



Title: The Day You Begin

Author: Jacqueline Woodson

Illustrator: Rafael López

Imprint: Nancy Paulsen Books

Publisher: Penguin Young Readers

On sale date: August 28, 2018

ISBN: 9780399246531

Format: Hardcover

Age Range*: 5-8

Grade Range: K-Gr 2

(Recommended by School Library Journal)

BOOK RESUME: THE DAY YOU BEGIN

BOOK SYNOPSIS

There are many reasons to feel different. Maybe it's how you look or talk, or where you're from; maybe it's what you eat, or something just as random. It's not easy to take those first steps into a place where nobody really knows you yet, but somehow you do it.

Jacqueline Woodson's lyrical text and Rafael López's dazzling art reminds us that we all feel like outsiders sometimes—and how brave it is that we go forth anyway. And that sometimes, when we reach out and begin to share our stories, others will be happy to meet us halfway.

(This book is also available in Spanish, as *El Día En Que Descubres Quién Eres!*)

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★"This gentle, powerful ode to diversity and acceptance belongs with all children."—*Shelf Awareness*, starred review

★"A beautiful and inclusive story that encourages children to find the beauty in their own lives and share it with the world."—*School Library Journal*, starred review

★"A must-have book about the power of one's voice and the friendships that emerge when you are yourself."—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

★"Woodson's gentle, lilting story and López's artistry create a stirring portrait of the courage it takes to be oneself."—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★"This lovely and sensitive treatment of adjustment deserves a spot in any collection for youngsters."—*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, starred review

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- An ALA ALSC Notable
- A Notable Books for a Global Society list selection
- An ILA Teachers' Choices Reading List selection
- A Notable Children's Book in the Language Arts selection
- A Jane Addams Children's Book Award Winner

Updated 3.28.2024

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*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.

- A Cooperative Children’s Book Center selection
- A Georgia Children's Picture Book Award selection
- A Maryland Black-Eyed Susan Book Award selection
- A Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Award selection
- A Texas Tejas Star Reading List selection
- A Texas Great Texas Mosquito selection
- A Colorado Children's Book Award selection
- A Illinois Monarch Award selection
- A Ohio Ohioana Book Award selection
- A Ohio Choose to Read Ohio- Floyd's Pick selection
- A Wisconsin Picture This! selection
- A Minnesota Star of the North Picture Book Award selection
- A Tennessee Volunteer State Book Award selection
- A Vermont Red Clover Book Award selection
- A Virginia Reads Illuminate Award selection
- A North Carolina Children’s Book Award selection
- A South Carolina Book Awards selection
- A North Dakota Flicker Tale Book Award selection
- A New York 3 Apples Reading List selection
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MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Jacqueline Woodson Author Educator Guide](#)
- [Jacqueline Woodson Picture Book Educator Guide](#)
- [Harpers Bazaar “Eight Authors on How It Feels to Have Their Books Banned”](#)
- [Parents Magazine: 10 Banned Picture Books That Belong In Your Home Library](#)
- [Teaching for Change Project Social Justice Books Recommended Banned Books](#)
- [Human Rights Campaign Welcoming Schools Essential Diverse Children’s Books to Engage Students in Discussion About Bias and Bullying](#)

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