

Title: I am Jazz
Author: Jessica Herthel
and Jazz Jennings

McNicholas

Imprint: Dial Books

**Illustrator:** Shelagh

**Publisher:** Penguin Young

Readers

On sale date: September

4, 2014

ISBN: 9780803741072 Format: Picture Book Age Range\*: 4-8 Grade Range: K-3

# **BOOK RESUME: I AM JAZZ**

## **BOOK SYNOPSIS**

The story of a transgender child based on the real-life experience of Jazz Jennings, who has become a spokesperson for transkids everywhere.

From the time she was two years old, Jazz knew that she had a girl's brain in a boy's body. She loved pink and dressing up as a mermaid and didn't feel like herself in boys' clothing. This confused her family, until they took her to a doctor who said that Jazz was transgender and that she was born that way. Jazz's story is based on her real-life experience and she tells it in a simple, clear way that will be appreciated by picture book readers, their parents, and teachers.

#### **REVIEWS AND PRAISE**

"This is an essential tool for parents and teachers to share with children whether those kids identify as trans or not. I wish I had had a book like this when I was a kid struggling with gender identity questions. I found it deeply moving in its simplicity and honesty."—Laverne Cox (who plays Sophia in "Orange Is the New Black")

"Successfully simplify the issue of gender identity for a young audience and their caregivers." —School Library Journal

"An empowering, timely story with the power to help readers proclaim, in the words of Jazz's parents, "We understand now."—*Kirkus Reviews* 

## **AWARDS AND ACCOLADES**

- A 2015 American Library Association Rainbow list Selection
- Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) Choices Selection

# MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- Welcoming Schools Educator Guide
- Welcoming School National Day of Reading

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Contact BannedBooks@penguinrandomhouse.com

<sup>\*</sup>Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers 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 range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.