



***The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish* by Lil Miss Hot Mess**

Running Press Kids, Hachette Book Group, 2023

ISBN: HC 9780762467655

*Age Range: 4-8yo

Grade Range: Gr. PreK-2

BOOK SYNOPSIS

The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish encourages readers to boldly be exactly who they are. Written by a founding member of the nationally recognized Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH), this playful picture book offers a quirky twist on a classic nursery rhyme by illustrating all of the ways to "work it". The story plays off "The Wheels on the Bus" as it follows a drag queen who performs her routine in front of an awestruck audience. A fun frenzy of fierceness, this book will appeal to readers of all ages.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

- This book's gonna werk, werk, werk all through Pride Month and beyond. Drag persona Lil Miss Hot Mess rewrites 'The Wheels on the Bus' to create a fun, movement-filled, family-friendly celebration of drag. . . . Appropriately psychedelic. . . . Fun, fun, fun all through the town!—**Kirkus Reviews, starred review**
- "It's much more than a parody. It's an expression of the collectiveness of the drag community."—Matthew Winner, *The Children's Book Podcast*
- "The Hips on the Drag Queens Go Swish Swish Swish takes the familiar and renders it fabulous." Elizabeth Bird, Fuse #8 (*School Library Journal*)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Include bulleted list of award nominations and wins, state award lists, best-of lists, and any other notable accolades.

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- "Reading the rainbow: The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish by Lil Miss Hot Mess." *Family Equality*, 6/4/21, <https://www.familyequality.org/2021/06/04/reading-the-rainbow-the-hips-on-the-drag-queen/>. 1/12/24.
- "Get your swish on: Talking with Lil Miss Hot Mess about how The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish." *Mutha Magazine*, 6/2020, <https://www.muthamagazine.com/2020/06/get-your-swish-on-talking-with-lil-miss-hot-mess-about-how-t-he-hips-on-the-drag-queen-go-swish-swish-swish/>. 1/12/24.
- "How drag queen Lil Miss Hot Mess is empowering kids to find their inner sparkle in a safe queer space." *CBC Radio*, 6/9/22, <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/q/thursday-june-9-2022-lil-miss-hot-mess-priyanka-and-more-1.6481607/how-drag-queen-lil-miss-hot-mess-is-empowering-kids-to-find-their-inner-sparkle-in-a-safe-queer-space-1.6481610>. 1/12/24.

January 12, 2024

Hachette Book Group

laura.lutz@hbgusa.com

- “The best Lil Miss Hot Mess in storytime.” *School Library Journal*, 4/17/20, <https://afuse8production.slj.com/2020/04/17/the-best-lil-hot-mess-in-storytime/>. 1/12/24.

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

- Phillips, Noelle. “Douglas County Libraries considering ban of four LGBTQ books.” *Denver Post*, 8/23/23, <https://www.denverpost.com/2023/08/23/douglas-county-colorado-library-lgbtq-book-ban/>. 1/12/24.
- “CO library won’t ban ‘The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish’ and ‘This Book is Gay.’” *Colorado Times Recorder*, 8/25/23, <https://coloradotimesrecorder.com/2023/08/co-library-wont-ban-the-hips-on-the-drag-queen-go-swish-swish-swish-and-this-book-is-gay/55747/>. 1/12/24.
- Morris, Seren. “Backlash over drag queen story time on PBS station for children aged 3 to 8.” *Newsweek*, 5/21/21, <https://www.newsweek.com/backlash-pbs-drag-queen-story-time-children-1593605>. 1/12/24.
- Szal, Roxie. “Texas’ last drag queen story hour.” *Ms. Magazine*, 8/28/23, <https://msmagazine.com/2023/08/28/texas-drag-queen-story-hour/>. 1/12/24.
- Kubzansky, Caroline. “Controversy over drag queen picture book continues at Lincolnwood Public Library.” *Chicago Tribune*, 11/29/22, <https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lincolnwood/ct-lwd-nov-28-meeting-tl-1201-20221129-xzh2sf2ju5bp5fffejgag6fpvu-story.html>. 1/12/24.

AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

- Lil Miss Hot Mess. “I’m a drag queen who reads to kids. Haters call it ‘indoctrination.’ - Here’s what they’re really learning.” *HuffPost*, 7/8/22, https://www.huffpost.com/entry/drag-queen-story-hour-children_n_62c5ac28e4b06e3d9bafd5ef. 1/11/24.
- “GLAAD Video Interview: Drag queen story hour board member Lil Miss Hot Mess reads from latest children’s book, responds to hateful drag queen backlash.” *GLAAD*, 6/9/22, <https://glaad.org/releases/glaad-video-interview-drag-queen-story-hour-board-member-lil-miss-hot-mess-reads-latest/>. 1/12/24.
- Rudolph, Dana. “This drag queen has a message for hateful Republicans banning minors from drag storytimes.” *Pride Source*, 6/28/22, <https://pridesource.com/article/this-drag-queen-has-a-message-for-hateful-republicans-banning-minors-from-drag-storytimes>. 1/12/24.
- Lil Miss Hot Mess. “Drag queens won’t be cowed by haters. The story hour goes on.” *NBC News*, 6/20/22, <https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/drag-queens-story-hour-goes-on-rcna34169>. 1/12/24.

*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.