



***That Flag* by Tameka Fryer Brown, illustrated by Nikkolas Smith**

HarperCollins, 2023

ISBN: 9780063093447 (Hardcover)

\*Age Range: 6-10 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: K-4 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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An affecting picture book from Tameka Fryer Brown and #1 *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Nikkolas Smith (*The 1619 Project: Born on the Water*) that challenges the meaning behind the still-waving Confederate flag through the friendship of two young girls who live across the street from each other.

Bianca is Keira's best friend. At school, they are inseparable. But Keira questions their friendship when she learns more about the meaning of the Confederate flag hanging from Bianca's front porch. Will the two friends be able to overlook their distinct understandings of the flag? Or will they reckon with the flag's effect on yesterday and today?

In *That Flag*, Tameka Fryer Brown and Nikkolas Smith graciously tackle the issues of racism, the value of friendship, and the importance of understanding history so that we move forward together in a thought-provoking, stirring, yet ultimately tender tale.

A perfect conversation starter for the older and younger generations alike, this book includes back matter on the history of the Confederate flag and notes from the creators.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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A brave and deeply affecting story about friendship, perspective, anti-racism, and the importance of understanding history. This may be an essential book about a cultural flashpoint.

— [School Library Journal](#) (starred review)

This is a prime example of how a picture book can help younger readers understand difficult topics. A thoughtful and age-appropriate exploration of a somber subject.

— [Kirkus Reviews](#)

Tameka Fryer Brown pens an honest, contemporary, soul-shocking story, with deep and painful roots. *That Flag* will prayerfully lead to hundreds of thousands of mending moments and healing hearts.

— Derrick Barnes, *Newbery Honoree and National Book Award Finalist*

A necessary read for all young people in this country.

— Traci Sorell, Two-time Sibert Medal and Orbis Pictus Honoree

Told with tenderness and care, *That Flag* explores the power of asking questions, the power of understanding history, and ultimately the power of friendship. An essential book for every American home and classroom.

Updated 12.28.23

HarperCollins

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— Renée Watson, #1 NYT Bestselling Author, *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water*

[A] layered introduction to issues around white supremacy and racism that is still accessible to young readers.  
— *Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*

[U]nmistakable  
— *Booklist*

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## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Jane Addams Peace Association Picture Book Finalist
- NCTE Charlotte Huck Award Honor
- *School Library Journal* Best Books of 2023
- New York Public Library Best Books of 2023
- NPR Books We Love 2023

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## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Discussion Guide](#)
- [Social Justice Books Review](#) by Brad Manker
- [Social Justice Books Review](#) by Erin Green
- [“Teaching Historic and Contemporary Racism in Elementary Classrooms” \*rethinking schools\*](#)
- [“That Flag: An Interview with Tameka Fryer Brown” \*Fuse 8\*](#)
- [“Talking About ‘That Flag’” \*PW\*](#)

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## RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

*Add responses to challenges whenever possible, including links if available. Relevant information includes official responses from a board of education, library statements of support, or other statements of support from relevant organizations like PEN America or the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund.*

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## AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

*Offer the author an opportunity to provide a statement about the potential impact of banning their book or a link to an existing author statement.*

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## \*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book’s intended use.