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Level 6 novel studies are being released in order as they are completed, beginning in the summer of 2023. While we do not have a firm ETA in place for these releases, we anticipate the release of a new novel study every 4 - 6 weeks. You can find samples, updates, and more information on Level 6 on our website here: The full Level 6 Language Arts curriculum will become available for purchase once all 12 individual novel studies have been released. Please scroll down to the bottom of the FAQs at the end of this listing for more information. This novel study includes:- 4 total weeks of curriculum, with three and four-week scheduling options - Weekly assigned literature selections and optional supplemental book selections- Weekly "elements of story" prompts, literature projects, and journal prompts- Weekly narration, copywork, grammar, and dictation prompts- Weekly vocabulary lessons with a cumulative review in Week Four- Weekly social studies explorations that tie into the main literature selection- Weekly "bonus activities" to explore rabbit trails from the main literature selection- Weekly writing and art journaling prompts in the Super Secret Notebook guide- Discussion questions to use after finishing the novel (great for book clubs!)- Optional cursive copywork passages- A "clickable links" PDF for easy navigation on any deviceFrequently Asked Questions:1) Is this a secular resource?Yes! 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(We love and recommend Hard Copy HQ for your printing needs!) You may, of course, print at home if you prefer, or use our resources digitally. Apps like Notability are great for marking up parent guides and notebooks for digital users.Please note: This purchase is for a single novel study from Level 6 Language Arts.If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us! You may email us at kristina@blossomandroot.com.Jump to ratings and reviewsIn the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.In a humorous and breakout book by Williams-Garcia, the Penderwicks meet the Black Panthers. 2293 people are currently reading20553 people want to read"I was born in Queens, N.Y, on April 13, 1957. My mother, Miss Essie, named me 'NoMo' immediately after my birth. Although I was her last child, I took my time making my appearance. I like to believe I was dreaming up a good story and wouldnt budge until I was finished. Even now, my daughters call me 'Pokey Mom', because I slow poke around when they want to go-go-go. "I learned to read early, and was aware of events going on as I grew up in the 60s. In the midst of real events, I daydreamed and wrote stories. Writing stories for young people is my passion and my mission. Teens will read. They hunger for stories that engage them and reflect their images and experiences."Author of four award winning novels, Rita Williams-Garcia continues to break new ground in young people's literature. Known for their realistic portrayal of teens of color, Williams-Garcia's works have been recognized by the Coretta Scott King Award Committee, PEN Norma Klein, American Library Association, and Parents' Choice, among others. She recently served on the National Book Award Committee for Young People's Literature and is on faculty at Vermont College MFA Writing for Children and Young People.Displaying 1 - 30 of 4,664 reviewsJanuary 15, 2011I do not ordinarily read middle-grade books unless I am sharing them with my grandson, but I was drawn to this beautiful book initially because of its subject matter - children in Oakland during the early days of the Black Panther Party. But this book is so much more than its historical setting. I fell head-over-heels in love with the narrator of this book, Delphine, and her younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern. With a group here on Goodreads, I recently reread the wonderful short story collection Gorilla, My Love by Toni Cade Bambara. We all loved Bambara's strong, resilient African American girls, and Delphine is certainly a full-fledged member of that sisterhood. Smart, brave, and responsible far beyond her age of 11-going-on-12, Delphine has looked after her younger sisters along with her father and Big Ma since her mother abandoned the family seven years earlier. When Pa decides that the girls need to get to know their mother, they travel to Oakland where they encounter a very different mother than the one they pictured. Their experiences in Oakland with their mother, Cecile/Nzila, are perfectly related through through Delphine's eyes. Part of Williams-Garcia's brilliance is that she keeps Delphine's point of view, but through Delphine, we come to know her sisters, the political climate of the time, and the other characters in the book, including Cecile/Nzila. Although no one would argue that Cecile/Nzila is anything but a truly terrible mother, Williams-Garcia, through Delphine, gives us a glimpse of the reasons behind her actions and we are able to feel compassion for her - no small achievement!There is no neat, happy conclusion to this story, and it would not be believable if there were. But there is growth on everybody's part and there is greater understanding. And, above all, there are Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern - beautiful, wonderful girls that I will never forget. Yes, this is a middle-grade novel, but it is so richly layered and beautifully written that I suspect that many readers of all ages will treasure this book. Many thanks to Rita Williams-Garcia for Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern and this dazzlingly beautiful book. african-american historical-fiction juvenile-literatureFebruary 2, 2010When I heard that teen author Rita Williams-Garcia had written a middle grade novel for kids I wasn't moved one way or another. I don't read teen books. Couldn't say I knew much of the woman's work. When I heard that her book was about the Black Panthers, however, my interest was piqued. Black Panthers, eh? The one political group so difficult to write about that you can't find them in a single children's book (aside from The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon, of course). So what was her take? How was she going to do it? But the thing is, One Crazy Summer is more than merely a historical tale. It's a story about family and friendships and self-sacrifice. There are so many ideas floating about this little novel that you'd think it would end up some kind of unholy mess. Instead, it's funny and painful and just a little bit brilliant. One Crazy Summer is a book that's going to earn itself a lot of fans. And a lot of them are going to be kids.Eleven going on twelve Delphine has always kept a sharp eye on her little nine and seven-year-old sisters Vonetta and Fern. That's because their mother left them seven years ago and never came back again. "Cecile Johnson - mammal birth giver, alive, an abandoner - is our mother. A statement of fact." So when their father packs them on a plane and sends them to Oakland, California to see Cecile, their mom, the girls have no idea what to expect. Certainly they didn't think she'd just leave them in a kind of daycare over the summer run by members of the Black Panthers. And they probably didn't expect that their mother would want near to nothing to do with them, save the occasional meal and admonishment to keep out of her kitchen. Only Delphine knew what might happen, and she makes it her mission to not only take care of her siblings, no matter how crazy they make her, but also to negotiate the tricky waters that surround the woman who gave her up so long ago.The whole reason this novel works is because author Rita Williams-Garcia has a fantastic story that also happens to meld seamlessly into the summer of 1968. I've been complaining for years that when it comes to the Black Panthers, there wasn't so much as a page of literature out there for kids on the topic (except the aforementioned The Rock and the River and even that's almost teen fare). Now One Crazy Summer is here. Certainly I don't know how Ms. Williams-Garcia set about writing the darn thing, but if she had stridently set about to teach without taking into consideration the essentials of good storytelling, this book would have sank like a stone. Instead, she infuses this tale with danger, characters you want to take a turn about the block with, and the heat of an Oakland sun.I mean, take the people in this book! Someone once sold this story to me as "The Penderwicks meets the Black Panthers" and for the longest time I couldn't figure out why they`d said it. Then I started thinking back to the sisters. Ms. Wiliams-Garcia must have sisters. She must. How else to explain the dynamic between Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern? So it all became clear. If you love the family dynamics of The Penderwicks, you'll probably find yourself loving the same thing here. Of course, when your heroine is an upright citizen like Delphine there is a danger of making her too goody goody to like. But this girl isn't like that. She has a duty that she believes in (taking care of her sisters) and she'll do it, even when they fight each other. Even when they team up against HER! The sheer unfairness of what Delphine has to handle, and the cheery lack of complaining (aside from the occasional and very understandable grumble) makes you care for her. Her interactions with her mother are what make you love her.Because this mother is a pip. Cecile throws a wrench (and a couple of other metal objects besides, I'd wager) into the good guy/bad guy way of looking at things. For kids, she's a pretty clear-cut villain from page one onward. And adults who have enough historical understand to be clear on why she does some of the things she does still won't like her. I wouldn't even be surprised if some parents referred to her as the world's worst mother. She isn't really, but many a parent's ire will be raised when they see how she refuses to call her daughter Fern by her name out of spite, or refuses to so much as look her own daughters for a while. Heck, this may be the only book where the phrase, "Should have gone to Mexico to get rid of you when I had the chance," comes from the lips of a parental unit (not that any kid in the world would decipher what it means). Under normal circumstances, when you get a kid talking about the selfishness of their parent at the beginning of a book they turn out to be wrong in the end. So naturally I was waiting on tenterhooks for much of this book to see if Cecile would be perfectly redeemed by the story's end. Williams-Garcia never wraps anything up with a cute little bow, but she gives you closure with Cecile and maybe a drop of understanding. It's a far better solution.Williams-Garcia will even use character development to place the story within the context of its time. The opinionated Big Ma who raised the three girls gives her thoughts on any matter rain or shine. Delphine then lists them, and kids are treated to a quickie encapsulation of life in '68. Pretty sneaky. Teaches `em when they're not looking. And one of those very topics is the Black Panther party. I was very pleased with how Williams-Garcia sought to define that group. She dispels misconceptions and rumors. Delphine herself often has to come to grips with her initial perceptions and the actual truths. As for the rest of the time period itself, little details spotted throughout the book make 1968 feel real. For example, the girls play a game where they count the number of black characters on television shows and commercials. Or the one time Delphine had felt truly scared, when a police officer in Alabama pulled her father over.And, I'm sorry. You can make amazing, believable characters all day if you want to, but there's more to writing than just that. This writer doesn't just conjure up people. She has a way with a turn of a phrase. Three Black Panthers talking with Cecile are, "Telling it like it is, like talking was their weapon." Later Cecile tells her eldest daughter, "It wouldn't kill you to be selfish, Delphine." This book is a pleasure to cast your eyes over.There is a moment near the end of the book when Fern recites a poem that is just so good that I couldn't seriously believe that a seven-year-old would be able to pull it off. So I mentioned this fact to a teacher and a librarian and found myself swiftly corrected. "Oh no," said the librarian. "Seven is when kids are at their most shockingly creative. It's only later that they start worrying about whether or not it's any good." So I'm willing to believe that Fern's poem could have happened. Otherwise, I certainly would have appreciated an Author's Note at the end with information about the Black Panthers for kids who wanted to learn more. And I was also left wondering where Delphine got her name. She spends a bit of time agonizing over that question, why her mother named her that, and never really finds out. Some kind of explanation there would have been nice.It was teacher Monica Edinger who pointed out that One Crazy Summer pairs strangely well with Cosmic if you look at them in terms of fathers (on the Cosmic side) and mothers (One Crazy Summer's focus). That's one theme for the book, but you could pluck out so many more if you wanted to. Race and family and forgiveness and growth. Everyone grows in this book. Everyone learns. But you'll have so much fun reading it you might not even notice. You might just find yourself happily ensconced in the world of Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern without ever wishing to leave it. If this is how Ms. Williams-Garcia writes books for kids, then she better stop writing all that teen fare and crank a couple more like this one. Kids are gonna dig it.Ages 9-12. November 13, 2020I started this story in June. I spent April, May and the beginning of June reading about 20-25 books a month or so and naturally, I burned myself out. All this to say, the reason I stopped reading this marvelous book has nothing to do with the book. It was just where I was at. This little gem is amazing. I love Rita's prose and the way she tells the story. I don't know a whole lot about Black Panther history to be honest, accept the movies that show it from the white perspective and they always seem to make it look intense and scary. Rita sets her story in Oakland, CA during the 60s in a community of the Black Panthers. In the author's note, Rita does tell us that some places in the country, the Panthers were different, but she shares her experiences with the Panthers.Delphine, an 11 year old girl is the eyes of this story and her 2 other sisters, Vonetta and Fern. They are flying from NY where they live with their father to San Fran to spend a month with their mother who left after Fern was born. Immediately, life is jarring and different from the love filled home they are used to. Cecile is not a normal mother figure. She doesn't cook or allow them in her kitchen where she works writing her poetry. The girls have to go out into this new city and get take out from mean Lady Ming for dinner and in the morning Cecile tells them to go to the center for breakfast and don't come back until dinner. The center is the heart of the neighborhood and there are Black Panthers with guns patrolling the area along with policemen. The girls meet people at breakfast and then they attend the summer camp where they learn about rights and standing up for freedom. It makes for an interesting summer. The girls have to learn to fit in and it's a different world for them. There is one day they take the bus from Oakland to San Francisco and see the town.This is a story about community and having to depend on your neighbors for survival. The girls do have some good times and some not so good times. At the end of the summer there is a rally that everyone attends and the girls read some poetry. Delphine and her mother grow up that summer and they begin to understand each other.It's a beautiful story, beautifully told. It opened my eyes to the past and wow, so much of the injustice people are standing up to now is the same issues they were dealing with back in the 60s. Its fair to say that each community had their own idea of what the Black Panthers were about, but ultimately, they were trying to bring safety to the minority community. They were trying to stand up for their rights and their needs and make their world better. This community did a free breakfast each morning to help feed the people. They were building community and trying to uplift their community out of poverty. It's so easy to forget or ignore that every time in our history when black people have tried to better themselves, people came in and ripped their community apart, places like Rosewood and many others. We are told to just pull ourselves up by our bootstraps, but black people have tried and they have been intentionally put down in our history. Things have been changing over the past 20 years, but its still a slow change. This book is a fantastic and it is a great way to step into this community and experience life for these girls in the late 60s. It was a troubled time, but there were still some good times to be had in all that. This book is fantastic and everyone should read it in school. 2010 award-coretta-scott-king award-dorothy-canfield-fisher June 14, 20213.5 starsOne Crazy Summer was a middle grade that took place in the 1960s. This story follows three sisters who travel cross country to spend a month of the summer with the mother who abandoned them. What I loved: the sisterhood between the three girls, some of the side characters, I learned a lot about that time period. What I didnt love: I never forgave their mom and I thought she was awful. Especially when telling her story, she told her eleven year old how good she had it compared to her at that age. And while that may be true, her eleven year old was pretty much raising her younger sisters, the mother was doing nothing for them. It put such a sour taste in my mouth. Im looking forward to continuing on with this series and going on more adventures with the Gaither sisters. Especially now that I see in the next book theyll be spending it not with their mom. Audio book source: HooplaStory Rating: 3.5 starsNarrator: Sisi Aisha JohnsonNarration Rating: 4 starsGenre: Middle Grade (historical)Length: 5h 7m 2021-audio 2021-new-to-me-author 2021-ya-middle-gradeOctober 9, 2010Important topic? YesWriting? FabulousCharacters? EngagingNewbery material? Well, I suppose since adults are the ones to vote, then yes. Probably. But if kids were voting, I'm not sure this book would make the Newbery radar. I started reading it to my kids and ended up finishing it myself. Normally when kids have an awful, self-centered mother or parent figure in children's literature, there is a candy house or 7 little men to make up for it. Not so in this book. Cecile never seemed to come around to her own flesh and blood. I kept thinking there'd be a point where she would wake up and develop a shred of human decency, but she didn't. And maybe it has something to do with the fact that I was an oldest child who was given responsibility for my younger siblings I didn't always want, but poor 11 year Delphine being forced to take over the roll of mother to her two little sisters really boiled my blood. Not fair! Her responsible nature was exploited at the expense of her childhood. I realize I'm missing the point the story was trying to make; about the unfair struggles that went on in the black community in Oakland in the 70's. Maybe the idea was for the reader to draw the parallel between the unfairness of Delphine having the world's suckiest mom and the unfairness of the African American person's daily struggle to be treated civilly and with human decency. Both situations were maddening and made no sense.How could Pa and Big Ma send their three little girls across the country to spend an unsupervised summer with a woman they knew full well had not one ounce of motherly love? The story definitely had it's moments of triumph, like when Delphine was finally allowed in the kitchen to cook a regular meal for her sisters, the day trip into San Francisco, or when Fern ratted out Crazy Kelvin with her poem. I was just so overwhelmed with dislike for Cecile and anger at Delphine's lot to enjoy this story as I should have. Could it be that that was the point?At any rate, I don't think Cecile deserved that hug at the end. Surely not.July 14, 2011loved it. fun read and perfect for young girls and boys. i wish i had this kind of book when i was a kid. but i'm content knowing that my daughter does. by the end, as an adult reader, i had the warm fuzzies. March 6, 2021I love when I stumble upon young adult fiction that I, an adult, can not put down. This is historical fiction, set in the tumultuous times of racial disharmony, 1968. This book was particulary interesting for me, just having read Roots. It was painful to be reminded of what little progress our nation had made toward racial equality in the 100 years that had passed since the Civil War. This is a gem of a book, with rich, developed characters and a great use of dialogue and voice to move the story. What a particular treasure for girls, grades 4-7, and for young adults who are or ever have been a minority or have dealt with abandonment issues.california-dreaming favorite-books-for-elementary-age girl-power July 4, 2016Its 1968, and 11-year-old Delphine Gaither has her hands full playing mother to her two little sisters, 9-year-old Vonetta, and 7-year-old Fern. She lives in Brooklyn with her father and his prim, old-fashioned mother, called Big Ma. Wheres the girls mother? Cecile Johnson abandoned the family before Delphine turned 5. Now Pa thinks the three Gaither girls should spend a month this summer with their long-lost mother in Oakland, California. And it will be one crazy summer.You see, Cecile, now going by the more revolutionary name of Nzila, is much more devoted to her poetry and the Black Panther-led revolution than she is to her own family, in which she literally has no interest. She shuffles the girls, used to a pretty staid existence in Brooklyn, off to a Black Panther summer camp to keep them out of her way. Serious, self-sacrificing Delphine, already too grown up for her age, finds herself having to take care of her sisters pretty much on her own. Although already resentful of the mother who preferred a life without children to hamper her art and her freedom, Delphine never expected the cold reception she and her sisters received.One Crazy Summer is one part the tale of a family torn apart, but its also a glimpse into the early days of the Black Panther movement and a reminder of what life was life for African-Americans no so very long ago. In addition, the novel serves as a glimpse into the mind of a perceptive, moral and very intelligent young girl who is wise beyond her years and who knows its because she has to be.And as for Cecile? I have to agree with Delphines sentiment on the first day of meeting her mother in Oakland: I didnt want to say Big Ma was right. Cecile was no kind of mother. Cecile didnt want us. Cecile was crazy. I didnt have to.The poet formerly known as Cecile Johnson seethes with revolutionary fervor, admittedly essential for social change; I get that. But no mother should tell her children to their faces that she should have aborted them even if she harbors that feeling in her heart. And no one man nor woman should feel that the only way to assist the revolution is by criminally neglecting his or her children. Ruth First and Joe Slovo managed to lead the ANC struggle in South Africa without abandoning their children like unwanted kittens. I think Nzila, nee Cecile, could have followed the example of Ruth First, who was feeling the same pulls between family and justice during the same years.Did her only terrible, abusive upbringing justify a selfishness that led her to abandon three children one still on the breast because she couldnt get her own way? Cecile may think so, but I cant agree, even if she succeeds, at least partially, in gaining Delphines sympathy. I find that other reviews find it in their hearts to well, if not to forgive, to understand. Me? Im in Big Mas corner, who couldnt forgive Ceciles selfishness, indifference, and irresponsibility. One Crazy Summer recaptures the excitement and the changes of the 1960s, while also exploring the resilience of children in a less than perfect world crafted by adults. This is a childrens book thats perfect for adults.August 13, 2020"We didn't come here for the revolution." In turbulent 1968, three little girls fly to Oakland to reunite with the mother who abandoned them years before. Instead of being greeted at the airport with tears and hugs, they are met by an indifferent woman who sees their presence not as a chance to get reacquainted, but as an interruption to her life. "I didn't send for you. Didn't want you in the first place. Should have gone to Mexico to get rid of you when I had the chance." She orders them to stay out of her kitchen, and banishes them from the house during the daytime so that she can continue with her mysterious work. At her suggestion, they spend much of the day at a local community center, which turns out to be the "Black Panther's summer camp." What would Papa have said if he knew I was bringing Vonetta and Fern to a summer school where police cars drove by to see what we were doing? While their education in the current political climate is underway, they also learn how to make new friends and get along with others. Then just when Delphine, the oldest girl, thinks she's got everything under control, the "camp" organizers announce that everyone will be taking part in an upcoming rally. I knew "rally" meant "protest" and that "protest" could mean "riot." This is another instance of me falling for a cute cover. I mean, look at those adorable little girls: But, sometimes . . . a cute cover also has some pretty terrific pages inside. Williams-Garcia's story is told with warmth and humor. I loved these kids, particularly the serious, and bookish Delphine. I was thrilled to learn that this is part of a trilogy. I'm very much looking forward to spending more time with the Gaither sisters.November 15, 2014This is one of those "one more chapter and then I'l...(clean the kitchen, throw some clothes in the washer, take a shower, etc...)" kind of books. I loved it. I think Rita Williams-Garcia is a fantastic writer and she derserves all the awards and honors she got for this book. This is the first book of hers book I've read but it won't be the last. The story is fascinating (3 girls travel to California during the summer of 1968 to stay with the mother who abandoned them years before) and the setting is atmospheric. I loved reading about the Black Panthers, and even hearing the names of TV shows brought back memories of my childhood (I had just turned 4 during the summer of 1968). All three girls are delightful but the oldest, Delphine, is especially strong, smart, sassy and funny. Her maturity and her relationship with her younger sisters is inspiring. I highly recommend this book to readers of all ages.March 5, 2017Update! Here's my full review: book was phenomenal. I really enjoyed it. It definitely weaves in some interesting aspects of history! I had no idea how involved children were in the Black Panther Party. I knew about it's origins and it's most prominent members; however, I had no idea that children played such a significant role in doing small things for the party such as coloring in protest signs, organizing party newspapers, and protesting and performing at protests. What I really loved about this book was the incorporation of family ties and what it was like for these three young girls who grew up without a mother. It was heartbreaking at first, but I really do think that it all comes together in the end. It illustrates how Delphine takes on a hoard of responsibility since her mom isn't there to take care of her or her sisters. The relationship between the sisters is even interesting. They look to each other for love, courage, and inspiration. It really is a wonderful thing to watch. The only thing that I wished was that there was more Black Panther incorporation into the story. There was quite a bit information; however, it did leave me wanting more. I think that this is an important part of American that doesn't get written about as much in fiction especially children's fiction.Overall this was a book and I can't wait to read the next one in the series! :)black-books books-i-own books-read-in-2017 November 30, 2010Wow, what a trip, as we used to say back in 68. Did this ever bring me back to the summer of 1968! I was not an African-American eleven year old girl visiting Oakland, but I was a fourteen year old white Jewish girl across the bay living in San Francisco. There was a chapter that takes place in San Francisco.So, the author got one thing wrong about Oakland (no, there are no hills at all in that part of town) and maybe one thing about San Francisco wrong: I dont think there were palm trees in that location, but I could have just forgotten, I suppose. Otherwise, much of the locale and time period seemed authentic.This story definitely fits on my orphaned-and-quasi-orphaned kids shelf.I really liked Delphine the narrator, at 11 going on 12 and the oldest of 3 sisters who live in Brooklyn, New York with their father and paternal grandmother, and who go to visit their birth mother in Oakland, a woman who abandoned them when they were very young.I thought most of the story rang true. It was a bit on the edge of seeming realistic at times, yet so was my life at a certain point in time, so I bought it. The ending seemed not quite right but I can think of many other endings that would have worked even less well. I am glad that Delphine got some answers, very glad, and knowing what Delphine learns does give more credence and depth to what happened with this family, and why Cecile did what she did and why she was the person she became. I love the sisters relationships with one another, especially how the oldest is most irritated by her middle sister but feels as though she knows her well, compared to how she loves her little sister even though shes a bit of a mystery to her, and then how the two youngest fight with one another ; it all seemed very genuine. The narrator really got across what it felt like to be a minority. She counts other African-American (then going by black or colored) people in various locations; Ive been a minority only a few times, including two school experiences, but during those I definitely noted who else was like me and was highly aware of my minority status.This is a fine book for kids who enjoy historical fiction novels with a bit of adventure and novels with a believable child narrator. The story is sad in many ways, but it isnt depressing.I read this now because I think the Children's Books group is going to read this book as one of their January selections. Its got quite a long hold list at the library so I read it as soon as I was able to get a copy.Edited to add: Oh, and this book is very funny!childrens fiction groups-buddies October 19, 2013I have mixed feelings about this book. It does several things successfully: Sister relationships, kids who have to take on extra responsibility at a young age, homeless teens, and political action in America in the 1960s. And all within a palatable mid-elementary storyline. I worry, though, that kids far removed from that time and place will somehow get the picture that the black panthers condoned abandoning your children. The panther characters in this book seem angry, dogmatic, and tone-deaf to the needs of the actual people in front of them (other than food). The reasons for their political movement and the history behind them are only briefly touched upon. The ending also implies that everything is now okay. Delphine's mother may have told the story of her hard life; it explains, but does not erase, the hardness she has shown her girls. While reading, I kept making connections to the memoir by Alice Walker's daughter ... who wrote about living between two worlds, coasts, and parents. I also have to admit that I can't help reading stories like this through my own experience of airline shuttling with siblings to parents whose attention was elsewhere, riding buses to pools and stores and other parts of the city alone at 8 and 11 -- It sounds free and adventurous and full of potential glamour but, for kids under certain age, it just feels unmoored. June 15, 2016I am reviewing the author instead of the book.Rita Williams-Garcia is deeply committed to her work and her readers. I offered this book to my students because it had strong reviews and my students seemed interested in it. When we started reading it, my 6th grade students raised some questions about the words "colored," "black," and "Negro" that appear in the book. I answered the questions as best I could, but then I thought, hey, what does the author think these words mean?I searched for Williams-Garcia's contact info, and eventually came up with an aol address that was prefaced by a warning not to trouble her with your book reports. I wrote her an email about the situation, but my hopes were not high, given my previous failure to contact my childhood hero Daniel Pinkwater through his website and having Kate DiCamillo ignore my question about the Despair Squid from the British SF show Red Dwarf.Williams-Garcia is passionate about the issues in her books, and she wrote a thorough, heartfelt response to my class' question. I can't overstate how empowering it is for 6th graders that an author treated their question seriously and sincerely. They received the message that they should read critically, understand history, and advocate for themselves. They also learned that they were ready to start talking about grown up issues.As far as the book itself, I have some discomfort with it. Specifically, I think the Black Panthers are portrayed too positively, and the police are portrayed too negatively. However, I am encouraged by Williams-Garcia's affirmation that students should challenge the books they read. My students have enjoyed this book, and they are discussing topics and ideas that I've never seen 6th graders handle before.March 22, 2012Maybe 2 1/2 stars because I really liked the relationship between the three sisters. The book takes place in 1968 and three sisters are sent from Brooklyn, NY to Oakland, CA to stay with their mother, who left when they were babies. Their mother doesn't want them there, so I can't imagine why their father thought this was a good idea. She's a bad mother. That's it. No redeeming qualities at all (unless you count that she's a poet who cares more about her poetry than anyone around her... and tell me, how can you be a good poet when you care so little about anything but yourself?). There's no "in the end, she turned out to just be misunderstood." Nope. She's just a selfish, bad mother. Which is OK, I understand not all people are awesome. But the book kind of leads you to believe that she's going to turn out to be an OK person. Only she's not. Then there's the Black Panthers. The girls go to a summer camp run by the Panthers because their mother couldn't care less what they do. Turns out the Panthers are OK people, and despite hearing bad things about them from their father and grandmother, they end up liking them. There's no real background in the book about who the Panthers are, so all you really get is "Pa doesn't like them" or "Huey is in jail." I feel like I know very little more about the Black Panthers now than when I started reading, other than that they attended rallies and weren't as militant as Pa thought they were. Because I didn't live through the time and have no clue how militant they actually were, I can't even make an guess as to who is right, Pa or the girls or both.I'm really surprised this has been suggested as a Newbery contender. Maybe because there isn't anything else out there on the Black Panthers? There were even a few sentences I had to read several times and then read aloud to understand what the author was saying. Blegh.girls historical-fiction realisticSeptember 15, 2018I enjoy books when a child is the protagonist. Taken place during the 1960s. This book was different Ive never read anything about black panthers and how much adults and children where involved secretly. I love the girls personality they were so funny and sassy and all so different. Want to read more from this author.adventure books-i-own california January 7, 2011This book is a dramatic revisionist history of the Black Panther Party. The book is not particularly well written and most of the "facts" are incorrect. There is a sudden, sentimental, and entirely unbelievable character change at the end. Serious, hard-working and loving characters are disparaged. A mother who abandoned her husband and three children to become a poet and find herself is presented positively.I read this children's book as a potential Newbery winner. I think, unfortunately, it may be a contender.2011 No 6March 7, 2021This was a fun YA quick read. (Ages 9ish-12ish)The story starts out in Brooklyn, New York (USA) and is then ends up in Oakland, CA (USA) for the summer of 1968. Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern spend the summer with their mother, Cecile, to get to know her after abandoning them when Fern was just a little baby, seven years ago. The father has promised them a trip to Disneyland and such great fun BUT....Cecile takes their money and uses it for takeout. She is not motherly or kind towards them which leaves the three girls with so many unresolved questions. As the summer continues the girls meet men with Afros and black berets known as the Black Panthers and Cecile's involvement with the group becomes questionable but all she does is ignore the girls and their curiosities.This is a great intro to the Black Panthers and California during that time in a way a young kid will understand. It is light and funny and has sad parts as the mom abandoned them and the girls want to be loved. Overall a good read. I like how the author writes about many difficult topics in a way that will get a child interested in history or a topic they probably never thought of. March 17, 2017This book was terrific! I've never read anything by this author, and decided to check it out based on its cover. The girls looked so strong and I had to know where they were going.I found myself pulled immediately into the narrative. Delphine, the eldest of three sisters, has such a mature voice for an 11-year old, and her sense of responsibility and integrity shine through her words. I liked how she managed her two younger sisters' moods and behaviours, and functioned as their mother, essentially, while the girls were in Oakland. Regarding the girls' actual mother, wow! She's not the picture of a good mother, but when she explained to Delphine some of her background, I certainly could see why she was so reluctant at first to take on the girls for a month, and really enjoyed the way the author subtly showed her very gradual thawing and reaching out to the girls.I really felt like the author took me to Oakland in 1968, and want to now track down the other books about the Gaither sisters. auth-f bipoc-actor bipoc-author June 15, 2021One Crazy Summer caught my attention because it won the Coretta Scott King Award in 2011. And it also was given the Newbery Honor title.The story centers around 3 sisters whose mother left them years prior with their dad. They are being raised by their dad and grandma. In the summer of 1968, the girls flew across the country to spend a month with their mom. Unfortunately, their mother doesn't want anything to do with them. Their mom is involved in the Black Panther movement and has the girls attend their camp to get them out of her hair. The summer isn't going the way the girls had hope. They were hoping to see movie stars in the grocery store and spend their days at Disneyland. But instead, they are learning they don't like California very much ... the people they've met aren't friendly and there aren't any movie stars grabbing groceries in the stores. There are 2 more books in this series. I look forward to see what these sisters will do in their next adventure.Audio book source: HooplaNarrator: Sisi Aisha JohnsonLength: 5H 7M2021-books 2021-diverse-reads-authors 2021-middle-grade March 4, 2013Delphine is growing up under tough circumstances. She is the de facto leader of her little family. Her sisters look up to her. Her mom left the family years ago, but now Delphine and her sisters are going to stay with her for the summer. I kind of loved the depiction of this very nontraditional mother. Delphine's mom is politically active, professional, creative, stylish, and not particularly interested in her children. The neglect is awful, of course, but I think it's healthy to see moms who do not fit the ever-giving stereotype. It's closer to reality. At least for some families. I'm particularly interested in 60s social movements, and know pitifully little about the Black Panthers. This is a very specific view, just a tiny part of everything going on. It's fascinating to hear about the way that they teach and induct the children into the political lifestyle. It made me think about propaganda, brainwashing, healthy teaching, and building a societal paradigm. It's thought-provoking - especially for an adult who can see a larger context to the story.I'd be interested to hear what an actual kid thought of the story, though. Would they enjoy it? Would they have any clue what's going on?Good talking book, read on a road trip down to San Francisco and back.feminist historical j July 8, 2016Delphine(11), Vonetta(9), and Fern(7) are sent to spend a month in the summer with their mother, Cecile, who abandoned them when Fern was just an infant. Delphine is in charge of herding the girls across country from Brooklyn to Oakland and making sure the younger sisters behave and dont act like a big Negro spectacle. Upon arrival Cecile immediately lets the girls know that she doesnt want them there and that they better not bother her peace and quiet. Instead of spending time with them, she sends them out to get their own food from the Chinese restaurant and to spend their days at the local community center run by the Blank Panthers. The girls get educated in black power and revolution while their mother stays at home writing poetry for the Blank Panthers. Delph

California Young Readers Medal for Middle School/Junior High (2025) New from Here by 4.29 avg rating 4,486 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Intermediate (2025) The Gardener of Alcatraz: A True Story by 4.40 avg rating 386 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Picture Books for Older Readers (2025) Are You a Cheeseburger? by 4.14 avg rating 1,011 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Primary (2025) Chez Bob (Chez Bob, 1) by 4.28 avg rating 1,715 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Primary (2024) The Elephants Come Home: A True Story of Seven Elephants, Two People, and One Extraordinary Friendship by 4.59 avg rating 465 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Picture Books for Older Readers (2024) Across the Desert by 4.23 avg rating 3,357 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Intermediate (2024) Alone by 4.14 avg rating 18,600 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Middle School/Junior High (2024) I'm Not Dying with You Tonight by 3.68 avg rating 21,733 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Young Adult (2024) We Don't Eat Our Classmates (Penelope Rex, #1) by 4.51 avg rating 11,379 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Primary (2023) This Way, Charlie by 4.48 avg rating 939 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Picture Books for Older Readers (2023) The Lion of Mars by 4.06 avg rating 5,807 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Intermediate (2023) Winterhouse (Winterhouse, #1) by 3.94 avg rating 12,171 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Middle School/Junior High (2023) With the Fire on High by 4.17 avg rating 88,630 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Young Adult (2023) Drawn Together by 4.41 avg rating 6,156 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Primary (2022) The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise (Coyote Sunrise #1) by 4.45 avg rating 30,764 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Intermediate (2022) The Jigsaw Jungle by 3.71 avg rating 764 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Middle School/Junior High (2022) The Fountains of Silence by 4.31 avg rating 78,781 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Young Adult (2022) The Skydiving Beavers: A True Tale: A True Tale by 4.16 avg rating 154 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Picture Books for Older Readers (2022) Poor Louie by 4.33 avg rating 704 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Primary (2021) Restart by 4.18 avg rating 47,566 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Intermediate (2021) Lily and Dunkin by 4.21 avg rating 8,304 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Middle School/Junior High (2021) All We Have Left by 4.31 avg rating 4,780 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Young Adult (2021) Sergeant Reckless: The True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero by 4.45 avg rating 991 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Picture Books for Older Readers (2021) The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors by 4.33 avg rating 7,902 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Primary (2020) Her Right Foot by 4.30 avg rating 3,885 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Picture Books for Older Readers (2020) The War I Finally Won (The War That Saved My Life, #2) by 4.48 avg rating 45,395 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Intermediate (2020) Refugee by 4.37 avg rating 78,413 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Middle School/Junior High (2020) Scythe (Arc of a Scythe, #1) by 4.32 avg rating 388,110 ratings California Young Readers Medal for Young Adult (2020) previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 24 25 next Decided by voting open to all members of Goodreads, the Goodreads Choice Awards are the only major book awards chosen by readers. Voting in 20 categories happens in November, and the winners are announced in December. The GCAs launched in 2009.Goodreads analyzes statistics from the hundreds of millions of books added, rated, and reviewed on the site to select 15 worthy nominees in 20 categories. Write-in votes are also accepted during the Opening Round so readers can vote for exactly the book they want. In this way, receiving a Goodreads Choice nomination is truly an honor that comes straight from the readers. edit descriptions of this character Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . 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For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. eBook Order #: CCP2554Print Book Order #: CC2554Both eBook & Print Book Order #: CC+P2554ISBN13: 978-0-22830-964-2Grades: 5, 6Reading Level: 5-6Total Pages: 55Reconnect with lost loved ones and discover the strength hidden within. This resource is engaging and fun for the students, leading to better comprehension of the novel. Put yourself in the Gaither sisters shoes and imagine how you would react when facing your long-lost mother. Make inferences based on what is described in the text. Explore the importance of names and why people may change them. Designate statements about the summer camp as true or false. Find the word that does not belong in a series and explain why it does not fit. Plan a meal to serve to your family that is both delicious and nutritious. Track instances of flashbacks and foreshadowing used throughout the novel. Aligned to your State Standards and written to Bloom's Taxonomy, our worksheets incorporate a variety of scaffolding strategies along with additional crossword, word search, comprehension quiz and answer key.About the Novel: One Crazy Summer follows the adventures of the Gaither sisters as they travel to Oakland, California in the summer of 1968. Hoping to reconnect with the mother who abandoned them, Delphine, Vonetta and Fern fly to a strange new town on the other side of the country from where they call home. Scared and alone, the sisters meet a reluctant and secretive woman they refer to as Cecile. While the two youngest try their hardest to win Ceciles affection, Delphine falls into her role as de facto mother in order to take care of her sisters. In doing so, she is able to slowly chip away at Ceciles hard exterior and peek inside her inner workings. During their summer stay, Cecile sends the girls to a day camp run by the Black Panthers group. While there, the Gaither sisters meet new people and make new friends. They learn about what the Black Panthers are trying to accomplish and all the good they do for the community. By the end of the summer, the Gaither sisters manage to reconnect with their mother and make lifelong friends. edit descriptions of this character For Winners and Longlists, see: National Book Awards are a set of annual U.S. literary awards. At the finaFor Winners and Longlists, see: National Book Awards are a set of annual U.S. literary awards. At the final "National Book Awards Ceremony" every November, the National Book Foundation presents the NBAs and two lifetime achievement awards to people.The National Book Awards were established in 1936 by the American Booksellers Association, abandoned during World War II, and re-established by three book industry organizations in 1950. Non-U.S. authors and publishers were eligible for the pre-war awards. Now they are presented to U.S. authors for books published in the United States roughly during the award year.The nonprofit National Book Foundation was established in 1988 to administer and enhance the Book Awards and "move beyond [them] into the fields of education and literacy", primarily by sponsoring public appearances by writers. Its mission is "to celebrate the best of American literature, to expand its audience, and to enhance the cultural value of good writing in America."Site: www.nationalbook.org Given out annually by the Judy Lopez Foundation and the Los Angeles chapter of the Women's National Book Association, the Judy Lopez Memorial Award fo Given out annually by the Judy Lopez Foundation and the Los Angeles chapter of the Women's National Book Association, the Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature honors an American book published the previous year of literary excellence for nine- to twelve-year-olds.Honor Books are shown here as Nomineeswebsite: ...more Jawbreaker by 4.20 avg rating 884 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2024) Maizy Chen's Last Chance by 4.26 avg rating 5,020 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2023) How to Find What You're Not Looking For by 4.28 avg rating 1,455 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2022) Everything Sad Is Untrue by 4.30 avg rating 40,321 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2021) Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks by 3.93 avg rating 19,008 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2020) The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge by 4.11 avg rating 4,157 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2019) Refugee by 4.37 avg rating 78,413 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2018) Pax (Pax, #1) by 3.98 avg rating 62,653 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2017) The War That Saved My Life (The War That Saved My Life, #1) by 4.49 avg rating 111,597 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2016) El Deafo by 4.20 avg rating 89,138 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2015) The True Blue Scouts of Sugar Man Swamp by 3.94 avg rating 5,214 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2014) Wonder (Wonder, #1) by 4.36 avg rating 1,168,287 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2013) Icefall by 4.01 avg rating 5,926 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2012) Grounded by 3.95 avg rating 1,094 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2011) The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate (Calpurnia Tate, #1) by really liked it 4.00 avg rating 35,533 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2010) We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball by 4.26 avg rating 4,069 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2009) The Wednesday Wars by 4.12 avg rating 46,306 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2008) The Green Glass Sea (Green Glass, #1) by 4.04 avg rating 7,862 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2007) Harry Sue by 4.02 avg rating 192 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2006) The Sea of Trolls (Sea of Trolls, #1) by 4.03 avg rating 16,245 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2005) The Way a Door Closes by 4.03 avg rating 173 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2004) The Red Rose Box by 3.98 avg rating 305 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2003) Shipwrecked!: The True Adventures of a Japanese Boy by 3.97 avg rating 385 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2002) Esperanza Rising by 4.04 avg rating 111,203 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2001) The Gate in the Wall by really liked it 4.00 avg rating 77 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (2000) No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War by 3.93 avg rating 1,827 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (1999) Habibi by 3.64 avg rating 2,953 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (1998) The Apprenticeship of Lucas Whitaker by 3.76 avg rating 279 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (1997) Spying on Miss Muller by 3.81 avg rating 327 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (1996) My Brother, My Sister, and I by 4.19 avg rating 694 ratings Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature (1995) previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 next Newbery Medal websiteThe Newbery Medal was first offered in 1921 by Fredric G. Melcher as an incentive for better quality in children's books. Named aNewbery Medal websiteThe Newbery Medal was first offered in 1921 by Fredric G. Melcher as an incentive for better quality in children's books. Named after John Newbery, the famous 18th-century publisher and seller of children's books, it is now donated annually by the Melcher family and awarded by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association. It is awarded to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published during the preceding year.From the beginning of the awarding of the Newbery Medal, committees could, and usually did, cite other books as worthy of attention. Such books were referred to as Newbery "runners-up." In 1971 the term "runners-up" was changed to "honor books." The new terminology was made retroactive so that all former runners-up are now referred to as Newbery Honor Books. These are cited here as Nominees. edit descriptions of this character The Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award is an annual award given to the author of the book voted most outstanding by students in grades four thr The Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award is an annual award given to the author of the book voted most outstanding by students in grades four through eight in participating Illinois schools. The award is named in honor of Rebecca Caudill who lived and wrote in Urbana, Illinois, for nearly 50 years. The award is given in recognition for her literary talent and the universal appeal of her books which have touched the hearts of many children and young adults.The purposes of the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award are:To encourage children and young adults to read for personal satisfaction.To develop a statewide awareness of outstanding literature for children and young people and to promote a desire for literacy.To encourage cooperation among Illinois agencies providing educational and library service to young people. ... ...more The Inheritance Games (The Inheritance Games, #1) by 4.13 avg rating 994,712 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2025) Alone by 4.14 avg rating 18,600 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2024) When Stars Are Scattered by 4.60 avg rating 31,120 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2023) The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise (Coyote Sunrise #1) by 4.45 avg rating 30,764 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2022) Front Desk (Front Desk #1) by 4.37 avg rating 43,584 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2021) Refugee by 4.37 avg rating 78,413 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2020) Ghost (Track, #1) by 4.19 avg rating 49,985 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2019) A Night Divided by 4.33 avg rating 45,694 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2018) The Crossover by 4.22 avg rating 67,907 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2017) The Prisoner of Cell 25 (Michael Vey, #1) by 4.22 avg rating 48,870 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2016) Legend (Legend, #1) by 4.15 avg rating 555,575 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2015) Wonder (Wonder, #1) by 4.36 avg rating 1,168,287 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2014) Smile (Smile, #1) by 4.23 avg rating 300,610 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2013) Powerless (Supers of Noble's Green, #1) by 4.02 avg rating 4,329 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2012) The Hunger Games (The Hunger Games, #1) by 4.35 avg rating 9,574,020 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2011) All the Lovely Bad Ones by 4.02 avg rating 12,312 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2010) The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, #1) by 4.31 avg rating 3,330,173 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2009) Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie (Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie #1) by 4.23 avg rating 30,521 ratings Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (2008) So B. 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It includes a printable download version and contains over 65 pages of student work plus answer keys. The novel Study of One crazy summer Novel Study is divided into 33 chapters.Each novel study chapter focus on one of various learning and study skills for students. It is also designed to help teachers organize sessions for students that impart important skills while engage students in activities that are fun and elaborative.One crazy summer Novel Study title page for studentsDictionary Look-up sheets (9 total)Vocabulary Study sheets (9 total)Understanding the Story comprehension worksheets (9 total)Chapter Summary worksheets (9 total)Time for a Test! Assessment sheets (2 pages includes multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions)Tes paid licenceHow can I reuse this?Select overall rating(no rating)Your rating is required to reflect your happiness.Write a reviewUpdate existing reviewIt's good to leave some feedback.Something went wrong, please try again later.This resource hasn't been reviewed yetTo ensure quality for our reviews, only customers who have purchased this resource can review itReport this resourceto let us know if it violates our terms and conditions. Our customer service team will review your report and will be in touch. Winner of the 2011 Coretta Scott King Author AwardA 2011 Newbery Honor BookEleven-year-old Delphine has it together. Even though her mother, Cecile, abandoned her and her younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern, seven years ago. Even though her father and Big Ma will send them from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to stay with Cecile for the summer. And even though Delphine will have to take care of her sisters, as usual, and learn the truth about the missing pieces of the past. When the girls arrive in Oakland in the summer of 1968, Cecile wants nothing to do with them. She makes them eat Chinese takeout dinners, forbids them to enter her kitchen, and never explains the strange visitors with Afros and black berets who knock on her door. Rather than spend time with them, Cecile sends Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern to a summer camp sponsored by a revolutionary group, the Black Panthers, where the girls get a radical new education. Set during one of the most tumultuous years in recent American history, One Crazy Summer is the heartbreaking, funny tale of three girls in search of the mother who abandoned them-an unforgettable story told by a distinguished author of books for children and teens, Rita Williams-Garcia. edit descriptions of this character In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brook edit descriptions of this character

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