



[Rise Up!: How You Can Join the Fight Against White Supremacy](#) by Crystal Marie Fleming

Henry Holt and Co., an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2021
ISBN: 9781250226389 (Hardcover); 9781250895585 (Paperback)

*Age Range: 12-18 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 6+ (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

This urgent book explores the roots of racism and its legacy in modern day, all while empowering young people with actionable ways they can help foster a better world and become antiracists.

Why are white supremacists still openly marching in the United States? Why are undocumented children of color separated from their families and housed in cages? Where did racism come from? Why hasn't it already disappeared? And what can young people do about it?

Rise Up! breaks down the origins of racial injustice and its continued impact today, connecting dots between the past and present. By including contemporary examples ripped from headlines and actionable ways young people can help create a more inclusive world, sociologist Crystal Marie Fleming shares the knowledge and values that unite all antiracists: compassion, solidarity, respect, and courage in the face of adversity. Perfect for fans of *Stamped: Remix*, *This Book is Antiracist*, *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Boy*, and *The Black Friend*.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "A clear and damning appraisal of the United States' long-standing relationship with White supremacy—with actionable advice for readers to do better." —[Kirkus Reviews](#), **starred review**

★ "This absorbing, thoroughly researched book provides an in-depth look at racism and offers steps young readers can take to become antiracist advocates. . . The book's positivity, depth of information not mentioned in other books for this age group, and the five steps provided to help people become antiracist advocates make this a standout and are sure to inspire young people to act." —[Booklist](#), **starred review**

★ "A valuable research and classroom text that will build up and inspire young activists." —[School Library Journal](#), **starred review**

★ "This book uses gentle, approachable language to discuss a heavy topic with young adults of all races who are searching for change." —[Publishers Weekly](#), **starred review**

"*Rise Up!* is the invigorating, thought-provoking, eye-opening, and essential book about fighting white supremacy that I wish I had when I was a teen. Crystal M. Fleming writes about tough subjects with authority and

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compassion, and inspires with a roadmap for how we can change the world for the better." —Malinda Lo, National Book Award-nominated author of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*

"*Rise Up!* is a book that I wish had been around when I was a teen! Sociologist Crystal Fleming exercises powerful ideas and teaching in this compassionate call to action. *Rise Up!* is Fleming's act of love to the next generation, offering knowledge to build awareness, motivation to right the wrongs of our nation's past and present, and hope to create a brighter future. It's a must-read!" —Prudence L. Carter, Brown University, author of *Stubborn Roots: Race, Culture and Inequality in U.S. and South African Schools*

"Fleming provides readers with the language and knowledge necessary to begin an antiracist journey and offers five steps they can take to create change." —[Horn Book](#)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Book of 2021
- A *School Library Journal* Best Book of 2021
- A *Booklist* Editors' Choice Winner for 2021
- *School Library Journal* Best Books of the Year

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Discussion Guide](#)
- [Horn Book Interview](#)
- [CBS Interview](#)
- [Missouri Historical Society Interview](#)
- [PBS Interview](#)
- [Metrofocus Interview](#)
- [Black Agenda Radio Interview](#)
- [C-SPAN Interview](#)
- [Newsweek Interview](#)
- [Strand Book Store Interview](#)
- [Thom Hartmann Interview](#)
- [Rebel HQ Interview](#)
- [Columbia Lecture](#)
- [France 24 Interview](#)
- [Crystal Marie Fleming Website](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

[Polk School District](#): "Polk County School Board member Kay Fields takes umbrage to efforts to remove books about Black history and sports heroes for students of color... 'I think the thing about banning books is if you ban one book then you are going to ban a whole bunch of other books. I mean where do you stop? I think it is a movement of people who want to ignore what has happened. They want to erase history. You can't erase history. These things occurred and you know they occurred. You need to make sure it is shared. It is knowledge especially for our young people, so they don't relive the history and repeat it'... So far, books that have been challenged have remained on the shelves as long as they are age appropriate."

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***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.

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