***Yummy: The Last Days of a Southside Shorty*
by G. Neri illustrated by Randy DuBurke**

They called it a man hunt when the Chicago police were after Yummy. He had shot a 14 year old neighbor while he was trying to prove himself to the local gang. Yummy shot 14 year old Shavon. Shavon, who wanted to be a hair dresser when she grew up. Shavon, who was sitting with a friend on her front stoop that day. Yummy shot Shavon, while trying to prove himself and not the rival gang member he was aiming at. The Chicago police were after him now - looking for him day and night.

They called it a man hunt. I thought it was more of a boy hunt because Yummy was only 11 years old, 4 feet tall and maybe 60 lbs. This hauntingly drawn black and white graphic novel is based on the true story of Robert Sandifer, who many called Yummy, because everyone knew he loved candy and was always eating something sweet.

This is the true story of where yummy came from and how his last days played out. He grew up in the Roseland area of Chicago and stayed with his grandmother most of the time, well, when he wasn’t on the run or in the Juvenile detention center. Yummy was often on his own. His dad was in prison for drugs and his mother was in and out of jail for drugs and prostitution. Who did Yummy have to turn to? His parents weren’t around, his grandmother, who had the best intentions, was always looking after more kids than any one person could handle. Yummy thought he could turn to and depend on his gang, the Black Disciples, but they had something else in mind.

*Yummy* by G. Neri and illustrated by Randy DuBurke is the heartbreakingly true story of 11 year old Yummy, his last days, his gang, his family, and his short life.

*~ Booktalk by Amy Wander*