



HC: 978-1-5362-2452-8

Also available as an e-book and in audio

From the *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Black Friend* and a seasoned activist comes an indispensable guide to social and political progressivism for young people and anyone wanting to get more involved.

REFLECTION

Better Than We Found It is a call to action. Whether students are reading all the essays in this book or selected essays that support particular curricular units, invite them to begin by reflecting on the following question: What is your vision of a better world?

Let students know that such reflection involves careful consideration and interrogation of their identity, positionality, and privilege as they envision a better world.

READING

There are several ways for readers to engage with *Better Than We Found It*. Educators might consider reading this book with colleagues as part of a professional learning community.

Young people might engage with this book:

- as a whole-class or whole-school study with teachers and peers
- by selecting key chapters to read, study, and discuss in connection with a specific unit or content area
- by listening to their teacher read the introduction and foreword aloud, discussing the critical role of identity and positionality in making the world a better place, and then reading the remainder of the text with those ideas in mind in partnerships, groups, or clubs
- to support project-based learning on a particular issue
- as an independent read

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

The authors explore sixteen issues that negatively impact our world. Ask students to respond to the following essential questions as they read the essays to connect the issues across the text, spark discussion, and invite action.

- How are you being challenged and changed as you learn about this issue?
- How are you impacted by this problem? Who is most impacted by this problem?
- What additional information do you want or need to fully understand the issue and connect with the communities most impacted?
- How does this issue conflict with your image of a better world?
- How can you use your position and privilege to understand and protect others and create a world in that image?
- What action do you plan to take individually? How will you work as part of a collective toward the goal of creating a better world?

TOOLKITS FOR TAKING ACTION

Invite readers to visit betterthanwefounditbook.com, a website created by the authors to help young people dive deeper into the topics covered in the book. For each chapter, readers can explore a toolkit of additional resources, lists of organizations to support, and ways to get involved and continue the conversation.



Watch the Candlewick Black Creators series to learn more about Frederick and Porsche Joseph.
BlackCreatorsSeries.candlewick.com

Tip sheet developed by Dr. Sonja Cherry-Paul, founder of Red Clay Educators