

Calvin knows how to pass for whit. He's done it plenty of times. For his friends in Chicago, when they wanted food but weren't allowed in a restaurant. For work, when he and his dad traveled for the Green Book.

This is different.

After a tragedy in Chicago forces the family to flee, they resettle in an idyllic all-white suburban town in search of a better life. Calvin's father wants them to embrace their new lifestyle, but that's easier said than done. Hiding your true self is exhausting—which leads Calvin across town, where he can make Black friends who know all of him . . . and where he can spend more time with his new crush, Lily. But when Calvin starts unraveling dark secrets about the white town and its inhabitants, passing begins to feel even more suffocating—and dangerous—than he could have imagined.

Expertly weaving real historical events with salient reflections on being Black in America, acclaimed author Kim Johnson takes readers back in time to reveal powerful truths whose echoes are still felt.

Kim Johnson held leadership positions in social justice organizations as a teen and is now an author and educator. Kim's bestselling debut novel, *This Is My America*, won numerous accolades, including the *Pacific Northwest Book Award* and the *Malka Penn Human Rights Award for Children's Literature*. Her second novel, *Invisible Son*, is another thriller ripped from the headlines. Both novels were selected as *NPR Books We Love*. *The Color of a Lie* is her first historical thriller. She holds a BS from the University of Oregon, a master's degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, and an MFA from Oregon State University–Cascades. She lives with her family in the Washington, DC, area.

READ BY KEVIN R. FREE AND KIM JOHNSON



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