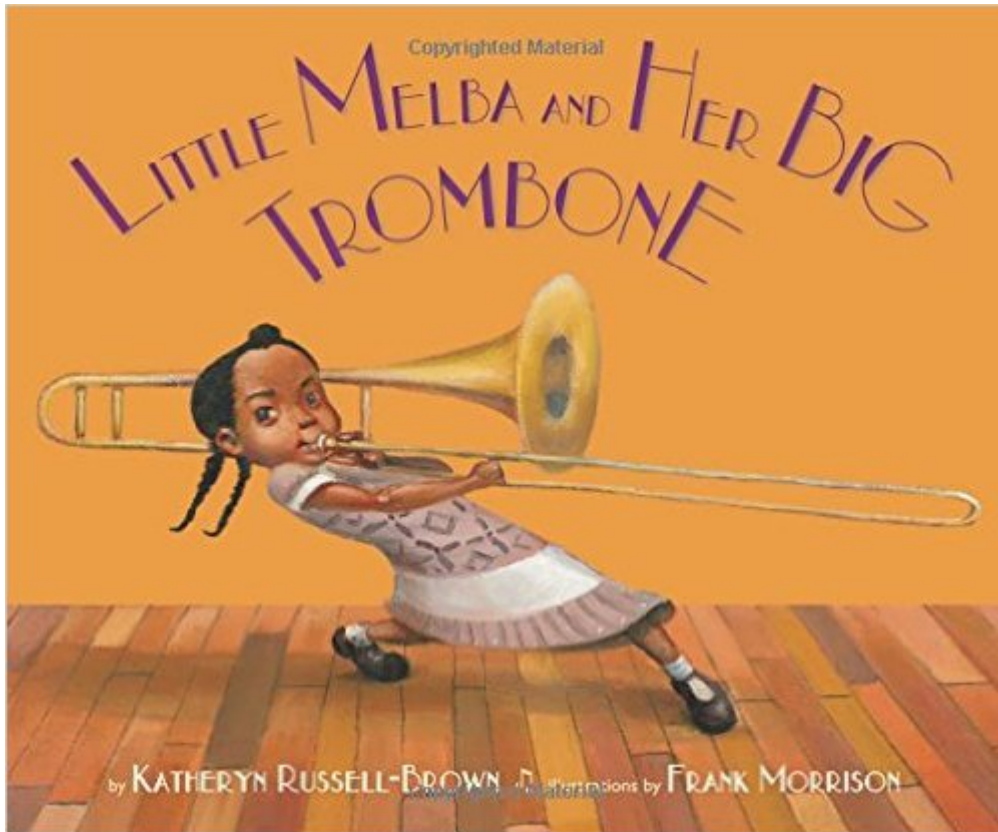


The book was found

Little Melba And Her Big Trombone



Synopsis

Melba Doretta Liston loved the sounds of music from as far back as she could remember. As a child, she daydreamed about beats and lyrics, and hummed along with the music from her family's Majestic radio. At age seven, Melba fell in love with a big, shiny trombone, and soon taught herself to play the instrument. By the time she was a teenager, Melba's extraordinary gift for music led her to the world of jazz. She joined a band led by trumpet player Gerald Wilson and toured the country. Overcoming obstacles of race and gender, Melba went on to become a famed trombone player and arranger, spinning rhythms, harmonies, and melodies into gorgeous songs for all the jazz greats of the twentieth century: Randy Weston, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Billie Holiday, and Quincy Jones, to name just a few. Brimming with ebullience and the joy of making music, *Little Melba and Her Big Trombone* is a fitting tribute to a trailblazing musician and a great unsung hero of jazz.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD720L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Lee & Low Books (August 4, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1600608981

ISBN-13: 978-1600608988

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 11 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (25 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #348,609 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #81 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Musical](#) #517 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

We love, love, LOVE this story. The way it's told is brilliant, as the author subtly weaves in terms and expressions that would have been used during that period of the 1930's. The words sing on the page the same as Melba's trombone. I learned something new from reading this and really enjoyed sharing it with my children who continue to ask for it. The illustrations are fantastic, like a collection of colorful, childlike oil paintings and they perfectly convey the feelings of the main character as she grows and faces new challenges from learning to master her trombone, to moving across the

country, to being called names, and finally to facing racial discrimination. By the end of the story you want to cheer for her for never giving up on her one, true passion - her trombone. Melba crossed the lines of race and gender to bring her amazing music to the world. There's a fact page at the back of the book that's perfect for teachers who want to use this in their classrooms or for the curious child who wants to know more. I haven't been this impressed with a non-fiction picture book featuring an African American character since Henry's Freedom Box came out. Little Melba and Her Big Trombone is sure to become a classic.

Katheryn Russell-Brown has written a wonderful book for young children about a great but unsung jazz musician. She brings to life the remarkable story of Melba Liston who started playing the trombone as a young child and went on to play with some of the greatest jazz musicians in American history. The book's afterward includes original photographs of Melba Liston and provides interesting details about her extraordinary life. This book will be enjoyed by family members of all ages.

This is a cool book with amazing illustrations, and an inspirational and true story historical tale. Little Melba would be perfect to read at home or in a classroom setting. It's a really special book, both the writing and the pictures.

This is an excellent book! A perfect gift for young children. The book gives great examples of how to persevere through challenges and does a great job incorporating historical information in a manner that is easy for kids to digest. The illustrations are captivating. This is a great book for boys and girls of all backgrounds.

Melba was my 'Musical Mother'. She was a close family friend and one of my top musical mentors. Katheryn Russell-Brown and Frank Morrison have done a wonderful job on exposing us to one of the true jazz pioneers of the last century. Hopefully, more projects like this will emerge in the future in an effort to celebrate our African American heroes and sheroes. A must-read for all ages!!!!!!

This is a beautifully written story about a real woman musician, Melba Liston, who played the big trombone. As an African-American young woman, she faced obstacles for much of her life but triumphed eventually and played with and wrote music for some of the top jazz musicians. The illustrations have a jazzy, exotic flavor and suit the story. This book would be of interest to young

musicians and children who like reading about heroes. It's great to have an African-American heroine to inspire. It would probably be best suited for mature 5-year-olds through 8 year-olds. At the end of the book are pictures and more biographical material on Melba. It is a fascinating story which is well-written and well illustrated. Wonderful way to include history and culture in the form of a non-fiction storybook into the curriculum.

When the seed of music passion is planted in one's soul and grows against many odds, that illustrates the life of Melba Liston. Melba chose an unlikely instrument to learn to play and love: The trombone. It was an unlikely choice, both in size for such a small child and in choice for a female. She learned to play this instrument without formal music lessons, and play it she did...with heart and expertise and fame. Makes a great read-aloud. Picture Book: Non-Fiction/Bio (Grades 2-4) The Creative Teacher: Activities for Language Arts (Grades 4 through 8 and Up)

A wonderful story, beautifully illustrated. I was a little embarrassed that I didn't know about this real life amazing woman until reading the book to my 18-month old daughter. She loves the pictures and I love the story of a talented and determined girl.

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