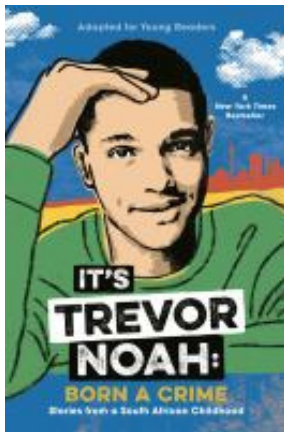
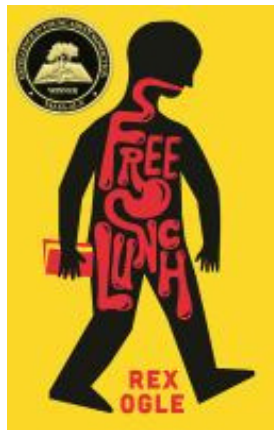


## Biographies and Memoirs



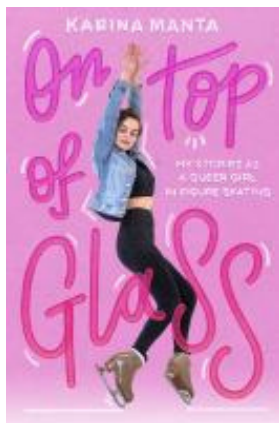
It's Trevor Noah : born a crime : stories from a South African childhood  
Trevor Noah.  
(YA 791.4502 N)



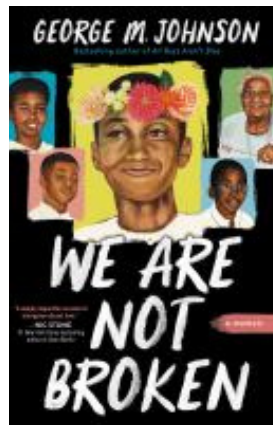
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Rex Ogle  
(YA 362.7092 O)



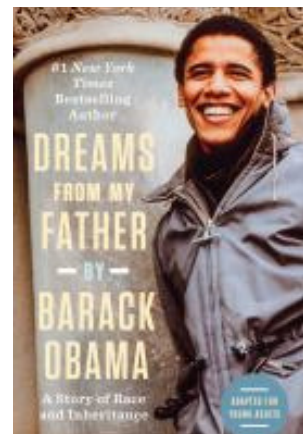
Fashion is Freedom : how a girl from Tehran broke the rules to change her world  
Tala Raassi  
(YA 746.9 R)



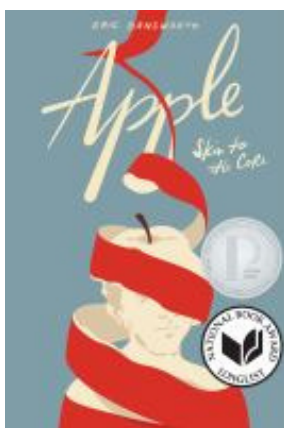
On Top of Glass : my stories as a queer girl in figure skating  
Karina Manta  
(YA 796.91 M)



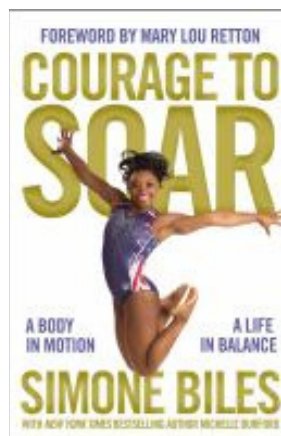
We are Not Broken  
George M. Johnson  
(YA 306.76 J)



Dreams From My Father : a story of race and inheritance  
Barack Obama  
(YA 973 O)



Apple : skin to the core  
Eric Gansworth  
(YA 920.00929 G)



Courage to Soar : a body in motion, a life in balance  
Simone Biles  
(YA 796.44092 B)



Sarah Bernhardt : the divine and dazzling life of the world's first superstar  
Catherine Reef  
(YA 792.02 R)



# Biographies and Memoirs

## **It's Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah (YA 791.4502 N)**

We do horrible things to one another because we don't see the person it affects. . . . We don't see them as people.

Trevor Noah, host of *The Daily Show* on Comedy Central, shares his remarkable story of growing up in South Africa with a black South African mother and a white European father at a time when it was against the law for a mixed-race child to exist. But he did exist--and from the beginning, the often-misbehaved Trevor used his keen smarts and humor to navigate a harsh life under a racist government.

In a country where racism barred blacks from social, educational, and economic opportunity, Trevor surmounted staggering obstacles and created a promising future for himself thanks to his mom's unwavering love and indomitable will.

## **Free Lunch by Rex Ogle (YA 362.7092 O)**

A distinctive new voice: Rex Ogle's story of starting middle school on the free lunch program is timely, heartbreaking, and true. *Free Lunch* is the story of Rex Ogle's first semester in sixth grade. Rex and his baby brother often went hungry, wore secondhand clothes, and were short of school supplies, and Rex was on his school's free lunch program. Grounded in the immediacy of physical hunger and the humiliation of having to announce it every day in the school lunch line, Rex's is a compelling story of a more profound hunger -- that of a child for his parents' love and care. Compulsively readable, beautifully crafted, and authentically told with the voice and point of view of a 6th-grade kid, *Free Lunch* is a remarkable debut by a gifted storyteller.

## **Fashion is Freedom: How a Girl From Tehran Broke the Rules to Change Her World by Tala Raassi (YA 746.9 R)**

Since she was young, Tala Raassi knew her fate lay in fashion. But growing up in her beloved homeland of Iran, a woman can be punished for exposing her hair in public, let alone wearing the newest trends. Despite strict regulations, Tala developed a keen sense of style in backroom cafes and secret parties. She never imagined her behavior would land her in prison, or bring the cruel sting of a whip for the crime of wearing a mini-skirt.

Tala's forty lashes didn't keep her down - they fanned the flames of individuality and inspired her to embrace a new freedom in the United States. As she developed her own clothing label, her exploration into the creative, cut throat community of Western fashion opened her eyes to the ups and downs of hard work, hard decisions, and hard truths.

*Fashion is Freedom* takes us on a journey that crosses the globe, from Colombia to Miss Universe, and inspires women everywhere to be fearless...

## **On Top of Glass: My Stories as a Queer Girl in Figure Skating by Karina Manta (YA 796.91 M)**

Attending a high school with 4,000 students, you'd expect to know more than two openly gay students, but Karina didn't meet an out-lesbian until she was nearly seventeen--let alone any other kind of queer woman. But this isn't just a story about her queerness. It's also a story about her struggle with body image in a sport that prizes delicate femininity. It's a story about panic attacks, and first crushes, and all the crushes that followed, and it's a story about growing up, feeling different than everybody around her and then realizing that everyone else felt different too.

## **We Are Not Broken by George M. Johnson (YA 306.76 J)**

George, Garrett, Rall, and Rasul were raised by Nanny, their fiercely devoted grandmother. The boys hold one another close through early brushes with racism, memorable experiences at the family barbershop, and first loves and losses. And with Nanny at their center, they are never broken. Johnson captures the unique experience of growing up as a Black boy in America, and their rich family stories. He explores themes of vulnerability, sacrifice, and culture, interspersed with touching letters from the grandchildren to their beloved matriarch.

## **Dreams From My Father: a Story of Race and Inheritance by Barack Obama (YA 973 O)**

The son of a white American mother and a Black Kenyan father, Obama was born in Hawaii, where he lived until he was six years old, when he moved with his mother and stepfather to Indonesia. At twelve, he returned to Hawaii to live with his grandparents. Obama brings readers along as he faces the challenges of high school and college, living in New York, becoming a community organizer in Chicago, and traveling to Kenya. Through these experiences, he forms an enduring commitment to leadership and justice. Told through the lens of his relationships with his family--the mother and grandparents who raised him, the father he knows more as a myth than as a man, and the extended family in Kenya he meets for the first time--Obama confronts the complicated truth of his father's life and legacy and comes to embrace his divided heritage.

On his journey to adulthood from a humble background, he forges his own path through trial and error while staying connected to his roots. Barack Obama is determined to lead a life of purpose, service, and authenticity. This powerful memoir will inspire readers to examine both where they come from and where they are capable of going.

## **Apple: Skin to the Core by Eric Gansworth (YA 920.00929 G)**

The term "Apple" is a slur in Native communities across the country. It's for someone supposedly "red on the outside, white on the inside."

In *Apple (Skin to the Core)*, Eric Gansworth tells his story, the story of his family--of Onondaga among Tuscaroras--of Native folks everywhere. From the horrible legacy of the government boarding schools, to a boy watching his siblings leave and return and leave again, to a young man fighting to be an artist who balances multiple worlds.

Eric shatters that slur and reclaims it in verse and prose and imagery that truly lives up to the word heartbreaking.

## **Courage to Soar: a Body in Motion, a Life in Balance by Simone Biles (YA 796.44092 B)**

Through years of hard work and determination, Biles has relied on her faith and family to stay focused and positive, while having fun competing at the highest level and doing what she loves. In her own words she takes you through the events, challenges, and trials that carried her from an early childhood in foster care to a coveted spot on the 2016 Olympic team.

## **Sarah Bernhardt: the Divine and Dazzling Life of the World's First Superstar by Catherine Reef (YA 792.02 R)**

Sarah Bernhardt was a French stage actor who became a global superstar in the late nineteenth century--the Lady Gaga of her day--and is still considered to be one of the greatest performers of all time. This fast-paced account of her life, filled with provocative detail, brilliantly follows the transformation of a girl of humble origins, born to a courtesan, into a fabulously talented, wealthy, and beloved icon. Not only was her acting trajectory remarkable, but her personal life was filled with jaw-dropping exploits, and she was extravagantly eccentric, living with a series of exotic animals and sleeping in a coffin. She grew to be deeply admired around the world, despite her unabashed and public promiscuity at a time when convention was king; she slept with each of her leading men and proudly raised a son without a husband. A fascinating and fast-paced deep dive into the world of the divine Sarah.