

# Books about Girls' Education

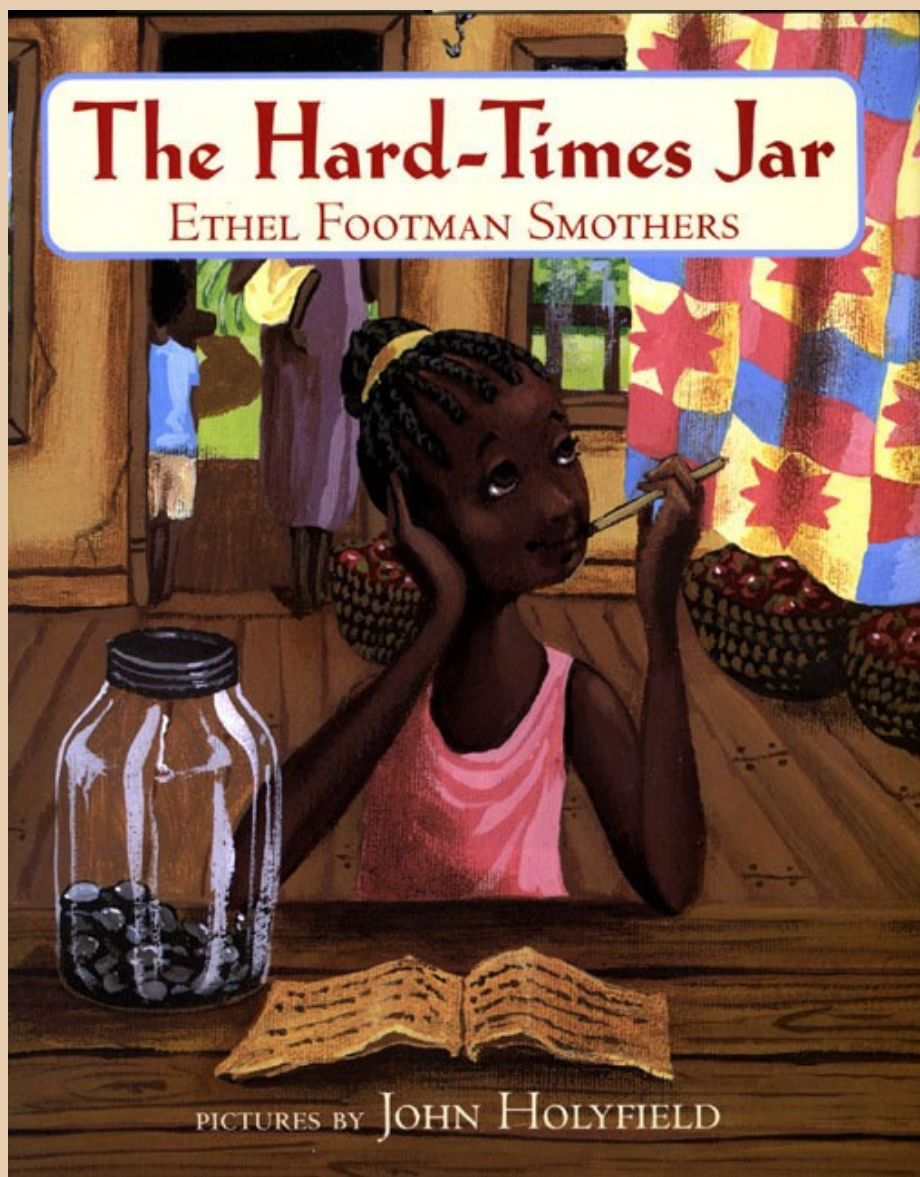
The Power of a Girl  
[www.thepowerofagirl.org](http://www.thepowerofagirl.org)  
Girl Scout Troop 2303



# Ages 3-7

## Hard Times Jar

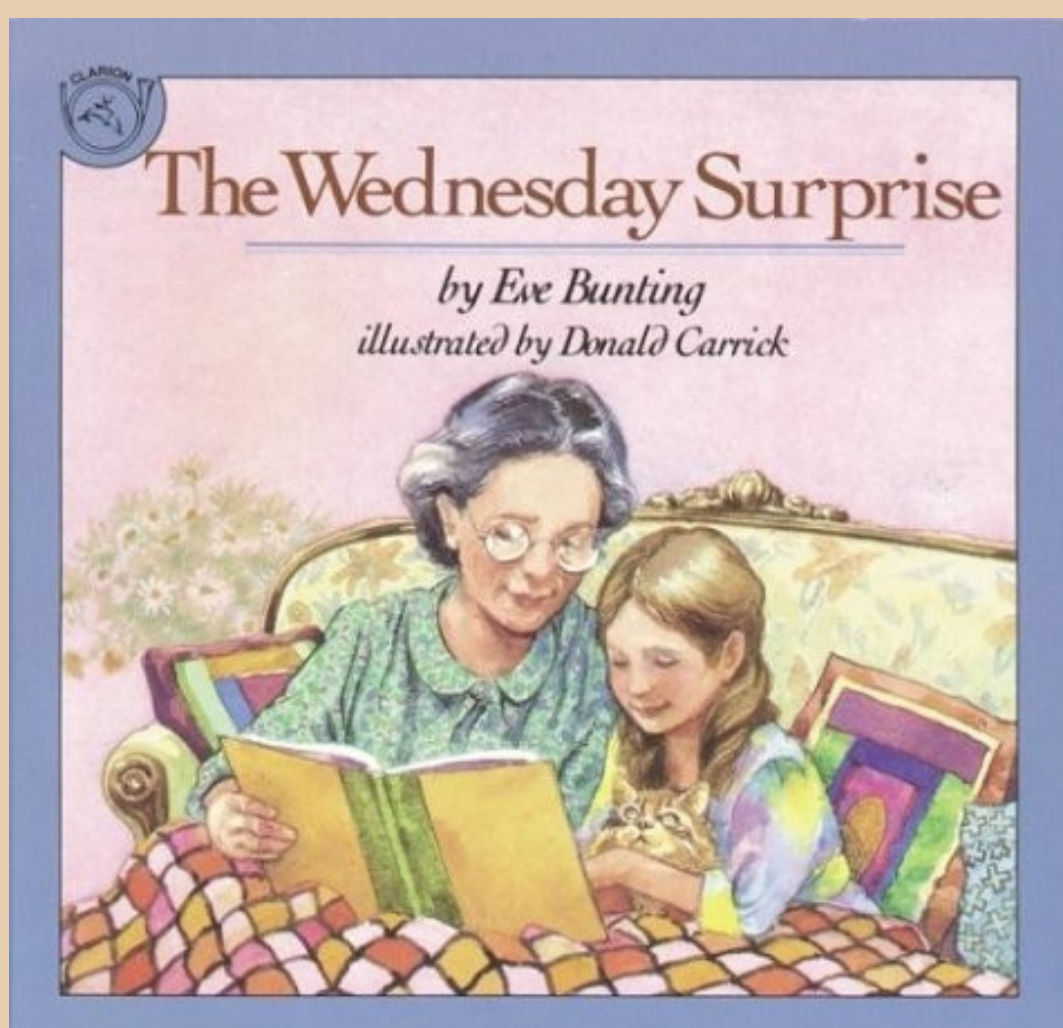
By Ethel Footman Smothers



Emma is the daughter of a migrant worker and she works instead of going to school. Money is very tight in their family, which means even though Emma really wants a store-bought book, she will need to settle for her own made-up books until she can earn enough money to buy one for herself.

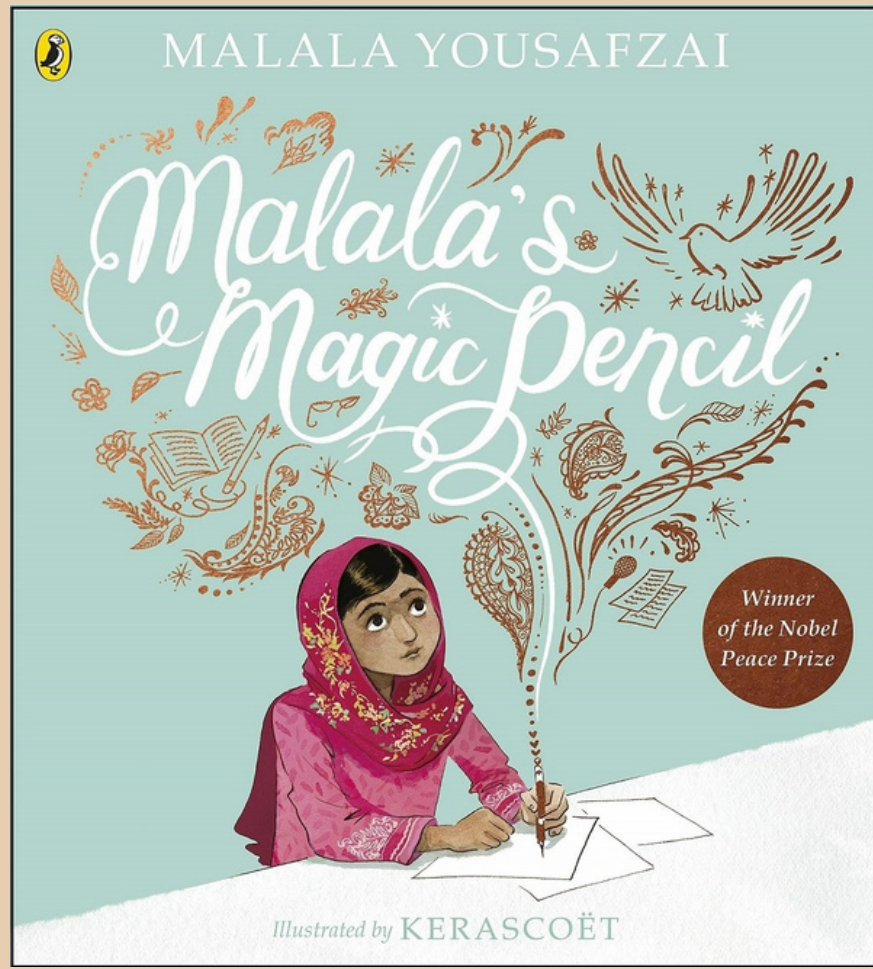
## The Wednesday Surprise

By Eve Bunting



Anna and her Grandma are preparing for her Dad's birthday. As a birthday present, Anna's grandmother learns how to read a book!

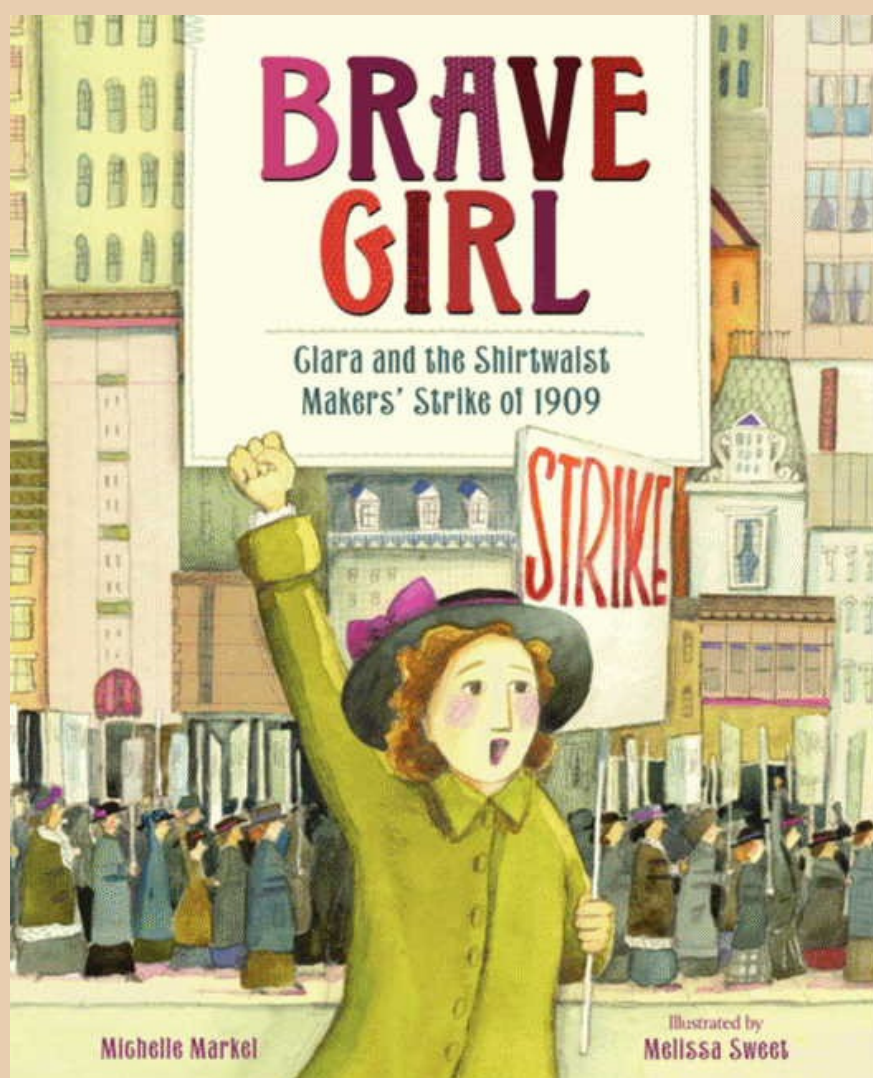




# Malala's Magic Pencil

By Malala Yousafzai

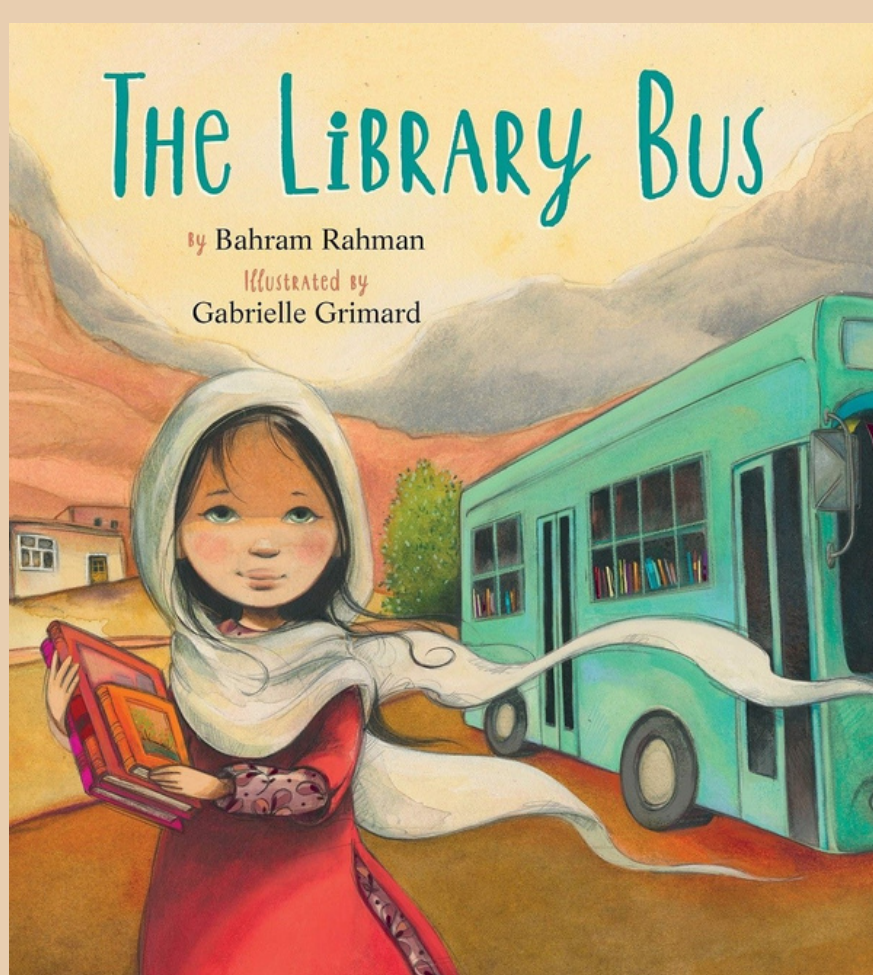
As a little girl, Malala wished for a magic pencil she could use to make everyone happy. As she grew up, she learned of bigger problems in the world. Malala learned that she could use her words like a magic pencil.



# Brave Girl

By Michelle Markel

When Clara Lemlich came to the US, she couldn't speak English, and she didn't know she would be expected to forfeit her education to go work and make money for her family. Though she had a job, she refused to accept that she should be forced to lose her education. In 1909, she led the largest walkout for women's rights in US history.



# The Library Bus

By Bahram Rahman

Pari and her Mama work on The Library Bus right now, but in a few months, Pari will go to school and learn to read and write. She is very lucky. Mama recently told her that it's illegal for girls to learn to read in Afghanistan.

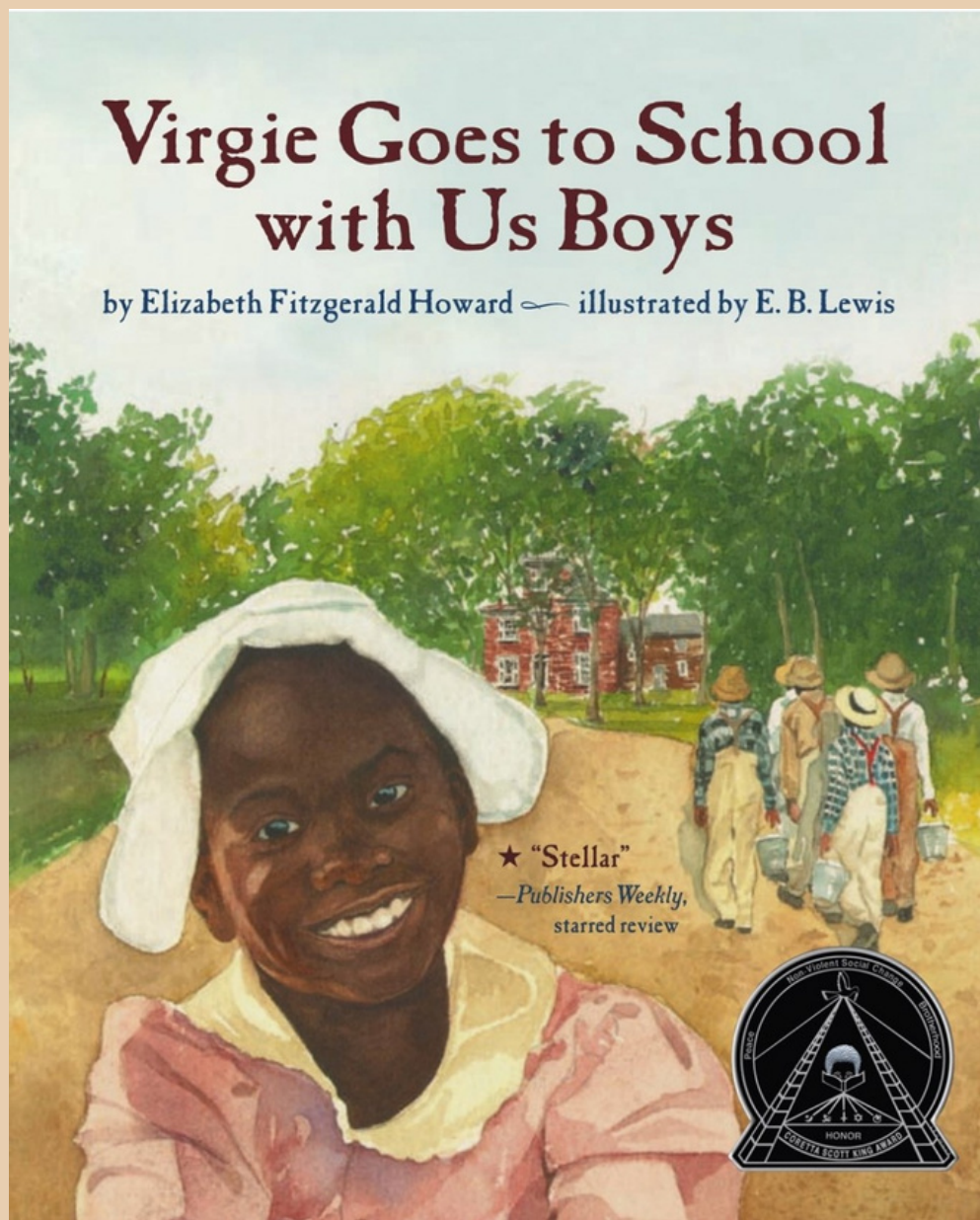


# Ages 7-10

## Virgie Goes to School with Us Boys

By Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard

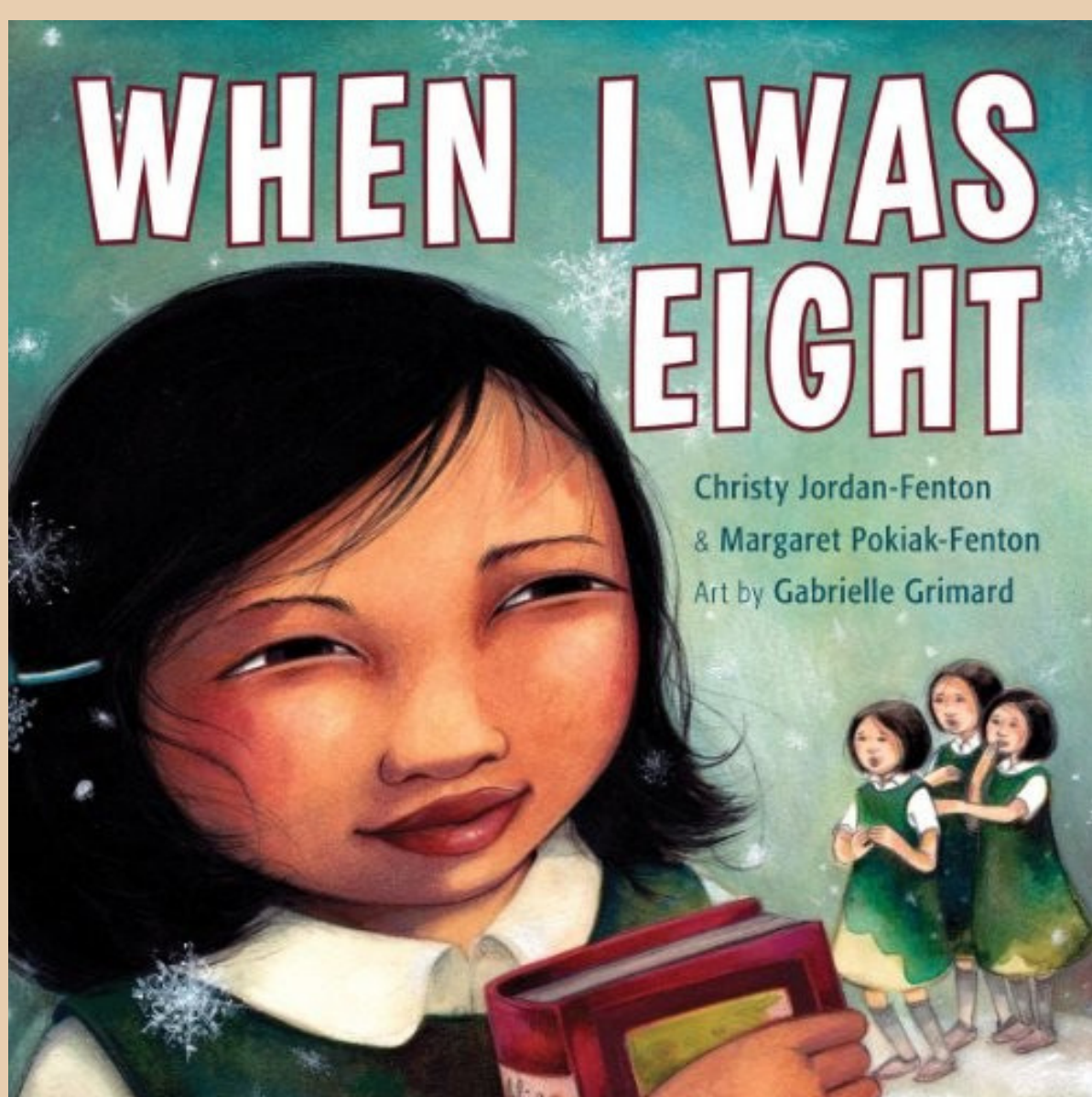
Ever since she was little, Virgie begged to go to school like her brothers. People she asked said she couldn't because she was needed at home, and why would a girl need to go to school? Virgie didn't give up, and she was eventually allowed to go to school!



## When I Was Eight

By Christy Jordan-Fenton  
& Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

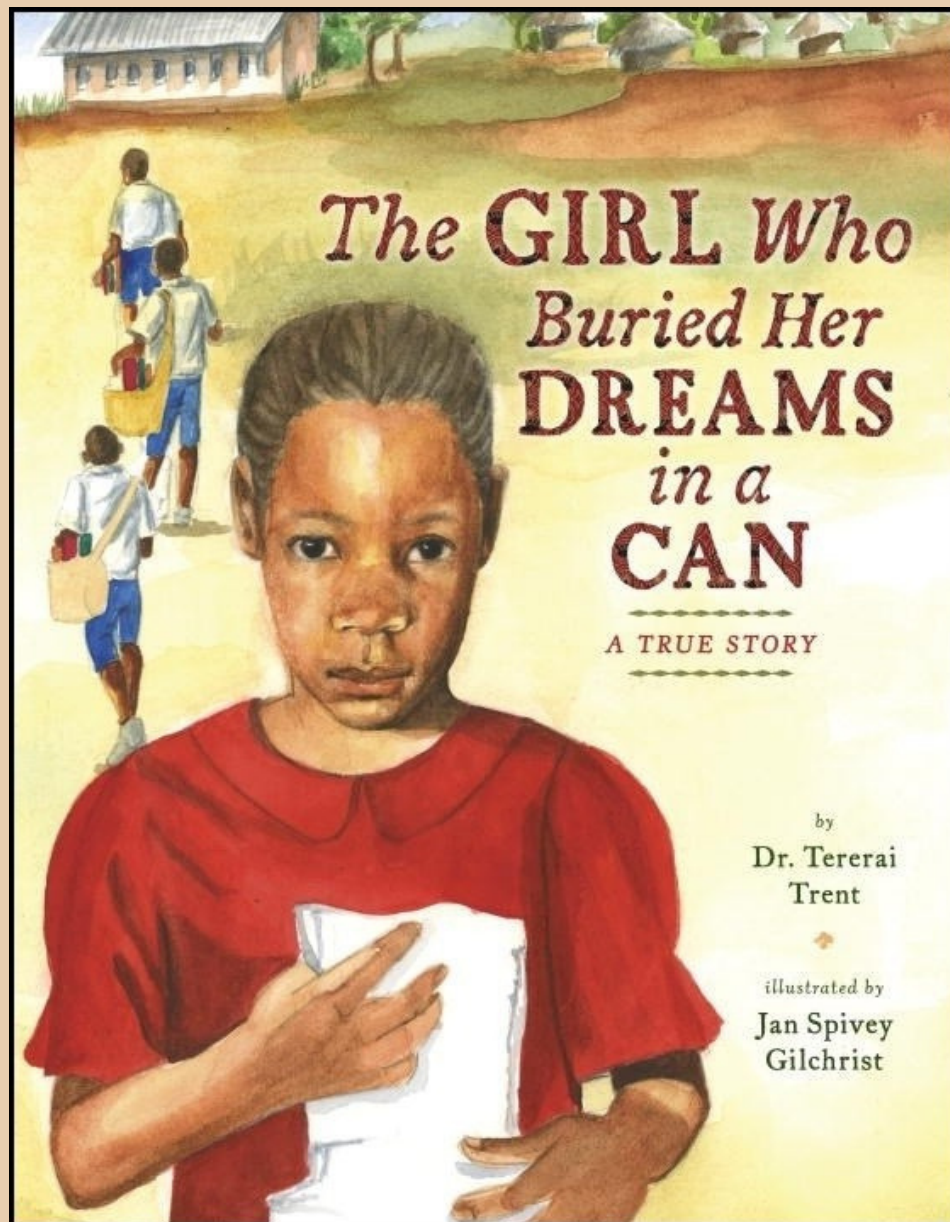
Olemaun must travel to the "outsiders' school" if she wants to learn. Her father has been warning her about what might happen there, but she ignores her father and goes to school!





# The Girl Who Buried Her Dreams in a Can

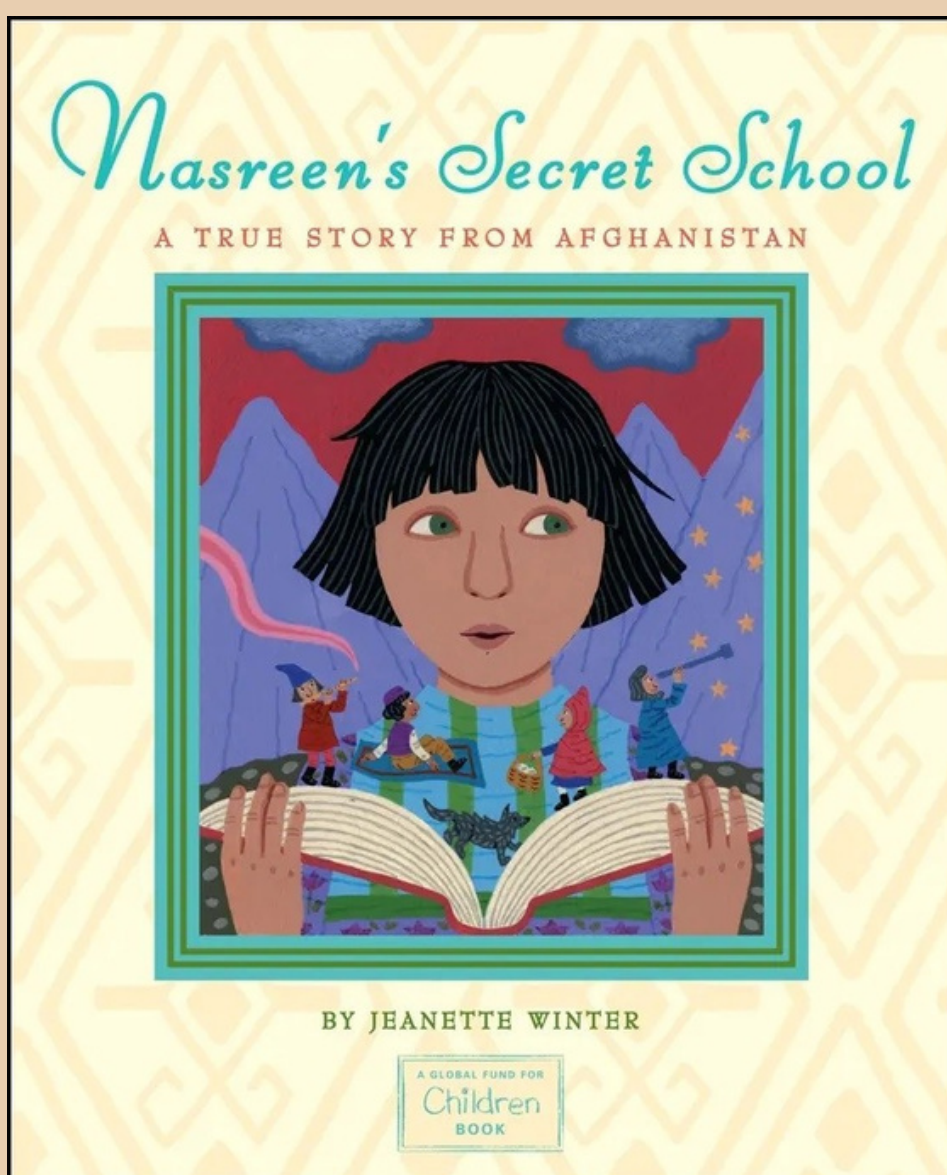
By Dr. Tererai Trent



She only ever wanted an education, but in Rhodesia, where she lives, it is almost impossible for girls to get an education. She managed to teach herself to read and write and count. When she became a wife, the girl wrote down her dreams and buried them in a can, reminding her never to give up on them.

# Nasreen's Secret School

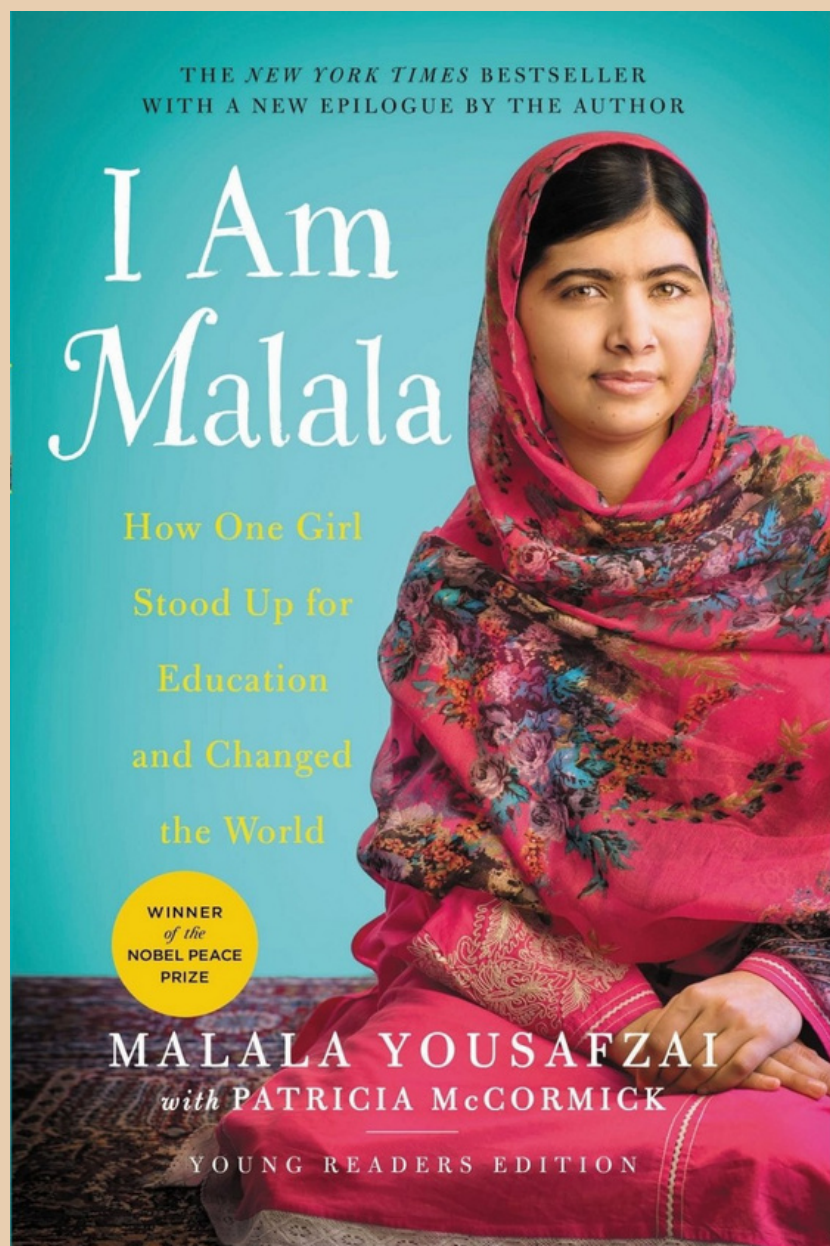
By Jeanette Winter



Nasreen's grandmother risked so much to enroll her in a secret girls' school after her parents disappeared. At school, she discovered books that told her about what Afghanistan used to be.



# Ages 10-12



## I Am Malala (Young Readers Edition)

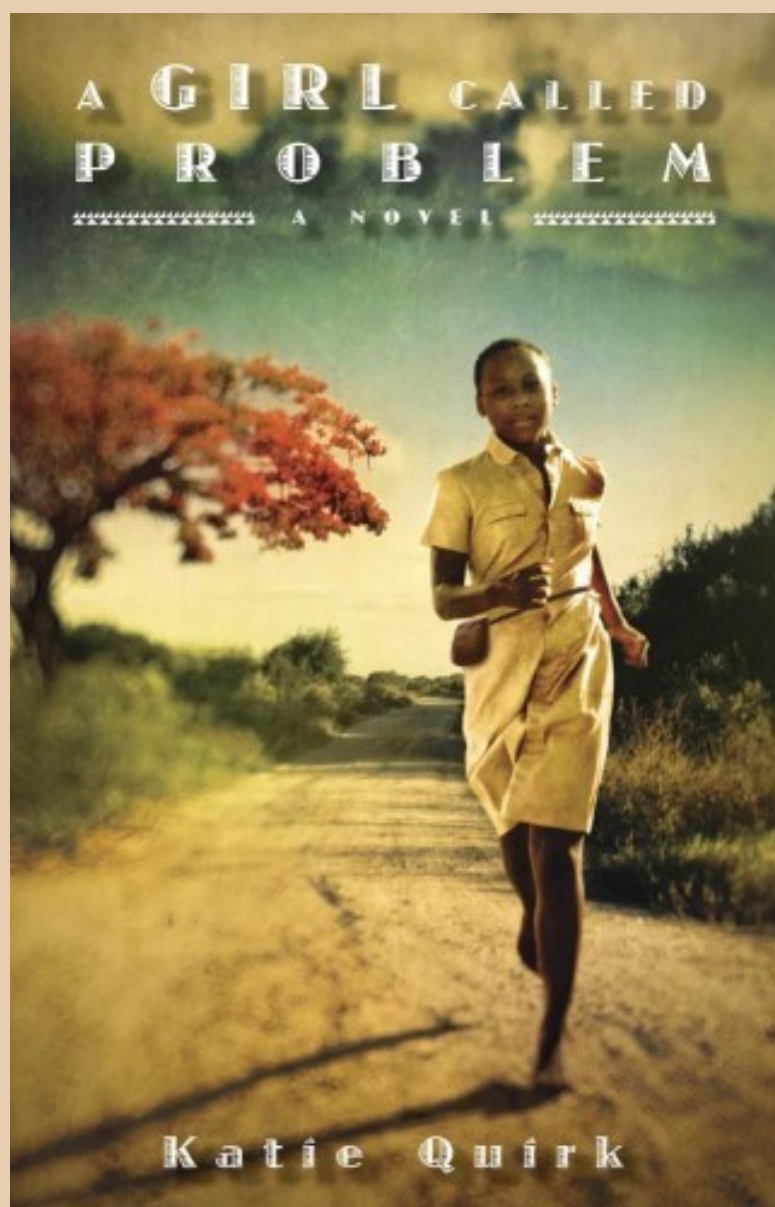
By Malala Yousafzai

"Malala Yousafzai was only ten years old when the Taliban took control of her region.

They said music was a crime. They said women weren't allowed to go...[anywhere]

...Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes. So, she fought for her right to be educated...she nearly lost her life for the cause: ...[The Taliban shot her in the head] while she was riding the bus on her way home from school."

-A Mighty Girl



## A Girl Called Problem

By Katie Quirk

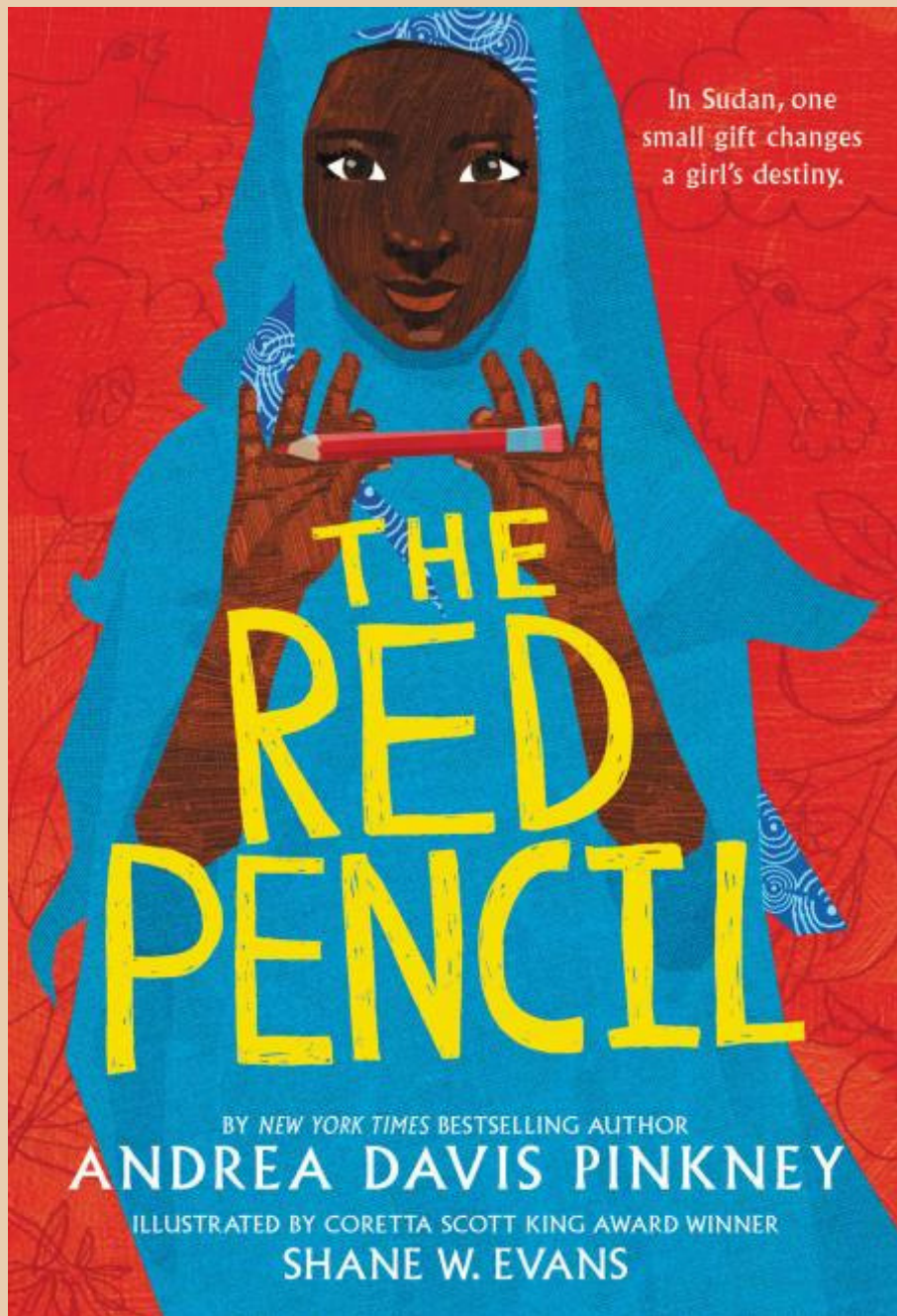
Shida is expected to marry, but she would rather be a healer for her village. When

Shida's people are forced to move to a different village, Shida gets the opportunity to pursue her dream.



# The Red Pencil

By Andrea Davis Pinkney



Amira is twelve, and she might be able to go to school, which is her dream. The looming threat of the Janjaweed is scaring her mother, making her less likely to send Amira to school. Eventually, the Janjaweed attack her village and they have to evacuate to a refugee camp. Someone at the camp gives Amira a red pencil and changes the way she thinks about things.

# Serafina's Promise

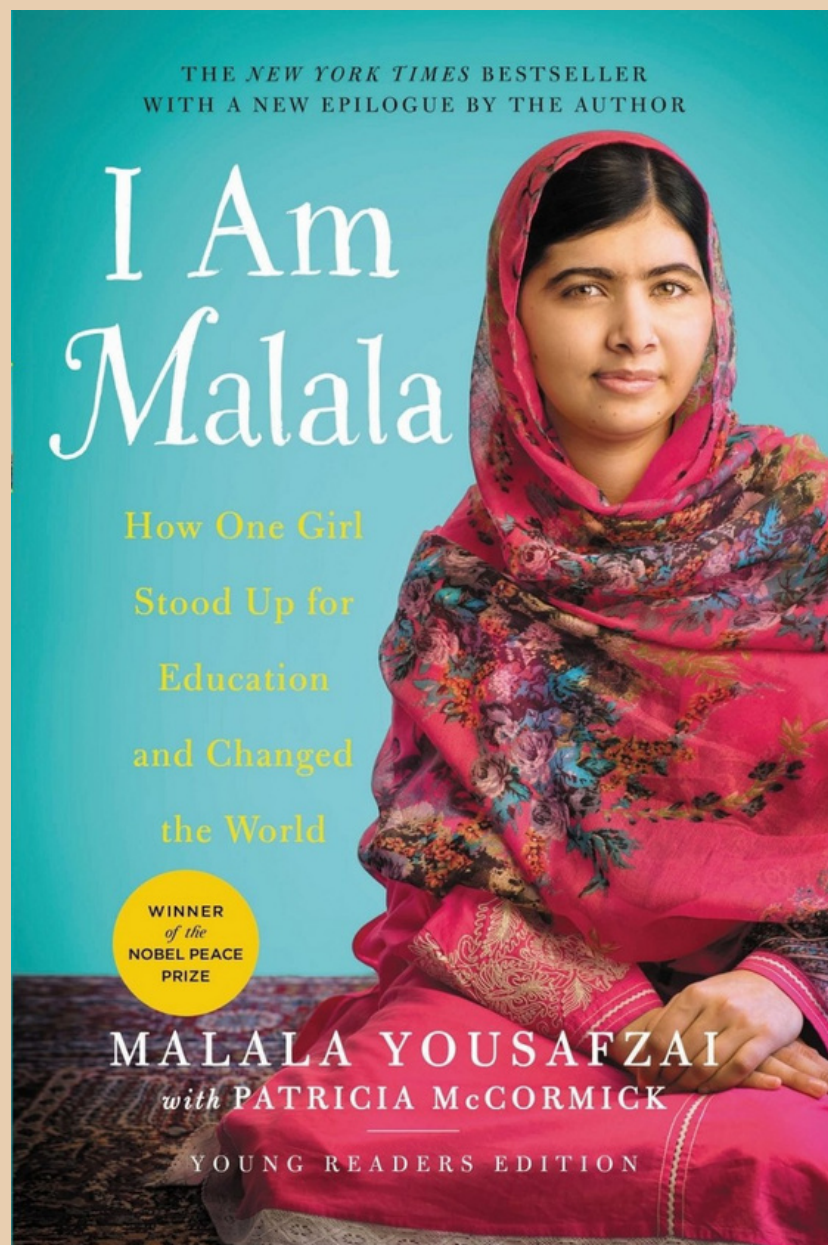
By Ann E. Burg



Serafina lives in a rural Haitian village. Her family doesn't have a lot of money, and she has a never-ending list of chores. Serafina's dream is to go to school and become a doctor with her best friend, but that dream is a secret.

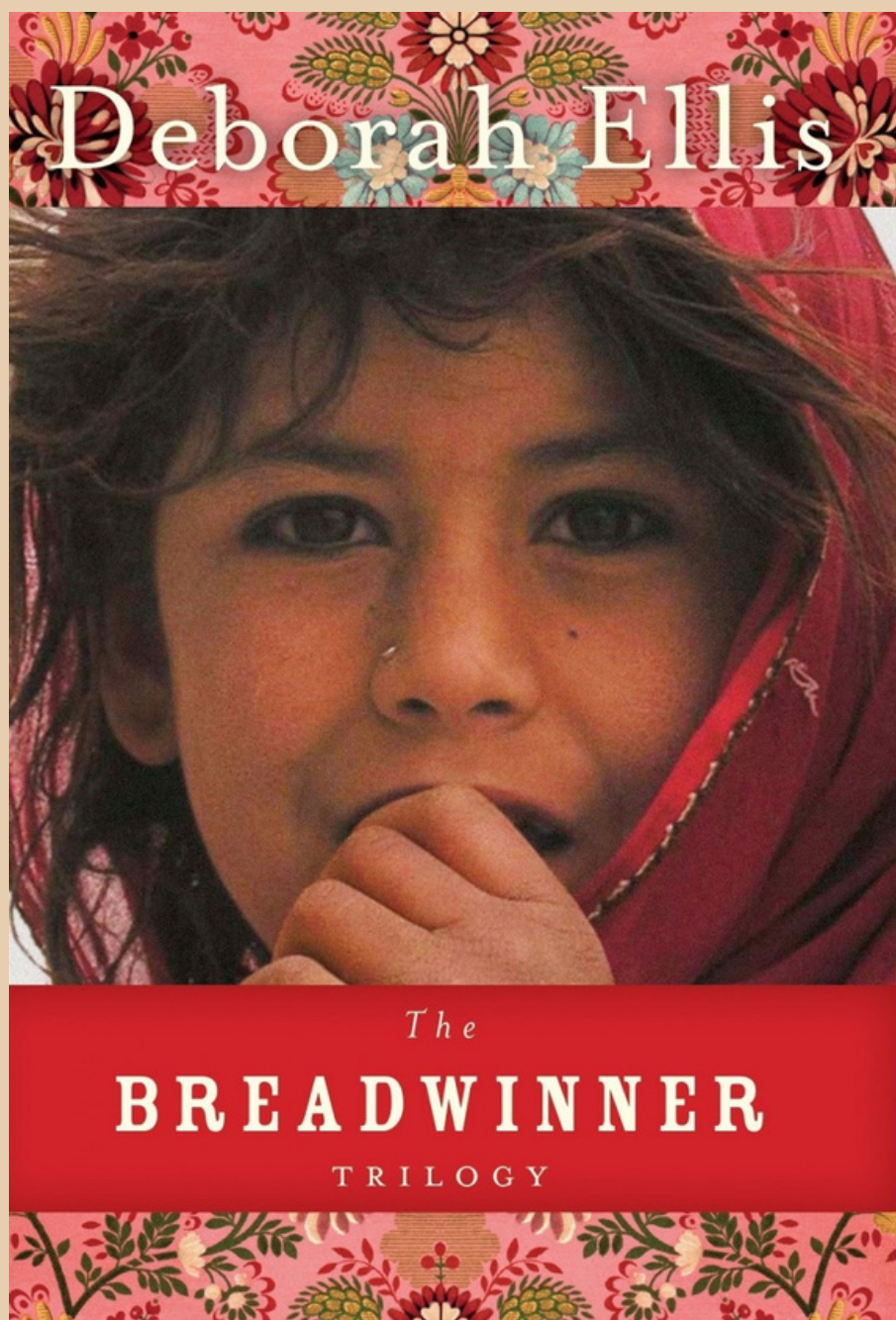


# Ages 13+



## I Am Malala (Young Readers Edition) By Malala Yousafzai

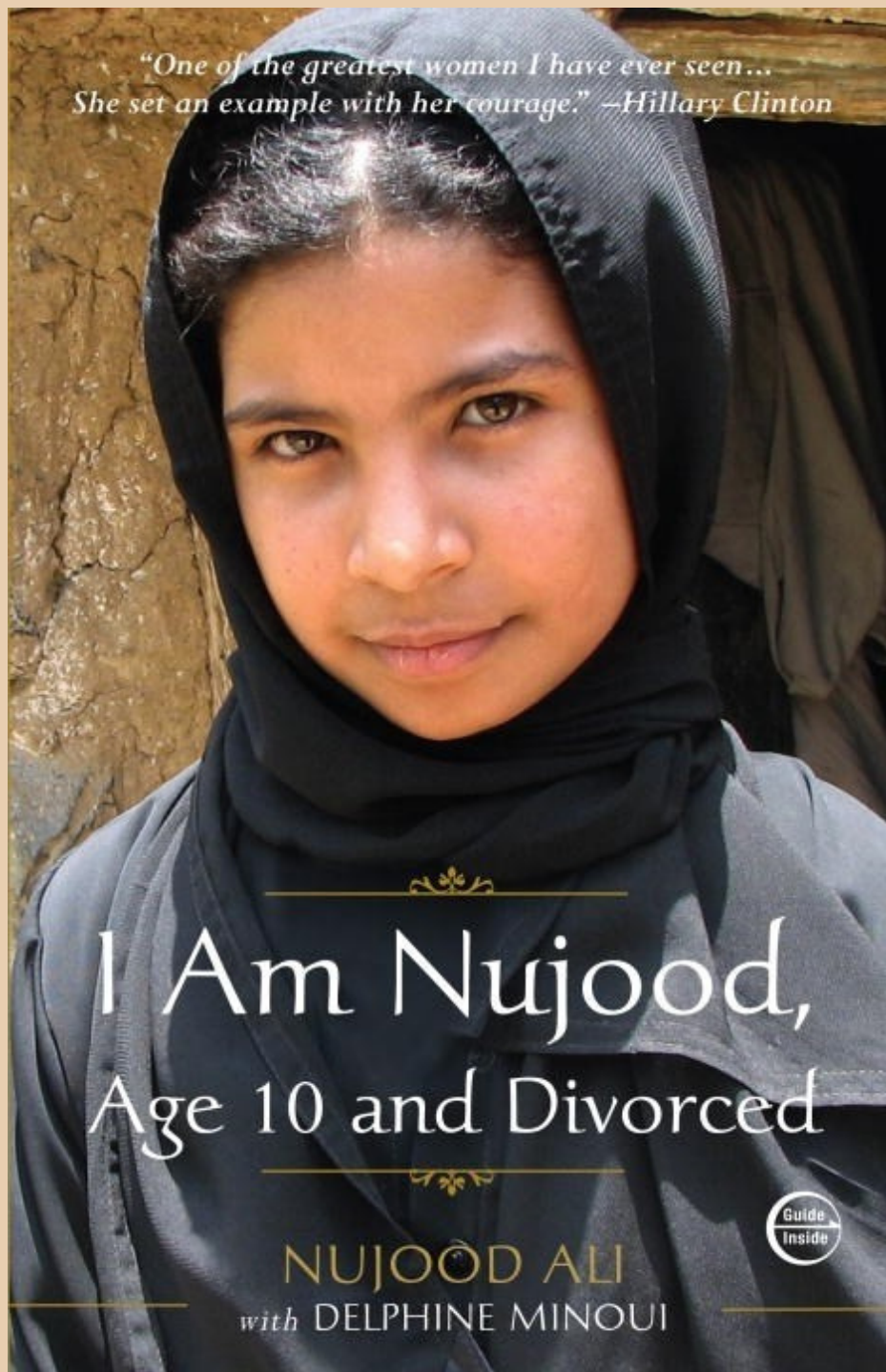
See 10-12 section



## The Breadwinner Trilogy (The Breadwinner, Parvana's Journey, Mud City, My Name is Parvana) By Deborah Ellis

Four stories from a girl living in a room of a bombed-out apartment in Kabul, Afghanistan. Her sister, brother, and mother could be literally anywhere in the country, and her father is dead.





# I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced

By Nujood Ali

"Forced by her father to marry a man three times her age, young Nujood Ali was sent away from her parents and beloved sisters and made to live with her husband and his family in an isolated village in rural Yemen. There she suffered daily from physical and emotional abuse by her mother-in-law and nightly at the rough hands of her spouse. Flouting his oath to wait to have sexual relations with Nujood until she was no longer a child, he raped her on their wedding night. She was only ten years old." -A Mighty Girl

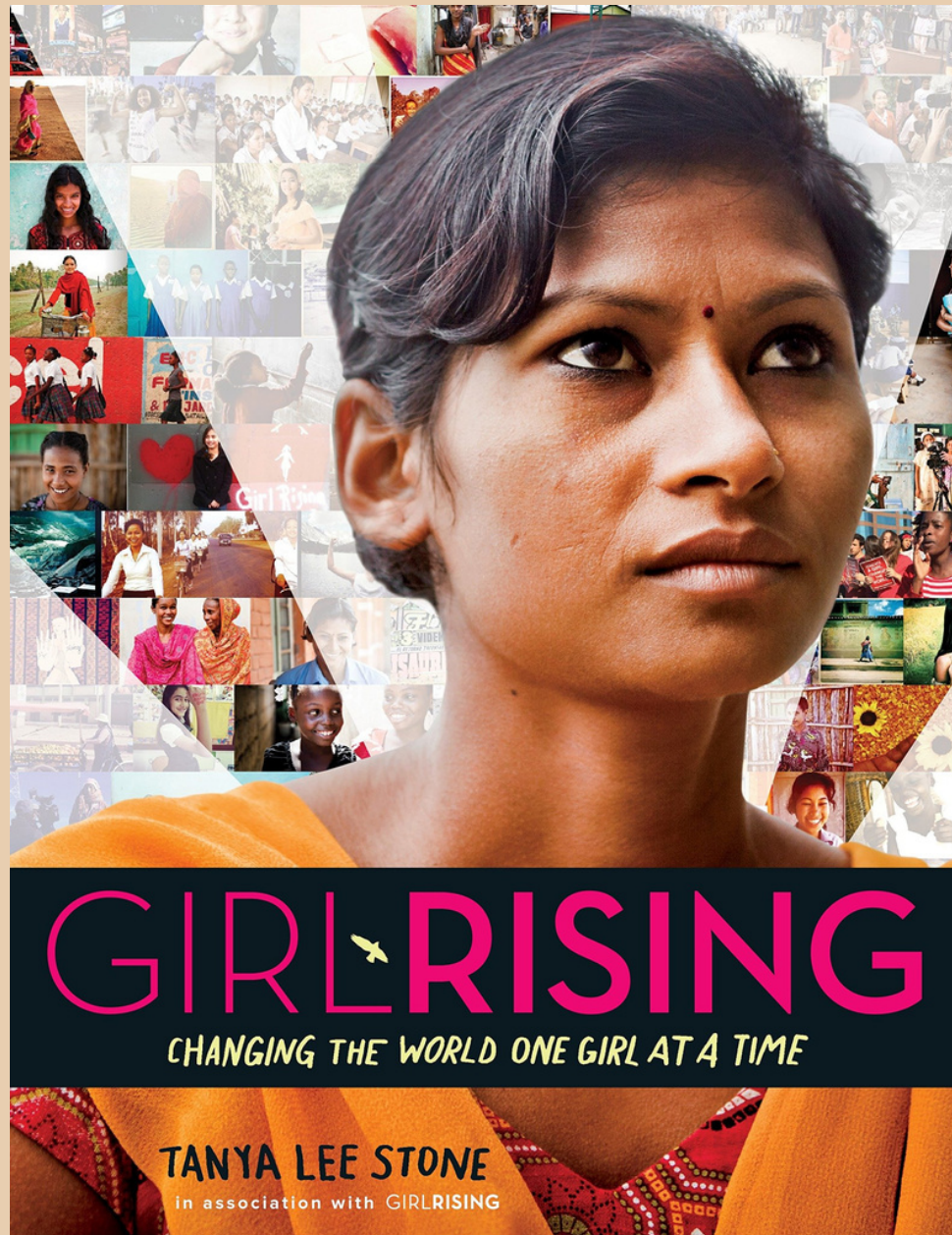


# She Takes A Stand

By Michael Elsohn Ross

Stories of 16 female activists -  
current and historical.

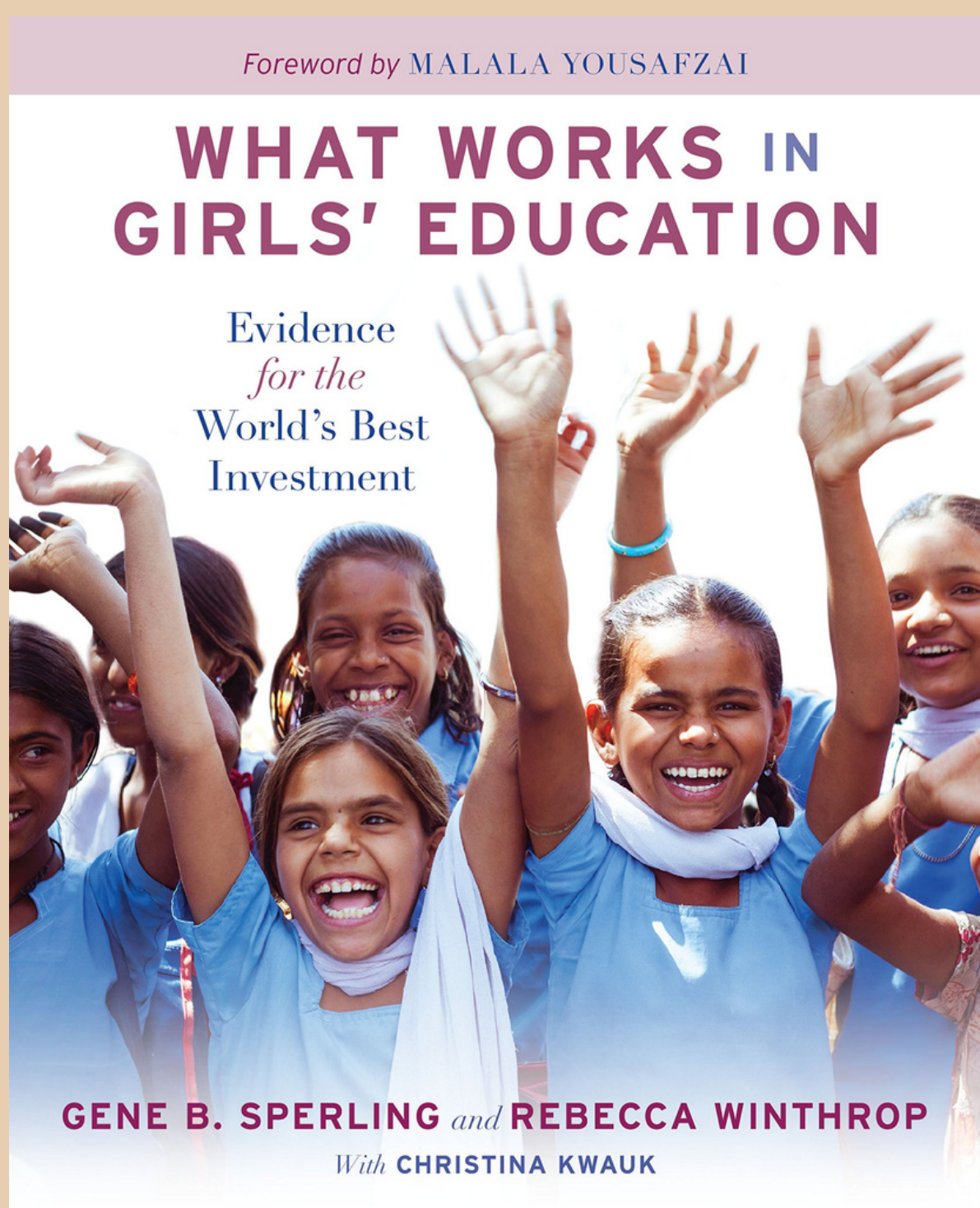




# Girl Rising: Changing the World One Girl at a Time

By Tanya Lee Stone

Inspired by the Girl Rising documentary about nine girls and their experiences with school, this book explores more details about the barriers to education faced by so many girls. The LA Times says, "Girl Rising stands as a testament to the power of information."



# What Works in Girls' Education

By Gene B. Sperling and  
Rebecca Winthrop

The authors present evidence supporting the fact that educating girls leads to widespread improvements in all areas of society.