

Title: C is for Country **Author:** Lil Nas X **Illustrator:** Theodore

Taylor III

Imprint: Random House Books for Young Readers Publisher: Random House

Children's Books

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2021

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Grade Range: Preschool -

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BOOK RESUME: C IS FOR COUNTRY

BOOK SYNOPSIS

A is for adventure. Every day is a brand-new start! B is for boots--whether they're big or small, short or tall. And C is for country.

Join superstar Lil Nas X—who boasts the longest-running #1 song in history—and Panini the pony on a joyous journey through the alphabet from sunup to sundown. Experience wide-open pastures, farm animals, guitar music, cowboy hats, and all things country in this debut picture book that's perfect for music lovers learning their ABCs and for anyone who loves Nas's signature genreblending style.

Featuring bold, bright art from Theodore Taylor III, with plenty of hidden surprises for Nas's biggest fans, *C Is for Country* is a celebration of song and the power inside us all.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"This alphabet book glides on the style of viral country-rap superstar Lil Nas X. By now just about everyone must know the words to 2019's ever present "Old Town Road." Those who follow Lil Nas X closely may also recall the initial rejection he weathered as a Black artist who sought to blend hip-hop and country. Even deeper, his courage in publicly declaring and living his gay identity and his hilarious social media antics have buoyed his fame. X's brand of joyousness, boldness, and abundant love follow through in this alphabet book that presents a day in the life of a child Lil Nas X on his ranch. Coretta Scott King John Steptoe Award winner Taylor provides the illustrations, taking a (mostly) realistic approach to depicting a pint-sized artist amid his beautiful family. Assuredly, Lil Nas X was trolling when he tweeted that this endeavor would be "the best kids book of all time," but it delivers on expanding the boundary-busting, genre-blending, self-defining, positive-energy universe that Lil Nas X is building for his youthful fan base. And that's probably enough. Sure to excite the youngest fans of Lil Nas X." — Kirkus Reviews

"The performer's messages of acceptance and love pop up from time to time: "Y is for y'all. We've got love for everybody, no matter who you are, where you're from, what you look like." Taylor's uncluttered digital illustrations are focused on the young cowpoke, his close family, and his happy trails." —The Horn Book

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

PW Article Today Show Interview

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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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