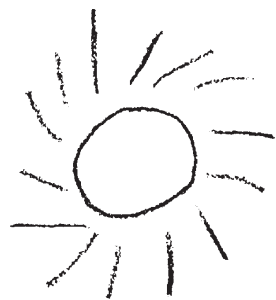


African American Women: A February Dozens

A Bulletin Dozen Booklist

IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH, this month's Dozens focuses on the lives of African American women. Set against the historical contexts of slavery, Reconstruction and the Civil Rights movement, the stories of these historic women and girls personalize the past while making it real. And although these women represent different times, places, talents and callings, they had in common courage and strength, making them inspiring literary companions indeed.

—Debra Mitts-Smith
February 2005



THE BULLETIN

OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS

The *Bulletin* Dozen is a monthly theme-based booklist available from the *Bulletin's* website. Since we're awfully fond of bakers here at the *Bulletin*, we thought we'd adopt their philosophy of generosity and throw in an extra one or two when we have them to offer—so don't expect an even dozen.

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See the *Bulletin's* website:
www.lis.uiuc.edu/puboff/bccb/
for more Dozens.



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African American Women



A February Dozens

A Bulletin Dozen
Booklist

Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes.* Scholastic, 1999. Gr. 4 up

Ruby Bridges reflects on what it was like to be six years old and black and attending an all white New Orleans school in 1960. (BCCB 1/00)

Fradin, Dennis Brindell. *Fight On! Mary Church Terrell's Battle for Integration;* written by Dennis Brindell Fradin and Judith Bloom Fradin. Clarion, 2003. illus. with photographs. Gr. 5-10

This biography of Terrell traces her evolution from a supporter of the more gradualist approach towards civil rights to demonstrator. (BCCB 9/03)

Fradin, Dennis Brindell. *Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement;* written by Dennis Brindell Fradin and Judith Bloom Fradin. Clarion, 2000. illus. with photographs. Gr. 5-12

The “Queen of the Black Race” and “The Princess of the Press,” Wells crusaded against white vigilantism at the end of the nineteenth century. (BCCB 4/00)

Freedman, Russell. *The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and Struggle for Equal Rights.* Clarion, 2001. illus. with photographs. Gr. 5-8

Freedman sets the story of Anderson’s life within the context of the growing movement for racial equality. (BCCB 7/04)

Govenar, Alan, ed. *Osceola: Memories of a Sharecropper's Daughter;* illus. by Shane W. Evans. Jumpt at the Sun/Hyperion, 2000. Gr. 4 up

Osceola Mays, a sharecropper’s daughter from a segregated rural community in Texas, recounts her experiences and family’s stories in this illustrated oral history of her life. (BCCB 3/00)

Grimes, Nikki. *Talkin' about Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman;* illus. by E.B. Lewis. Orchard, 2002. Gr. 4-6

Fictionalized poetic reminiscences of friends, siblings, teachers and promoters provide a multi-faceted take on Coleman’s life. (BCCB 1/03)

Jemison, Mae. *Find Where the Wind Goes: Moments from My Life.* Scholastic, 2001. illus. with photographs. Gr. 5-8

Jemison, doctor, scientist, astronaut and professor, credits the support of family, friends, and mentors while stressing the importance of conscious decision making in achieving her goals. (BCCB 9/01)

Lasky, Kathryn. *A Voice of Her Own: The Story of Phyllis Wheatley, Slave Poet;* illus. by Paul Lee. Candlewick, 2003. Gr. 3-6

Lasky presents a historic perspective on the life of Wheatley, the first African-American poet, who arrived in Boston on a slave ship in 1761. (BCCB 2/03)

Lazo, Caroline. *Alice Walker: Freedom Writer;* Lerner, 2000. illus. with photographs. Gr. 7-12

Excerpts from interviews and autobiographical essay as well as photographs introduce readers to Walker’s life and inspirations. (BCCB 9/00)

Orgill, Roxane. *Mahalia: A Life in Gospel Music.* Candlewick, 2002. illus. with photographs. Gr. 6-12

Through her singing, Mahalia Jackson escaped poverty, praised God, and raised bail money for Civil Rights workers. (BCCB 6/02)

Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *Ella Fitzgerald: The Tale of a Vocal Virtuosa;* illus. by Brian Pinkney. Jump at the Sun/Hyperion, 2002. Gr. 3-5

The various stages of Fitzgerald’s life and music are recounted. (BCCB 6/02)

Rockwell, Anne. *Only Passing Through: The Story of Sojourner Truth;* illus. by Gregory Christie. Knopf, 2000. Gr. 4-8

In 1843, freed slave Isabella dreamed of a voice that urged her to share her story of slavery and became one of the most memorable orators of the century. (BCCB 1/01)

Ryan, Pam Munoz. *When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson, the Voice of a Century;* illus. by Brian Selznick. Scholastic, 2002. Gr. 3-5

Banned from performing at Constitution Hall on account of her skin color, opera singer Marian Anderson performed on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. (BCCB 12/02)