

Malik Page—though unless you're his mama, call him "Shake"—dreams of making the Marshall Grove varsity basketball squad as an eighth grader. Then he'll be on his way to joining the ranks of Chicago legends like his pops and late uncle Kenny. But when Shake fractures his ankle in a championship game, he's sidelined for the first time since his first dribble.

As his world is turned upside down, Shake feels like there's ginger ale bubbling in his chest and sweat slicking on his palms. With a best friend who's getting more distant by the day, a growing silence between him and his dad, and varsity tryouts fast approaching, Shake will have to cross up every obstacle to find a way back onto the court—and back to being himself. Thankfully in Marshall Grove, the sky is always full of hope.

Julian Randall is a Living Queer Black poet from Chicago. His poetry and essays are published in *The New York Times Magazine*, *POETRY*, and *Vibe*. He is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize. Julian holds an MFA in poetry from Ole Miss. His first book, *Refuse*, won the Cave Canem Poetry Prize and was a finalist for an NAACP Image Award. Julian has previously worked as a youth mentor, teaching writing workshops to children on house arrest. He is the author of the Pilar Ramirez duology and *The Chainbreakers*.

Read by the Author



Runtime: 2h. 45m. • Unabridged

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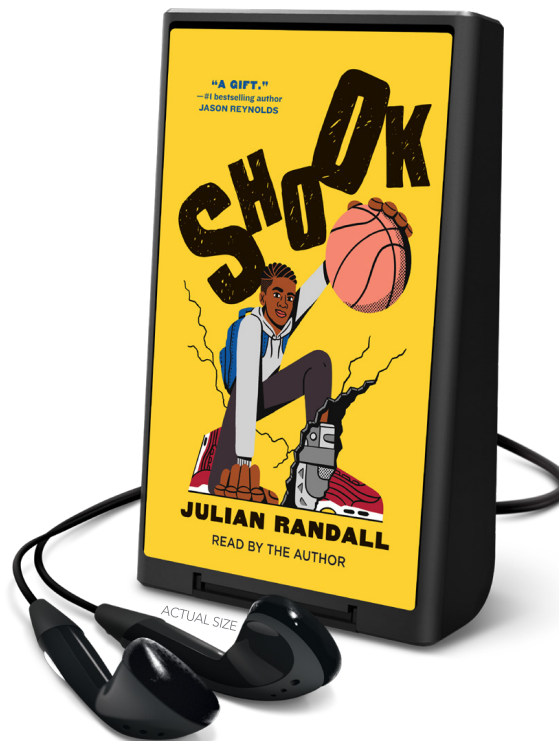
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