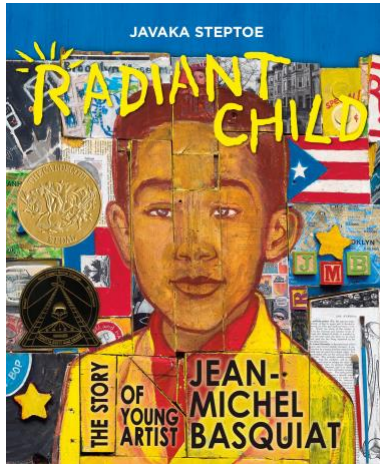


Book Resume: Radiant Child



***Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat* by Javaka Steptoe**

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2016

ISBN: 9780316213882 (Hardcover)

*Age Range: 4-8 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: Gr 1-5 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Jean-Michel Basquiat and his unique, collage-style paintings rocketed to fame in the 1980s as a cultural phenomenon unlike anything the art world had ever seen. But before that, he was a little boy who saw art everywhere: in poetry books and museums, in games and in the words that we speak, and in the pulsing energy of New York City. Now, award-winning illustrator Javaka Steptoe's vivid text and bold artwork echoing Basquiat's own introduce young readers to the powerful message that art doesn't always have to be neat or clean—and definitely not inside the lines—to be beautiful.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

- ★ “Vibrant colors and personal symbols channel the 'sloppy, ugly, and sometimes weird, but somehow still BEAUTIFUL' paintings, incorporating meticulously attributed collage elements and capturing the artist's energy and mystery. Stellar bookmarking—a riveting portrait of a young artist.” —Kirkus, starred review

- ★ “In this visually arresting and vibrantly narrated biography, Steptoe...emulates 1980s street art by layering paint, paper scraps, paint tubes, and photos on found-wood panels.... Steptoe downplays tragic elements, instead celebrating Basquiat's irreverence and brilliance.” —Publishers Weekly, starred review

- ★ “Javaka Steptoe is the perfect person to create this book: a tour de force that will introduce an important artist to a new generation.” —The Horn Book, starred review

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★ “One extraordinary artist illuminates another in this textured, heartfelt picture book biography.... Pairing simple text with expressive, encompassing illustrations, this excellent title offers a new generation a fittingly powerful introduction to an artistic luminary.” —School Library Journal, starred review

★ “This is a beautifully illustrated biography...[and] an excellent read aloud, especially in the art classroom.” —School Library Connection, starred review

★ “A lively, engaging introduction to a one-of-a-kind artist perfect for art-loving kids.... An excellent read-aloud.” —Booklist, starred review

“Vibrantly colored, humming with energy, Javaka Steptoe's paintings evoke the style of Jean-Michel Basquiat.” —Virginian-Pilot

“Steptoe tells a complex story in simple child-appropriate language and illustrates it with paintings brimming with joy, sorrow and outsized inspiration.” —Chicago Tribune

“Art need not be neat to be beautiful, a message underscored by this boldly beautiful bio of a 1980s phenom.” —San Francisco Tribune

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Winner of the 2017 Randolph Caldecott Medal
- Winner of the 2017 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award
- *Essence* Magazine Top Ten Books of the Year
- NAACP Image Awards Nomination for Outstanding Literary Work in Children
- Bank Street College of Education 2017 Best Children's Book of the Year
- NPR Best Books of 2016
- *Washington Post* Best Books of 2016
- *Kirkus Reviews* Best Books of 2016
- *School Library Journal* Best Books of 2016
- *Publishers Weekly* Best Books of 2016
- *Horn Book* Fanfare Best Books of 2016
- New York Public Library 2016 Best Books for Kids
- Chicago Public Library 2016 Best Books for Kids
- ALA Notable Book for Children
- A CCBC Best of Year Choice
- A Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People 2017 Selection
- Horn Book 2017 Summer Reading Choice
- Amazon Best Book of November 2016

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MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Radiant Child Educator's Guide](#)
- [Book Chat with Javaka Steptoe \(video\)](#)
- [RADIANT CHILD Audiobook Excerpt](#)
- [An Interview with Javaka Steptoe, 2017 Caldecott Medal Winner](#)
- [Javaka Steptoe: Interview - Skokie Public Library](#)
- [The Magical and Messy Art of Jean-Michel Basquiat | A Conversation with Javaka Steptoe - School Library Journal](#)
- [Javaka Steptoe on Radiant Child - The Horn Book](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

[LETTER TO DUVAL COUNTY, FL SCHOOLS FROM PEN AMERICA AND WE NEED DIVERSE BOOKS CALLS FOR RETURN OF 176 BOOK TITLES PULLED FROM CLASSROOM LIBRARIES](#)

***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.

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