



Title: From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun

Author: Jacqueline Woodson

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Age Range*: 12 and up

Grade Range: Gr 8 Up

(Recommended by School Library Journal)

BOOK RESUME: FROM THE NOTEBOOKS OF MELANIN SUN

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Three-time Newbery Honor author Jacqueline Woodson explores race and sexuality through the eyes of a compelling narrator

Melanin Sun has a lot to say. But sometimes it's hard to speak his mind, so he fills up notebooks with his thoughts instead. He writes about his mom a lot—they're about as close as they can be, because they have no other family. So when she suddenly tells him she's gay, his world is turned upside down. And if that weren't hard enough for him to accept, her girlfriend is white. Melanin Sun is angry and scared. How can his mom do this to him—is this the end of their closeness? What will his friends think? And can he let her girlfriend be part of their family?

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★“Woodson teaches the reader that love can lead to acceptance of all manner of differences.” —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

“In Woodson's graceful, sometimes tender prose, most of the characters shine with very human complexity, each a melange of dreams and concerns, moods, hopes, and doubt.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

“Ms. Woodson, in this moving, lovely book, shows you Melanin's strength and the sun shining through, and by the end the "closed up space" inside him starts "opening, growing, filling itself in.” —*New York Times Book Review*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- A Coretta Scott King Author Honor
- A Lambda Literary Award Winner
- A Jane Addams Children's Book Award Honor Book
- An ILA Notable Books for a Global Society selection
- A Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices selection

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Rethinking Schools, Mirrors and Windows: Conversations with Jacqueline Woodson](#)

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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.

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