

WALTER DEAN MYERS

Walter Dean Myers is the critically acclaimed, *New York Times* bestselling author of more than eighty-five books for children and young adults. His award-winning body of work includes *Fallen Angels*, *Monster*, *Somewhere in the*

Darkness, *Slam!*, *Jazz*, and *Harlem*, among many other notable publications. He has received two Newbery Honors and five Coretta Scott King Awards. He is the winner of the first Michael L. Printz Award, the first recipient of Kent State University's Virginia Hamilton Literary Award, and winner of the ALA Margaret Edwards Award for the body of his work.

Walter began writing at an early age. "I was a good student, but a speech impediment was causing problems. One of my teachers decided that I couldn't pronounce certain words at all. She thought that if I wrote something, I would use words I could pronounce. I began writing little poems. I began to write short stories, too."

Realizing that his family would not be able to afford college, Walter joined the Army on his seventeenth birthday. When he finished his military service, he worked various jobs while writing at night. "I wrote for magazines," says Walter. "I wrote adventure stuff, I wrote for the *National Enquirer*, I wrote advertising copy for cemeteries." A winning contest entry with the Council on Interracial Books for Children became his first book, *Where Does the Day Go?* His first young adult novel was *Fast Sam, Cool Clyde, and Stuff*.

"I so love writing," says Walter. "It is not something that I am doing just for a living, this is something that I love to do. When I work, what I'll do is outline the story first. That forces me to do the thinking. I cut out pictures of all my characters and my wife puts them into a collage, which goes on the wall above the computer. When I walk into that room, I see the characters, and I just get very close to them. I rush through a first draft, and then I go back and rewrite, because I can usually see what the problems are going to be ahead of me. Rewriting is a lot more fun for me than the writing is."

Walter Dean Myers lives in Jersey City, New Jersey.

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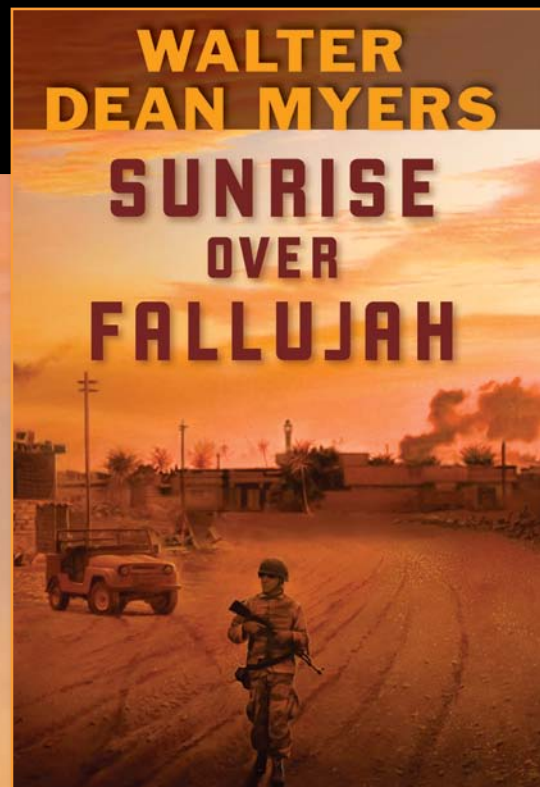
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SUNRISE OVER FALLUJAH

May 2008 Publication

Operation Iraqi Freedom, that's the code name. But the young men and women in the military's Civil Affairs Battalion have a simpler name for it: War. This novel is told from the viewpoint of Robin "Birdy" Perry, who is the nephew of Richie Perry in *Fallen Angels*. With the same power and searing insight he brought to the Vietnam War in his classic *Fallen Angels*, Walter Dean Myers examines the heroics and horrors of contemporary war.

Ages 12 & up • 304 pages
Hardcover • 0-439-91624-0 • \$17.99



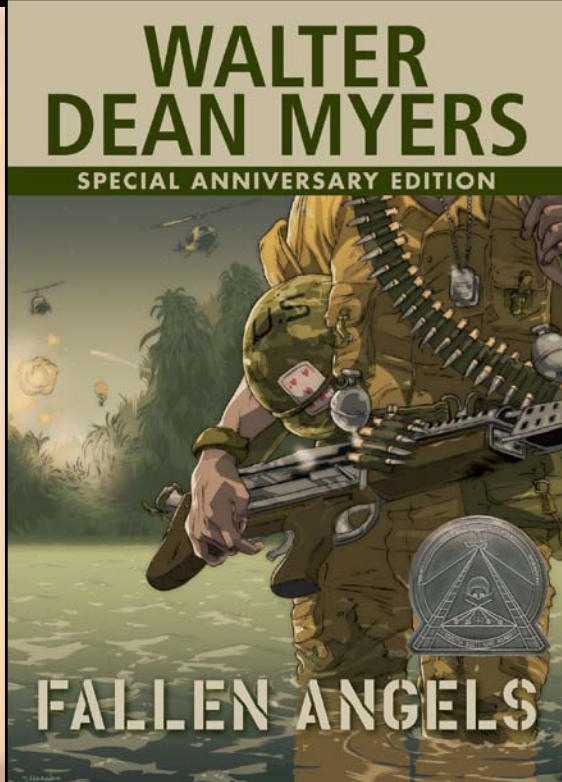
WALTER DEAN MYERS

ON THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF *FALLEN ANGELS*

“My thinking about war has changed over the years. As a seventeen-year-old, having seen all of the John Wayne movies, I eagerly joined the army. When my brother, who followed me into the army, was killed in Vietnam, it was a rude awakening. War had suddenly become personal. I needed to write about it in a way that countered the romantic ideas. *Fallen Angels* was the result.

I saw the first Gulf War on television being depicted as a kind of sterile video game with targets being hit by ‘smart’ weapons. But my oldest son, a career officer, was in that war and there was nothing sterile or gamelike in it for me. I saw the American sweep into Baghdad in Operation Iraqi Freedom being hailed as an easy victory. But I knew that there were men and women being killed, that behind the easy headlines there were tragedies being played out. Tragedies that will be with us for decades as our young warriors recover from terrible wounds and the emotional trauma of their experiences.

Writing about war is a daunting task. There is the need to honor the brave men and women who have stepped up to defend our country. There is also the grim reality of what they will face. War is a difficult



Ages 12 & up • 336 pages
Paperback • 0-545-05576-8 • \$6.99

FALLEN ANGELS

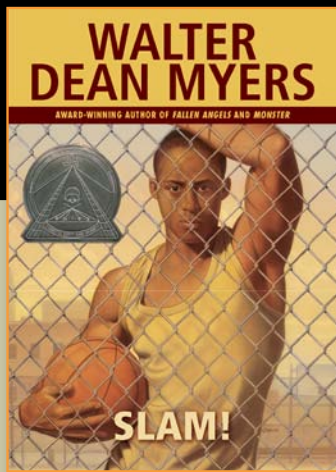
Coretta Scott King Award
ALA Best Book for Young Adults

- ★ "This gut-twisting Vietnam War novel...breaks uncharted ground in teenage fiction." —*Booklist*, starred review
- ★ "Powerful [and] masterful." —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

After graduating from high school, Richie Perry signs up for the army and gets shipped off to Vietnam. In a battlefield jungle where every move can mean the difference between death and survival, Richie meets Peewee, Lobel, Johnson, and Brunner. They all came for different reasons, but now they share a single dream—getting out alive.

thing to talk about for those who are involved in it, and for them to explain to others. In the twenty years since *Fallen Angels* was published, many women have thanked me for helping them understand why their husbands were so reticent to speak about their wartime experiences, and I have had hundreds of letters from young people who, for the first time, had some idea of what their fathers had gone through. These letters, and the quiet conversations in bookstores with people who had read the book a decade earlier, made me want to shoulder the responsibility of again writing about America at war.

Today's teenagers, boys and girls, will be the ones asked to fight this nation's wars. Eventually they will also be the ones who decide whether a war is necessary or can be avoided. They need to do a lot of thinking before either picking up a weapon or casting a vote to go to war. It's my hope that *Sunrise Over Fallujah* will be the start of that thinking process."



Ages 12 & up • 288 pages
Paperback • 0-545-05574-1 • \$6.99

SLAM!

Coretta Scott King Award • ALA Best Book for Young Adults

"A Harlem teenager learns how to apply the will he has to win at hoops to other parts of his life in this vivid, fluent story....Persuasive." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Once again, Myers produces a book that reinforces his standing as a preeminent YA author." —*School Library Journal*

Greg "Slam" Harris can do it all on the basketball court. Maybe he'll make it to the top. Or maybe he'll stumble along the way. Slam never doubted himself on the court—until he faced going one-on-one with his own future, and he didn't have the ball.

SOMEWHERE IN THE DARKNESS

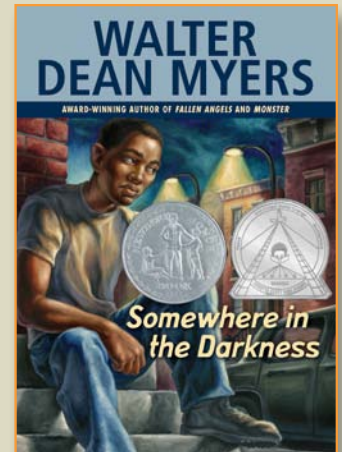
Newbery Honor Book • Coretta Scott King Honor Book
ALA Notable Children's Book • ALA Best Book for Young Adults

★ "Myers has never written better." —*Booklist*, starred review

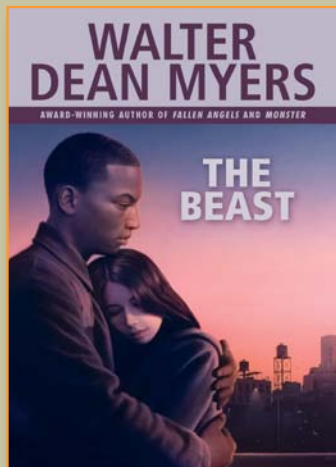
"Rich insight and detail; another splendid achievement." —*Kirkus Reviews*

★ "Myers conveys a powerful message." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

Jimmy hasn't seen his father in nine years. But one day his dad suddenly returns—on the run from the law. Together, the two of them travel across the country—where Jimmy's dad will find the man who can exonerate him of the crime for which he was convicted. Along the way, Jimmy discovers a lot about his father and himself—and that while things can't always be fixed, sometimes they can be understood and forgiven.



Ages 12 & up • 192 pages
Paperback • 0-545-05577-6 • \$6.99
Spanish Paperback • 0-590-47701-3 • \$3.50



Ages 12 & up • 192 pages
Paperback • 0-439-36842-1 • \$6.99

THE BEAST

"Myers sketches a provocative picture of an intelligent, likable sixteen-year-old straddling two worlds." —*Publishers Weekly*

"The language is simple and clean; the plot unfolds seamlessly; and the characters emerge shaky, worldly-wise, and cautiously optimistic." —*School Library Journal*

After returning to Harlem from his first semester at an exclusive prep school, seventeen-year-old Anthony "Spoon" Witherspoon finds that his bright, young, poet girlfriend is now sleeping with a needle by her bed. Not only must he examine his feelings for her, but also for Harlem and the life he once loved.

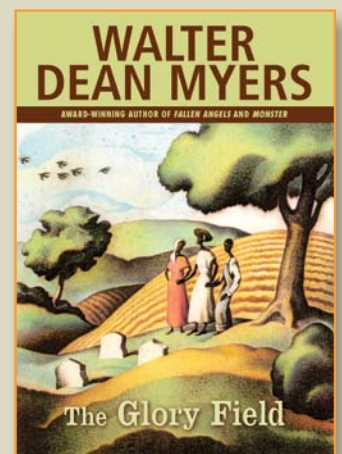
THE GLORY FIELD

ALA Best Book for Young Adults

"A must-read for absolutely everyone." —*Kirkus Reviews*

★ "This emotionally charged saga...traces an ongoing battle for freedom and equality."
—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

This is the story of one family. A family whose history saw its first ancestor captured, shackled, and brought to this country from Africa. A family who can still see remnants of the shackles that held some of its members captive—even to this day. It is a story of pride, determination, struggle, and love—and of the piece of land that holds them together throughout it all.



Ages 12 & up • 400 pages
Paperback • 0-545-05575-X • \$6.99



Ages 12 & up • 176 pages
Hardcover • 0-439-36843-X • \$16.99

HARLEM SUMMER

"Readers will be delighted to accompany the teen on his action-packed adventures." —*Booklist*

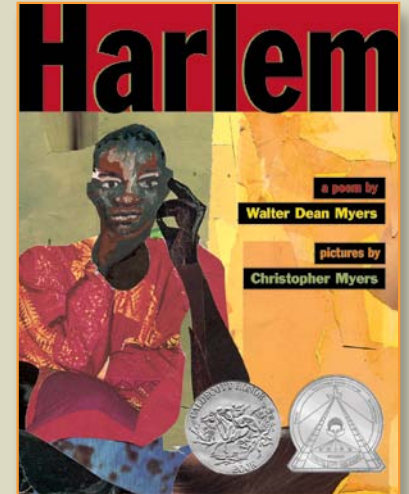
"This works equally well as a stellar addition to the Harlem Renaissance curriculum and a just-for-fun read." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"In this quickly paced and laugh-out-loud narrative, Myers brings Mark face-to-face with a dazzling host of Harlem Renaissance A-listers." —*School Library Journal*

Myers is at his clever best in this witty and action-packed, coming-of-age story of a teenager's summer during the Harlem Renaissance and his run-ins with famous gangsters, writers, and musicians.

HARLEM

Illustrated by Christopher Myers



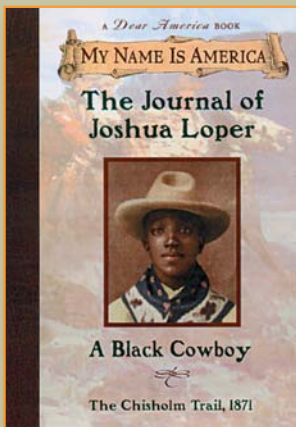
Ages 7-10 • 32 pages
Hardcover • 0-590-54340-7 • \$16.95

Caldecott Honor Book • Coretta Scott King Honor Book • *The Boston Globe/Horn Book* Award Honor Book • ALA Best Book for Young Adults • ALA Notable Children's Book

"A hot new artist and his distinguished father fashion a picture book with a stirring sound at its center...see if anyone can sit still when the book is being read aloud." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"An arresting and heartfelt tribute." —*School Library Journal*

A magnificent, poetic tribute to the deep, rich, hope-filled history of Harlem, one of the most important crucibles of American culture.



Ages 8-14 • 160 pages
Hardcover • 0-590-02691-7 • \$10.95

MY NAME IS AMERICA

The Journal of Joshua Loper: A Black Cowboy, The Chisholm Trail, 1871

"The hallmark of Myers's work, thorough research and solid writing—are evident here." —*Kirkus Reviews*

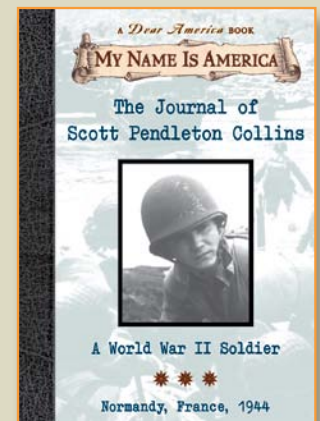
The journal of a boy's struggle with his first cattle drive and with the racial prejudice still rampant in the post-Civil War era.

MY NAME IS AMERICA

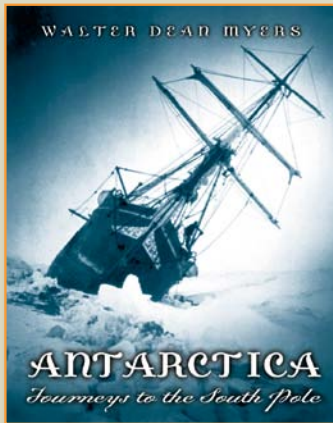
The Journal of Scott Pendleton Collins: A World War II Soldier, Normandy, France, 1944

"Utterly convincing writing." —*Kirkus Reviews*

Written from the point of view of a soldier who is convinced he won't survive the war, this journal follows him from Basic Training in the U.S. Army to the 1944 invasion of Normandy, and through France with the 116th Infantry Regiment.



Ages 9-14 • 144 pages
Hardcover • 0-439-05013-8 • \$10.95



Ages 9–12 • 144 pages
Hardcover • 0-439-22001-7 • \$18.95

ANTARCTICA: JOURNEYS TO THE SOUTH POLE

ALA Best Book for Young Adults

"A lucid, well-written text." —*School Library Journal*

"[An] exciting overview of the discovery and exploration of Antarctica." —*Booklist*

A thrilling history of Antarctica and record of the expedition parties that have uncovered the frozen continent throughout history. The heroism and adventure—and the ultimate failure—of the expeditions are depicted in Myers's powerful prose, and through the photos, maps, and illustrations that complement the text.

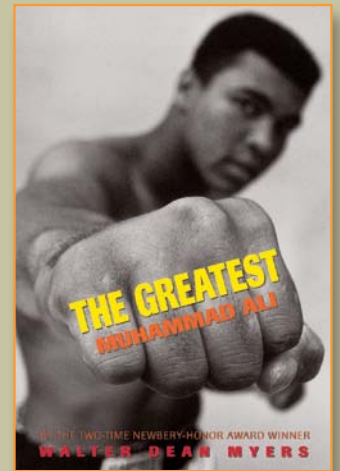
THE GREATEST: MUHAMMAD ALI

ALA Best Book for Young Adults • ALA Notable Children's Book • ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Adult Readers • *Book Links* "Lasting Connection" • *Booklist* Editors' Choice

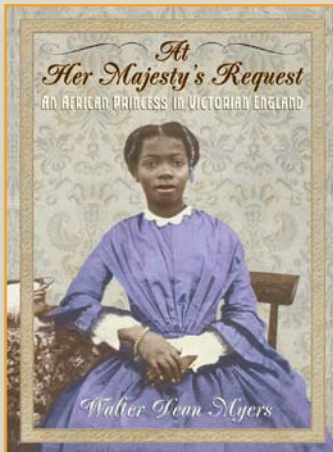
★ "A fascinating and fast-paced biography...will introduce a generation of readers...to the man many sportswriters considered the 'Athlete of the Century.'" —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

★ "The kind of universal story that needs a writer as talented as Myers to retell it for every generation." —*Booklist*, starred review

Walter Dean Myers portrays Ali's spirit and convictions, while unflinchingly exposing the many hazards of boxing and telling the story of race relations inside and outside sports in the 1950s and 1960s.



Ages 12 & up • 192 pages
Paperback • 0-590-54343-1 • \$6.99



Ages 9–12 • 160 pages
Hardcover • 0-590-48669-1 • \$17.95

AT HER MAJESTY'S REQUEST: An African Princess in Victorian England

NCTE Orbis Pictus Honor Book • IRA Notable Book for a Global Society
NCSS/CBC Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

"This solidly researched biography will enthrall readers, and ranks among Myers's best writing." —*Kirkus Reviews*

In a book lavishly illustrated with period photographs, Walter Dean Myers tells the remarkable story of the girl who came to be known as Sarah Bonetta Forbes—an African princess who was the ward of Queen Victoria.

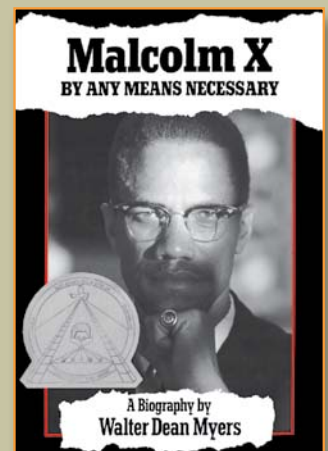
MALCOLM X: BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

Coretta Scott King Honor Book • ALA Notable Children's Book
ALA Best Book for Young Adults

★ "[A] carefully researched portrait of a deeply devoted individual."
—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ "Myers shapes the information on Malcolm X with a consistent, well-supported argument."
—*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, starred review

■ "Neither adulatory nor critical, Myers's biography pays eloquent tribute to the brilliant... radical African-American leader." —*Booklist*, boxed review



Ages 10 & up • 224 pages
Paperback • 0-590-66221-X • \$4.99