

The need for diverse stories



Books have a great impact on people. As Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie said: "Stories matter. Many stories matter. Stories have been used to dispossess and to malign, but stories can also be used to empower and to humanize. Stories can break the dignity of a people, but stories can also repair that broken dignity." What we read shapes how we perceive the world and that's why diversity and representation of different nationalities, ethnicities and minorities is so important in literature.

One of the ways to destroy stereotypes and stigmas is to create more than a single story - more perspectives, more diverse voices. As a Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie said: "That when we reject the single story, when we realize that there is never a single story about any place, we regain a kind of paradise."

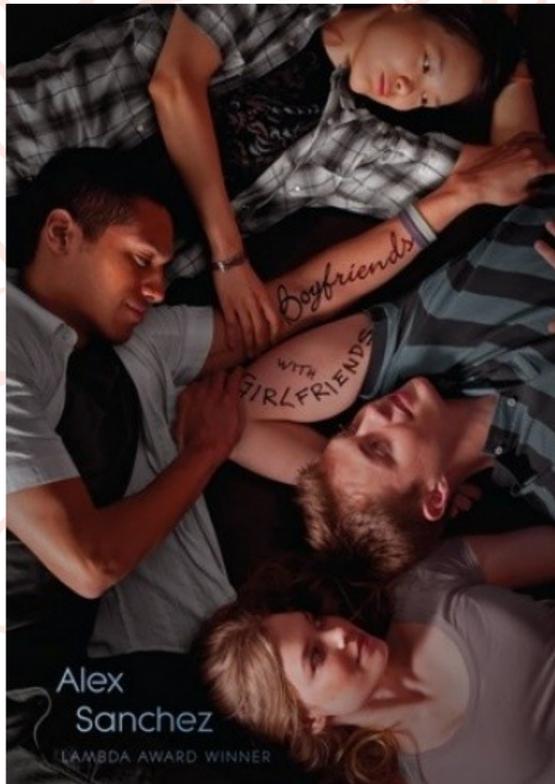
One of many ways that libraries and authors promote diverse literature is giving prizes to a limited group of people, who are usually a part of a minority or a vulnerable group. It is one of the best ways to show inclusion in the literary world.

Examples of such prizes:

- **Carter G. Woodson Award** - given for the most distinguished books appropriate for young readers that depict ethnicity in the United States
- **Women's Prize for Fiction** - given to celebrate and honour fiction written by women
- **BCALA Literary Award (Black Caucus American Library Association Literary Awards)** - given to acknowledge outstanding works of fiction and nonfiction for adult audiences by African American Authors

Recommendations

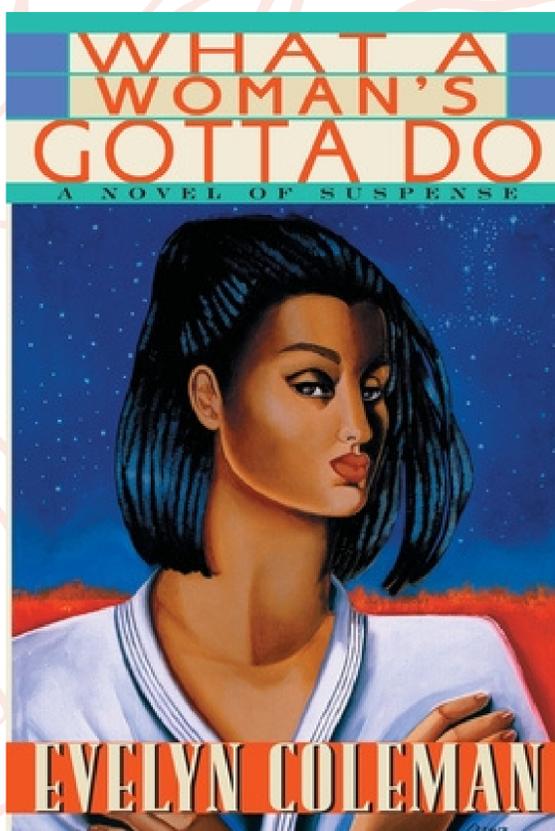
***Boyfriends with
Girlfriends***, Alex
Sanchez.



Wonder by R.J.
Palacio



***What A Woman's
Gotta Do***
by Evelyn
Coleman



Noor
by Nnedi Okorafor

