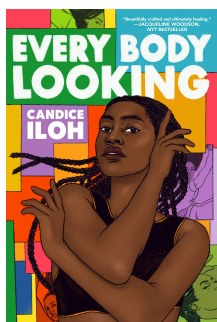


## Novel in Verse



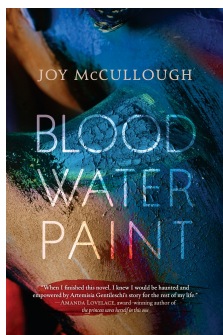
### ***The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo**

Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, Xiomara Batista has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. She pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers--especially after she catches feelings for a boy in her bio class named Aman, who her family can never know about. Mami is determined to force her daughter to obey the laws of the church, and Xiomara understands that her thoughts are best kept to herself. When she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she can't stop thinking about performing her poems.



### ***Every Body Looking* by Candice Iloh**

A mixed-heritage dancer's coming of age within the African diaspora is shaped by abuse at the hands of a cousin, her mother's descent into addiction, and her father's efforts to create a Nigerian-inspired home in America



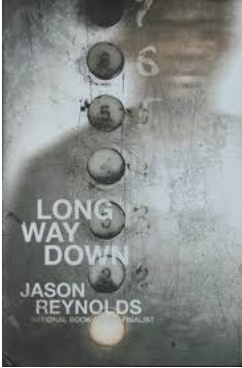
### ***Blood Water Paint* by Joy McCullough**

In Renaissance Italy, Artemisia Gentileschi endures the subjugation of women that allows her father to take credit for her extraordinary paintings, rape and the ensuing trial, and torture, buoyed by her deceased mother's stories of strong women of the Bible.



### ***Karma* by Cathy Osterle**

Fifteen-year-old half Hindu, half Sikh Maya, having traveled from Canada to New Delhi to put her mother's ashes in their final resting place, finds herself in the middle of chaos after Indira Gandhi is assassinated and must disguise her identity and rely on a boy she just met in order to be reunited with her father and remain safe.



### ***Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds**

As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know.

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