

Name:



Homework

Jewell Parker Rhodes



“I’m Gonna Be A Storyteller!”

Jewell Parker Rhodes has always loved books. As a child, her family called her “the little professor” because all she ever wanted to do was read. She wrote stories all the time. But she never considered becoming an author.

Why not? Rhodes says, “I had never read a book by a Black person or any person of color until I became a junior in college. And when I saw that Black women could write books, that was when I decided, that’s going to be my profession.” She called her grandmother, who had raised her. She said to her, “I’m gonna be a storyteller!”

Today, she has written over a dozen books, both for kids and adults. Her young adult books focus on controversial subjects. One book, *Ghost Boys*, is about police violence. Another, *Towers Falling*, is about the September 11 attacks on America. She has also written the Louisiana Girls trilogy: three books about strong Black girls in Louisiana, in different time periods.

Source: “Black Lives Matter for Middle Schoolers,” The Longest Shortest Time, May 2, 2018.

What did you learn about Jewell Parker Rhodes?

If you could tell something to Jewell Parker Rhodes when she was a child, what would it be?

If you could ask the adult Jewell Parker Rhodes something, what would it be?

This page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.