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Day 6: LaTisha Redding



Today we shine the spotlight on another debut picture book author, **LaTisha Redding**. Her first title, **Calling the Water Drum** (Lee & Low, December 2016, *illus. by Aaron Boyd*) is the story of Henri, a young immigrant from Haiti who loses his parents as they attempt to make their way “across the great waters” to America. As a result of the tragedy, Henri “retreats into himself and

is no longer able to speak.” Through a series of events, Henri takes up the practice of drumming, which he uses to deal with his grief. In the words of the publisher, Redding’s book is “a tender and beautiful tribute to the resiliency of children and the human spirit.”

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ABOUT US

The Brown Bookshelf is designed to push awareness of the myriad Black voices writing for young readers. Our flagship initiative is [28 Days Later](#), a month-long showcase of the best in Picture Books, Middle Grade, and Young Adult novels written and illustrated by Black creators. You can read more about the members of The Brown Bookshelf [here](#).