

CBS Mornings

02/10/26

7:20:27 a.m. [TEASE]

7 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Ahead; Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson]

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: Still ahead, we will talk to Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson about the new edition of her memoir and the state of the country.

(...)

7:43:35 a.m. [TEASE]

14 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Ahead at 8AM; Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson]

GAYLE KING: And Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson has arrived. She'll be here onset with us today. First on *CBS Mornings*, she's gonna share a new edition of her memoir and talk about the challenges facing the court these days. Lots of challenges. That's in the next hour.

(...)

8:00:08 a.m. [TEASE]

12 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Ketanji Brown Jackson]

KING: Coming up in this 8:00 hour, Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson is here in the building. She's got a lot to share. First on *CBS Mornings*, she is talking about the new edition of her memoir. It's called *Lovely One*.

(...)

8:07:29 a.m. [TEASE]

39 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Ahead]

KING: Isn't she lovely? Oh, that's the perfect song, guys. Thank you. It is not everyday you have a Supreme Court justice in the house that has a book, *Lovely One*. It's been four years on the job.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON: Yes.

KING: How are you feeling?

JACKSON: I'm feeling good.

KING: Is it like four years, eh, or four years, yay?

JACKSON: I'm honored and privileged to be doing this work, so I'm feeling good.

KING: We are glad she is here. Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson will share the new adult version of her memoir, *Lovely One*. But, Kelly, before we go, her husband Patrick is here. Klaus, can we please get a shot of his socks? This is man who loves his wife. All right, Patrick! Where can we get a pair of those?

(....)

8:12:24 a.m.

10 minutes and 10 seconds

TREVOR NOAH [on *The Grammys*, 02/01/26]: First-time Grammy nominee who's in the house here, Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] That's right. She was nominated in the audio book category. And with her being here, you know what that means? For the first time ever, if you lose a Grammy, you can appeal directly to the Supreme Court.

KING: Oh, Trevor, I remember that moment. Nicely done. Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson got a big shout-out at the Grammy Awards earlier this month and now she's out with another edition of her Grammy-nominated memoir, thank you very much, *Lovely One*. The book is adapted for young adults. It features a new preface, an epilogue, and more. Scan the QR code on your screen if you would like to buy the book. Trust me, you do. First on *CBS Mornings*, we love when that happens, Justice Jackson joins us now. Congratulations, Grammy nominee.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: First on; Justice Jackson New Adaptation of "Lovely One"]

JACKSON: Thank you. It's very exciting. Good to be here.

KING: Yeah, what was it like to be at the Grammys? You and Patrick were there together. What was it like for you?

JACKSON: It was a really very wonderful experience.

KING: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

JACKSON: It was interesting, unlike anything I have ever done before.

KING: I was there. I saw people lining up to talk to you the way they were to other — to some of the other artists in the room. You were a big hit in the room.

JACKSON: Oh, my goodness. It was such an honor to be nominated —

KING: Yes!

JACKSON: — for the book that I wrote, and I think the academy saw in the book what I had hoped, which was that it was an inspiration for a lot of people and hopefully for children now, yes.

KING: And that's why you decided, you id, to put out the young adult version because in the book you say you are here because at the age of 12 you dared to imagine yourself as a federal judge.

JACKSON: Yes.

KING: And that you tell young people, I love this, guys, dream enormously and courageously. Isn't that good?

NATE BURLESON: It's beautiful.

JACKSON: Yes.

KING: And even as you sit here at this stage in life, you are still striving to perfect your dreams.

JACKSON: Yes.

JACKSON: After that I went, huh? You are still striving to perfect your dreams. What do you mean?

JACKSON: I think everybody is learning and growing. I'm relatively new on the Court even though I've been there four years now.

KING: Four years.

JACKSON: But I'm still the junior justice, and there are more things to learn and do. We're very busy, and I'm trying to be the best justice that I can be.

BURLESON: And before you jump in, Vlad, I want to ask about that. Gayle asked in the green room how you are feeling being four years on the job, on the Supreme Court. You said feeling good.

JACKSON: Yes.

BURLESON: I'm curious about the feeling-out process of the other justices. How do you navigate those relationships amid such differences of opinion?

JACKSON: Well, you know, the Court is very good at compartmentalizing, meaning that we focus on our work. We work very hard. We come up with our own individual opinions as to how we think about the law.

BURLESON: Of course.

JACKSON: We write our opinions but we are very collegial as a body and as a group and we get along well as justices together. And I think it's sort of a model for learning how to disagree without being disagreeable.

KING: And you're able to do that because right now from the outside looking in people are attacking the Supreme Court, they're attacking the media. They're saying that, you know, we are all so politically divided that there is no way to heal. And you say that you all basically do get along?

JACKSON: We do get along.

KING: You do?

JACKSON: We do. I think, you know, our work is focused on differences in issues. We're sort of always thinking about the law in different ways, and so, we have learned how to adapt to being in an environment with people who have very strongly held but different views.

KING: Justice, you never say to somebody, you're wrong. You got it wrong, buddy.

JACKSON: You say it in your opinions, and that's a great opportunity.

DUTHIERS: So, let's talk about the law. Article I, Section VIII, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution — this is not for you, for our viewers who are going to wonder — “Congress shall have power to lay, collect taxes, duties, impose and exercises.” Article I, Section VIII, Cause 3, the Commerce Clause: “No state shall without consent of the Congress lay any, impose duties on imports and exports.” Now, I'm not a lawyer but it seems kind of clear.

KING: I'm not. Were you speaking English?

DUTHIERS: But this seems kind of clear to me. It is not a question about what you are deciding but I think people want to know why it takes so long to reach a decision on tariffs.

JACKSON: Oh, I'm sorry. You are talking about the tariff decision.

DUTHIERS: Yeah, the tariff decision.

JACKSON: You know, there are lots of nuanced legal issues the court has to consider. We had oral arguments we normally do in cases. And people may not be familiar with the court's process. We actually deliberate over a period of time where each of the justices decides how they

feel about the issues and writes and it takes a while to write.

DUTHIERS: So that's the answer?

JACKSON: Yes.

DUTHIERS: When you are still writing, you are still deliberating?

JACKSON: We — we — the Court is going through its process of deliberation and, you know, the American people expect for us to be thorough and clear in our determinations, and sometimes that takes time.

KING: Well, President Trump has, you know, recently raised a lot of concerns and eyebrows when he is making calls to nationalize the elections. What do you think about that? What does the Constitution say? Did it raise your eyebrows or give you concern?

JACKSON: Well, because these issues are coming through —

KING: Yes.

JACKSON: — you know, it is very hard for justices to speak publicly. Right now, we have no case on that issue, so I'm really not in a position to comment.

BURLESON: This edition also includes a speech that you gave —

JACKSON: Yes, Nate.

BURLESON: — for a speech and debate tournament back in 1987 called "It's about time."

KING: That she won.

BURLESON: That she won, by the way.

JACKSON: I did.

BURLESON: No surprise there. I would like to ask you, what do you believe it is about time for now for us as a country?

JACKSON: Oh, my goodness. Well, when I wrote that speech I was a senior in high school, and I think I was being very nostalgic about time passing, moving, transitioning into a —

BURLESON: Of course.

JACKSON: — different era of our lives, but the point, I think, was to really to get people to focus on the moment and try to not be so overwhelmed by the circumstance.

BURLESON: This moment seems so divided in this country.

JACKSON: It is, but we've certainly had other periods in our history in which we've been divided and we've come through them.

BURLESON: How? How do we do that?

JACKSON: I think if people really focus on their own values and the things that matter to them, if then invest in their communities and in their loved ones, we will make it through. You know, it is — there's no one right way —

BURLESON: I know.

JACKSON: — to get through a situation like this.

DUTHIERS: Sorry, Gayle.

KING: I'm curious about how you personally handle things because I'm fascinated about how the court works and how the perception, you know, is that it is very conservative. How do you handle things when you go home and the decision didn't go the way you would like? How do you come to grips with that? How do you navigate that for yourself?

JACKSON: Well, it is part of the job.

KING: Job, yes.

JACKSON: You know, there are nine of us on our Court, and each of us gets to vote and there will be many cases in which we are unanimous and we all agree on the way the law requires the case to come out and then there are many cases in which we don't. I think one of the brilliant things about our system is that we have the opportunity, if you are in dissent, to write a dissent that explains what your views are, so it is not that you are just sort of shut out and not able to express.

BURLESON: Right.

KING: Your opinion is still heard.

JACKSON: Your opinion, exactly. I think it is one of the great things about this country, you know, freedom of expression and the ability that we have and the value of tolerating minority views, so our structure in the court really embodies that and it helps to have the opportunity to write what you actually feel, and then you put it behind you and you move on.

DUTHIERS: So, in the book you have a new epilogue where you write about distractions children face today like social media, and you caution putting too much stock in the curated reality we see online is dangerous. What is your biggest concern when it comes to technology

and young people? You have two young —

JACKSON: I have two daughters.

DUTHIERS: — yes.

JACKSON: And I will say that there have always been distractions. You know, I remember my parents thinking that there was too much television in my era, and my grandparents thinking about radio. And so, you know, this problem has been something that people have faced. But I think I wrote that because I was really wanting young people to understand that hard work, focus, trying to stay free of distractions is very important to success.

BURLESON: Yeah.

JACKSON: It is something that I think throughout the book you see in my story —

KING: Yeah.

JACKSON: — that I'm trying to explain to people that when I was 12 years old, I thought I might want to be a federal judge.

KING: Yes.

JACKSON: And that was a goal for me, a very big, audacious dream for me.

KING: Yes.

JACKSON: But it is something that I worked toward because I was focused on it.

DUTHIERS: Right. And you could turn off the television and the radio.

JACKSON: Exactly. And you can turn off social media. It is not —

KING: The distractions feel so different though to me these days. Back to your point, Nate, about the essay that you wrote. This is how she closed the essay in high school: "Maybe by learning to appreciate the time that we're given we will some day realize what it means to have the time of our lives."

BURLESON: Mmm.

KING: Isn't that good?

DUTHIERS: So beautiful, so amazing.

JACKSON: Thank you.

DUTHIERS: This book, everybody should go out and get this book. First of all, the adult version but also for young people because it is really wonderful.

BURLESON: Thank you so much for coming in.

JACKSON: I'm delighted to be here.

BURLESON: And when are the socks going on sale? Shout-out — I will talk to the hubby.

JACKSON: We'll have to think about that.

KING: Neil Patrick with one, I'd like "dream enormously, dream courageously. I love that. *Lovely One* adapted for young adults is on sale now. How do you get it? You can go to the bookstore or we make it easy. Scan the QR code on your screen to buy it now. And watch *CBS Saturday Morning* for more with Justice Jackson. She's going to continue the conversation with the lovely Adriana.