



**[WHY?: A CONVERSATION ABOUT RACE](#)** by Taye Diggs; illustrated by Shane W. Evans

Feiwel & Friends, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2022  
ISBN: 9781250806093 (Hardcover)

\*Age Range: 3-6

Grade Range: K-2 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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**A piercing picture book about racial injustice from a child's perspective from Taye Diggs and Shane Evans.**

"Daddy?"

"Yes, my sweet boy."

"Why are those people shouting?"

"Our people are shouting because we need to be heard. We need to be heard."

*Why?* is a question asked by children daily, and in this striking and timely story, it begins a straightforward and challenging conversation between children of color and the adults in their lives.

Why are the buildings burning? Why are people marching? Why are they crying? Taye Diggs has written a beautiful, powerful, and poignant story that peers through the eyes of a child as they struggle to understand why these events are happening.

*Why?* distills the conversations many children and adults are having about race, injustice, and anger in communities throughout our country, and gives them context that young readers can connect with. Heartfelt and deeply piercing illustrations from Shane W. Evans will leave a lasting impact on readers of any age. One that will hopefully lead to more conversations, change, and peace within our own communities and the world.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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★ "Diggs makes these gutting conversations loving, plainspoken, and accessible to children. ... The question-and-answer format, the hallmark of parenting, helps the characters process large thoughts and huge problems, and yet find some paths to solutions."—[School Library Journal](#), **starred review**

"Evans's surreally colored, fluid illustrations add depth and emotion to this intergenerational narrative with a hopeful ending."—[Publishers Weekly](#)

"This developmentally sensitive and timely book that can help facilitate conversations between kids and adults about issues related to race, injustice, and anger in society.....This is an all-around valuable read for families of all colors."—[Common Sense Media](#)

**Updated 1.24.2024**

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## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

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- [Discussion Guide](#)
- [Watch an interview with Taye Diggs](#)
- [The Associated Press interview with Taye Diggs](#)
- [USA Today interview with Taye Diggs](#)

### **\*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

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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.

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