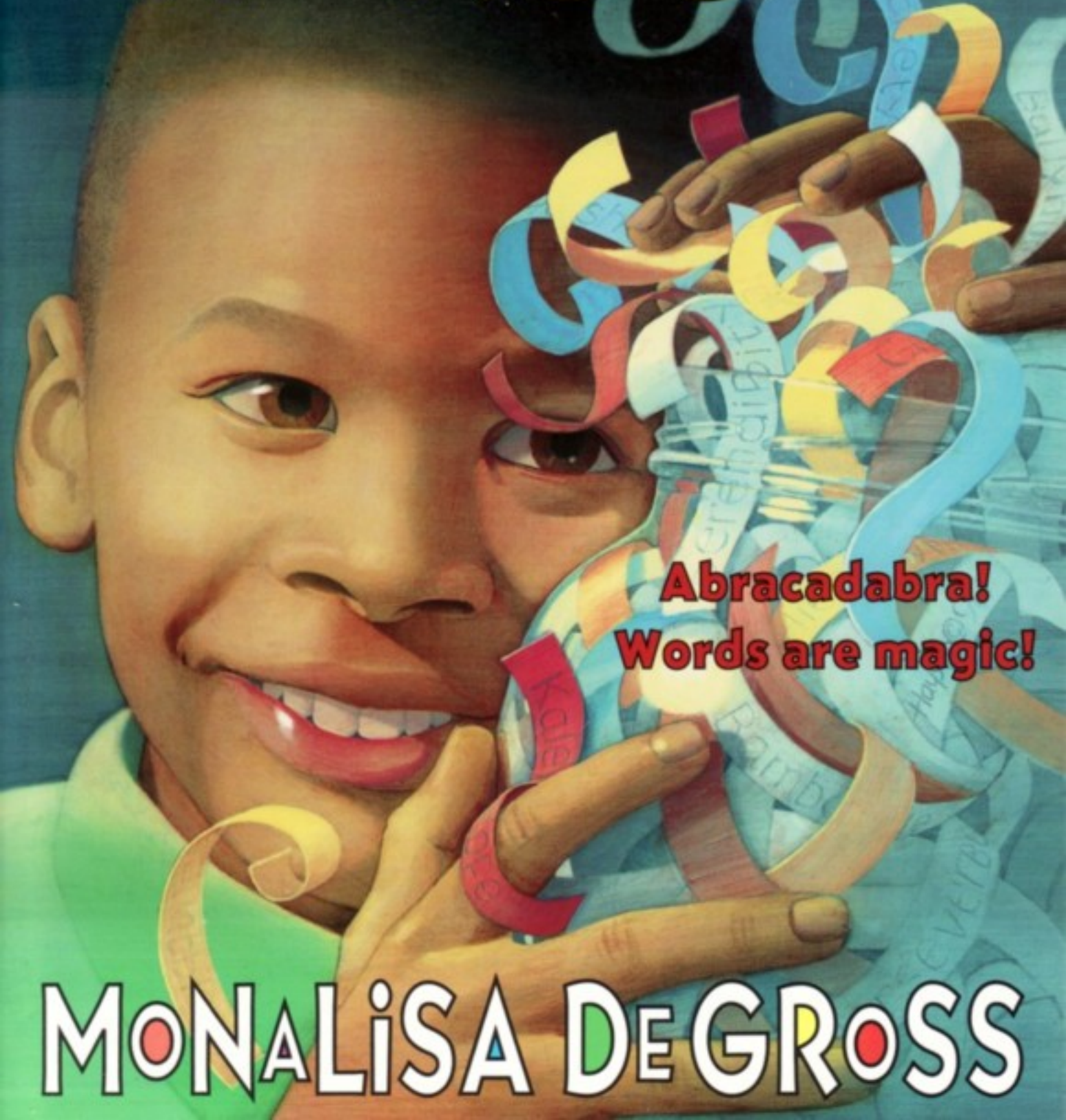




A Trophy Chapter Book

DONAVAN'S WORD JAR



Abracadabra!
Words are magic!

MONALISA DE GROSS



DONAVAN

Donavan Allen enjoyed being like all the other kids in Mrs. Panky's third-grade class. He liked wearing a yellow shirt with brown pants and a button-down sweater, just like the other boys. When the bell rang at the end of the day, he grabbed his book bag and ran

for the door, just like the other kids. And just like the other kids, on the days when his mom packed raw broccoli and cauliflower in his lunch, Donovan forgot to eat them.

Like most of the kids in his class, Donovan liked to collect things. A few kids in his class collected rocks, insects, or stamps. Some other kids collected coins, comics, or baseball cards. Donovan's best friend, Eric, collected marbles. Eric was always playing marbles, trading marbles, reading about marbles, and searching for the perfect marble. He kept his marble collection in a leather pouch with his name stamped on it.

Donovan's buddy, Pooh, collected buttons of all shapes and sizes. Pooh kept his button collection pinned to a corkboard in his bedroom. He collected buttons from almost every event he

attended. He had buttons from movies, baseball games, and amusement parks. Pooh's favorite button was the one his father had made for him for his birthday. On it was a picture of Pooh, and written around it were the words "Pooh for President." Pooh kept that button pinned to his book bag.

But when it came to collecting things, Donovan Allen was different. He had a collection like no one else he knew. Donovan collected words. Yes, words.



DONAVAN'S DILEMMA

DONAVAN ALLEN doesn't collect coins, comics, or baseball cards like most kids. Donavan collects words—big words, little words, soft words, and silly words. Whenever Donavan finds a new word, he writes it on a slip of paper and puts it in his word jar.

But one day, Donavan discovers that his word jar is full. He can't put any new words in without taking some of the old words out—and he wants to keep *all* of his words. So how can he continue to collect new words? Donavan doesn't know what to do, until a visit to his grandma provides him with a perfect solution.



“A gentle, thoughtful story of a young African-American boy's discovery of the power of words.”

—School Library Journal

“Sure to whet readers' appetites for words.”

—Kirkus Reviews

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