



**Are you
#ReadWoke?**

*Phil Goerner
Silver Creek High School*

<https://is.gd/2cxkVL>





**CICELY LEWIS, LIBRARIAN
MEADOWCREEK HIGH SCHOOL
NORCROSS, GA**

INSTAGRAM

@READWOKE_LIBRARIAN

CICELY LEWIS TWITTER

@CICELYTHEGREAT

BLOG:

<https://cicelythegreat.wordpress.com/>



**Seek to challenge
the status quo**

A READ

WOKE BOOK

Shed light on an issue

MUST:

**EXPLORE AN UNDERREPRESENTED
OR OPPRESSED GROUP**

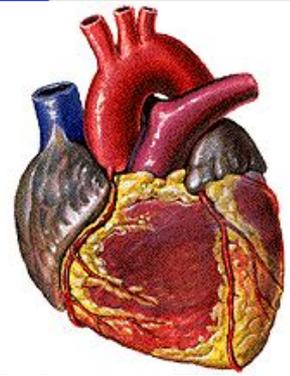
**A READ
WOKE BOOK
MUST:**

Challenge a social norm

**Give voice to the
voiceless**

**Tell the side of the
of the oppressed**

**Provide information about a
group that has been
disenfranchised**



YOUNG PEOPLE, OUR STUDENTS, COME FROM VARIOUS BACKGROUNDS, DON'T ALWAYS KNOW WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE GOING THROUGH. THEY MAY NOT EVEN KNOW THEIR OWN COMMUNITY. READING AND DISCUSSING #READWOKE BOOKS GIVE THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK ABOUT ISSUES, FIND THEIR VOICE, FIND A PLATFORM, AND POSSIBLY EVEN TO EMPOWER THEM TO BE SOCIAL JUSTICE WARRIORS.

(PARAPHRASED FROM CICELY LEWIS)



think...

- *Write about one book character that restored your faith in humanity*
- *Two unfair things/injustices that you learned about from books*
- *Something you learned from your reading about another culture, race, religion or gender*

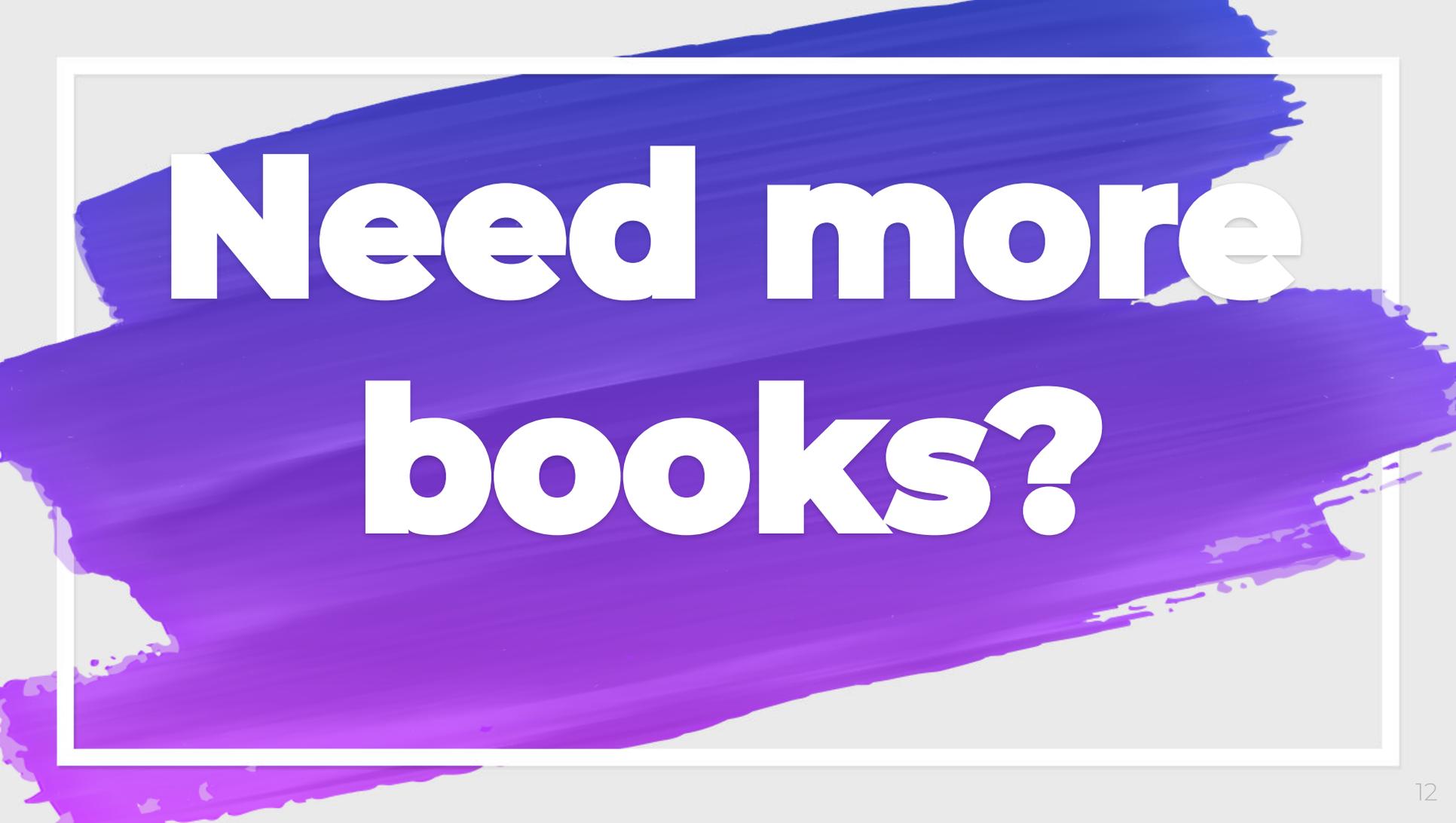
(Choose one)

Time for books!

Link to booklist

<https://is.gd/Onq3KG>





**Need more
books?**

The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas

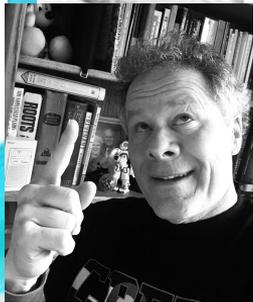
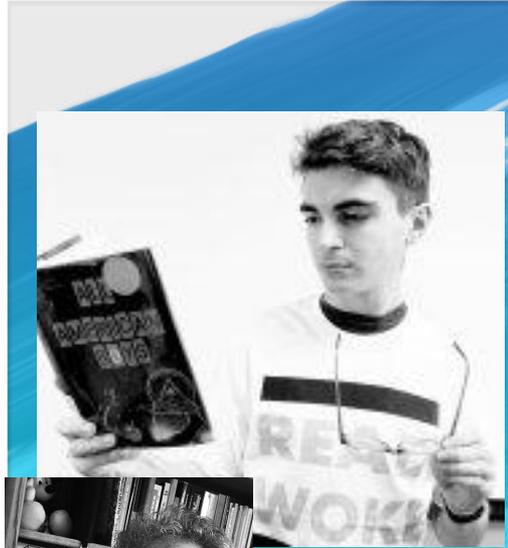


This Mississippi native writes an apologetically black novel about a fearless young queen named, Starr. Thomas shows the complexity of Starr through her love of Harry Potter to her love of Tupac Shakur. Starr is torn between two worlds. Her prestigious private school world contrasts greatly to her impoverished, crime infested neighborhood. We travel with Starr as she witnesses the unthinkable and how she survives and overcomes, well you will have to read to find out.

<https://cicelythegreat.wordpress.com/2017/11/20/readwoke/>

All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brenden Kiely

The story of two teens. Two different stories , two different lenses, one truth....This is the story of a terrible violent act that tears apart these young boys' world. It is a quintessential read in our times when young black unarmed men and women are being gunned down and no one is being held accountable. What makes this story different from all the rest is that it is told by two different authors, one white, one black , just like the characters. The reader can see the situation from two different viewpoints. In today's time, we need to look at situations from other viewpoints in order better understand and stay woke.



Dear Martin by Nic Stone



Dear Martin is the story of a young man who has decided to write to Dr. Martin Luther King about his life and the world today. Justyce is a young black male who has been admitted to Yale but in the back of his mind he wonders if he will always be seen as an affirmative action recipient or as what he really is as an intelligent, young hardworking black man. This story will awaken readers to the bias thoughts of others and the struggles of many. You will not be the same after reading Nic Stone's debut novel, Dear Martin.

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson



Death row? Ever been to prison? I'm not sure I'd like to go, but lawyer Bryan Stevenson finds himself defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system.

I found it to be insightful, unforgettable, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the complex pursuit of true justice. Opened my eyes to how poorly we treat the incarcerated and their families.

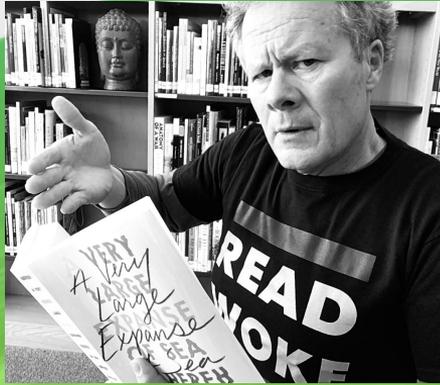
I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika Sanchez



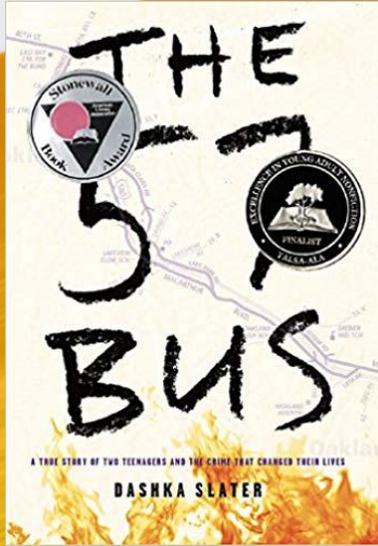
This book had me at hello. The title is everything. Teaching in a school with over 70% Latino students and the majority of those Latino students being from Mexico, made this book a no brainer for my collection. This novel is about a young girl's struggle losing her sister, Olga. "Olga. Saint Olga, the perfect Mexican daughter. Sometimes I wanted to scream at her until something switched on in her brain. But the only time I ever asked her why she didn't move out or go to a real college, she told me to leave her alone in a voice so weak and brittle...Now I'll never know what Olga would have become."

A Very Large Expanse of Sea by Tahereh Mafi

Beautiful and somewhat heartbreaking story about racism, bullying and breakdancing! After 9/11, Shirin finds herself moving schools a lot. She stands out because she wears a hijab, a head scarf. The struggles of bullying are real, the details of cultural identity and the clash of current culture make this a sweet read. Oh, and there is a boy involved...in a romance that what some would say makes it hard to put down! Worth the read.

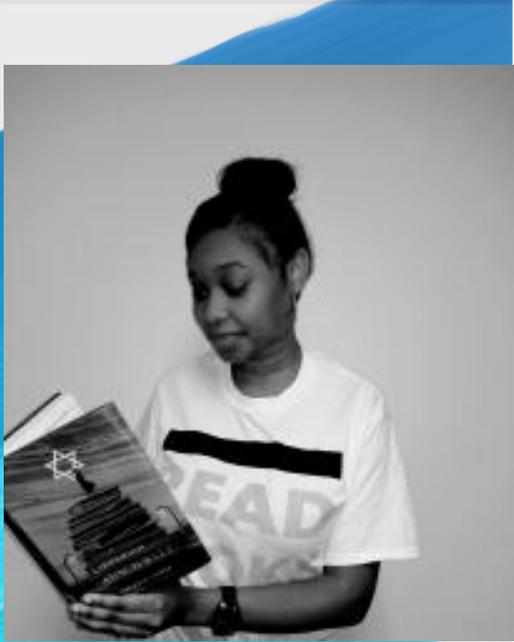


The 57 Bus by Dashka Slater



There is a bus in Oakland California, where one day, two students paths overlap for a mere eight minutes. A single reckless act left Sasha severely burned and Richard charged with two hate crimes, facing life imprisonment. A tremendous, but sad story about two teenagers. This well documented non-fiction book is revealed the tale in a most compelling fashion. This one is an important read.

The Librarian of Auschwitz by Antonio Iturbe



Based on a true story, this story tells the tale of a the smallest library. Dita is a teenage prisoner of the Nazis at Auschwitz. Uprooted from her comfortable life, her family is forced from their home to Terezin and then the Auschwitz in Poland. While imprisoned she is granted the most sacred job of all, the librarian. She is in charge of 8 precious books that have been smuggled in by the prisoners. This is a story of the power of reading as an escape during one of the darkest periods in history. It is a story of how you can imprison a person's body but not the spirit and the mind.

Hunger by Roxane Gay



“During the first two years of high school, I ate and I ate and I ate and ate and I become more and more lost. I started high school as nothing and then became less than nothing....I was trying to sop feeling those boys on and in my skinas they ruined me.” Feminist author, Roxane Gay takes us through the harrowing memoir of her body. Ms. Gay explores the hidden issues behind being overweight and she challenges the idea of attaining true happiness through weight loss. This is a story that has not been told and that needs to be listened to with great attention.

Turtles All the Way Down by John Green



Aza Holmes is a 16 year old high school student who suffers from an anxiety disorder. This anxiety disorder has caused her to lead a lonely sheltered life but she finds true friendship with Daisy. With Daisy, she can be herself and feel accepted. After reconnecting with her long lost friend, Davis, who is also the son of a millionaire, Aza finally starts to feel that she can let others in her life. Aza and Daisy decide to try to search for Davis' father who has been missing. What she discovers will hurt her and possibly ruin her friendship with Davis and Daisy or will it make their bond stronger? You have to read to find out the outcome!

Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass by Meg Medina



When Piddy Sanchez hears that Yaqui Delgado wants to kick her ass. Her world start spiraling downward. Meg Medina tells a harrowing story of the evils of school bullying and how easy it is to go unnoticed. She sheds that light on a subject that is tormenting our young people across the world. This issue transcends race, class, and gender. This novel will make young readers see the frivolousness of bullying. Readers will either identify with Piddy or Yaqui but either way their eyes will be opened.

Girl Mans Up by M-E Girard



This book challenges the idea behind what is to be “real ” girl. Penelope aka Pen is having trouble identifying her gender. She doesn’t feel comfortable confining herself to labels and has a hard time trying to live up to everyone’s expectations. When her family and friends can’t help her, she has to come to terms with who she is in a complicated world. In today’s time when our LGBTQ community is fighting for their rights, this is a story that needs to be told, read, and listened to by all.

Sugar by Deirdre Riordan Hall



Sugar is the story of a young woman struggling with her weight. Her life is devoted to taking care of her obese mother and she is bullied in school but also at home by her brother, Skunk. Sugar copes with the pain through eating. Eating is her comfort but also her vice. Then, her whole world changes when she meets a new friend who challenges all of her preconceived notions. Can her friendship survive her negative thoughts, her family's maltreatment of her or will she never rise above the ashes? Hall takes us into a world that many of us may not consider when we talk about groups who face discrimination. She sheds light on an issue that is rampant in our school's hallways but many times is dismissed.

Juliet Takes a Breath by Gabby Rivera

Juliet Milagros Pilante has a secret. She tells her family and doesn't know if her secret will sever ties with her family forever. Juliet concocts a plan to help her figure out how to cope. Will she be able to learn how to live out her truth in spite of what her family thinks? Will her problems be too much to handle?



The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness



If you ask most people if Jim Crow has ended, they will answer yes. Michelle Alexander challenges that notion, “We have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it.” There are more black men incarcerated today than were enslaved during the height of slavery. Alexander’s book challenges the legal system and justice for all. Many times I had to stop reading and just digest the information. The information was so powerful, so riveting. This book will make you look at the justice system in a totally different light and you will never be the same.

Are you up for the #ReadWoke Challenge?

Design your own...

- Read 4 books
- Discuss with others
- Get a shirt, prizes, or bragging rights!

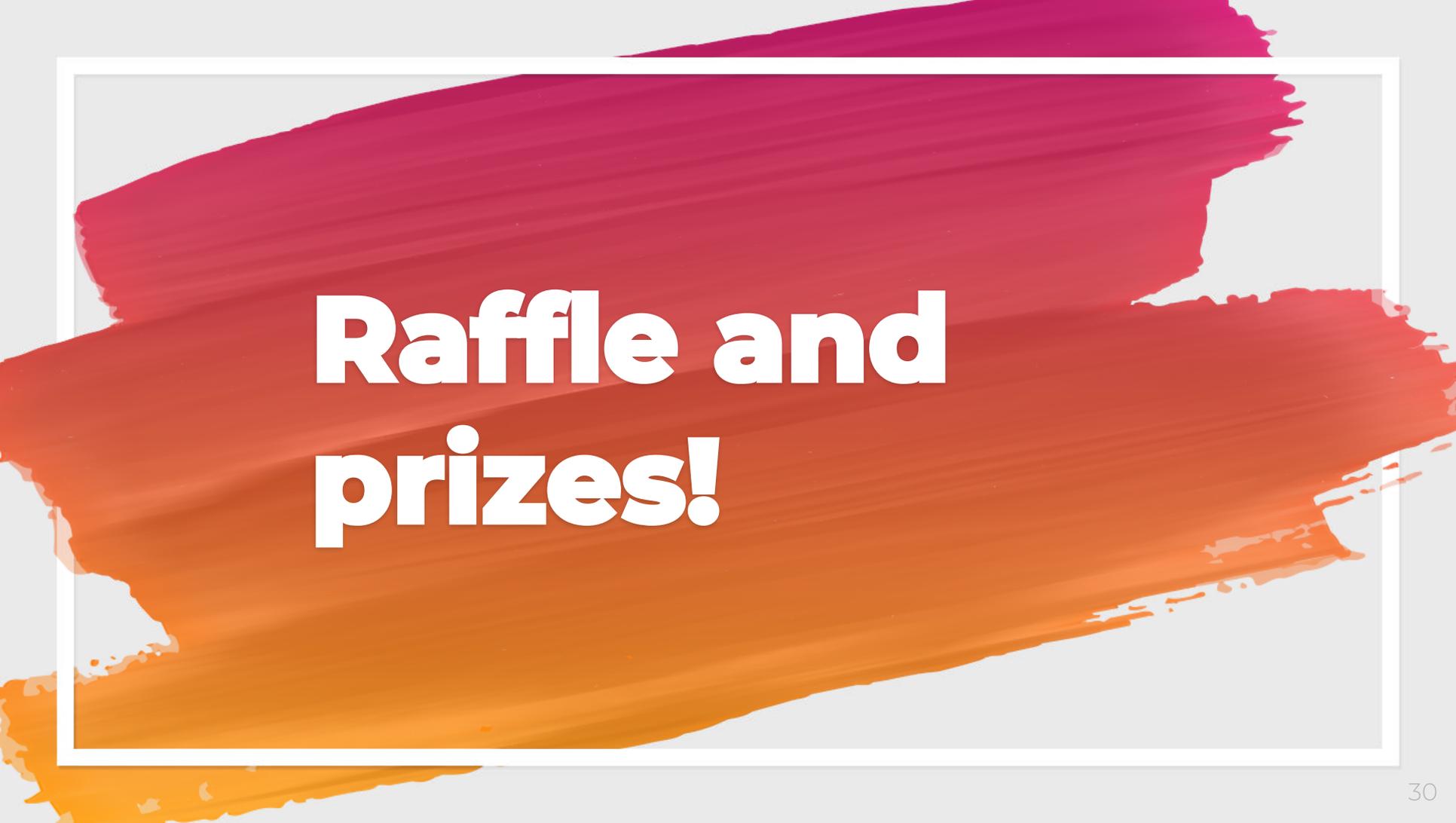
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Raffle and prizes!

Thank you!

Phil Goerner

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Quotes slides



booklist

This presentation

