



BOOK RESUME: THE 1619 PROJECT: BORN ON THE WATER

BOOK SYNOPSIS

The 1619 Project's lyrical picture book in verse chronicles the consequences of slavery and the history of Black resistance in the United States, thoughtfully rendered by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones and Newbery honor-winning author Renée Watson.

A young student receives a family tree assignment in school, but she can only trace back three generations. Grandma gathers the whole family, and the student learns that 400 years ago, in 1619, their ancestors were stolen and brought to America by white slave traders.

But before that, they had a home, a land, a language. She learns how the people said to be born on the water survived.

With powerful verse and striking illustrations by Nikkolos Smith, *Born on the Water* provides a pathway for readers of all ages to reflect on the origins of American identity.

Title: The 1619 Project:
Born on the Water
Author: Nikkole Hannah-
Jones & Renée Watson
Illustrator: Nikkolos Smith
Imprint: Kokila Books
Publisher: Penguin Young
Readers
On sale date: Nov 16,
2021
ISBN: 9780593307359
Format: Picture Book
Age Range*: 7 and up
Grade Range: 2-5

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "A gift to Black Americans and everyone else who reads it." —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

★ "Black history is not merely a story of slavery and suffering but one of perseverance and hope." —*Publisher's Weekly*, starred review

★ "A stunning work, providing a glimpse into the history of the Black experience before and after the slave trade; the poetic language and breathtaking artwork will have a lasting effect on readers." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

★ "Written in lovely and loving verse, with dynamic, expressive, and expansive illustrations that convey the emotional journey of a resilient people, this book provides a moving, informative answer to an essential question." —*Horn Book*, starred review

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers 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 range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- #1 New York Times Bestseller!
- A School Library Journal Best Books of 2021
- A New York Public Library Best Books 2021
- A Chicago Public Library Best Books 2021
- A Barnes & Noble Best Picture Book of 2021
- A Publisher's Weekly Best Book of 2021
- A 2022 Irma S. Black Award Contender
- A 2022 Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award Winner
- A 2022 NCTE/CLA Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts Award Winner
- A 2022 ALA ALSC Notable
- A 2022 NCSS Notable Social Studies Book Selection
- A 2022 NCTE Notable Poetry Book & Novels in Verse Selection
- Maine Student Book Award Selection
- Rhode Island Children's Book Award Selection
- Washington D.C. Capitol Choices Reading List
- Tennessee Volunteer Book Award Selection
- Indiana Read Alouds Selection
- Washington DC Three Star Book Award Selection

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Classroom Educator Guide](#)
- [Pulitzer Center 1619 Project K-12 Educator Guide](#)
- [Breaking Bans ALA Booklist Webinar](#)

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