

I Am Loved

Nikki Giovanni , Ashley Bryan (Illustrations)

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Newbery Award honoree Ashley Bryan has hand-selected a dozen of National Book Award winner Nikki Giovanni's poems to illustrate with his inimitable flourish.

There is nothing more important to a child than to feel loved, and this gorgeous gathering of poems written by Nikki Giovanni celebrates exactly that. Hand-selected by Newbery honoree Ashley Bryan, he has, with his masterful flourish of color, shape, and movement, added a visual layering that drums the most impartant message of all to young, old, parent, child, grandparent, and friend alike: You are loved. You are loved. You are loved. As a bonus, one page is mirrored, so children reading the book can see *exactly* who is loved—themselves!

I Am Loved Details

Published January 9th 2018 by Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books (first published January 8th

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ISBN: 9781534404922

Author: Nikki Giovanni, Ashley Bryan (Illustrations)

Format: Hardcover 32 pages

Genre: Poetry, Childrens, Picture Books



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From Reader Review I Am Loved for online ebook

Margie says

You know it's true. Twinkling eyes glance in your direction. A shy smile slowly blossoms on a face. A tender touch brushes your hand. Wise words lift your spirit.

These are signs of another heart holding you in affection. You may encounter them every day from family or friends or when seemingly lost and alone, a stranger will send one of them to you. I AM LOVED: a poetry collection (A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division, January 9, 2018) with poems written by Nikki Giovanni and illustrations by Ashley Bryan are selections declaring an eternal truth.

My full recommendation: http://librariansquest.blogspot.com/2...

Heidi-Marie says

Looking for some recently published children's poetry to nominate for our Poetry committee. I recognized this author's name. A couple of poems really stood out to me. Some were ok, and a couple I didn't get at all. The illustrations weren't quite my thing. And I think there were a couple of cultural references that I didn't get because they are not my culture. But these are great to help readers learn more of the cultures represented, to help readers of that culture connect to something familiar to them, and overall to celebrate love in many different ways and forms.

Gordon says

Phenomenal poet, Nikki Giovanni, has assembled a lovely collection of eleven poems in, **I am Loved**, beautifully illustrated by Ashley Bryan. All the poems are magical. Some will need to be read by an adult to a child because their rhythms need a mature understanding to nail the delivery, or have a trick in the associations that an older person will be able to navigate for a listener who is less accomplished with those things. Still, the sense of love in each poem is tangible. Some of my favorites: *Because*; *Quilts*; *Kidnap Poem*; *Paula the Cat*; and *I Am a Mirror*.

Heidi says

Like many poetry books, I enjoyed some of these poems more than others and the same is bound to be true for young readers/listeners. I liked the poems about family and heaven and being a mirror of those who came before. But there are a few poems that are so abstract in their comparisons that young children will have a hard time figuring out what they mean. I had a hard time with a couple of them (ex. Paula the Cat, Kidnap Poem). Bryan's illustrations are bright and colorful and gorgeous as his normally are, but may not appeal to all children.

Deb (Readerbuzz) Nance says

Nikki Giovanni sings a song of love to the old, the young, the weary, and Ashley Bryan lights up the songs with his brilliantly colored text. I love I Am Loved. I especially love Giovanni's "No Heaven." And you can't miss (you MUST NOT MISS) "Do the Rosa Parks." Wonderful.

Tonja Drecker says

With colorful illustrations, which invite to dream, and beautifully worded poems, this is a book to inspire and bring the warmth of love.

This is a collection of eleven poems, each weaving a lovely description centering on themes from cats to dance to quilts to wild flowers and more, but each of these underlines a feeling of love and warmth. Some of the poems are only a few verses long, while others require the entire two-page spread. The poems paint a picture of things which are familiar but also lead to deeper meaning and thought. While some poems are easy for children in the intended age group to understand, others will require and invite discussion. The range is wide, from simple to more complex. Some poems are better geared for slightly older children over age eight. At times, the level of vocabulary is higher than younger listeners and readers might be accustom to. But there's something for everyone, and each person is sure to find their personal favorite.

The illustrations are a playground of colors, shapes and form. The familiar is molded in with a rainbow of joyful fantasy, while nodding at diversity in one of its most beautiful forms.

This is a lovely collection of poetry, one which is perfect as a read-aloud and offers an open door for discussions. But for all things, there is a constant sense of joy, love and warmth, and a celebration of life in its all of its variety.

I received a complimentary copy and enjoyed it enough to want to leave my honest thoughts.

Gabriella Balbo says

1.N/A

- 2. Kindergarten- 2nd Grade
- 3. A colorful book full of different poems that pertains to a variety of subjects. Focusing on ways that one feels loved through a collection of poems. This book is short, sweet, and engaging book for all especially through its beautiful illustrations.
- 4. This collection of poems is great for young children who are learning to read introducing them to sight words as well as new vocabulary words. Due to the variety of topics discussed it is easy for teachers to incorporate lessons based on what the poem was about that day. I also enjoyed the colorful unique

illustrations that were placed on every other page to help keep the students engaged.

5. Quilt Activity- One of the poems in this book pertains to quilts, after that poem is read, each child could create their own patch with their own poem written on it. After the class completes it the teacher will put all the patches together to create a classroom quilt.

Lesson on poems- Create a lesson based on the structure of a poem introducing poetic terms such as, verse, stanzas, and rhyme scheme.

Tasha says

This collection of poetry by Giovanni shows the many ways that love shines in our lives. Selected by Ashley Bryan, the poems move from family love to love between friends to more playful poems about dancing or cats. The poems form a cohesive collection, just long enough to work well for young children and not too much to overwhelm. The illustrations by Bryan glow almost like lit stained glass windows with their rich colors and segmented pieces. The entire book has a warmth to it that embraces and enchants. Appropriate for ages 6-9.

Edward Sullivan says

There is nothing not to love about this joyous collection of poems luminously illustrated by Ashely Bryant.

Angie says

I received this ARC book from the publisher. The opinions in this review are my own.

This collection of poems invoke Ms. Giovanni's yearning to pass down her thoughts and feelings to the next generation. From the beginning of this collection, she celebrates the desire that children have of being loved by their parents and other adults in their lives. As the collection progresses, Ms. Giovanni celebrates the lives of those that have inspired her and gives us a glimpse of herself and her life.

Mr. Bryan's art has a childlike quality in the stokes and colors and also displays complexity in the lines and details of each illustration.

Cindy Hudson says

The art of an award-winning illustrator melds with the poems of an award-winning author for the picture book I Am Loved.

Ashley Brian's illustration are colorful, rhythmic, and they stand out as pieces of art in their own right. He chose a dozen Nikki Giovanni poems for this collection, poems that celebrate familial love, friendship, and nature. Here's an excerpt from the poem, Because.

| Because |
|--|
| I wrote a poem |
| for you because |
| you are |
| my little boy |
| |
| I wrote a poem |
| for you because |
| you are |
| my darling daughter |
| |
| It's a sweet sentiment that young children are sure to cherish when a parent reads the words to them. |
| I Am a Mirror, a poem near the end, encourages the child to look in the mirror on the page and think about the grandparents and ancestors who have come before him, gain strength from their stories, and know that he |

I Am Loved makes a great addition to any child's bookshelf both as a way to encourage an appreciation for poetry and art, as well as to celebrate the closeness of family relationships.

The publisher provided me with a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Becky says

is loved.

First sentence:

Because
I wrote a poem
for you because
you are
my little boy
I wrote a poem
for you because
you are
my darling daughter
and in this poem
I sang a song

that says
as time goes on
I am you
and you are me
and that's how life
goes on

Premise/plot: I Am Loved is a collection of poems by Nikki Giovanni newly illustrated by Ashley Bryan.

My thoughts: I want to like poetry more than I actually like poetry. I wanted to enjoy this collection. I did. But with the exception of one or two poems, I didn't. The poems I did like were "Quilts" and "Three/Quarters Time."

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. All books are subjective; perhaps poetry is even more so. You may enjoy this collection more than I did. (I hope you do!)

Personally, the lack of punctuation--and the lack of proper capitalization in one case--bothered me way too much. I realize that poetry is ART. There is no one "right" way to do it.

Text: 3 out of 5

Illustrations: 3 out of 5 Total: 6 out of 10

Ben Truong says

I Am Loved is a children's poetry anthology and picture book written by Nikki Giovanni and illustrated by Ashley Bryan. It is a collection eleven poems dedicated to children and the importance for them to be loved.

Giovanni's poems are targeted to children or young readers so the poems are rather straightforward and direct with very little artistic symbolism. There is nothing more important to a child than to feel loved, and this wonderful collection of eleven poems celebrates exactly that. Bryan's illustrations, for the most part, are wonderful and colorful and are reminiscent of African art.

All in all, *I Am Loved* is a somewhat wonderful collection of poems about children and the importance for them to be loved.

Marzie says

A beautiful new edition of the Giovanni's classic children's poetry from the 1970's, with illustrations by Ashley Bryant. As any early childhood educator can tell you poetry is a wonderful way to help early readers learn about the feelings that words can evoke. Rhyming and meter can aid a child in recognizing how to anticipate pronunciation, and help with reading fluency. While some critics may be frustrated with the lack of punctuation, Giovanni's simple language resonates with the reader.

leynes says

The African American artist Ashley Bryan has hand-selected a dozen of Nikki Giovanni's poems to illustrate with his inimitable flourish. All poems and illustrations are collected in *I Am Loved*, which is the first book of poetry explicitly for children that I ever checked out.

Bryan's illustrations are gorgeous, Giovanni's poetry, however... not so much. I've been meaning to check her out for ages and next time I'll definitely go with her poetry for grown ups. These kid's poems just didn't do it for me. They weren't beautifully written, all of them were overly simplified and there was not a single line that really impressed me. All in all, they were totally forgettable.

Nonetheless, I can imagine young kids having some fun with this book since the illustrations are great and one page is actually mirrored (meaning that you can see yourself in it - and boy, I had way too much fun with that at the bookstore; the old lady sitting next to me thought I was crazy)... Ahh, the small things in life, amirite?;)