

## SUGGESTED READING FOR YOUNG ADULTS ON THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

### About MLK

#### ***The Dream: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Speech That Inspired a Nation***

by Drew D. Hansen

Explores the fascinating, little-known history of King's legendary address.

#### ***Let the Trumpet Sound: A Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.*** by Stephen B. Oats

A definitive one-volume biography.

### **About the Civil Rights Movement**

#### ***Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice*** by Phillip Hoose

Before Rosa Parks, there was Claudette Colvin, an impassioned teenager, who in March 1955, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. A year later she was a key plaintiff in a landmark case that swept away the legal underpinnings of Jim Crow. The first in-depth account of an important yet largely unknown civil rights figure.

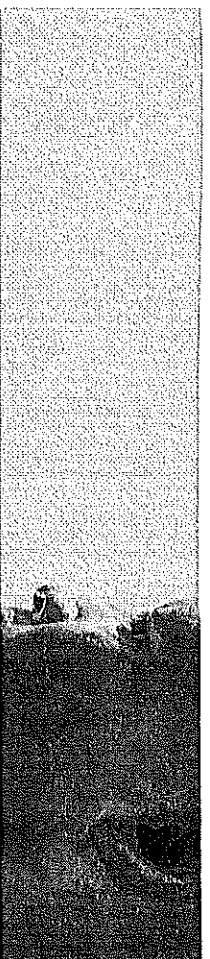
#### ***Free At Last: A History of the Civil Rights Movement and Those Who Died in the***

***Struggle*** by Sara Bullard; introduction by Julian Bond

This history of the civil rights movement captures the turbulent years of struggle through stories and photos.

#### ***Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott*** by Russell Freedman

Eyewitness reports, iconic photographs, and primary sources tell the stories of the heroes who stood up against segregation.



#### ***March*** by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin; illustrations by Nate Powell

Congressman John Lewis, a major civil rights leader, presents a vivid first-hand account of his lifelong struggle for civil and human rights. (a graphic novel trilogy)

– Book One: Spans his youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with MLK, and the Nashville Student Movement's fight to tear down segregation through nonviolent sit-ins.

– Book Two: From the Freedom Riders of 1961 to the bombing of the Birmingham church in 1963, a turning point that contributed to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

– Book Three: In 1963, when the Civil Rights Movement caught the country's full attention, an army of activists launched campaigns such as Freedom Vote and Mississippi Freedom Summer. The fight for voting rights came to a showdown with Bloody Sunday in Selma, Alabama.

#### ***Marching for Freedom: Walk Together Children and Don't You Grow Weary*** by Elizabeth Partridge (with photographs)

Focusing on the courageous children who faced terrifying violence when marching with MLK, this inspiring look at the fight for the vote recounts the chaotic, passionate, and deadly three months of protests that culminated in the landmark march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965.

#### ***Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights***

***March*** by Lynda Backman Lowery; illustrations by P.J. Loughran. In her memoir, the youngest marcher in the 1965 voting rights march from Selma to Montgomery proved that young adults can be heroes. Jailed 11 times before her 15th birthday, Lowery fought alongside MLK for the rights of African Americans.

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### Fiction

#### *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone

Having left his rough neighborhood, Justyce McAllister, an honor student, is scorned by his former peers or ridiculed by his new classmates. He looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for answers and starts a journal to Dr. King. Then one day Justyce goes driving with his best friend—windows open, music blaring, sparking the fury of a white off-duty cop beside them. Words fly. Shots are fired. In the media fallout, it's Justyce who's under attack.

#### *Lillian's Right to Vote* by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Shane W. Evans

An elderly African American woman, on route to vote, recalls the excitement and challenges her ancestors faced on their long walks to the polls. Marking the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, this lyrical, poignant picture book portrays one woman's determination to make it up the hill and make her voice heard.

#### *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis

A profound, often hilarious, story (a Newbery and Coretta Scott King Honoree) about a black family in Michigan that visits their Grandma in Birmingham, Alabama in 1963—just when Grandma's church is blown up. Their visit relates the terror of the bombing that killed four African-American girls and its impact on the Watson family.