

the hero two doors down

the hero two doors down is a captivating children's book that brings together themes of friendship, courage, and the breaking of racial barriers. Based on a true story, this novel follows the unexpected relationship between a young boy and baseball legend Jackie Robinson. Throughout this article, readers will discover the essence of the story, its historical context, major characters, and the core messages it delivers. We'll explore what makes "the hero two doors down" a standout work in children's literature, why it matters for young readers, and how it inspires conversations about diversity and social change. The article also delves into the author's background, the book's reception, and its educational value. Whether you're a parent, teacher, or book enthusiast, this comprehensive guide offers everything you need to know about "the hero two doors down" and its enduring legacy.

- Summary of "the hero two doors down"
- Historical Context and Setting
- Major Themes and Messages
- Character Analysis
- Author Background and Inspiration
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Summary of "the hero two doors down"

"The hero two doors down" is a middle-grade novel written by Sharon Robinson, the daughter of Jackie Robinson. The story centers on Steven Satlow, an eight-year-old Brooklyn boy who idolizes Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play Major League Baseball. To Steven's astonishment, Jackie Robinson moves into his neighborhood, just two doors away. The story chronicles their developing friendship, exploring Steven's admiration and Jackie's role as both a sports icon and a neighbor. The narrative skillfully combines real-life events with fictionalized dialogue, resulting in a heartfelt journey that touches on acceptance, respect, and the power of community.

- Steven Satlow's journey from fan to friend
- Jackie Robinson's impact on the community
- Family and neighborhood dynamics
- Challenges faced due to racial prejudices

- Moments of courage and kindness

Historical Context and Setting

Brooklyn in the 1940s

Set in postwar Brooklyn, New York, during the late 1940s, "the hero two doors down" provides a vivid portrayal of the era's social climate. The story takes place when racial tensions were high, and barriers were slowly being broken in sports and society. The Brooklyn Dodgers, Jackie Robinson's team, were at the forefront of this change, challenging the status quo and paving the way for integration in baseball. The Satlow family, like many others in Brooklyn, witnessed these historic shifts up close, making the neighborhood a microcosm of national events.

Jackie Robinson's Influence

Jackie Robinson's arrival in the Satlow neighborhood was not only a personal milestone for Steven but also a significant event for the entire Jewish community. Robinson's legacy extended beyond the baseball field, as he became a symbol of hope and progress. His interactions with fans and neighbors helped humanize the struggle for equality, demonstrating that heroes can be found in everyday life.

Major Themes and Messages

Friendship Across Boundaries

A central theme in "the hero two doors down" is the power of friendship between people from different backgrounds. Steven's relationship with Jackie Robinson shows how common interests and mutual respect can overcome prejudice. The book emphasizes empathy, understanding, and the importance of reaching out to others, even when societal norms discourage such connections.

Racial Integration and Social Change

The novel highlights the challenges and triumphs of racial integration, both in professional sports and in everyday life. Jackie Robinson's career is depicted as a catalyst for broader social change, inspiring both children and adults to challenge injustice. Through Steven's eyes, readers witness the discomfort and growth that come with confronting discrimination.

Family and Community Support

Family plays a vital role in Steven's development and in the overall narrative. The support from Steven's parents and neighbors helps him navigate

difficult situations, illustrating the importance of community in fostering resilience and acceptance. The Satlows' willingness to welcome Jackie Robinson reflects the values of kindness and open-mindedness.

Character Analysis

Steven Satlow

Steven Satlow is portrayed as a relatable, enthusiastic young boy whose love for baseball sets the stage for his personal growth. His curiosity and determination to meet his hero drive the story, while his evolving understanding of friendship and prejudice marks his emotional journey. Steven's innocence allows readers to see the world through fresh eyes, making his transformation both believable and inspiring.

Jackie Robinson

Jackie Robinson is depicted not only as a legendary athlete but also as a caring neighbor and mentor. The novel reveals his humility, patience, and commitment to breaking down barriers. Robinson's interactions with Steven and the Brooklyn community show that true heroism lies in everyday acts of courage and compassion.

Supporting Characters

Other key figures include Steven's parents, who guide him through complex social issues, and the local community members who reflect a range of attitudes towards change. These supporting characters add depth to the narrative and highlight the collective effort needed to build a more inclusive world.

1. Steven's father: A voice of wisdom and encouragement
2. Steven's mother: Nurturing and protective
3. Neighbors: Diverse perspectives on race and acceptance
4. Jackie Robinson's family: Role models in strength and dignity

Author Background and Inspiration

About Sharon Robinson

Sharon Robinson, daughter of Jackie Robinson, is an acclaimed author and educational consultant. Her personal connection to Jackie Robinson and her passion for children's literature make her uniquely qualified to tell this story. Robinson has written several books focused on her father's legacy,

aiming to inspire young readers with messages of hope, perseverance, and social justice.

Inspiration Behind the Book

"The hero two doors down" was inspired by real events and the genuine friendship between Jackie Robinson and the Satlow family. Sharon Robinson drew from historical accounts and personal recollections, blending fact with fiction to create a narrative that resonates with readers of all ages. The book stands as a tribute to the impact one person can have on a community and the importance of standing up for what is right.

Book Reception and Impact

Critical Acclaim

Upon its release, "the hero two doors down" received positive reviews from critics, educators, and parents. The book was praised for its authentic voice, engaging storytelling, and ability to address complex issues in an accessible way for children. Reviewers highlighted the book's relevance in today's discussions about diversity and inclusion.

Influence on Young Readers

The novel has become a favorite in classrooms and libraries, encouraging young readers to think critically about friendship, courage, and social responsibility. The relatable characters and real-life context make it an excellent tool for teaching empathy and historical awareness.

- Promotes understanding of racial history
- Encourages discussions about fairness and equality
- Models positive relationships and role models
- Helps children develop empathy and respect

Educational Value and Classroom Use

Teaching Opportunities

"The hero two doors down" is widely used in educational settings to introduce students to topics such as civil rights, social change, and personal character development. Teachers can use the book to spark conversations about historical events, the importance of standing up for others, and the value of diverse perspectives. The relatable story allows students to connect emotionally, making lessons memorable and impactful.

Discussion Questions and Activities

Educators often pair the novel with guided reading questions and classroom activities that encourage deeper analysis. Popular activities include role-playing key scenes, researching Jackie Robinson's life, and writing personal reflections on friendship and courage. These exercises help students internalize the book's messages and apply them to their own lives.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is "the hero two doors down" about?

A: "the hero two doors down" is a children's novel based on the true story of a friendship between Steven Satlow, a young boy, and Jackie Robinson, the first African American Major League Baseball player, who moves into Steven's Brooklyn neighborhood.

Q: Who is the author of "the hero two doors down"?

A: The book was written by Sharon Robinson, daughter of Jackie Robinson, and is known for its engaging storytelling and historical insight.

Q: What are the main themes of the book?

A: Major themes include friendship across racial boundaries, the challenges of racial integration, family and community support, and the importance of courage and kindness.

Q: Why is Jackie Robinson important in the story?

A: Jackie Robinson is not only Steven's hero but also a symbol of social change, breaking racial barriers in baseball and inspiring his community through his actions.

Q: Is "the hero two doors down" based on a true story?

A: Yes, the book is inspired by real-life events and the genuine relationship between Jackie Robinson and the Satlow family in Brooklyn.

Q: What age group is "the hero two doors down" suitable for?

A: The novel is intended for middle-grade readers, typically ages 8-12, but its messages are relevant for older readers as well.

Q: How can teachers use this book in the classroom?

A: Teachers use “the hero two doors down” to teach about civil rights, empathy, historical events, and the importance of standing up for others through reading activities, discussions, and creative projects.

Q: What lessons can children learn from “the hero two doors down”?

A: Children learn about friendship, acceptance, overcoming prejudice, and the impact one person can have on a community.

Q: Are there other books by Sharon Robinson about Jackie Robinson?

A: Yes, Sharon Robinson has written several books about her father’s life and legacy, including “Jackie’s Nine” and “Promises to Keep.”

Q: What makes “the hero two doors down” unique in children’s literature?

A: The book stands out for its combination of historical accuracy, relatable storytelling, and the powerful portrayal of real-life heroes who change lives through everyday actions.

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The Hero Two Doors Down: Unexpected Courage in Everyday Life

Have you ever stopped to consider the quiet acts of heroism unfolding right under your nose? We often associate heroism with grand gestures, headline-grabbing events. But true heroism often resides in the everyday acts of courage, kindness, and resilience found in our neighbors, our friends, and even the seemingly ordinary person two doors down. This post will explore the unsung heroes among us, examining what constitutes everyday heroism and how recognizing these individuals enriches our lives and communities. We'll delve into real-life examples and offer insights into how we can all cultivate a more heroic mindset.

What Defines a "Hero Two Doors Down"?

The term "hero" often evokes images of firefighters battling blazes or soldiers saving lives in combat. But the heroes two doors down are different. They are the quiet champions in our neighborhoods, the individuals who demonstrate remarkable strength and compassion in the face of adversity, often without seeking recognition. Their heroism lies not in dramatic feats, but in consistent acts of selflessness and unwavering dedication to their community and loved ones.

Acts of Everyday Heroism:

Resilience in the Face of Adversity: This could be a single parent raising a family amidst challenging circumstances, a neighbor battling a chronic illness with unwavering strength, or an elderly individual maintaining their independence despite age-related limitations.

Unwavering Support for Others: This encompasses acts like volunteering time, offering assistance to neighbors in need, mentoring young people, or simply lending a listening ear to someone struggling.

Quiet Acts of Kindness: Small gestures like helping an elderly person with groceries, shoveling snow for a disabled neighbor, or offering a comforting word to someone in distress contribute significantly to the fabric of a supportive community.

Standing Up for What's Right: This might involve confronting injustice, speaking out against bullying, or protecting vulnerable members of the community. These actions often take courage and can be more challenging than outwardly heroic acts.

Recognizing and Celebrating Everyday Heroes

We often overlook the everyday acts of heroism that surround us. Learning to recognize and appreciate these acts is crucial to building stronger, more compassionate communities. By acknowledging the contributions of our "heroes two doors down," we not only uplift them but also inspire ourselves and others to act with greater courage and empathy.

How to Spot a Hero in Your Neighborhood:

Pay attention to the actions of your neighbors: Observe who consistently goes above and beyond to help others, who displays resilience in difficult situations, and who contributes positively to the community.

Listen to stories shared within your community: Informal conversations often reveal hidden acts of heroism that might otherwise go unnoticed.

Look for evidence of consistent kindness and compassion: Small, repeated acts of generosity often indicate a deeper commitment to helping others.

Cultivating Your Own Inner Hero

Heroism isn't just about grand gestures; it's about consistently striving to be a better person, making positive contributions to your community, and demonstrating courage and compassion in your daily life.

Steps to Becoming a More Heroic Individual:

Practice empathy and compassion: Put yourself in others' shoes and try to understand their experiences.

Develop a strong sense of responsibility: Take ownership of your actions and their impact on others.

Cultivate courage: Step outside your comfort zone and speak up for what's right, even when it's difficult.

Engage in acts of kindness, no matter how small: Small gestures of kindness can have a significant impact on others.

Volunteer your time and talents: Contribute to causes you care about and make a difference in your community.

Conclusion

The "hero two doors down" represents the quiet strength and resilience found in everyday life. By recognizing and appreciating these unsung heroes, we build stronger communities and inspire ourselves to embrace our own inner heroism. Let's all strive to be the heroes our neighbors need, creating a world where compassion, courage, and kindness are the norm, not the exception.

FAQs

Q1: What if I don't see any heroes in my neighborhood?

A1: It's possible you haven't yet noticed the quiet acts of heroism around you. Try actively looking for signs of kindness, resilience, and community involvement. You might be surprised at what you discover.

Q2: How can I express my appreciation to a local hero?

A2: A simple "thank you" can go a long way. You could also write a letter of appreciation, offer a small gift, or share their story with others. Consider nominating them for a local award if such

opportunities exist.

Q3: Is it selfish to focus on my own "inner hero"?

A3: Not at all. Developing your own inner heroism allows you to better serve others. By becoming a more compassionate and courageous individual, you'll be better equipped to contribute positively to your community.

Q4: What if I feel overwhelmed by the challenges in my community?

A4: Focus on small, manageable actions. Even small acts of kindness can make a difference, and it's better to start small and build momentum than to feel paralyzed by the enormity of the challenges.

Q5: How can I involve my children in recognizing everyday heroes?

A5: Talk to your children about the concept of heroism, both big and small. Encourage them to notice acts of kindness and resilience in their own lives, and to participate in community service projects. This will instill values of empathy and community involvement from a young age.

the hero two doors down: The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship between a Boy and a Baseball Legend Sharon Robinson, 2016-01-26 The bestselling novel based on the true story of a boy in Brooklyn who became neighbors and friends with his hero, Jackie Robinson. Stephen Satlow is an eight-year-old boy living in Brooklyn, New York, which means he only cares about one thing-the Dodgers. Steve and his father spend hours reading the sports pages and listening to games on the radio. Aside from an occasional run-in with his teacher, life is pretty simple for Steve. But then Steve hears a rumor that an African American family is moving to his all-Jewish neighborhood. It's 1948 and some of his neighbors are against it. Steve knows this is wrong. His hero, Jackie Robinson, broke the color barrier in baseball the year before. Then it happens--Steve's new neighbor is none other than Jackie Robinson! Steve is beyond excited about living two doors down from the Robinson family. He can't wait to meet Jackie. This is going to be the best baseball season yet! How many kids ever get to become friends with their hero?

the hero two doors down: Child of the Dream: A Memoir of 1963 Sharon Robinson, 2019-09-03 An incredible memoir from Sharon Robinson about the pivotal year of the civil rights movement -- and her unique role in it alongside her father, baseball legend and activist Jackie Robinson. In January 1963, Sharon Robinson turns thirteen the night before George Wallace declares on national television segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever in his inauguration speech as governor of Alabama. It is the beginning of a year that will change the course of American history. As the daughter of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, Sharon has opportunities that most people would never dream of experiencing. Her family hosts multiple fund-raisers at their home in Connecticut for the work that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is doing. Sharon sees her first concert after going backstage at the Apollo Theater. And her whole family attends the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. But things don't always feel easy for Sharon. She is one of the only Black children in her wealthy Connecticut neighborhood. Her older brother, Jackie Robinson Jr., is having a hard time trying to live up to his father's famous name, causing some rifts in the family. And Sharon feels isolated-struggling to find her role in the civil rights movement that is taking place across the country. This is the story of how one girl finds her voice in the fight for justice and equality.

the hero two doors down: Jackie's Gift Sharon Robinson, 2010-10-14 Young Steve Satlow is thrilled when his hero Jackie Robinson moves onto his block. After the famed second baseman invites Steve to a Dodgers game, the two become friends. So when Jackie hears that the Satlows

don't have a Christmas tree, he decides to give them one, not realizing the Satlows are Jewish. But Jackie's gift helps these two different families discover how much they have in common. Written by the daughter of baseball legend Jackie Robinson and illustrated by a Caldecott Honor winner, Jackie's Gift is a holiday tale-based on a true story-about friendship and breaking barriers.

the hero two doors down: Tomorrow Most Likely Dave Eggers, 2019-04-02 Every night we say goodnight. But tonight we also ask, What will tomorrow bring? An odd-sounding song? A worried-looking bug? A mysterious rock? Most likely, all of the above. In a modern take on the classic goodnight book, rather than focusing on going to bed, this little boy contemplates the next day and all of the wonderful, dreamy, and silly things that are to come. Whimsical, poignant, and hopeful, this sweet book from bestselling author Dave Eggers and award-winning illustrator Lane Smith is a bedtime story for tomorrow ever after.

the hero two doors down: Promises to Keep: How Jackie Robinson Changed America Sharon Robinson, 2016-11-29 The bestselling classic biography of Jackie Robinson, America's legendary baseball player and civil rights activist, told from the unique perspective of an insider: his only daughter. Sharon Robinson shares memories of her famous father in this warm loving biography of the man who broke the color barrier in baseball -- and taught his children that the only measure of life is the impact you have on others lives'. Promises to Keep is the story of Jackie Robinson's hard-won victories in baseball, business, politics, and civil rights. It looks at the inspiring effect the legendary Brooklyn Dodger had on his family, his community ... his country. Told from the unique perspective of Robinson's only daughter, this intimate and uplifting book includes photos from the Robinson family archives and family letters never published before. Jackie Robinson is one of our great national heroes. Promises to Keep reminds us what made him a champion -- on and off the field!

the hero two doors down: Testing the Ice Sharon Robinson, 2009 Sharon Robinson, the daughter of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, has crafted a heartwarming, true story about growing up with her father. When Jackie Robinson retires from baseball and moves his family to Connecticut, the beautiful lake on their property is the center of everyone's fun. The neighborhood children join the Robinson kids for swimming and boating. But oddly, Jackie never goes near the water. In a dramatic episode that first winter, the children beg to go ice skating on the lake. Jackie says they can go--but only after he tests the ice to make sure it's safe. The children prod and push to get Jackie outside, until hesitantly, he finally goes. Like a blind man with a stick, (contd.)

the hero two doors down: Blended Sharon M. Draper, 2020-04-07 Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police.

the hero two doors down: Ish Peter H. Reynolds, 2013-09-10 Features an audio read-along! A creative spirit learns that thinking "ish-ly" is far more wonderful than "getting it right" in this gentle new fable from the creator of the award-winning picture book The Dot. Ramon loved to draw. Anytime. Anything. Anywhere. Drawing is what Ramon does. It's what makes him happy. But in one split second, all that changes. A single reckless remark by Ramon's older brother, Leon, turns Ramon's carefree sketches into joyless struggles. Luckily for Ramon, though, his little sister, Marisol, sees the world differently. She opens his eyes to something a lot more valuable than getting things just right. Combining the spareness of fable with the potency of parable, Peter Reynolds shines a bright beam of light on the need to kindle and tend our creative flames with care.

the hero two doors down: Someday Angeline Louis Sachar, 2007-01-01 Angeline could read before she was old enough to turn the pages of a book, and she mastered the piano without a single lesson. But being so clever doesn't make life easy for Angeline. This charming book is a quirky celebration of fathers, teachers, being yourself and finding happiness in unexpected places.

the hero two doors down: Heroes of Olympus: The Complete Series (Books 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) Rick Riordan, 2018-12-13 Now available for the first time: all five novels from the amazing Heroes of Olympus series, collected in one stunning digital edition. Join the Heroes of Olympus - Percy Jackson

and friends - for an adventure like no other. When Jason, Piper and Leo crash-land at Camp Half-Blood, they have no idea what to expect. Apparently this is the only safe place for children of the Greek Gods . . . Despite the monsters roaming the woods and demigods practising archery with flaming arrows and explosives - some things just have to be taken on trust. But now rumours of a terrible curse - and a missing hero - are flying around camp. And it seems Jason, Piper and Leo are the chosen ones to embark on a terrifying new quest And when Percy Jackson wakes up with no memory of his past, it's clear things are only just beginning . . . Heroes of Olympus: The Complete Series includes all three novels in the incredible series from Rick Riordan: The Lost Hero, The Son of Neptune, The Mark of Athena, The House of Hades and The Blood of Olympus

the hero two doors down: The Desperado who Stole Baseball John H. Ritter, 2009 In 1881, the scrappy, rough-and-tumble baseball team in a California mining town enlists the help of a quick-witted twelve-year-old orphan and the notorious outlaw Billy the Kid to win a big game against the National League Champion Chicago White Stockings. Prequel to: The boy who saved baseball.

the hero two doors down: Cloudette Tom Lichtenheld, 2016-04-12 Cloudette, the littlest cloud, finds a way to do something big and important as the other clouds do.

the hero two doors down: Four Years Later Emma Doherty, 2017-06-26 Becca McKenzie is happy-crazy, ridiculously happy. She might not have figured out what she wants to do with her life, but she has something better-Ryan Jackson-and they couldn't be more in love if they tried. He might have been pissed when she went off to a different college, but they make the long distance work because they're Becca and Ryan, and nothing is going to break them. Until it does. Until one terrible, unforgettable night away from Ryan. Until too much drinking and one empty bedroom. Until fifteen minutes of hell completely destroys her life and leaves Becca questioning everything she's ever known. Until that night turns into a lie she can't stop-can't control. Until she said no but he didn't listen.

the hero two doors down: Child of the Flower-Song People Gloria Amescua, 2021-08-17 Award-winning illustrator Duncan Tonatiuh brings to life debut author Gloria Amescua's lyrical biography of an indigenous Nahua woman from Mexico who taught and preserved her people's culture through modeling for famous artists She was Luz Jiménez, child of the flower-song people, the powerful Aztec, who called themselves Nahua— who lost their land but who did not disappear. As a young Nahua girl in Mexico during the early 1900s, Luz learned how to grind corn in a metate, to twist yarn with her toes, and to weave on a loom. By the fire at night, she listened to stories of her community's joys, suffering, and survival, and wove them into her heart. But when the Mexican Revolution came to her village, Luz and her family were forced to flee and start a new life. In Mexico City, Luz became a model for painters, sculptors, and photographers such as Diego Rivera, Jean Charlot, and Tina Modotti. These artists were interested in showing the true face of Mexico and not a European version. Through her work, Luz found a way to preserve her people's culture by sharing her native language, stories, and traditions. Soon, scholars came to learn from her. This moving, beautifully illustrated biography tells the remarkable story of how model and teacher Luz Jiménez became “the soul of Mexico”—a living link between the indigenous Nahua and the rest of the world. Through her deep pride in her roots and her unshakeable spirit, the world came to recognize the beauty and strength of her people. The book includes an author's note, timeline, glossary, and bibliography.

the hero two doors down: An Everyday Hero Laura Trentham, 2020-02-04 From award-winning author Laura Trentham comes an emotionally layered novel about redemption, second chances and discovering that life is worth fighting for. At thirty, Greer Hadley never expected to be forced home to Madison, Tennessee with her life and dreams up in flames. A series of bad decisions and even worse luck lands her community service hours at a nonprofit organization that aids veterans and their families. Greer cannot fathom how she's supposed to help anyone deal with their trauma and loss when everything that brought her joy has failed her. Then Greer meets fifteen-year-old Ally Martinez, a gifted girl who lost her father in action and now hides her pain behind a mask of sarcasm. But Greer sees something undeniable that she can't walk away from. To

make matters more complicated, Greer finds herself spending more and more time with Emmett Lawson—a man with both physical and emotional scars of his own. When a situation with Ally becomes dire, the two of them must become a team to save her—and along the way they might just save themselves too.

the hero two doors down: 42 Is Not Just a Number Doreen Rappaport, 2017-09-05 An eye-opening look at the life and legacy of Jackie Robinson, the man who broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball and became an American hero. Baseball, basketball, football — no matter the game, Jackie Robinson excelled. His talents would have easily landed another man a career in pro sports, but in America in the 1930s and '40s, such opportunities were closed to athletes like Jackie for one reason: his skin was the wrong color. Settling for playing baseball in the Negro Leagues, Jackie chafed at the inability to prove himself where it mattered most: the major leagues. Then in 1946, Branch Rickey, manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, decided he was going to break the “rules” of segregation: he recruited Jackie Robinson. Fiercely determined, Jackie faced cruel and sometimes violent hatred and discrimination, but he proved himself again and again, exhibiting courage, restraint, and a phenomenal ability to play the game. In this compelling biography, award-winning author Doreen Rappaport chronicles the extraordinary life of Jackie Robinson and how his achievements won over — and changed — a segregated nation.

the hero two doors down: Over the Wall John H. Ritter, 2002-02-01 Thirteen-year-old Tyler, who has a problem with anger, spends a summer with his cousins in New York City, playing baseball and sorting out his feelings about the Vietnam war that took his grandfather's life.

the hero two doors down: The Hero Next Door Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich, 2019-07-30 From We Need Diverse Books, the organization behind Flying Lessons & Other Stories, comes another middle-grade short story collection--this one focused on exploring acts of bravery--featuring some of the best own-voices children's authors, including R. J. Palacio (Wonder), Rita Williams-Garcia (One Crazy Summer), Linda Sue Park (A Long Walk to Water), and many more. Not all heroes wear capes. Some heroes teach martial arts. Others talk to ghosts. A few are inventors or soccer players. They're also sisters, neighbors, and friends. Because heroes come in many shapes and sizes. But they all have one thing in common: they make the world a better place. Published in partnership with We Need Diverse Books, this vibrant anthology features thirteen acclaimed authors whose powerful and diverse voices show how small acts of kindness can save the day. So pay attention, because a hero could be right beside you. Or maybe the hero is you. AUTHORS INCLUDE: William Alexander, Joseph Bruchac, Lamar Giles, Mike Jung, Hena Khan, Juana Medina, Ellen Oh, R. J. Palacio, Linda Sue Park and Anna Dobbin, Cynthia Leitich Smith, Ronald L. Smith, Rita Williams-Garcia, and short-story contest winner Suma Subramaniam “As with the two previous anthologies from We Need Diverse Books, this collection admirably succeeds in making available to all readers a wider and more representative range of American voices and protagonists.” -The Washington Post

the hero two doors down: The Night Bus Hero Onjali Q. Rauf, 2020-10-15 From Onjali Q. Rauf, the award-winning and best-selling author of *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, comes another incredible story, told with humour and heart. 'The boy's an absolute menace.' 'He's a bully. A lost cause!' 'Why can't he be more like his sister?' I've been getting into trouble for as long I can remember. Usually I don't mind 'cos some of my best, most brilliant ideas have come from sitting in detention. But recently it feels like no one believes me about anything - even when I'm telling the truth! And it's only gotten worse since I played a prank on the old man who lives in the park. Everyone thinks I'm just a bully. They don't believe I could be a hero. But I'm going to prove them all wrong... Told from the perspective of a bully, this book explores themes of bullying and homelessness, while celebrating kindness, friendship and the potential everyone has to change for the good.

the hero two doors down: Brave Like My Brother Marc Tyler Nobleman, 2016-06-28 The action of WWII comes alive in this chapter book through American soldier Joe's letters home to his younger brother, Charlie! When Charlie's brother, Joe, is called up to fight in World War II, he

promises to write letters to ten-year-old Charlie as often as he can. It won't make up for not being there to help Charlie out with the neighborhood bullies, but it's all Joe can do. Life is tough for a soldier, and Joe tells Charlie all about it, from long hikes in endless rain and mud to the stray dog his company adopts. But when Joe is sent on a secret mission with the one soldier he can't stand, he will have to face risks that place their mission -- and their lives -- in grave danger. Charlie knew his brother was strong, but he will discover that Joe is more of a hero than he lets on. Will Joe's letters give Charlie the strength to stand up for himself and be brave, too?

the hero two doors down: Four Doors Down Emma Doherty, 2016-08-12 Becca McKenzie is just trying to make it through her senior year of high school. She has good friends and a gorgeous boyfriend but Ryan Jackson, the bane of her existence, keeps popping up everywhere. She doesn't care that they were best friends for years. She doesn't care that their moms are close and therefore she hears more about him than she'd ever care to know. She doesn't care that their mutual friend, Jake, keeps pushing for them to all to hang out together, and she especially doesn't care that the rest of the school bows down and worships him. Becca decided years ago that he wasn't worth her time and nothing, NOTHING, is going to change her mind.

the hero two doors down: Come the Revolution Alex Mitchell, 2012-02 Many know Alex Mitchell as a political journalist. Few know that he was also a revolutionary. This revealing memoir is a rollicking tale of chain-smoking newspapermen, unionists and revolutionaries, crooked cops and corrupt politicians, spies and dictators; made real by the struggles of ordinary working people.

the hero two doors down: 81 Fresh & Fun Critical-thinking Activities Laurie Rozakis, 1998 Help children of all learning styles and strengths improve their critical thinking skills with these creative, cross-curricular activities. Each engaging activity focuses on skills such as recognizing and recalling, evaluating, and analyzing.

the hero two doors down: Turtle in Paradise Jennifer L. Holm, 2010-05-11 In Jennifer L. Holm's New York Times bestselling, Newbery Honor winning middle grade historical fiction novel, life isn't like the movies. But then again, 11-year-old Turtle is no Shirley Temple She's smart and tough and has seen enough of the world not to expect a Hollywood ending. After all, it's 1935 and jobs and money and sometimes even dreams are scarce. So when Turtle's mama gets a job housekeeping for a lady who doesn't like kids, Turtle says goodbye without a tear and heads off to Key West, Florida to live with relatives she's never met. Florida's like nothing Turtle's ever seen before though. It's hot and strange, full of rag tag boy cousins, family secrets, scams, and even buried pirate treasure! Before she knows what's happened, Turtle finds herself coming out of the shell she's spent her life building, and as she does, her world opens up in the most unexpected ways. Filled with adventure, humor and heart, Turtle in Paradise is an instant classic both boys and girls with love. Includes an Author's Note with photographs and further background on the Great Depression, as well as additional resources and websites. Starred Review, Kirkus Reviews: Sweet, funny and superb. Starred Review, Booklist: Just the right mixture of knowingness and hope . . . a hilarious blend of family drama seasoned with a dollop of adventure.

the hero two doors down: Not If I Can Help It (Scholastic Gold) Carolyn Mackler, 2019-07-30 From award-winning Carolyn Mackler, the story of Willa, who has been living with Sensory Processing Disorder but is thrown for a BIG loop when her dad announces he's dating Willa's best friend's mom. Willa likes certain things to be certain ways. Her socks have to be soft . . . and definitely can't have irritating tags on the inside. She loves the crunch of popcorn and nachos . . . but is grossed out by the crunch of a baby carrot. And slimy foods? Those are the worst. Willa can manage all these things -- but there are some things she can't deal with, like her father's big news. He's been keeping a big secret from her . . . that he's been dating the mom of Willa's best friend Ruby. Willa does NOT like the idea of them being together. And she does NOT like the idea of combining families. And she does NOT like the idea of her best friend becoming her sister overnight. Will she go along with all of these changes? NOT if she can help it!

the hero two doors down: Slam! Walter Dean Myers, 1996 Sixteen-year-old Slam Harris is counting on his noteworthy basketball talents to get him out of the inner city and give him a chance

to succeed in life, but his coach sees things differently.

the hero two doors down: *The Wanderer* Robyn Carr, 2013-03-26 When Henry Cooper inherits property in Thunder Point, Oregon, the fate of the entire small town rests on whether he decides to stay there or move on, a decision that is influenced by his growing attraction for Sarah Dupree.

the hero two doors down: *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* Bette Bao Lord, 2019-04-02 A timeless classic that will enchant readers who love Jennifer L. Holm and Thanhha Lai, about an immigrant girl inspired by the sport she loves to find her own home team—and to break down any barriers that stand in her way. Shirley Temple Wong sails from China to America with a heart full of dreams. Her new home is Brooklyn, New York. America is indeed a land full of wonders, but Shirley doesn't know any English, so it's hard to make friends. Then a miracle happens: baseball! It's 1947, and Jackie Robinson, star of the Brooklyn Dodgers, is a superstar. Suddenly Shirley is playing stickball with her class and following Jackie as he leads the Brooklyn Dodgers to victory after victory. With her hero smashing assumptions and records on the ball field, Shirley begins to feel that America is truly the land of opportunity—and perhaps has also become her real home.

the hero two doors down: *Thank You, Jackie Robinson* Barbara Cohen, 2009-07-10 A fatherless white boy, who shares with an old African American man an enthusiasm for the Brooklyn Dodgers and first baseman Jackie Robinson, takes a ball autographed by Jackie to his elderly friend's deathbed.

the hero two doors down: *The Boy Who Saved Baseball* John Ritter, 2005-03-17 Tom Gallagher is in a tight spot. The fate of the Dillontown team rests on the outcome of one baseball game, winner take all. If Tom's team loses, they lose their field too. But how can they possibly win? Just when everything seems hopeless, a mysterious boy named Cruz de la Cruz rides into town and claims to know the secret of hitting. Not to mention the secrets of Dante Del Gato, Dillontown's greatest hitter ever. Since he walked away from the game years ago, Del Gato hasn't spoken a word to anyone. But now he might be Tom's only hope for saving his hometown. From the award-winning author of *Over the Wall* and *Choosing Up Sides* comes this imaginative tale of one boy's struggle to preserve the spirit of the game he loves.

the hero two doors down: *Ninja in the Kitchen* (Moby Shinobi: Scholastic Reader, Level 1) Luke Flowers, 2017-07-25 Moby heads to the pizza shop, where he will ninja kick and chop! In this Level 1 reader series, Moby Shinobi is a very helpful ninja! In this book, Moby Shinobi is making pizza at Papa Peppy's Pizza Shop. Moby tries to toss dough, slice pies, and serve hungry customers, but each attempt to help out just ends in a funny mess. Moby wants to help Papa Peppy, but what if his ninja skills aren't right for the job? When the key to Papa Peppy's secret sauce is lost, it's Moby's time to shine! Rhyming text and bright, full-color artwork make this the perfect book for young readers!

the hero two doors down: *The Off Limits Rule* Sarah Adams, 2020-12-13 I have found rock bottom. It's here, moving in with my older brother because I'm too broke to afford to live on my own. It's okay though, because we've always been close and I think I'm going to have fun living with him again. That is until I meet Cooper... Turns out, my brother has very strong opinions on the idea of me dating his best friend and is dead set against it. According to him, Cooper is everything I should stay away from: flirtatious, adventurous, non-committal, and freaking hot. (I added that last part because I feel like you need the whole picture.) My brother is right—I should stay away from Cooper James and his pretty blue eyes. He's the opposite of what I need right now. Nah—who am I kidding? I'm going for it. *The Off Limits Rule* is a closed door romance, perfect for readers who love lots of sizzle but no explicit content.

the hero two doors down: *Shatter Me* Tahereh Mafi, 2013-10-23 Juliette must make a choice. Be a weapon. Or a warrior. Combining a crumbling dystopian world with a compelling heroine who has inexplicable powers, *Shatter Me* is a mesmerising thriller. 'Addictive, intense, and oozing with romance.' - Lauren Kate, author of *Fallen*.

the hero two doors down: *Save Me a Seat* (Scholastic Gold) Sarah Weeks, Gita Varadarajan, 2016-05-10 A new friend could be sitting right next to you. *Save Me a Seat* joins the Scholastic Gold

line, which features award-winning and beloved novels. Includes exclusive bonus content! Joe and Ravi might be from very different places, but they're both stuck in the same place: SCHOOL. Joe's lived in the same town all his life, and was doing just fine until his best friends moved away and left him on his own. Ravi's family just moved to America from India, and he's finding it pretty hard to figure out where he fits in. Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common -- but soon enough they have a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.

the hero two doors down: Two Wolves Tristan Bancks, 2019-06-18 *WINNER YABBA AWARD - FICTION FOR YEARS 7-9* *HONOUR BOOK CBCA BOOK OF THE YEAR - YOUNGER READERS* One afternoon, police officers show up at Ben Silver's front door. Minutes after they leave, his parents arrive home. Ben and his little sister Olive are bundled into the car and told they're going on a holiday. But are they? It doesn't take long for Ben to realise that his parents are in trouble. Ben's always dreamt of becoming a detective - his dad even calls him 'Cop'. Now Ben gathers evidence and tries to uncover what his parents have done. The problem is, if he figures it out, what does he do? Tell someone? Or keep the secret and live life on the run? ----- 'Gripping and unpredictable, with a hero you won't forget.' JOHN BOYNE 'A tense, hard-edged, no-holds-barred thriller.' ANTHONY HOROWITZ 'Will keep you guessing and breathless until the very end.' MICHAEL GERARD BAUER

the hero two doors down: Boy Swallows Universe Trent Dalton, 2018-07-01 'The best Australian novel I have read in more than a decade' Sydney Morning Herald 'Astonishing, captivating ... a wild, beautiful, heart-exploding ride' Elizabeth Gilbert The bestselling novel that has taken Australia, and the world, by storm. Winner of Book of the Year at the 2019 Indie Book Awards, winner of a record four Australian Book Industry Awards in 2019, including the prestigious Book of the Year Award, and winner of the 2019 UTS Glenda Adams Award for New Writing, NSW Premier's Literary Awards Brisbane, 1985: A lost father, a mute brother, a junkie mum, a heroin dealer for a stepfather and a notorious crim for a babysitter. It's not as if Eli Bell's life isn't complicated enough already. He's just trying to follow his heart and understand what it means to be a good man, but fate keeps throwing obstacles in his way - not the least of which is Tytus Broz, legendary Brisbane drug dealer. But now Eli's life is going to get a whole lot more serious: he's about to meet the father he doesn't remember, break into Boggo Road Gaol on Christmas Day to rescue his mum, come face to face with the criminals who tore his world apart, and fall in love with the girl of his dreams. A story of brotherhood, true love and the most unlikely of friendships, Boy Swallows Universe will be the most heartbreaking, joyous and exhilarating novel you will read all year. Awards: 2019 ABIA Book of the Year Award, Winner 2019 Indie Book Award, Winner 2019 UTS Glenda Adams Award for New Writing, NSW Premier's Literary Awards, Winner 2019 People's Choice Award, NSW Premier's Literary Awards, Winner MUD Literary Prize 2019, Winner 2019 ABIA Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year, Winner 2019 ABIA Literary Fiction Book of the Year, Winner 2019 ABIA Audiobook of the Year, Winner 2019 Miles Franklin Literary Award, Longlisted 2019 Colin Roderick Award, shortlist Reviews: 'Boy Swallows Universe is a wonderful surprise: sharp as a drawer full of knives in terms of subject matter; unrepentantly joyous in its child's-eye view of the world; the best literary debut in a month of Sundays.' The Australian 'Boy Swallows Universe hypnotizes you with wonder, and then hammers you with heartbreak.' Washington Post 'This thrilling novel' New York Times Book Review 'Marvelously plot-rich ... filled with beautifully lyric prose ... At one point Eli wonders if he is good. The answer is yes, every bit as good as this exceptional novel.' Booklist 'Dalton's splashy, stellar debut makes the typical coming-of-age novel look bland by comparison ... This is an outstanding debut.' Publisher's Weekly (starred review) 'Extraordinary and beautiful storytelling' Guardian

the hero two doors down: Yusuf Azeem Is Not a Hero Saadia Faruqi, 2021-09-07 At a time when we are all asking questions about identity, grief, and how to stand up for what is right, this book by the author of A Thousand Questions will hit home with young readers who love Hena Khan and Varian Johnson—or anyone struggling to understand recent U.S. history and how it still affects

us today. Yusuf Azeem has spent all his life in the small town of Frey, Texas—and nearly that long waiting for the chance to participate in the regional robotics competition, which he just knows he can win. Only, this year is going to be more difficult than he thought. Because this year is the twentieth anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, an anniversary that has everyone in his Muslim community on edge. With “Never Forget” banners everywhere and a hostile group of townspeople protesting the new mosque, Yusuf realizes that the country’s anger from two decades ago hasn’t gone away. Can he hold onto his joy—and his friendships—in the face of heartache and prejudice?

the hero two doors down: *Crenshaw* Katherine Applegate, 2015-10-08 The heart-warming new story about family and friendships from Newbery Medal-winner Katherine Applegate.

the hero two doors down: *Under the Same Sun* Sharon Robinson, 2014 It is Grandmother Bibi's ninetieth birthday and when she travels to Tanzania from America to visit her son and grandchildren they surprise her with a birthday safari.

the hero two doors down: *Long Shot* Kennedy Ryan, 2023-08-08 From award-winning author Kennedy Ryan comes the soul-grIPPING, unforgettable first installment of the Hoops trilogy. Iris DuPree meets August West in a sports bar during her last semester of college. It's the conversation of a lifetime and sends sparks flying in every direction. The connection is undeniable...but the timing is all wrong. August is poised for the NBA draft, and Iris belongs to another man--basketball's golden boy and August's long-time rival. The two go their separate ways, but they often recall that electric night and what could have been. While August has embarked on his all-star life, studded with wealth and fame, Iris's perfect public relationship has become a nightmare behind closed doors. A tarnished dream of fool's gold. When August re-enters her life, the world seems briefly bright again, but Iris's darkest nights are not over yet. To survive, she must build her own strength and trust that her bond with August can endure after all this time. Even when her fraudulent prince has vowed never to let her go.

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