

# FINDING YOUR ROOTS

A family tree is a diagram that documents your lineage and how different members of your family are connected. Creating a family tree is a great way to reflect on your family's history and honor your ancestors.

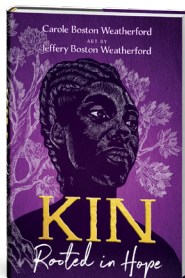
Before you can begin creating your family tree, it is important to first think about who is a part of your lineage. For some, uncovering information about their lineage might be easier than it would be for others, given differences in access to resources, documents, and oral histories. However, the roots of our family trees are all around us if you just take a look.

Start with asking your immediate family members about their own lives. Who were their parents? Who were their grandparents? Your search can go far beyond just names—allow curiosity to lead you! What did your grandparents do for fun? How did your parents meet? Libraries, historical societies, and different genealogical sites are also great resources for more in-depth research.

Regardless of which methods you choose on your search, all roots lead to you.

*“My quest took me to the Maryland Historical Society, the Talbot County Free Library, the Talbot County Historical Society, the Library of Congress, and to the wrought iron gates of that plantation—Wye House. I read archeological and anthropological studies of the plantation. I searched databases of slave ships and of the enslaved residents of Wye House.”*

—CAROLE BOSTON WEATHERFORD



## KIN *Rooted in Hope*

By Carole Boston Weatherford  
Illustrated by Jeffery Boston Weatherford

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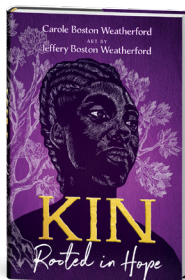
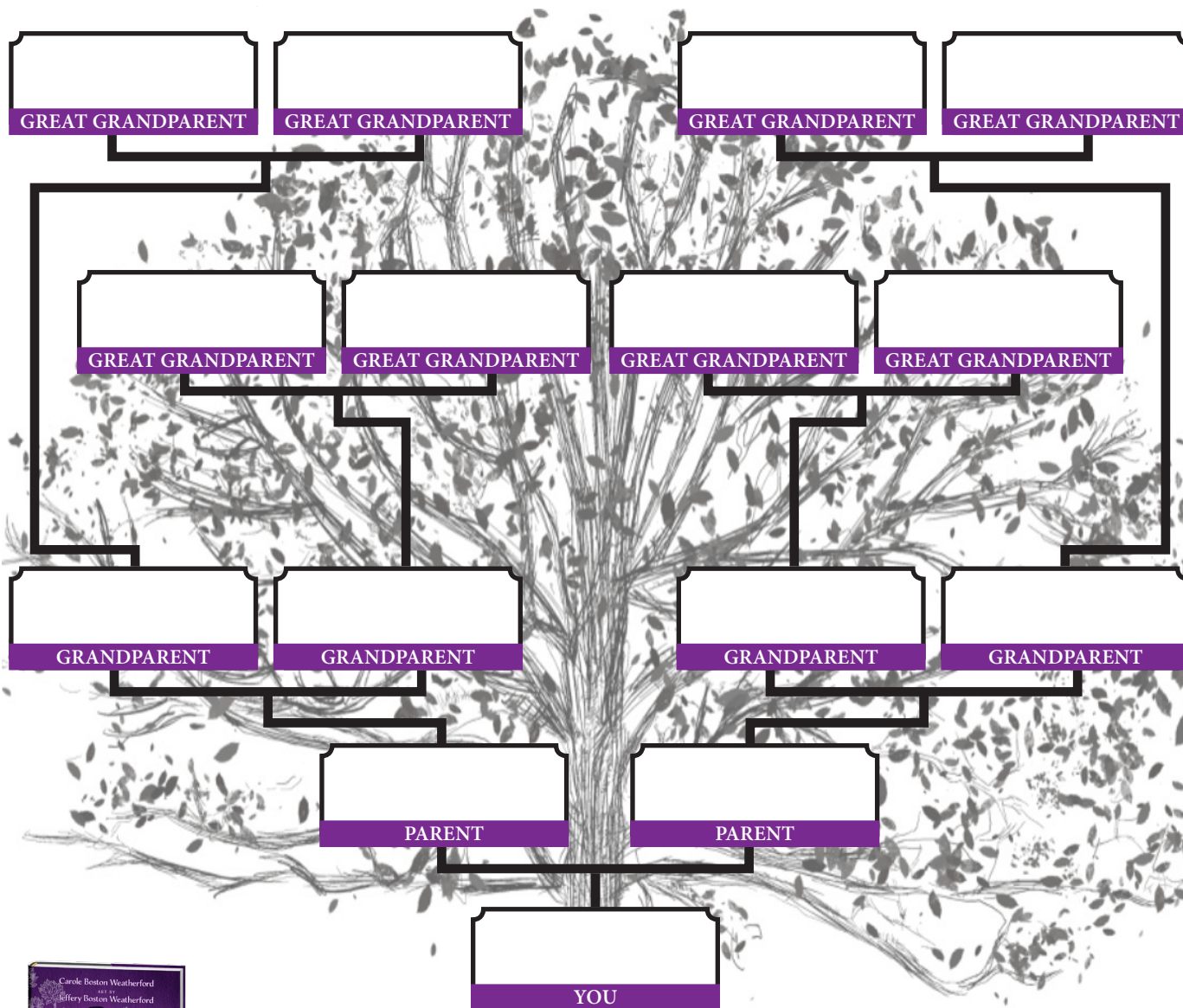


# TRACING YOUR ROOTS

Use the family tree below—starting with yourself—to outline your kin. The left side of the tree will feature one parent’s side of your family, and the right side will feature another.

Within the blank boxes, write out their names; beginning with yourself at the bottom, followed by your parents, then their parents, and ending with your great-grandparents at the very top. Each line will carry you further into the roots of your lineage and connect one generation to the next.

If there are any family members that you are unsure about, be sure to ask a relative for help, or try consulting different resources such as libraries, historical societies, and different genealogical sites.



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