

# Read With Carylee Celebrates Juneteenth With 5 Must-Read Children's Books

Curated by the Tutu Queen: Stories of Freedom, Joy, and Black Identity for Young Readers



**Gainesville, Virginia Jun 15, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com))** - As the nation prepares to honor Juneteenth, Freedom Day. Read With Carylee, the beloved children's book promotion platform founded by author and Tutu Queen Carylee, is proud to share a curated list of five powerful children's books to celebrate this historic holiday. These titles honor Black stories, Black joy, and the enduring spirit of freedom.

## 8 Children's Books to Celebrate Juneteenth

1. [Celebrate We Gullah Geechee by Yvette R. Murray](#) A vibrant and culturally rich celebration of the Gullah Geechee people, the direct descendants of enslaved Africans in the coastal Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida, this beautiful picture book invites young readers into a world of song, tradition, and community pride. A perfect Juneteenth read that connects freedom to living cultural legacy.
2. [Go Back to Your Country: A Story of Hope by Valorie Bridges Fant](#) Bold, timely, and deeply necessary, this powerful picture book tackles belonging, identity, and resilience with grace and hope. When a child faces painful words rooted in racism and exclusion, the story reminds every young reader that they belong, and that their voice, their story, and their presence matter. A conversation starter every family needs.
3. [Juneteenth for Mazie by Floyd Cooper](#) Young Mazie isn't sure why Juneteenth matters, until her father shares the story of how her great-great-grandfather first heard the news of his freedom. This moving picture book bridges generations and beautifully connects the past to the present-day celebration of liberty.
4. [Opal Lee and What It Means to Be Free: The True Story of the Grandmother of Juneteenth by Alice Faye Duncan](#) The inspiring true story of Opal Lee, the activist who fought for decades to make Juneteenth a federal holiday. This biography introduces children to a trailblazing elder whose passion

and persistence changed American history, proof that one person's voice can echo across generations.

5. [The Adventures of Joanie and Juliet by Rishawna Gould](#) A delightful and heartwarming story that celebrates friendship, adventure, and the beautiful bond between two young girls whose connection reminds us that joy, discovery, and belonging are at the heart of every child's journey. This Juneteenth season, share a story that reflects the world our children deserve, one full of love, laughter, and limitless possibility.

**About Read with Carylee** Read with Carylee is a children's book promotion platform dedicated to connecting families, educators, and librarians with diverse, meaningful children's literature. Founded by author and Tutu Queen Carylee, the platform features the weekly *Feature Friday* spotlight, the *Get LISTED* author program, and the *Children's Author Alliance* community. Discover curated book collections at the Read with Carylee Amazon Store.

Are you a children's author? **GET LISTED** at Read with Carylee and put your book in front of the families and educators who need it most.

*With joy, Carylee | The Tutu Queen* Read with Carylee

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