

CAVALLA PUBLISHING HOUSE

# JANJAY BOOK GUIDE

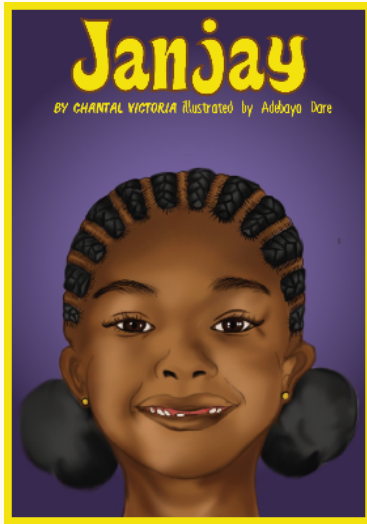
by Chantal Victoria



# DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR JANJAY

PLEASE NOTE THIS GUIDE MAY CONTAIN SPOILERS

## About the Book



Janjay (Title Pronounced John-Jay)

Illustrated by Adebayo Dare Audiobook

read by Chrislene Bright

Janjay is an energetic, smart, and curious little girl living in the West African country of Liberia.

She is responsible for collecting clean water for the household on a regular basis, but one day finds herself distracted by afternoon fun with a friend, which causes her to neglect her chores. She later discovers the seriousness of her actions and learns a real-life lesson about disobedience and the important role she plays in her family.

Through humor and the use of local language, this story brings to light the global issue of access to clean-water sanitation that resonates with millions of girls around the world.

Fiction

Reading Level- ages 9-12

## About the Author

Chantal Victoria (Chantal Victoria Bright) is a first-generation Liberian American. Due to the civil wars in Liberia, her family sought refuge in the United States, where she grew up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She holds a master's degree in Environmental Management from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in English and Political Science (dual course) from Seton Hall University. Chantal is pursuing a PhD in Geography and her research sits at the nexus of water security, peace and fragility in Liberia from an African ecofeminist perspective at the University of Manchester (United Kingdom).

She resides in England.

# Discussion Guide

## About This Guide

The questions for discussion that follow are intended to enhance children's reading and understanding of the book. The guide can be used on a one-to-one basis or as part of a small children's reading group.

1. What are your overall thoughts of the book? How did it make you feel?
2. Who is your favourite character in the story and why?
3. Think about one of the minor characters (Zangar, Bendu, Joe-Joe, Daddy, etc.) in the story. Why did the author include him/her?
4. Is the setting of the story important to the book? In what ways?
5. How does Janjay's life in Liberia differ from yours? What are some of the similarities?
6. How does the use of local language help enrich the setting of the story?
7. What does the purple cup that Janjay uses during her morning routine represent? (Pg. 3-5)
8. What does *The Adventures of Gwendolyn* book series represent? (Pg. 5, 19, 37)
9. Why do you think Janjay slept in Joe-Joe's bed face to face when he was sick? (Pg. 1 & 34)
10. What do you think the moral of the story is?
11. How does Mrs. Grimes represent in the moral of the story? (Pg. 30)
12. Why do you think Janjay believes that because Gwendolyn (the main character in her book series) doesn't have to collect water in London, the story must be fiction? (Pg. 37)
13. Reportedly 663 million people are without access to clean-water sanitation (as of 2017)  
What are some of the ways girls like Janjay are affected by having to collect clean water for their families?