

Jacqueline Woodson is the author of numerous award-winning books, including *Last Summer With Maizon*, *I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This*, *From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun*, and *Miracle's Boys*. She started writing when she was young, but her fiction for kids didn't really click until she got older. That's when she realized that she could actually help the younger generation simply through her words.

That's why Woodson chooses subjects that she thinks kids should be able to read about — even if they're topics that are hard to explain or uncomfortable to talk about. For example, *If You Come Softly* is about an interracial romance; *Hush* tells the story of a family placed under the witness protection program; and *Sweet, Sweet Memory* depicts the way a young girl copes with her grandfather's death. *Visiting Day* is a picture book about a little girl's trips to see her father in prison.

www.jacquelinewoodson.com

 Jacqueline.Woodson

 @jackiewoodson

 jacqueline_woodson

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“This is what’s most important to me —
to show love in all its many forms.”

~ Jacqueline Woodson



African American Read-In

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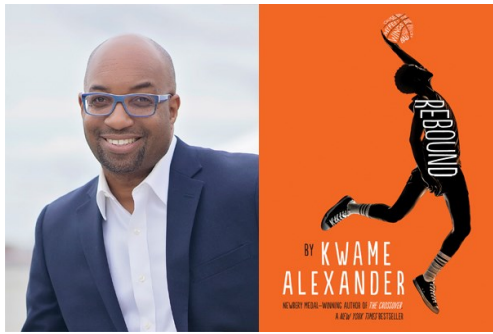
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Kwame Alexander is a poet, educator, and the NYT bestselling author of 28 books. Kwame is the host of the literary variety/talk show, *Bookish*.

www.kwamealexander.com



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Mahogany L. Browne is unapologetic in her work as a spoken word poet, author, and activist. She uses her personal experience with addiction, racism, sexism, and oppression to inspire her own brand of shameless, authentic work. Browne's spoken word performances create a platform through poetry for women and girls to feel empowered and heard.

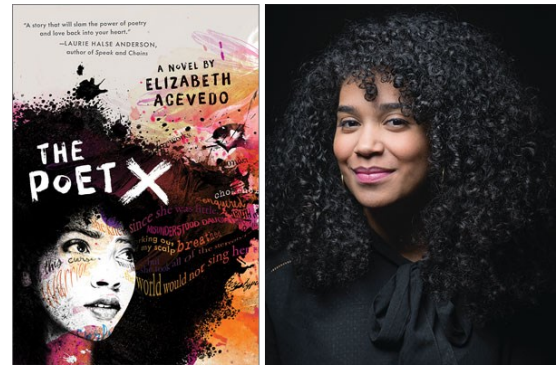
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ELIZABETH ACEVEDO is a NYT best-selling author. She is the winner of the 2018 National Book Award for Young People's Literature, The Printz Award, the Boston Globe-Hornbook Award, and the Pura Belpré Award.

www.acevedowrites.com



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Jason Reynolds is a NYT bestselling author, a Newbery Award & Printz Award Honoree, National Book Award Honoree, Walter Dean Myers Award winner, an NAACP Image Award Winner, and multiple Coretta Scott King honors.

www.JasonWritesBooks.com



jason.reynolds.37266



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