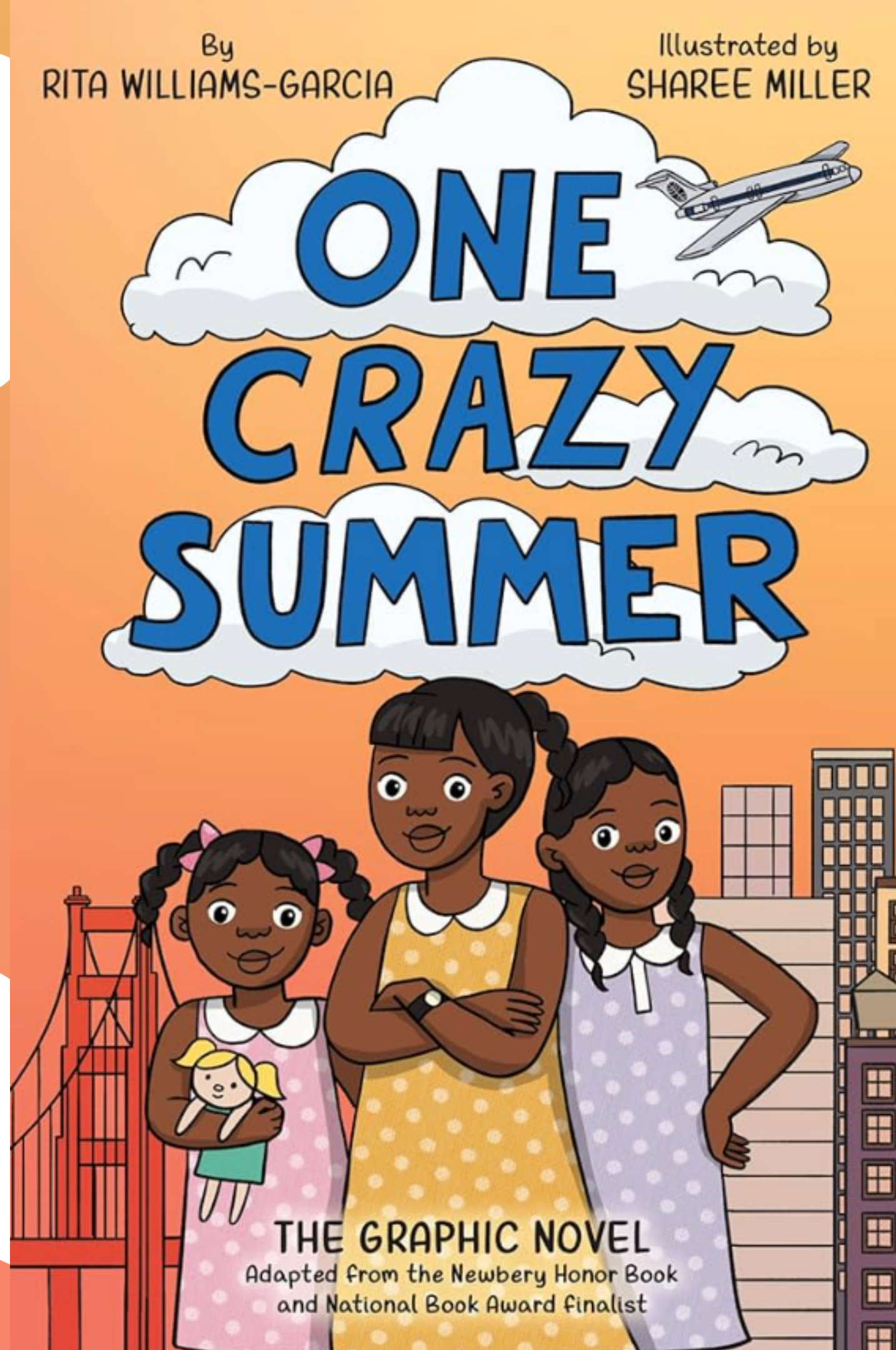


One Crazy Summer
By Rita Williams-Garcia
Illustrated by Sharee
Miller



**"Reading Between the
Panels: Inferencing in One
Crazy Summer"**

**Developed by Luna Garcia, Bryn
Curnutte, and Sofia Passanisi for
CU Boulder's Children's Book
Festival 2025, Open Education
Resource, Creative Commons,
Available at
colorado.edu/event/bookfest**

Grade and Colorado Academic Standard

- Grade level: 6th Grade
- Content area: Reading, Writing, and Communicating
- Standard: Oral Expression and Listening
 - Grade level expectation: Employ appropriate presentation and collaboration strategies to meet the needs of a given task and purpose
 - Evidence outcome: Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (for example: visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study

“Colorado Academic Standard information retrieved from <https://www.cde.state.co.us/apps/standards>.

View the full standards at <https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/standards>

Activity Overview

Students will be assigned an illustration from the text and expected to analyze/annotate it in relation to one of the themes found in the story. This annotation should include; analysis of the colors used, fonts, mood, and tone. Students will also make connections to the theme, message, and prior knowledge when analyzing their assigned illustration.

Materials

- **Writing Tools: Pens, Pencils, Sharpie etc.**
- **Colorful element: Crayons, Colored Pencils, Markers**
- **Sticky notes or anyway to add**
- **Photo copy of selected pages**

Directions

- 1. Students will be broken into groups of 2 or 3 and assigned pages from the text. (We recommend pages; 20, 21, 27, 48, 69, 91, 115, 160, 177, 202, 232, and 274.)**
- 2. Students individually will be given two minutes to look at the page and write down first impressions (for example: colors, fonts, and images).**
- 3. Students will then be given 5 minutes for comparison in discussion form with their group members to review first impression notes.**
- 4. Students will then take 15 minutes combined for group annotation and to develop their final project.**

Continued Directions

- 1. Students will then use guided questions in their groups such as: What do you see? What do you think is happening? What happened before and what might happen next? How does this picture connect to the big ideas or themes in the story? Why do you think this illustration was included?**
- 2. Students will share in small groups their connections to the illustrations.**
- 3. Students will then receive feedback from their peers in the form of one positive and one added suggestion.**
- 4. Students will then go back to their original groups and review feedback as well as make changes needed.**
- 5. Lastly, students will submit their final project and participate in a gallery walk in order to observe others' work.**

Additional Suggestions

Ways to extend the activity further:

Have students research the Black Panther Party or historical context and seeing how it further connects to Cecile's activism.

Ask specific guiding questions:

- a. What do you know about this character?**
- b. How did this character feel in the scene?**
- c. How does this picture connect to the main theme in the story?**

Students write a short paragraph connecting their illustration to one of the novel's themes.

- **Possible modifications or accommodations (to differentiate for a variety of learners, for different grades/ages):**
 - **Creating sentence frames for learners who need support with reading. For more skilled readers, they could find at LEAST one quote to support their claim.**

Additional Suggestions

- **Ways to assess the activity:**
 - **Observe class discussions**
 - **Check that annotations include connections to the themes**
 - **Neatness and organization of final product**
 - **Students are engaged and participating in productive discussions and collaboration**
- **Other recommendations**
 - **Always show your students an example so they can get the best understanding of the activity.**
- **An image of a sample final “product” of the completed activity**



The CU Boulder School of Education and Boulder Bookstore present the
2025 Children's Book Festival

Saturday, November 8 | Boulder Public Library



**SALINA
YOON**



**NYASHA
WILLIAMS**



**DENISE
VEGA**



**PAM
MUÑOZ RYAN**



**RITA
WILLIAMS-GARCIA**



**SHAREE
MILLER**

Join us on Saturday, November 8, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

 **Boulder Public Library (Main Branch) - 1001 Arapahoe Ave.**
Free parking available

This **free event** includes author talks, a panel for educators, book sales and signing, children's activities and more. Come for part of the event, or stay for the day!

Free educational resources available on our website. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available for teachers and librarians.

The CU Children's Book Festival is supported by a grant from the CU Office for Public and Community Engaged Scholarship (PACES)



See the schedule & register:
[colorado.edu/event/bookfest](https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest)

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We also hope you can join us on
Saturday, November 8 at the
Boulder Public Library to meet Rita
Williams-Garcia and Sharee Miller
and hear more about “One Crazy
Summer: The Graphic Novel” in-
person...along with other authors
and illustrators! For more
information, visit
[https://www.colorado.edu/event/
bookfest](https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest)