WNC BOOK LISTS

TOPIC CURATED TITLE SUGGESTIONS



RACISM

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

In this resource you will find a curated list of books about racial issues as well as a variety of accompanying materials.

How to Use This Resource

1. Choose a title from the animal main character list.
2. Scan the QR code to play the read-aloud video.
3. Students complete the response sheet while listening.
4. Students vote: Would you keep reading?
5. Display the book cover poster to build classroom book buzz.

Classroom Use Ideas Quick List:

- First Chapter Friday
- Sub plans
- Book tasting stations
- Library preview lessons
- Early finisher reading activities

To check the reading level, video length or to find a book purchasing link, look at this Google Doc that organizes ALL of my First Chapter Friday read aloud videos alphabetically.

Table of Contents

Page 2: Instructions/Table of Contents
Page 4: What is Frist Chapter Friday?
Pages 5-6: Book Tracking Charts
Page 7: Book List
Pages 9-14 Individual Book First Chapter Friday Sheets
Pages 16-21: Individual Book Posters

** More resources will be added in the future including a Reading Round Up Video to briefly explain every video on this list and possibly even some thematic coloring sheets.
As always, please email me with any title requests or questions. (wordnerd@amandazieba.com)



HAPPY READING!

MUST TRY

Word Nerd Daily

an app from Amanda Zieba



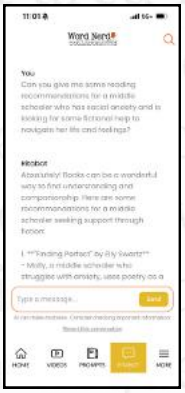
First Chapter Friday Videos



Writing Prompt Library



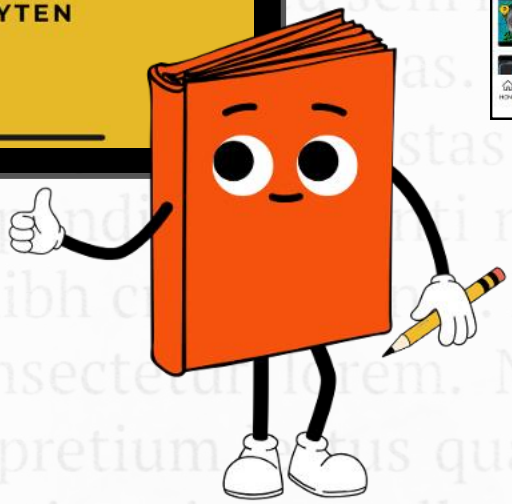
ChatBot for Reading Recs and Lesson Planning





Brain Break Videos





AVIALBLE FOR APPLE AND ANDROID DEVICES



FIRST CHAPTER Friday Videos

Not sure how First Chapter Friday works?

Check out this video for a full explanation and 4 implementation ideas.



If you prefer a written description in lieu of a video, click here.

Click here for a live, continually updated, Google Doc of the First Chapter Friday videos on my channel. Additionally you will find links to purchase the books and watch the read aloud videos, as well as book reading levels, genre/format, video length and more!

All my best,
Amanda Zieba

Teacher Planning Sheet

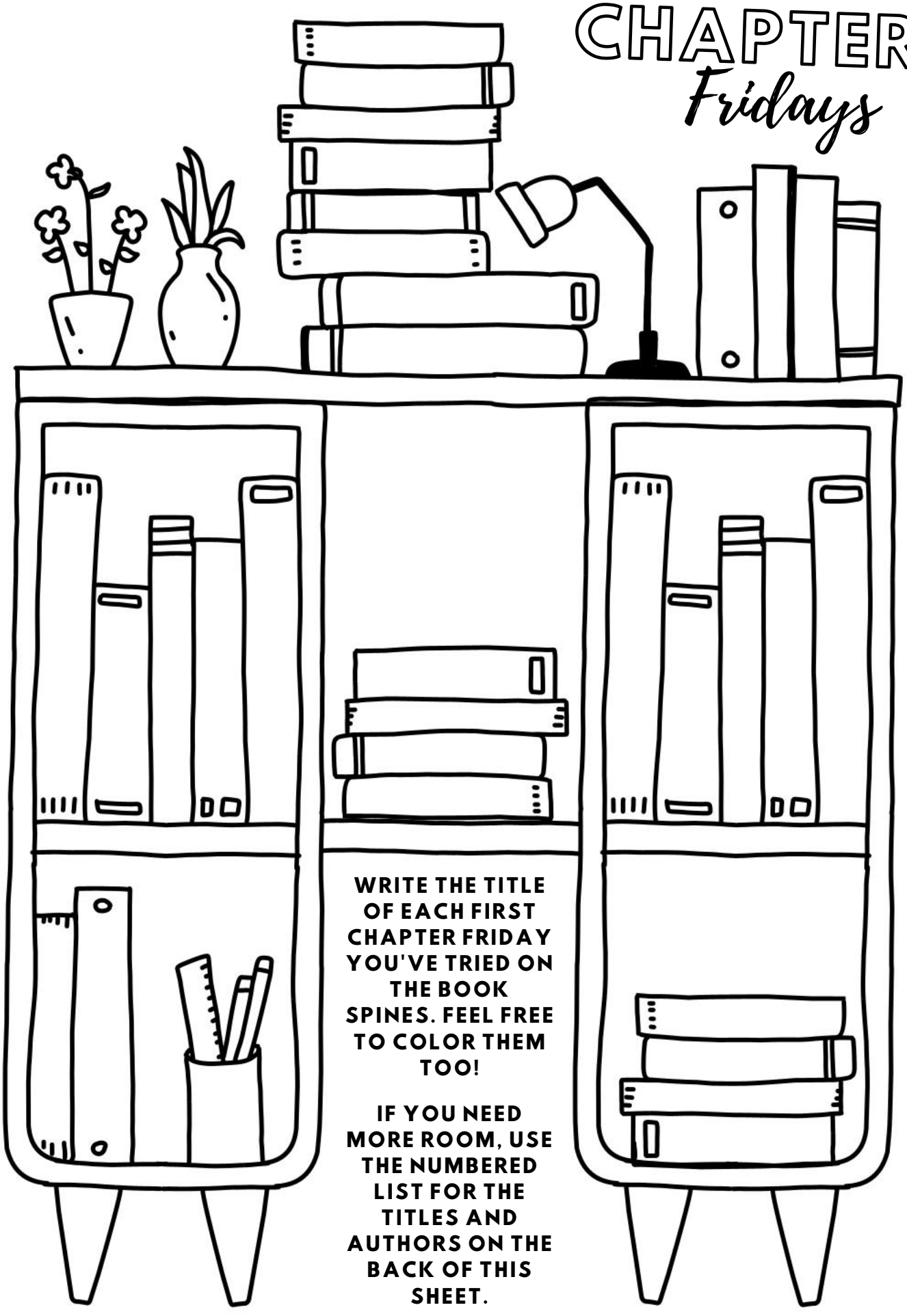
First CHAPTER Friday



DATE	TITLE	AUTHOR	GENRE	STUDENT REACTION?

NAME: _____

First CHAPTER Fridays



WRITE THE TITLE OF EACH FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY YOU'VE TRIED ON THE BOOK SPINES. FEEL FREE TO COLOR THEM TOO!

IF YOU NEED MORE ROOM, USE THE NUMBERED LIST FOR THE TITLES AND AUTHORS ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

Created by Amanda Zieba, The Word Nerd

WNC BOOK LIST

RACISM

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round by Kathlyn Kirkwood

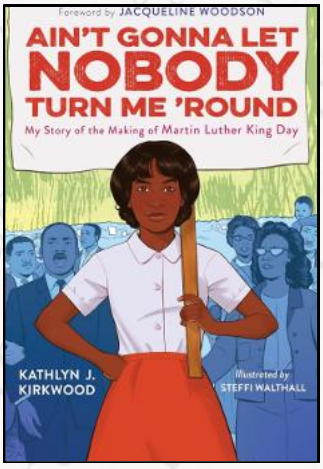
The Assignment by Liza Wiemer

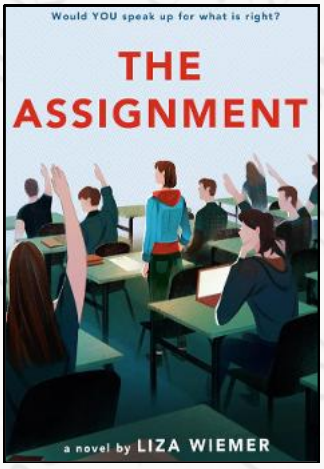
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jaqueline Woodson

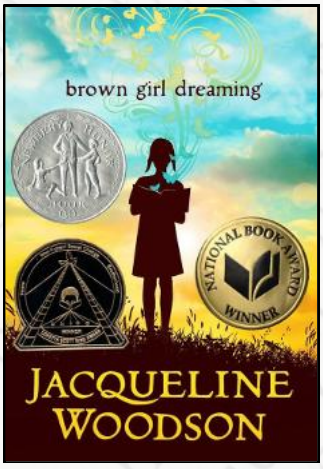
Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice by Phllip Hoose

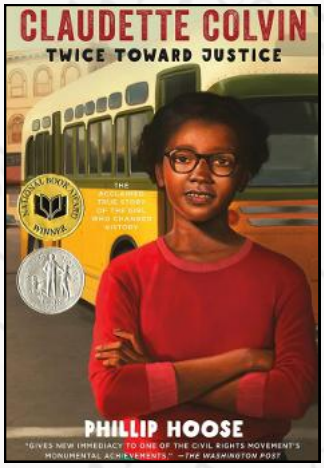
Jefferson's Sons by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

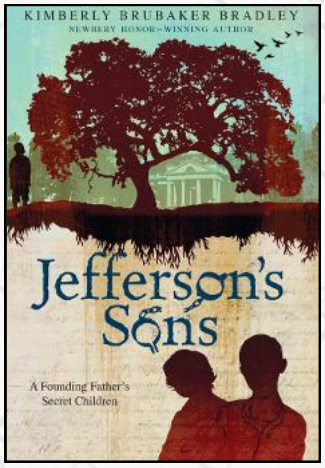
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

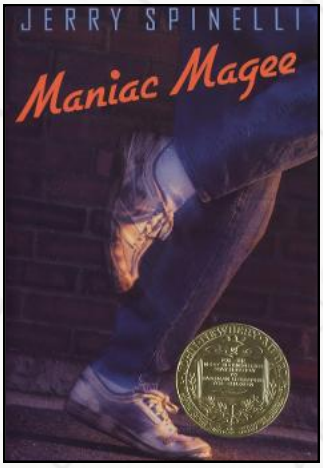










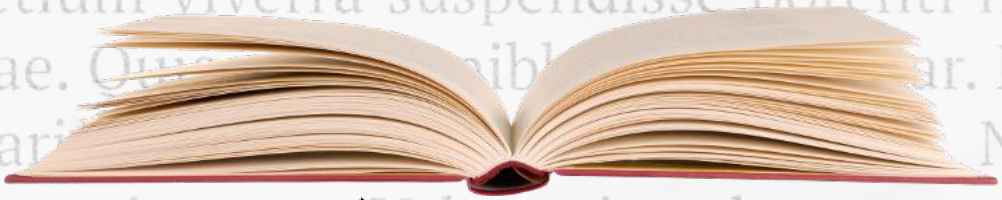


These books look at events, emotions, actions and reactions to tense situations revolving around racial issues.



INDIVIDUAL BOOK SHEETS

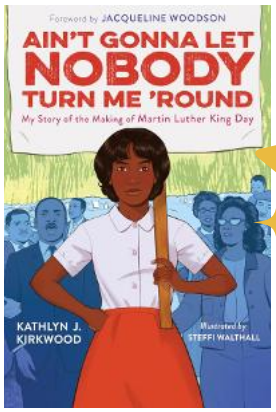




FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *

Name _____ Date _____



Includes Author Interview!

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round by Kathlyn Kirkwood



Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

This brilliant memoir-in-verse tells the moving story of how a nation learned to celebrate a hero. Through years of protests and petition, Kathlyn's story highlights the foot soldiers who fought to make Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a national holiday.

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round is a deeply moving middle grade memoir about what it means to be an everyday activist and foot solider for racial justice, as Kathlyn recounts how, drawn to activism from childhood, she went from attending protests as a teenager to fighting for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday to become a national holiday as an adult. A blueprint for kids starting down their own paths to civic awareness, it shows life beyond protests and details the sustained time, passion, and energy it takes to turn an idea into a law. Deftly weaving together monumental historical events with a heartfelt coming-of-age story and in-depth information on law making, Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round is the perfect engaging example of how history can help inform the present.

Who Wrote It?

Author |Educator |Activist

Kathlyn was born in Memphis, Tennessee, the birthplace of the Blues and the best finger-lickin', toe tappin' barbecue in the world. When she was born, segregation was the law in the South. In her family, education was very important and so she started in parochial school, then attended public school beginning in the sixth grade. High school is where she learned the art of communicating with people from all walks of life. After completing my BS and MS at Memphis State, Kathlyn settled down in Buffalo, NY.



AR Reading Level: N/A

Lexile Level: N/A

I want to read this book: YES / NO

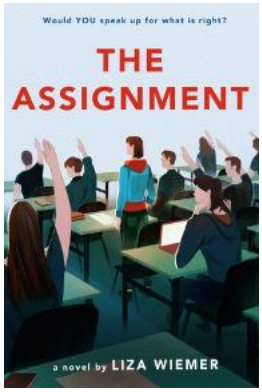
WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *

Name _____ Date _____



The Assignment by Liza Wiemer

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

In the vein of the classic The Wave and inspired by a real-life incident, this riveting novel explores discrimination and antisemitism and reveals their dangerous impact.

SENIOR YEAR. When an assignment given by a favorite teacher instructs a group of students to argue for the Final Solution, a euphemism used to describe the Nazi plan for the genocide of the Jewish people, Logan March and Cade Crawford are horrified. Their teacher cannot seriously expect anyone to complete an assignment that fuels intolerance and discrimination. Logan and Cade decide they must take a stand. As the school administration addressed the teens' refusal to participate in the appalling debate, the student body, their parents, and the larger community are forced to face the issue as well. The situation explodes, and acrimony and anger result. What does it take for tolerance, justice, and love to prevail?

Who Wrote It?

Liza is a Wisconsin author who had a few unique jobs before landing the title of "author". In high school she sold popcorn at a music festival and was also an insurance claims adjuster. Her book, The Assignment, has won many awards including: 2021 Sydney Taylor Notable YA Novel, 2021 YALSA Best Fiction for YA nominee, 2021 Wisconsin State Reading Association Recommended YA Novel, 2020 Nerdy Book Club Best Young Adult Novel winner! A graduate of UW- Madison,



Liza has two married sons and lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with her husband, Jim. You can learn more about Liza on her website @ www.lizawiemer.com or through the interview at the end of this video!

AR Reading Level: currently unavailable Lexile Level: 720L

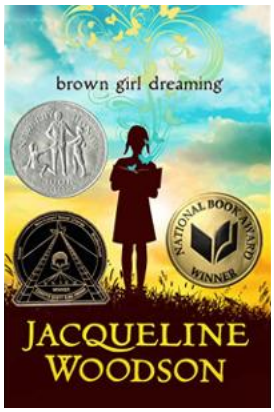
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *



Name _____ Date _____

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jaqueline Woodson

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.

Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.

Who Wrote It?

"I used to say I'd be a teacher or a lawyer or a hairdresser when I grew up but even as I said these things, I knew what made me happiest was writing."

Fun Facts about Jaqueline:

- I can only write with my notebook turned sideways. When I was a kid, I wrote with it turned upside down.
- I have only lost at checkers once or twice. I have only won at Chess once.
- I can jump double-dutch.
- Even though I can walk to a Brooklyn Nets game from my house, I'm still a die-hard Knicks fan.
- "



Check out Jaqueline's website for more info including a great video on her about page.

www.jacquelinewoodson.com/

AR Reading Level: 5.3

Lexile Level: 990L

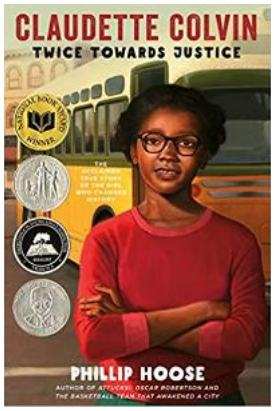
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *



Name _____ Date _____

Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice by Phillip Hoose

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, 15 year old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders.

Based on extensive interviews with Claudette Colvin and many others, Phillip Hoose presents the first in-depth account of an important yet largely unknown civil rights figure, skillfully weaving her dramatic story into the fabric of the historic Montgomery bus boycott and court case that would change the course of American history.

- Winner of many awards including: Newbery Honor Book, Robert F. Sibert Award Honor, YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction Finalist and more!

Who Wrote It?

Phillip Hoose is the widely-acclaimed author of books, essays, stories, songs, and articles. A graduate of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Sciences, Hoose was for 37 years a staff member of The Nature Conservancy, dedicated to preserving the plants, animals, and natural communities of the Earth. He is also a musician and baseball fan. You can learn more about him and his book on www.phillipHoose.com.



AR Reading Level: 4.2 Lexile Level: 690L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

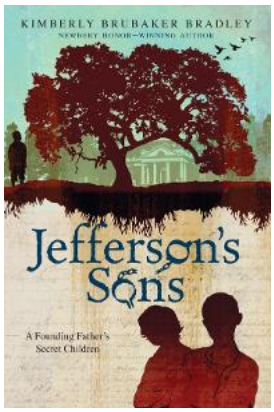
WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *

Name _____ Date _____



Jefferson's Sons

by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

What does it mean when the man who wrote the Declaration of Independence is your father and also your slave master? Beverly, Harriet, Madison, and Eston are Thomas Jefferson's children, but their mother is a slave, so they must keep their father's identity secret. They get special treatment - better work, better shoes, even violin lessons - but they are still slaves. Their father has promised to set them all free when each turns 21. Some of them are light-skinned enough that they will be able to enter white society - and thereby turn their backs on home forever. Others won't have that option. So just what did their father mean when he wrote all men are created equal?

Told in three parts from the points of view of three of Jefferson's slaves - Beverly, Madison, and a third boy close to the Hemings family - these engaging and poignant voices shed light on what life was like as one of Thomas Jefferson's invisible offspring.

Who Wrote It?

In 1967, Kimberly was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She always loved to read, often skipping recess to go talk with her school librarian. Being a writer floated in her daydreams, but she didn't know any writers, and it didn't feel like a real job. In school she loved chemistry in addition to writing. When she went to college, she majored in chemistry. She was lucky, though, a liberal arts school (Smith) where she was encouraged to study all sorts of different subjects, and she took lots of writing classes. She married my high-school sweetheart, and for awhile I worked as a research chemist and wrote stories late at night and on weekends. But eventually, she realized she really wanted



to be a writer and began pursuing that path. Kimberly and her husband and live in Bristol, TN where we live on a 52-acre farm. We love to travel and learn about history from all over the world.

AR Reading Level: 5.3

Lexile Level: 770L

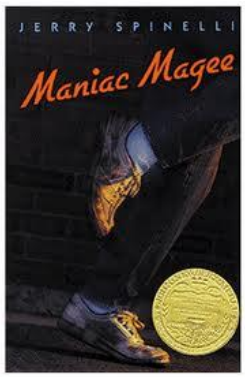
I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK

Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *

Name _____ Date _____



Maniac Magee
by Jerry Spinelli

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

A Newbery Medal winning modern classic about a racially divided small town and a boy who runs.

Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn't made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run--and not just run away, but run. This is where the myth of Maniac Magee begins, as he changes the lives of a racially divided small town with his amazing and legendary feats.

<u>A few interesting facts...</u>

1. Maniac Magee was partially inspired by a motown song.
2. According to Jerry Spinelli, the South African goverment bough several hundred copies of Maniac Magee to promote anti-aoatheid efforts.
3. There's a movie adaptation of Maniac Magee and Jerry Spinelli is not a fan!
4. Maniac Magee won the Newbery Award in 1991.

Who Wrote It?

Jerry did not always want to be a writer. First he dreamed of being a cowboy and then a baseball player. When he wrote a poem about a football field in high school and that poem was published, he switched his dreams to writing. He went to Gettysburg University and afterward studied writing at John Hopkins. He worked as the editor of department store magazine and wrote in his free time... which was challenging at times because he and his wife had 6 noisy kids! But he must have managed to get some work done, because now, 30 years later he has written 21 books, some of them, like Maniac Magee, are award winning! To hear Jerry's writing advice and answers to FAQ, head to his website: www.jerryspinelli.com.



AR Reading Level: 4.7 Lexile Level: 820L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

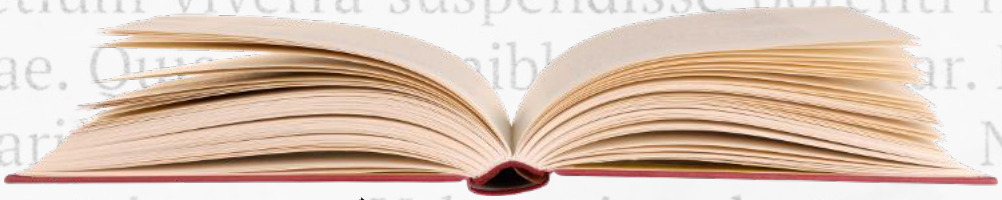
WHAT I THINK



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.

INDIVIDUAL BOOK POSTERS

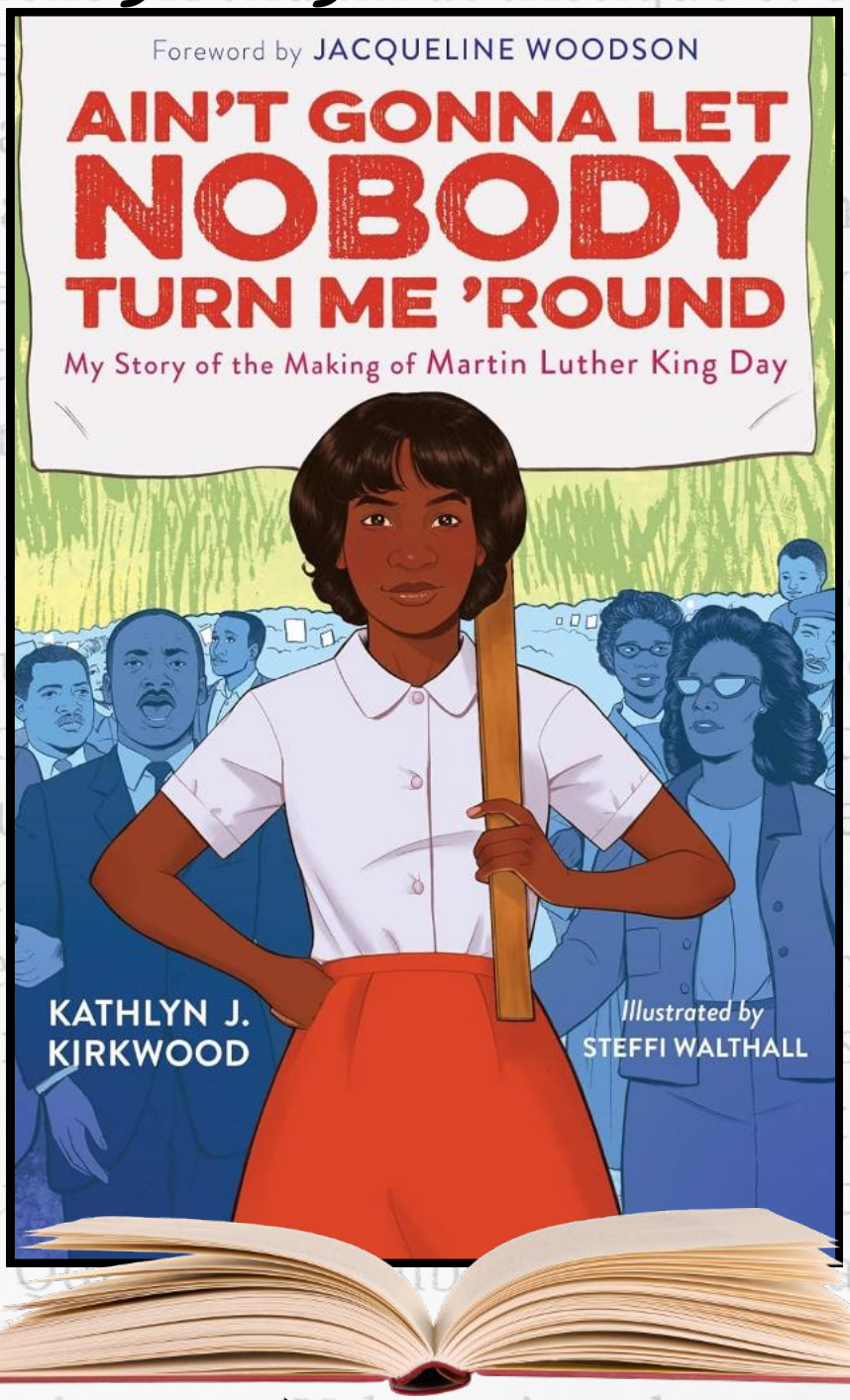




FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

AIN'T GONNA LET NOBODY TURN ME 'ROUND

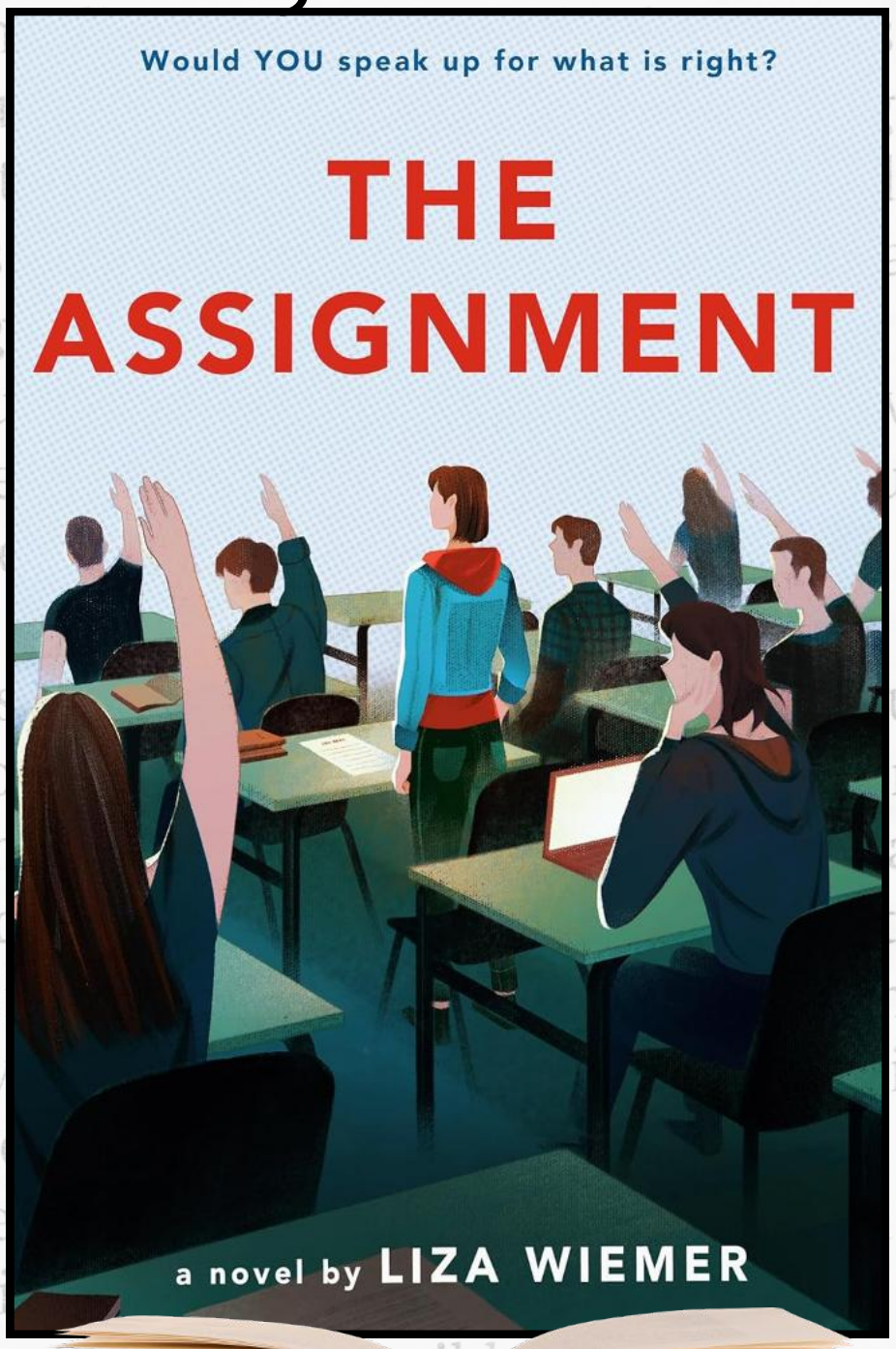
by Kathlyn J. Kirkwood



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

THE ASSIGNMENT

By Liza Wiemer

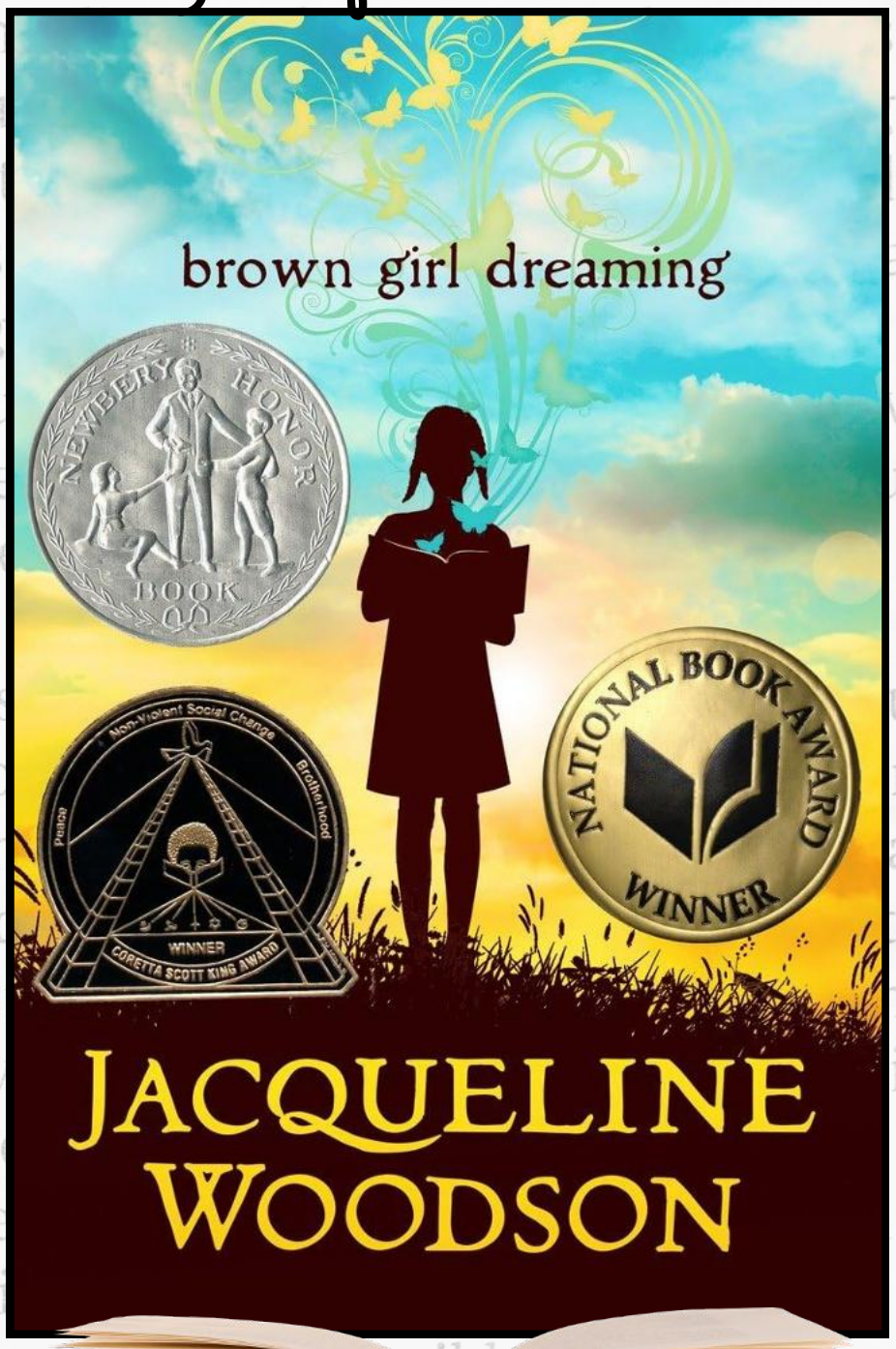




FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

BROWN GIRL DREAMING

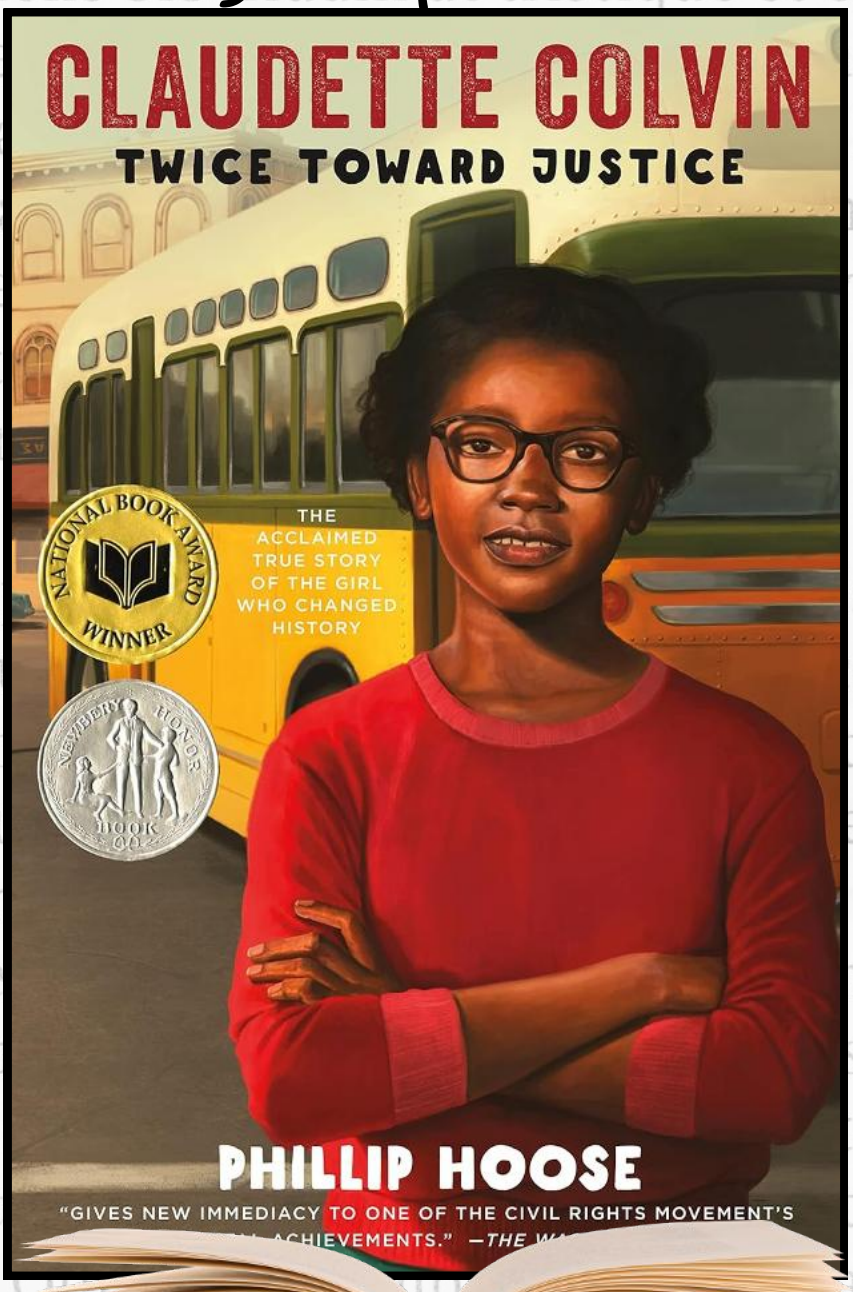
By Jacqueline Woodson



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

CLAUDETTE COLVIN: TWICE TOWARD JUSTICE

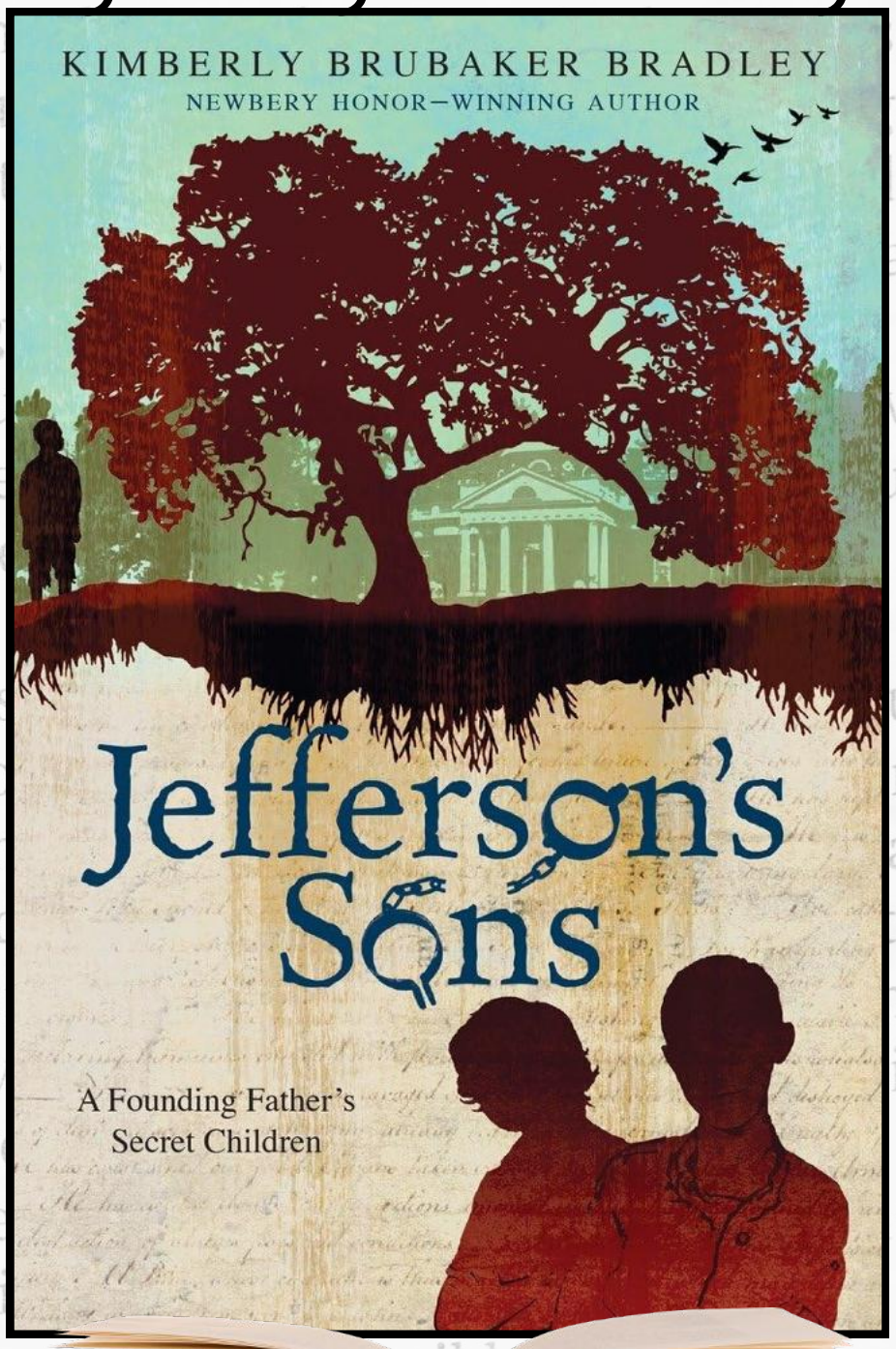
by Phillip Hoose



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

Jefferson's Sons

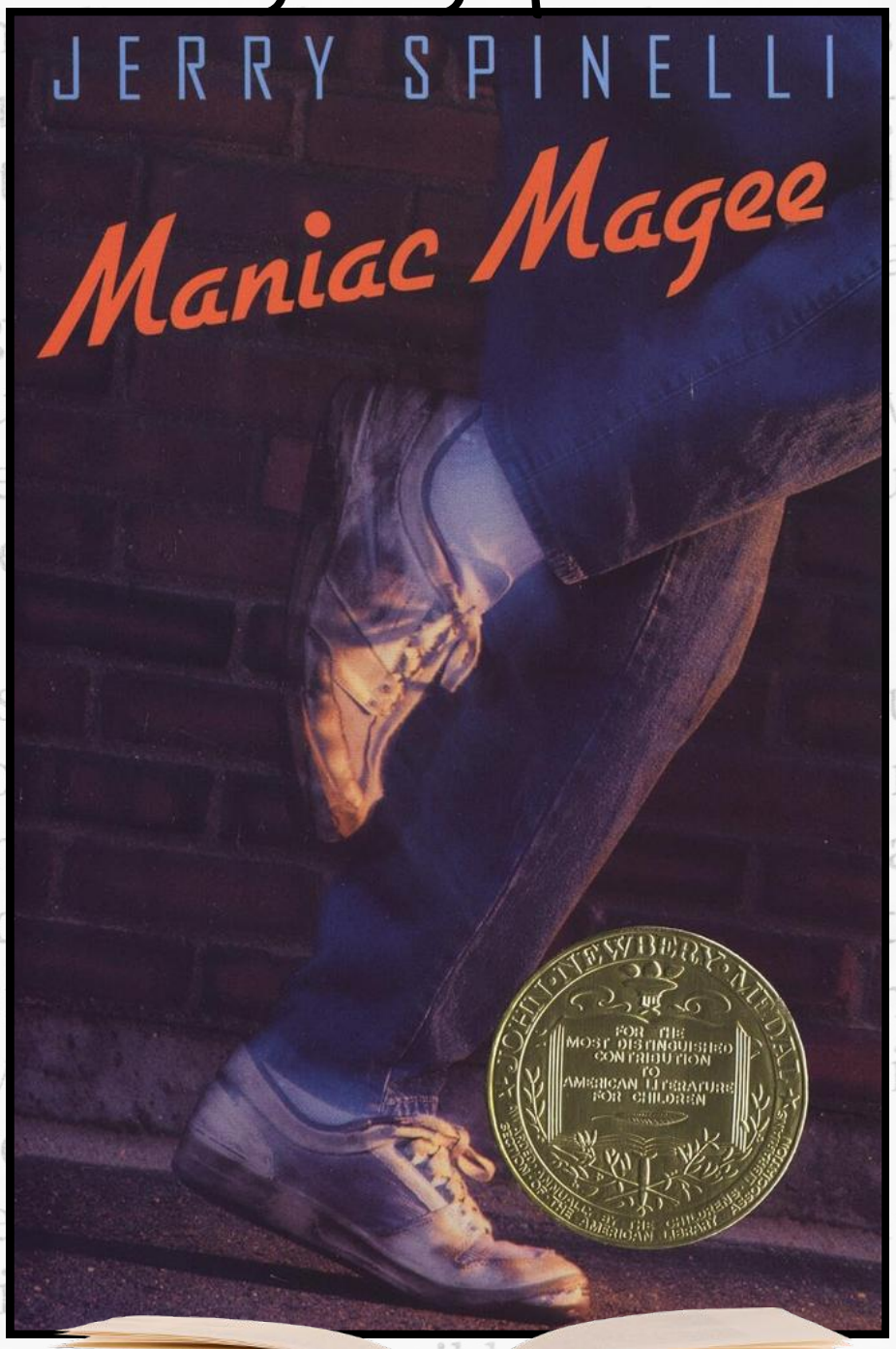
By Kimberly Brubaker Bradley



First Chapter Friday

MANIAC MAGEE

By Jerry Spinelli



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY