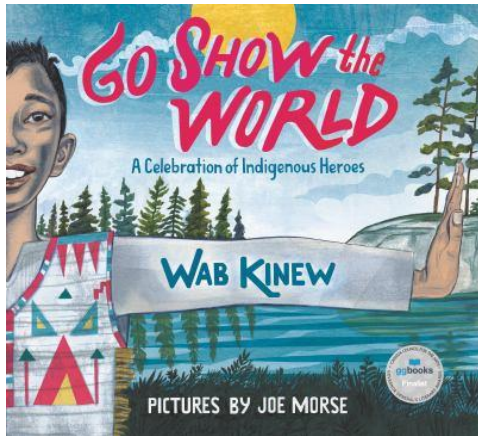


### ***My Winter City***

**By James Gladstone**

A young boy wakes up in the early light of a winter morning, pulls on his boots and mittens, and steps out into the snowy city with his dad. They trudge through the snow, their dog bounding along beside them, then a slushy, steamy bus ride takes them to the tobogganing hill for some winter fun. The boy describes all the sights and sounds of the day, from the frost in Dad's beard and the snow "pillows" in the park, to the noisy clunking snow plows and the singing buskers they pass on their way home. That night, the boy lies awake under cozy covers, reflecting on the day, as snow blankets the world outside his window.

[Find \*My Winter City\* at the Toronto Public Library.](#)



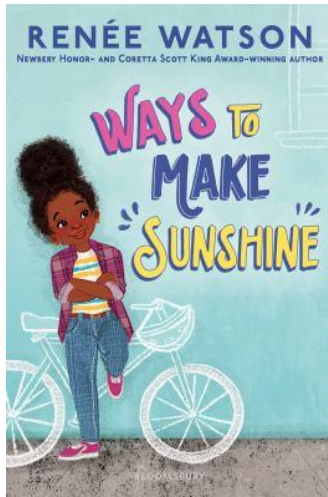
## Go Show the World

### Wab Kinew

Celebrating the stories of Indigenous people throughout time, Wab Kinew has created a powerful rap song, the lyrics of which are the basis for the text in this beautiful picture book, illustrated by the acclaimed Joe Morse. Including figures such as Crazy Horse, Net-no-kwa, former NASA astronaut John Herrington and Canadian NHL goalie Carey Price, *Go Show the World* showcases a diverse group of Indigenous people in the US and Canada, both the more well-known and the not-so-widely recognized.

[Find \*Go Show the World\* at the Toronto Public Library.](#)

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

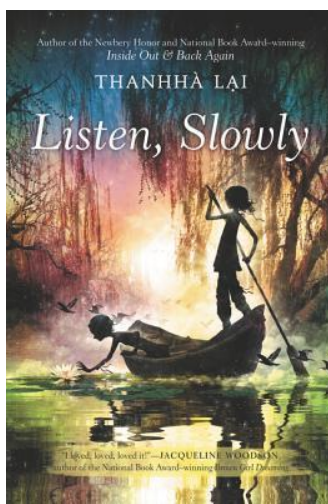


## Ways to Make Sunshine

### Renee Watson

Ryan Hart loves to spend time with her friends, loves to invent recipes, and has a lot on her mind—school, self-image, and family. Her dad finally has a new job, but money is tight. That means changes like selling their second car and moving into a new (old) house. But Ryan is a girl who knows how to make sunshine out of setbacks. Because Ryan is all about trying to see the best. Even when things aren't all she would wish for—her brother is infuriating, her parents don't understand, when her recipes don't turn out right, and when the unexpected occurs—she can find a way forward, with wit and plenty of sunshine.

[Find \*Ways to Make Sunshine\* at the Toronto Public Library.](#)

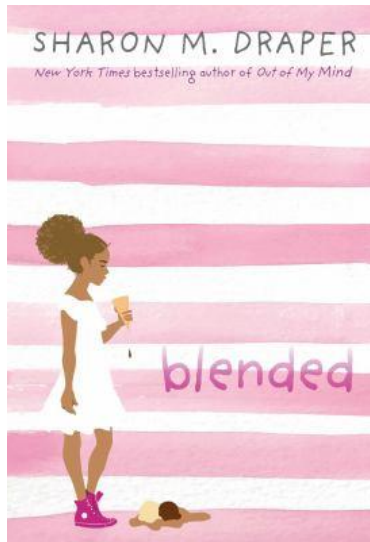


## Listen, Slowly

### Thanhha Lai

A California girl born and raised, Mai can't wait to spend her vacation at the beach. Instead, though, she has to travel to Vietnam with her grandmother, who is going back to find out what really happened to her husband during the Vietnam War. Mai's parents think this trip will be a great opportunity for their out-of-touch daughter to learn more about her culture. But to Mai, those are their roots, not her own. Vietnam is hot, smelly, and the last place she wants to be. Besides barely speaking the language, she doesn't know the geography, the local customs, or even her distant relatives. To survive her trip, Mai must find a balance between her two completely different worlds.

[Find \*Listen, Slowly\* at the Toronto Public Library.](#)

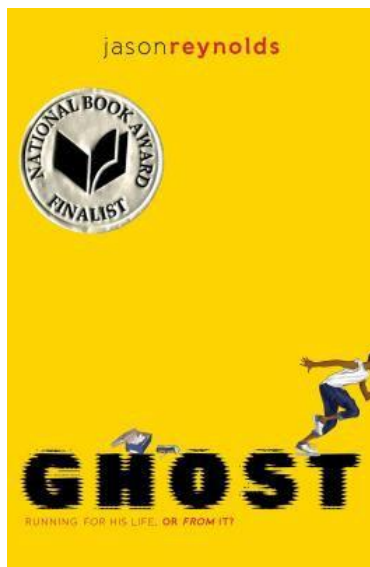


### **Blended**

**Sharon M. Draper**

Every week, Isabella has to change gears. She alternates between her white mom and her black dad, who have completely dissimilar lifestyles. Isabella loves both her families, but going back and forth often makes her feel like she has two lives. Her struggle to figure out who she is becomes even harder as the reality of racism hits close to home.

[Find \*Blended\* at the Toronto Public Library.](#)



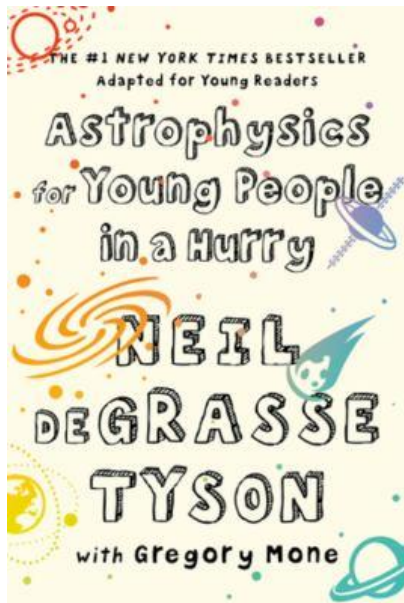
### **Ghost**

**Jason Reynolds**

Running. That's all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: crazy natural talent. Thing is, Ghost has something else: a lot of anger, and a past that he is trying to outrun. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him?

[Find \*Ghost\* at the Toronto Public Library](#)

## INTERMEDIATE READS

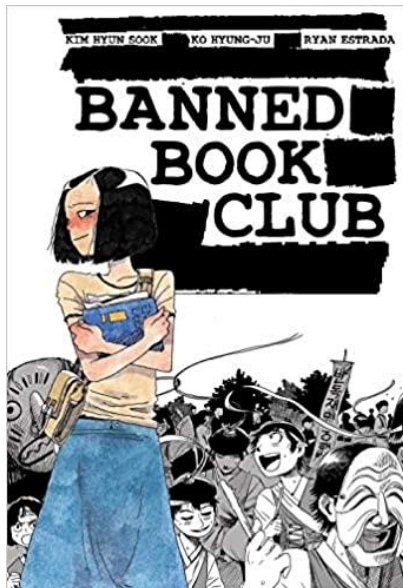


### *Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry*

**Neil deGrasse Tyson**

From the basics of physics to big questions about the nature of space and time, celebrated astrophysicist and science communicator Neil deGrasse Tyson breaks down the mysteries of the cosmos into bite-sized pieces. *Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry* describes the fundamental rules and unknowns of our universe clearly—and with Tyson’s characteristic wit, there’s a lot of fun thrown in, too.

[Find \*Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry\* at the Toronto Public Library](#)



### *The Banned Book Club*

**Kim Hyun Sook**

South Korea, 1983—the height of military dictatorship and three years after the infamous Gwangju Uprising. Against this backdrop of political oppression, bookish Hyun Sook defies her parents’ wishes and attends Anjeon University, a hotbed of student protest. Initially ignorant of government propaganda and terrified of attracting the attention of authorities, Hyun Sook’s views are slowly challenged after she joins the Banned Book Club and befriends a group of student activists.

[Find \*The Banned Book Club\* at the Toronto Public Library.](#)

## ADDITIONAL READING RESOURCES

- [Books for beginning readers](#)
- [Funny books for middle schoolers](#)
- [Great graphic novels](#)
- [More great reads for teens](#)
- [Play Book Bingo](#)

- [Listen to a story from Dial A Story \(416-395-5400\)](#)