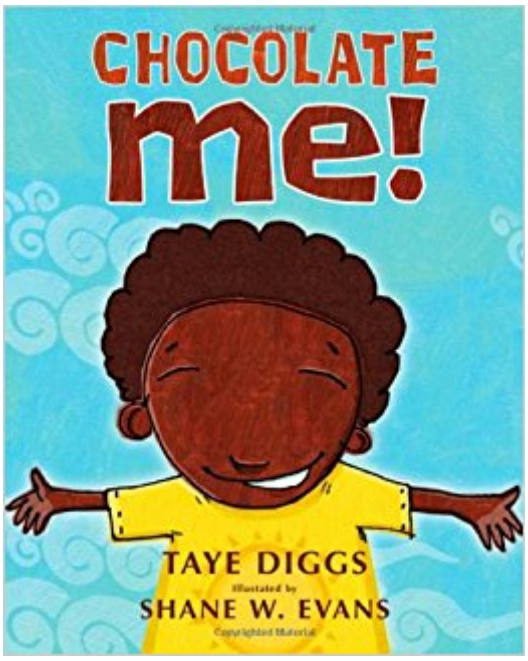
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Chocolate Me!



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Synopsis

The boy is teased for looking different than the other kids. His skin is darker, his hair curlier. He tells his mother he wishes he could be more like everyone else. And she helps him to see how beautiful he really, truly is.For years before they both achieved acclaim in their respective professions, good friends Taye Diggs and Shane W. Evans wanted to collaborate on Chocolate Me!, a book based on experiences of feeling different and trying to fit in as kids. Now, both men are fathers and see more than ever the need for a picture book that encourages all people, especially kids, to love themselves.

Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Feiwel & Friends; First Edition edition (September 27, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312603266

ISBN-13: 978-0312603267

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 273.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 171 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #291,431 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #305 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism #1033 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect #1717 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

A Look Inside Chocolate Me!

Ã¢â ¬Å“With its universal themes of wanting to fit in, self-acceptance, and self-esteem, this read-aloud offering is sure to strike a chord with many young readers/listeners, and on a variety of subjects, not just race.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢School Library JournalÃ¢â ¬Å“Taye Diggs can act and sing, and now he proves he can write. With Chocolate Me!, the affable Diggs makes an assured foray into the children's book category. Lavishly illustrated by Shane W. Evans, Chocolate

embraces a difficult topic with wide arms: colorism.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢EssenceÃ¢â ¬Å“Actor Diggs, making his children’s book debut, gives an unvarnished take on the emotional impact of taunting that cuts to the core of one’s identityÃ¢â ¬Â¦ Evans makes the hero’s journey to confidence irresistible, with bighearted, stylized pictures that draw on the emotionally exuberant vocabulary of street art and anime.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Publishers Weekly

This is a man with serious psychological issues regarding his own dark skin. Please do not read this book to your child & pass along messages of teasing and inferiority to children of any race/color. As an example, in this book the description of the child’s natural features make him some kind of other because he is "different." Diggs has also written a book called Mixed Me. In that description the child is "perfect", "just right" with "lots of energy" and "awesome hair." There is a jarring negative connotation regarding the dark child in Chocolate Me, while the mixed child starts out as perfect. Many kids have not been exposed to this kind of skin shaming and there’s no need for adults to teach it to them.Chocolate me description:The boy is teased for looking different than the other kids. His skin is darker, his hair curlier. He tells his mother he wishes he could be more like everyone else. And she helps him to see how beautiful he really, truly is.For years before they both achieved acclaim in their respective professions, good friends Taye Diggs and Shane W. Evans wanted to collaborate on Chocolate Me!, a book based on experiences of feeling different and trying to fit in as kids.Mixed me description:Mom and Dad say I’m a blend of dark and light:"We mixed you perfectly, and got you just right."Mike has awesome hair. He has LOTS of energy! His parents love him. And Mike is a PERFECT blend of the two of them.Still, Mike has to answer LOTS of questions about being mixed. And he does, with LOTS of energy and joy in this charming story about a day in the life of a mixed-race child.

I thought it would be about a boy celebrating his blackness. But instead he feels inferior to his white friends and they make fun of his color.

Absolutely horrible. If I didn’t have any insecurities about myself after reading this book I did.

Parts of this book are cute and funny, but parts of it were possibly confusing to the younger children in our classes. You should, like any children’s book, pre-read it for your children’s level of understanding.

My daughter absolutely Loves this book!! She is 4 and was having issues at school with kida telling her she needed to have straight blonde hiar like them.... She took the book to school and the teacher read it for story time and I'm Happy to say the majority of the issues have stopped! Happy Mama Bear!!!

Sad. Taye Diggs must have really held on tight to his skin color issues from childhood. I started reading this book to my kids tonight, and then had to stop. Even though he "tries" to take a positive spins toward the end of the book, overall it is negative, especially for a book written for young children. As a "chocolate skinned" African America, I think he could have taken a different approach in writing this book. It seems like no one made him feel good about his looks growing up (except mommy), but these issues should not have been packaged and sold in a children's book.And I quote..."They giggled at my teeth so white..You can be our flashlight at NIGHT, just smile and we will be alright"?!?!? I mean really? Its like a "You/yo mama so black joke" rewritten as a nursery rhyme. Very sad. The only reason I'm not returning this is because one of my toddlers ripped a page in the book. Don't by this book for your kids.

Loving this book! I got this for my 5 year old! We love it!

Love it. Great way to teach self love from an early age.

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