

"I am here...and I am as good as you."



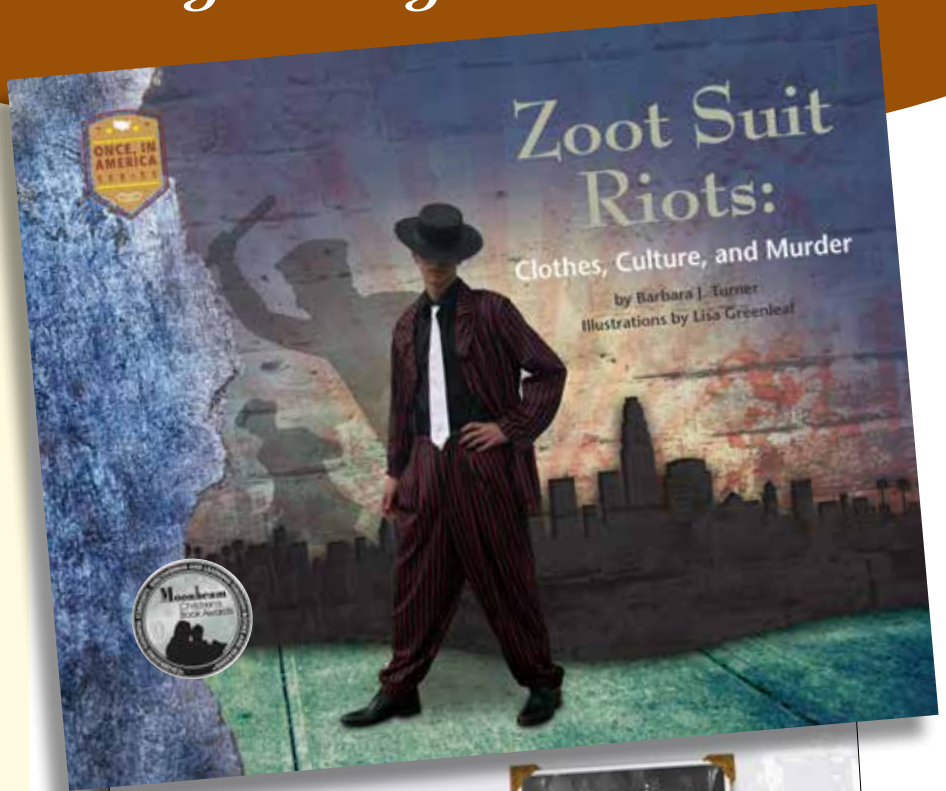
Zoot Suit Riots: Clothes, Culture, and Murder

By Barbara J. Turner
Illustrations by Lisa Greenleaf

RL 6 - ages 12 and up
Interest level: grades 6 and above
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Once, in America ...
... zoot suits were all the rage among young men.

"We're looking for zoot suits to burn." Los Angeles, 1943—A city in chaos. Fear and paranoia gave way to turbulence and brutality. A circle of violence had begun and nobody seemed interested in stopping it. A clash of culture had culminated with attacks on the innocent that intensified the racial divide of the era. The victims' only crime? Wearing a zoot suit.



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