



***Mahogany* by JaNay Brown-Wood**

**Illustrated by John Joven**

Charlesbridge, 2024

ISBN: 9781623543679

\*Age Range: 5 to 8

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

---

A clever, Black contemporary twist on Little Red Riding Hood, *Mahogany* embraces the beauty—and magic—within herself to thwart the Big Bad Wolf.

*Mahogany* is a spunky girl who loves to sew, listen to music, and wear fresh kicks. On the way to deliver homemade honey cornbread to Grandma’s house, she encounters a hungry wolf. Because *Mahogany* is clever, she stands by a willow tree, where her long, black curly hair blends with the branches. She hides in the forest, where her ebony skin merges with the shadows. And *Mahogany* knows the lavender scent of her skin will mix with the smells of flowering plants, tricking any wolf nose.

Ultimately *Mahogany*’s Blackness, her wits, and her sewing skills all save her in this refreshing, celebratory, and innovative retelling.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

---

“The story generally stays true to the main plot points of the original story, with some clever changes that will satisfy modern sensibilities. . . . This new version is still a morality tale about being aware of one’s surroundings and not talking to strangers, but with a fun, tech-y twist. . . . A hip adaptation of a beloved story.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“This delightful fresh take presents a diverse cast of characters. *Mahogany*’s cleverness will inspire and delight young girls everywhere.”—*Children’s Literature*

“Not a twisted fairy tale and not an urban tale—just a refresh.”—Cindy, MS Librarian, Kiss the Book Junior blog

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

---

- [Mahogany Activity Kit](#)
- [Meet Mahogany | YouTube](#)
- [Cocoa with Books | Mahogany by JaNay Brown Wood | Blog](#)
- [The Best Children's & YA Books of March | Brightly](#)

Updated 7/16/24

Charlesbridge

trademarketing@charlesbridge.com

- [It's Monday! What Are You Reading? | Unleashing Readers | Blog](#)
- [KISS THE BOOK Junior: Mahogany by JaNay Brown-Wood and John Joven](#)

### **\*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

---

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.