

Bigmamas

The bible states that it is appointed unto man once to die. Each of us will have to pass by death in order to reach the next stage of life: eternal life in heaven or hell. We have known about the existence of heaven and hell since the beginning of time. It is not the will of God for any to perish. That means though we have to die God does not want us to go to hell. We can have an assurance of life everlasting in heaven with Christ Jesus our Lord. There are many wonderful things prepared in heaven for those of us who overcome this life and receive our great rewards in heaven for living a life unto Christ. Many people have lost loved ones along life's way. Some of these loved ones have been gone for many years and people are still grieving and mourning over them deeply. God wants you to come to him and find health and healing in the safety of his loving arms. To receive this healing we must come to him and accept his plan of salvation. Salvation is the beginning to healing, love, and acceptance. In Christ, we find hope and peace that surpasses all human understanding. We learn who we are and we learn who we are in Christ. I pray this book will give every reader an expected hope and the joy of the Lord for strength.

When the train arrived in Cottondale, the summer at Bigmama's house in Florida began. Donald Crews brilliantly evokes the sights, sounds, and emotions of a memorable childhood experience. "A very special book by a superb artist and storyteller."--Horn Book.

The train tracks ran right by Bigmama's house in Cottondale, and the children were warned to stay off the tracks. But one night they were late, and the tracks were a shortcut, so they started off. And when there was no turning back, they heard the train coming.

Bigmamma Didn't Shop at Woolworth's. Not just because things cost more there than from the hawker who drove through the Candy Hill neighborhood from time to time, but because in the 1950s black shoppers were not very welcome in white Texas towns like Bryan. Sunny Nash was Bigmamma's granddaughter, and through her young eyes she saw not only the indignities and economic hardships her family and friends suffered - unpaved roads, mosquito-infested drainage ditches and outdoor toilets, back stairs to balcony seating in the movies - but also the love and warmth of everyday life in the segregated neighborhood. In the tradition of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, yet more stirring because of its real-life perspective, she tells her story of a time before the civil rights movement of the 1960s with immediacy and poignancy.

TEACH YOUR STUDENTS TO READ LIKE CHAMPIONS—WITH RIGOR, INDEPENDENCE, PRECISION, AND INSIGHT The world we are preparing our students to succeed in is one bound together by words and phrases. Our students learn their literature, history, math, science, or art via a firm foundation of strong reading skills. When we teach students to read with precision, rigor, and insight, we are truly handing over the key to the kingdom. Of all the subjects we

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teach reading is first among equals. Grounded in advice from effective classrooms nationwide, enhanced with more than 40 video clips, *Reading Reconsidered* takes you into the trenches with actionable guidance from real-life educators and instructional champions. The authors address the anxiety-inducing world of Common Core State Standards, distilling from those standards four key ideas that help hone teaching practices both generally and in preparation for assessments. This 'Core of the Core' comprises the first half of the book and instructs educators on how to teach students to: read harder texts, 'closely read' texts rigorously and intentionally, read nonfiction more effectively, and write more effectively in direct response to texts. The second half of *Reading Reconsidered* reinforces these principles, coupling them with the 'fundamentals' of reading instruction—a host of techniques and subject specific tools to reconsider how teachers approach such essential topics as vocabulary, interactive reading, and student autonomy. *Reading Reconsidered* breaks an overly broad issue into clear, easy-to-implement approaches. Filled with practical tools, including: 44 video clips of exemplar teachers demonstrating the techniques and principles in their classrooms (note: for online access of this content, please visit my.teachlikeachampion.com) Recommended book lists Downloadable tips and templates on key topics like reading nonfiction, vocabulary instruction, and literary terms and definitions. *Reading Reconsidered* provides the framework necessary for teachers to ensure that students forge futures as lifelong readers. This comprehensive text presents a core of research-based approaches to engaging, effective literacy instruction in the middle grades. Methods and materials are described to foster reading skills, content mastery, and writing in different formats and for different purposes. The authors emphasize the need to tailor instruction to the needs, strengths, skill levels, and interests of diverse students. They offer recommendations for reading lists that incorporate critically acclaimed fiction and nonfiction, popular series books, and other student-friendly materials. Special features include case studies, examples of teaching and assessment activities, and commentary from middle-school teachers and students. Appendices contain reproducible forms and lists of recommended reading materials and resources.

The powerful story of a mother and daughter writing and painting through Alzheimer's.

After spending time sailing, some seasick dinosaurs decide they have had enough of the high seas.

Buttermilk Cornbread and Turnip Greens is a collection of poems and short stories chronicling the life experiences of a "nonconformist" daughter, and her traditional, Southern-bred mother. When the mother succumbs to cancer, the daughter discovers the things her mother saved tell a unique story of their own.

"A timeless classic" (*San Antonio Express-News*), reissued with a new foreword, afterword, and ten percent more material about a black man who spent seventeen years on a brutal Texas prison plantation and underwent a remarkable transformation.

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First published in 1984, *Racehoss: Big Emma's Boy* is Albert Race Sample's "unforgettable" (The Dallas Morning News) tale of resilience, revelation, and redemption. Born in 1930, the mixed-race son of a hard-drinking black prostitute and a white cotton broker, Sample was raised in the Jim Crow South by an abusive mother who refused to let her son—who could pass for white—call her Mama. He watched for the police while she worked, whether as a prostitute, bootlegger, or running the best dice game in town. He loved his mother deeply but could no longer take her abuse and ran away from home at the age of twelve. In his early twenties, Sample was arrested for burglary, robbery, and robbery by assault and was sentenced to nearly twenty years in the Texas prison system in the 1950s and 60s. His light complexion made him stand out in the all-black prison plantation known as the "burnin' hell," where he and over four hundred prisoners picked cotton and worked the land while white shotgun-carrying guards followed on horseback. Sample earned the moniker "Racehoss" for his ability to hoe cotton faster than anyone else in his squad. A profound spiritual awakening in solitary confinement was a decisive moment for him, and he became determined to turn his life around. When he was finally released in 1972, he did just that. Though Sample was incarcerated in the twentieth century, his memoir reads like it came from the nineteenth. With new stories that had been edited out of the first edition, a foreword by Texas attorney and writer David R. Dow, and an afterword by Sample's widow, Carol, this new edition of *Racehoss: Big Emma's Boy* offers a more complete picture of this extraordinary time in America's recent past.

Bigmama's

A child describes all the things there are to do on a rainy day.

? You can abandon rote learning with this middle and high school teaching guide.

Encouraging both students and teachers to unlock their creativity, the authors provide guidance in lesson planning and ideas for creating unconventional homework, projects and tests that are cost-free and easy to implement. This book leads teachers away from endorsing competition and teacher-pleasing behavior, and offers ideas for independent thinking that will strengthen students' decision-making, deductive reasoning and emotional intelligence.

A rambunctious mutt and a curious porpoise become best pals in this adorably charming story about friendship and family.

Welcome to the story of a real marriage. Marriage is simultaneously the biggest blessing and the greatest challenge two people can ever take on. It is the joy of knowing there is someone to share in your joys and sorrows, and the challenge of living with someone who thinks it's a good idea to hang a giant antelope head on your living room wall. In *The Antelope in the Living Room*, New York Times best-selling author and blogger Melanie Shankle does for marriage what *Sparkly Green Earrings* did for motherhood—makes us laugh out loud and smile through tears as she shares the holy and the hilarity of that magical and mysterious union called marriage.

Educational resource for teachers, parents and kids!

Describes the life cycle of the robin.

Is my ordinary, everyday life actually significant? Is it okay to be fulfilled by the simple acts of raising kids, working in an office, and cooking chicken for dinner? It's been said, "Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the number of moments that take our breath away." The pressure of that can be staggering as we spend our days looking for that big thing that promises to take our breath away. Meanwhile, we lose sight of the small

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significance of fully living with every breath we take. Melanie Shankle, New York Times bestselling author and writer at The Big Mama Blog tackles these questions head on in her fourth book, *Church of the Small Things*. Easygoing and relatable, she speaks directly to the heart of women of all ages who are longing to find significance and meaning in the normal, sometimes mundane world of driving carpool to soccer practice, attending class on their college campus, cooking meals for their family, or taking care of a sick loved one. The million little pieces that make a life aren't necessarily glamorous or far-reaching. But God uses some of the smallest, most ordinary acts of faithfulness—and sometimes they look a whole lot like packing lunch. Through humorous stories told in her signature style, full of Frito pie, best friends, the love of her Me-Ma and Pa-Pa, the unexpected grace that comes when we quit trying to measure up, and a little of the best TV has to offer, Melanie helps women embrace what it means to live a simple, yet incredibly meaningful life and how to find all the beauty and laughter that lies right beneath the surface of every moment.

Before she became the legendary Mama Cass—one quarter of the mega-huge folk group The Mamas and the Papas—Cass Eliot was a girl from Baltimore trying to make it in the big city. After losing parts to stars like Barbra Streisand on the Broadway circuit, Cass found her place in the music world with an unlikely group of cohorts. The Mamas and the Papas released five studio albums in their three years of existence. It was at once one of the most productive (and profitable) three years any band has ever had, and also one of the most bizarre and dysfunctional groups of people to ever come together to make music. Through it all, Cass struggled to keep sight of her dreams—and her very identity.

What will Fat Cat sit on? The pig? (Oink!) The chicken? (Cluck!) How about the dog? (Grrrr.) Everyone in this bumbling animal gang (understandably) hopes the victim will be someone else! Leave it to Mouse to come up with a brilliant solution that satisfies everyone, even Fat Cat himself. Filled with hilarious asides and an interactive question-answer format, this irreverent young picture book will delight toddlers who love to shout "NO!"

Named one of the best books of 2017 by NPR, the Huffington Post, Publishers Weekly, Kirkus Reviews, the Los Angeles Times, the Boston Globe, the Horn Book Magazine, the News & Observer, BookPage, Chicago Public Library, and more *The barbershop* is where the magic happens. Boys go in as lumps of clay and, with princely robes draped around their shoulders, a dab of cool shaving cream on their foreheads, and a slow, steady cut, they become royalty. That crisp yet subtle line makes boys sharper, more visible, more aware of every great thing that could happen to them when they look good: lesser grades turn into As; girls take notice; even a mother's hug gets a little tighter. Everyone notices. A fresh cut makes boys fly. This rhythmic, read-aloud title is an unbridled celebration of the self-esteem, confidence, and swagger boys feel when they leave the barber's chair—a tradition that places on their heads a figurative crown, beaming with jewels, that confirms their brilliance and worth and helps them not only love and accept themselves but also take a giant step toward caring how they present themselves to the world. The fresh cuts. That's where it all begins. *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut* is a high-spirited, engaging salute to the beautiful, raw, assured humanity of black boys and how they see themselves when they approve of their reflections in the mirror.

Made up of true stories ranging all the way from the ins and outs of daily life in the Mississippi Delta to bona fide brushes with history, Anne Hart Preus's *Stories from the Hart* is a vivid account of one girl's life growing up during some of the most formative years in our nation's history, the 1950s and '60s. The reader is introduced to characters from days gone by--family, friends, and other townfolk from rural Tallahatchie County, Mississippi--some of whom came and went quickly, and others who stayed a while. Although intensely personal, the memoir is set against a backdrop of social change, including events from the Emmett Till murder trial and trips to Memphis to see Elvis Presley and the Beatles. The tales in *Stories from the Hart* may be funny, dramatic, or occasionally even wistful, but they are always touching. Whether Anne

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Hart Preus is reminiscing about holiday traditions and unexpected snow days, recounting fascinating and endearing town characters, or remembering what it was like to grow up in a community where everyone knew everyone, her natural and engaging style weaves compelling stories that will keep readers coming back for more.

Join a young boy for a playful stroll with a colorful parade of farm animals.

A 2020 Caldecott Honor Book "On reunion morning, we rise before the sun. Daddy hums as he packs our car with suitcases and a cooler full of snacks. He says there's nothing like going down home." Down home is Granny's house. Down home is where Lil Alan and his parents and sister will join great-grandparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Down home is where Lil Alan will hear stories of the ancestors and visit the land that has meant so much to all of them. And down home is where all of the children will find their special way to pay tribute to family history. All the kids have to decide on what tribute to share, but what will Lil Alan do? In this rich and moving celebration of history, culture, and ritual, Kelly Starling Lyons' eloquent text explores the power of family traditions. Stunning illustrations by Coretta Scott King Honor-winner Daniel Minter reveal the motion and connections in a large, multigenerational family.

Reviews over 500 titles

Having raised Baby, a bull calf, since just after he was born, Big Mama has a hard time accepting that he is getting too big for her yard.

centerFollow the big red truck on its cross-country journey in Donald Crew's classic wordless book, perfect for sharing with the very young.

Big sister Kyla patiently allows her little sister to follow her around, and, finally, it comes time for Kyla to let her sister take the lead

A Caldecott Honor Book Red caboose at the back, orange tank car, green cattle car, purple box car, black tender and a black steam engine . . . freight train. In simple, powerful words and vibrant illustrations, Donald Crews evokes the rolling wheels of that childhood favorite: a train. This Caldecott Honor Book features bright colors and bold shapes. Even a child not lucky enough to have counted freight cars will feel he or she has watched a freight train passing after reading Freight Train. Donald Crews used childhood memories of trains seen during his travels to his grandparents' farm in the American South as the inspiration for this timeless favorite.

Shows how to use a variety of children's books as a basis for activities in writing, art, science, and math

Here is an innovative exploration of the blues aesthetic that reflects the literary work created by Black authors and illustrators for the Black child reader. This book examines literature written for Black children, using critical and creative writings - by artists, scholars, and critics - that define the blues within Black «adult» literature, poetry, and the visual arts. The book identifies Black children's literature published in the past forty years by authors and illustrators who can be classified as blues artists, and whose work reflects social, political, economical, and historical developments of the Black experience throughout the United States. Referencing work created by Jacqueline Woodson, Walter Dean Myers, John Steptoe, Tom Feelings, Sherley Anne Williams, and others, this book demonstrates how the blues aesthetic now includes the literature dedicated to Black children.

ONE OF BOOK RIOT'S BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR Dustin Lance Black wrote the Oscar-winning screenplay for Milk and helped overturn California's anti-gay marriage Proposition 8, but as an LGBTQ activist he has unlikely origins--a conservative Mormon household outside San Antonio, Texas. There he was raised by a single mother who,

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as a survivor of childhood polio, endured brutal surgeries as well as braces and crutches for life. Despite the abuse and violence of two questionably devised Mormon marriages, she imbued Lance with her inner strength and irrepressible optimism. When Lance came out to his mother at age twenty-one, she initially derided his sexuality as a sinful choice. It may seem like theirs was a house destined to be divided--and at times it was. But in the end, they did not let their differences define them or the relationship that had inspired two remarkable lives. This heartfelt, deeply personal memoir explores how a mother and son built bridges across great cultural divides--and how our stories hold the power to heal.

Reginald isn't like the other zombies who shuffle through Quirkville, scaring the townspeople and moaning for BRAINSSSSS! The only thing Reginald's stomach rumbles for is sticky peanut butter and sweet jelly. He tries to tell his zombie pals that there's more to life than eating brains, but they're just not interested. Will Reginald find a way to bring peace to Quirkville and convince the other zombies that there's nothing better than peanut butter and jelly? Debut author Joe McGee and up-and-coming illustrator Charles Santoso have crafted a delicious tale about being true to yourself that will make readers hungry for more.

One morning Hen wakes up and finds a gigantic egg in her nest. Whose egg can it be? Here's a hint, Hen--it doesn't belong to that wily Fox!

Visiting Bigmama's house in the country, young Donald Crews finds his relatives full of news and the old place and its surroundings just the same as the year before.

Big Mamma, with a baby on her hip and laundry piling up, makes the world and everything in it and, at the end of the sixth day, tells the people she has made that they must take care of her creation.

The numbered order of the twelve racers changes as the bicycle race progresses.

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