

little melba and her big trombone

little melba and her big trombone is a celebrated children's picture book that tells the inspiring story of Melba Doretta Liston, a trailblazing African American trombonist and composer. This article explores the remarkable journey depicted in the book, analyzing its key themes, educational value, and the historical context of Melba's life. Readers will learn about Melba's early passion for music, her rise to fame in jazz, and the challenges she overcame as a woman in a male-dominated field. The article also examines the author's intent, the illustrations, and why this book is an essential addition to any classroom or home library. By the end, you'll understand the significance of "little melba and her big trombone" in promoting diversity, perseverance, and the power of dreams. Dive in to discover how this book continues to inspire young readers and musicians alike.

- Overview of Little Melba and Her Big Trombone
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- Key Themes and Educational Value
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Overview of Little Melba and Her Big Trombone

"Little Melba and Her Big Trombone" is a biographical picture book that celebrates the life and achievements of Melba Liston, a pioneering female jazz musician. The book follows Melba from her childhood, when she first fell in love with the trombone, through her journey as a professional musician. This story shines a light on Melba's determination, talent, and the obstacles she faced, while highlighting the importance of music and cultural heritage. The narrative is accessible for young readers and is often used in classrooms to introduce jazz, history, and themes of perseverance. With vivid storytelling and engaging illustrations, "Little Melba and Her Big Trombone" appeals to a wide audience, making it a standout title in children's literature.

The Life and Legacy of Melba Doretta Liston

Early Life and Musical Beginnings

Melba Doretta Liston was born in 1926 in Kansas City, Missouri. From a young age, she showed an exceptional interest in music, especially the trombone. Her mother recognized Melba's passion and encouraged her to pursue her dreams. By the age of seven, Melba was already mastering her instrument, setting the stage for an extraordinary career. The book captures Melba's formative years, emphasizing how her family and community supported her musical endeavors despite barriers of race and gender.

Rise to Jazz Stardom

Melba Liston's musical journey led her to perform with some of the most legendary jazz musicians of her era, including Dizzy Gillespie, Quincy Jones, and Billie Holiday. She became known not only for her skillful trombone playing but also for her exceptional arrangements and compositions. Throughout her career, Melba broke new ground for women in jazz, earning respect and admiration in a field largely dominated by men. Her legacy is cemented in the annals of music history, and "Little Melba and Her Big Trombone" brings this remarkable story to young readers.

Overcoming Challenges and Breaking Barriers

Throughout her life, Melba Liston faced numerous challenges, including racial discrimination and gender bias. As an African American woman in the mid-20th century, she had to work twice as hard to be recognized for her talent. The book skillfully illustrates how Melba persevered, using her passion for music to overcome adversity and inspire others. Her story serves as a powerful example of resilience and determination.

- First female trombonist to play in many major jazz bands
- Contributed as both performer and composer
- Influenced generations of musicians
- Advocated for diversity in music

Key Themes and Educational Value

Perseverance and Determination

One of the central themes of “Little Melba and Her Big Trombone” is perseverance. Melba’s story demonstrates the importance of staying determined in the face of obstacles. The book encourages young readers to pursue their passions, even when faced with difficulties. Through Melba’s journey, children learn the value of hard work, dedication, and self-belief.

Diversity and Representation in Music

The book highlights the significance of diversity in the arts. Melba Liston’s achievements as an African American woman in jazz are a testament to breaking stereotypes and challenging norms. The narrative and illustrations celebrate cultural heritage, promoting inclusivity and inspiring children from all backgrounds to believe in their potential.

Educational Uses in the Classroom

“Little Melba and Her Big Trombone” is widely used in educational settings to teach history, music, and social studies. Teachers appreciate the book’s ability to introduce complex topics in an accessible manner. It can be paired with lessons on jazz history, African American history, and the importance of representation in the arts. The story is also effective for character education, reinforcing themes of courage and integrity.

1. Encourages discussion about historical figures
2. Promotes understanding of jazz music
3. Teaches about overcoming prejudice
4. Inspires creativity and passion in students

Author and Illustrator Insights

Author: Katheryn Russell-Brown

Katheryn Russell-Brown, the author of “Little Melba and Her Big Trombone,” is known for her engaging and informative writing style. She specializes in children’s literature that features African American history and celebrates diversity. Russell-Brown’s storytelling brings Melba’s experiences to life, making them relatable and inspiring for readers of all ages. Her research and attention to detail ensure historical accuracy while maintaining an uplifting tone.

Illustrator: Frank Morrison

Frank Morrison’s illustrations are a standout feature of the book. His vibrant, expressive artwork captures the energy and rhythm of Melba’s music and the spirit of the jazz era. Morrison uses bold colors and dynamic compositions to immerse readers in the story. His illustrations help communicate emotion and movement, making Melba’s journey both visual and memorable.

Impact on Children’s Literature and Diversity

Promoting Representation in Storytelling

“Little Melba and Her Big Trombone” plays a significant role in expanding representation in children’s literature. By focusing on an African American female musician, the book fills a gap in stories about underrepresented histories. It encourages publishers, educators, and parents to seek out diverse narratives, fostering a more inclusive reading environment for children.

Influence on Young Readers

The book has inspired countless young readers to learn about jazz, pursue their own interests, and recognize the importance of diversity. Many educators report that students are motivated by Melba’s story to take up musical instruments, explore different cultures, and dream big. The positive impact of the book is seen in increased awareness and appreciation for the arts.

Why Little Melba and Her Big Trombone Matters Today

“Little Melba and Her Big Trombone” remains relevant in today’s world, where conversations about diversity, inclusion, and perseverance are more important than ever. The book’s message resonates with families and educators seeking to empower children and celebrate individuality. Melba Liston’s legacy continues to inspire new generations, ensuring that her story—and her music—live on.

Trending Questions and Answers about Little Melba and Her Big Trombone

Q: What is the main message of little melba and her big trombone?

A: The main message is that perseverance, talent, and believing in oneself can help overcome barriers and achieve dreams, regardless of gender or background.

Q: Who was Melba Doretta Liston?

A: Melba Doretta Liston was a groundbreaking African American jazz trombonist and composer, known for her work with legendary musicians and for breaking gender and racial barriers in music.

Q: What age group is little melba and her big trombone suitable for?

A: The book is suitable for children ages 5 to 9 and is commonly used in elementary classrooms, but its inspiring story appeals to older readers as well.

Q: What makes the illustrations in the book stand out?

A: Frank Morrison’s illustrations use vibrant colors and expressive characters to capture the energy of jazz and bring Melba’s journey to life.

Q: How can teachers use little melba and her big trombone in the classroom?

A: Teachers can use the book to teach music history, diversity, and character education, as well as to encourage discussions about overcoming challenges and following passions.

Q: What awards has little melba and her big trombone received?

A: The book has received several accolades, including the Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor and recognition from various educational organizations for its contribution to diversity in literature.

Q: What historical context does the book provide?

A: The book introduces readers to the jazz era, highlighting the cultural significance of jazz music and the challenges faced by African American musicians during the 20th century.

Q: Why is little melba and her big trombone important for representation?

A: It highlights the achievements of an African American woman in jazz, promoting diversity and inspiring children from all backgrounds to pursue their dreams.

Q: Who wrote and illustrated little melba and her big trombone?

A: The book was written by Katheryn Russell-Brown and illustrated by Frank Morrison.

Q: What themes can children learn from Melba Liston's story?

A: Children can learn about perseverance, overcoming adversity, celebrating diversity, and the importance of believing in themselves.

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Little Melba and Her Big Trombone: A Journey of Determination and Musical Triumph

Have you ever heard of a little girl who dared to dream big, even when faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles? Little Melba and her big trombone is more than just a children's story; it's a powerful narrative of perseverance, self-belief, and the transformative power of music. This blog post delves into the heart of this inspiring tale, exploring its themes, its impact, and its enduring relevance in today's world. We'll examine what makes this story so captivating, how it resonates with readers of all ages, and why it continues to inspire countless individuals to pursue their dreams, regardless of size or perceived limitations. Get ready to be moved by the story of Little Melba and her remarkably big trombone!

The Allure of a Big Dream: Unpacking Little Melba's Story

The story of Little Melba, as told through various iterations and adaptations, often centers on a young girl with a passionate love for music, particularly the trombone. The "big trombone" isn't just a literal object; it represents the magnitude of her ambition, a dream that seems out of reach, perhaps even disproportionate to her small size. This juxtaposition immediately captures the reader's attention, creating a compelling visual and emotional contrast.

Overcoming Obstacles: The Power of Perseverance

Melba's journey isn't without its challenges. She may face ridicule, doubt from those around her, or perhaps even practical limitations. The story often emphasizes the hard work and dedication required to master an instrument as challenging as the trombone. This aspect makes the narrative relatable, reminding us that success rarely comes easily and requires perseverance and resilience. The struggles Melba faces highlight the importance of overcoming adversity and believing in oneself, even when facing setbacks.

The Transformative Power of Music: More Than Just a Hobby

The story transcends the simple narrative of a child learning an instrument. Music, in this context, becomes a powerful force for personal growth and self-expression. It's a vehicle for Melba to overcome her challenges, build confidence, and connect with others. The act of playing the trombone isn't just a hobby; it becomes a pathway to self-discovery and empowerment.

The Enduring Legacy of Little Melba: Inspiring Future Generations

The impact of Little Melba's story extends far beyond the pages of the book (or screen, depending on the adaptation). It resonates with readers because it speaks to universal themes of courage, determination, and the pursuit of one's passions. The story inspires children (and adults!) to embrace their dreams, no matter how ambitious or seemingly unattainable they may seem. It teaches the importance of hard work, dedication, and believing in oneself, even when facing doubt or criticism.

The Story's Adaptability and Modern Relevance

The story of Little Melba and her big trombone is remarkably adaptable. It can be reinterpreted and reimagined in countless ways, making it a versatile narrative that continues to resonate across different cultures and generations. Its core message of perseverance and self-belief remains timeless and universally relevant, making it a powerful tool for promoting positive values in children and young adults.

Beyond the Book: The Broader Implications

The success of "Little Melba and her big trombone," regardless of its specific iteration, lies in its ability to connect with readers on an emotional level. It's a story that celebrates individuality, encourages creativity, and demonstrates the power of believing in oneself. This potent combination makes it a valuable tool for educators, parents, and anyone seeking to inspire young people to pursue their dreams with passion and determination.

Conclusion:

Little Melba and her big trombone is more than just a children's story; it's a powerful testament to the human spirit's capacity for overcoming challenges and achieving dreams. It's a story that reminds us that size doesn't matter when passion and determination are involved. The enduring legacy of this narrative lies in its ability to inspire generations to pursue their ambitions with unwavering belief in themselves. The story encourages us all to embrace our unique talents and pursue our dreams with courage and perseverance.

FAQs:

1. Is "Little Melba and Her Big Trombone" a true story? While the specific details may vary depending on the adaptation, the story's core message of perseverance is often inspired by real-life accounts of individuals who overcame obstacles to achieve their dreams. It serves as a powerful allegory rather than a strictly factual account.

2. What age group is this story best suited for? The story's appeal is broad, spanning ages from preschool through early elementary school, and even resonating with older readers who appreciate

its underlying themes.

3. What are the key themes explored in the story? The primary themes include perseverance, self-belief, overcoming obstacles, the transformative power of music, and the importance of pursuing one's passions.
4. Are there different versions of the story? Yes, the narrative of "Little Melba and her big trombone" can be found in various forms, including picture books, animated shorts, and stage adaptations, each offering a unique interpretation of the central theme.
5. How can parents use this story to inspire their children? Parents can utilize the story to discuss the importance of hard work, dedication, and believing in oneself. It can spark conversations about overcoming challenges and pursuing one's dreams, encouraging children to identify their own passions and strive towards their goals.

little melba and her big trombone: *Little Melba and Her Big Trombone* Katheryn Russell-Brown, 2014 A biography of African American musician Melba Doretta Liston, a virtuoso musician who played the trombone and composed and arranged music for many of the great jazz musicians of the twentieth century. Includes afterword, discography, and sources--

little melba and her big trombone: Little Melba and Her Big Trombone Katheryn Russell-Brown, 2014 A biography of African American musician Melba Doretta Liston, a virtuoso musician who played the trombone and composed and arranged music for many of the great jazz musicians of the twentieth century. Includes afterword, discography, and sources--

little melba and her big trombone: She was the First! Katheryn Russell-Brown, 2020 A picture biography of educator and politician Shirley Chisholm, who in 1968 was the first Black woman elected to Congress and in 1972 was the first Black candidate from a major political party (the Democratic party) to run for the United States presidency. An afterword with additional information, photographs, and source lists are included--

little melba and her big trombone: A Voice Named Aretha Katheryn Russell-Brown, 2020-01-07 From acclaimed author and illustrator pairing comes a beautiful picture book biography about the Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin and how she fought for respect throughout her life. Aretha Franklin is the Queen of Soul, a legend. But before she became a star, she was a shy little girl with a voice so powerful it made people jump up, sway, and hum along. Raised in a house full of talking and singing, Aretha learned the values that would carry her through life--from her church choir in Detroit to stages across the world. When she moved to New York City to start her career, it took years of hard work before she had a hit song. In the turbulent 1960s, she sang about Respect and refused to perform before segregated audiences. The first woman inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Aretha always remembered who she was and where she came from. In this stirring biography of a true artistic and social icon, award-winning creators Katheryn Russell-Brown and Laura Freeman show young readers how Aretha's talent, intelligence, and perseverance made her a star who will shine on for generations to come. Acclaim for *Little Melba and Her Big Trombone* 2015 NAACP Image Award Nominee Outstanding Literary Work--Children 2015 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award Honor 2015 ALA Notable Children's Book 2015 Amelia Bloomer Project - Feminist Task Force 2015 Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction, Recommended Title

little melba and her big trombone: Long Shot Chris Paul, 2030-12-31 A Simon & Schuster eBook. Simon & Schuster has a great book for every reader.

little melba and her big trombone: Not My Girl Christy Jordan-Fenton, Margaret

Pokiak-Fenton, 2014-02-18 Two years ago, Margaret left her Arctic home for the outsiders' school. Now she has returned and can barely contain her excitement as she rushes towards her waiting family -- but her mother stands still as a stone. This strange, skinny child, with her hair cropped short, can't be her daughter. Not my girl! she says angrily. Margaret's years at school have changed her. Now ten years old, she has forgotten her language and the skills to hunt and fish. She can't even stomach her mother's food. Her only comfort is in the books she learned to read at school. Gradually, Margaret relearns the words and ways of her people. With time, she earns her father's trust enough to be given a dogsled of her own. As her family watches with pride, Margaret knows she has found her place once more. Based on the true story of Margaret Pokiak-Fenton, and complemented by evocative illustrations, *Not My Girl* makes the original, award-winning memoir, *A Stranger at Home*, accessible to younger children. It is also a sequel to the picture book *When I Was Eight*. A poignant story of a determined young girl's struggle to belong, it will both move and inspire readers everywhere.

little melba and her big trombone: *The 5 O'Clock Band* Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, Bill Taylor, 2020-11-10 This companion title to *Trombone Shorty*—Caldecott Honor, Coretta Scott King Award and Odyssey Honor winner—is a well-tuned, beautiful visual and auditory exploration of a beloved community as Shorty visits the streets of New Orleans to find answers on how to be a leader in his band.

little melba and her big trombone: *Sweet Music in Harlem* Debbie A. Taylor, 2004 An African-American boy unintentionally brings together all the neighbourhood's jazz musicians for a magazine photograph.

little melba and her big trombone: *When the Beat Was Born* Laban Carrick Hill, 2013-08-27 Before there was hip hop, there was DJ Kool Herc. On a hot day at the end of summer in 1973 Cindy Campbell threw a back-to-school party at a park in the South Bronx. Her brother, Clive Campbell, spun the records. He had a new way of playing the music to make the breaks—the musical interludes between verses—longer for dancing. He called himself DJ Kool Herc and this is *When the Beat Was Born*. From his childhood in Jamaica to his youth in the Bronx, Laban Carrick Hill's book tells how Kool Herc came to be a DJ, how kids in gangs stopped fighting in order to breakdance, and how the music he invented went on to define a culture and transform the world.

little melba and her big trombone: *Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin* Chieri Uegaki, 2014-08-01 Hana has signed up to play the violin at the talent show, even though she's only had three lessons. Her brothers predict disaster. But Hana practices and practices, inspired by her grandfather, or Ojiichan, who played the violin every day when she visited him in Japan. As Hana takes the stage, doubt is all she can hear, until she recalls her grandfather's words of encouragement, and shows the audience how beautiful music can take many forms.

little melba and her big trombone: *Let the Children March* Monica Clark-Robinson, 2018-01-02 This powerful picture book introduces young readers to a key event in the struggle for Civil Rights. Winner, Coretta Scott King Honor Award. In 1963 Birmingham, Alabama, thousands of African American children volunteered to march for their rights after hearing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. speak. They protested the laws that kept black people separate from white people. Facing fear, hate, and danger, these children used their voices to change the world. Frank Morrison's emotive oil-on-canvas paintings bring this historical event to life, while Monica Clark-Robinson's moving and poetic words document this remarkable time. I couldn't play on the same playground as the white kids. I couldn't go to their schools. I couldn't drink from their water fountains. There were so many things I couldn't do.

little melba and her big trombone: *The Princess and the Warrior* Duncan Tonatiuh, 2016-09-20 In the picture book *Princess and the Warrior: A Tale of Two Volcanoes*, award-winning author and illustrator Duncan Tonatiuh brings a cherished Mexican legend to life. A Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor Book ALA/ALSC Notable Children's Book! "A palette of earthy, evocative colors . . . A genuine triumph." —Kirkus Reviews (Starred Review) "Use this Aztec legend to inspire readers while teaching a bit about dramatic irony." —School Library Journal *Izta* was the most beautiful

princess in the land, and suitors traveled from far and wide to woo her. Even though she was the daughter of the emperor, Izta had no desire to marry a man of wealth and power. Instead, she fell in love with Popoca, a brave warrior who fought in her father's army—and a man who did not offer her riches but a promise to stay by her side forever. The emperor did not want his daughter to marry a mere warrior, but he recognized Popoca's bravery. He offered Popoca a deal: If the warrior could defeat their enemy, Jaguar Claw, then the emperor would permit Popoca and Izta to wed. But Jaguar Claw had a plan to thwart the warrior. Would all be lost? Today two majestic volcanoes—Popocatepetl and Iztaccíhuatl—stand overlooking Mexico City. They have been admired and revered for countless generations and have formed the basis of many origin and creation myths. The integration of Nahuatl words (defined with a pronunciation guide in the glossary) into the narrative provides a rich opportunity to introduce and explore another facet of ancient Aztec culture. Take your child on an adventure back in time to a land of color and beauty.

little melba and her big trombone: March Forward, Girl Melba Beals, 2018 A member of the Little Rock Nine shares her memories of growing up in the South under Jim Crow.

little melba and her big trombone: Drum Dream Girl Margarita Engle, 2015 In this acclaimed picture book bursting with vibrance and rhythm, a girl dreams of playing the drums in 1930s Cuba, when the music-filled island had a taboo against female drummers.

little melba and her big trombone: Double Bass Blues Andrea J. Loney, 2019-10-22 A Caldecott Honor Book! A joyous celebration of family, community, and the unifying power of music, perfect for fans of *Last Stop on Market Street*. Nic is an aspiring musician whose life spans two different worlds--his suburban school where he wows his friends in orchestra, and the busy city streets of his home where he's jostled by the crowd. Nic makes his way home from a busy day at school with a double bass on his back, the symphony of his surroundings in his heart, and a sweet surprise for the reader at the end of his journey. This is a sweet, melodious picture book about how dedication, music, and family can overcome any obstacle.

little melba and her big trombone: Mister and Lady Day Amy Novesky, 2017-02-07 Billie Holiday—also known as Lady Day—had fame, style, a stellar voice, big gardenias in her hair, and lots of dogs. She had a coat-pocket poodle, a beagle, Chihuahuas, a Great Dane, and more, but her favorite was a boxer named Mister. Mister was always there to bolster her courage through good times and bad, even before her legendary appearance at New York's Carnegie Hall. Newton's stylish illustrations keep the simply told story focused on the loving bond between Billie Holiday and her treasured boxer. An author's note deals more directly with the singer's troubled life, and includes a little-known photo of Mister and Lady Day!

little melba and her big trombone: Birds in My Backyard Lisa Donovan, 2021-06-21 Want to introduce children, toddlers, and babies to the colorful and amusing world of birds? Out of all of nature's wonders, birds are chattering, swooping, squawking creatures that kids see every day. *Birds in My Backyard* is a whimsical introduction to the show going on outdoors. Learn to look and listen! Each page presents a new bird with a playful, descriptive rhyme: Robins go fishing for worms. Blue jays boss other birds. Hawks play with breezes. And so on. Children discover new chirping friends with *Birds in My Backyard*! This book celebrates colorful birds artistically rendered in imaginative collage. It's a picture book that entertains while educating. *Birds in My Backyard* starts at dawn and ends at dusk so that kids might soar with the birds in their dreams. Like any favorite bedtime story, the book concludes with soothing, enchanting images and text. While budding bird watchers have fun learning about feathered friends, *Birds in My Backyard* also boosts language and affective learning skills, creativity, and cognitive abilities. In this book, you'll encounter: □ Visually-stimulating illustrations of birds in collage form □ Engaging stories and playful verses □ Passages with easy-to-read fonts for emergent readers □ Creative and gift-worthy book with an artistic cover Your kids' new bird buddies are waiting. Add the *Birds in My Backyard* book to your cart TODAY!

little melba and her big trombone: George Crum and the Saratoga Chip Gaylia Taylor, 2006 This spirited story of the invention of the potato chip is a testament to human ingenuity and a

tasty slice of culinary history. The popular topics of cooking and food are explored and readers are introduced to a historical 'celebrity chef'. An afterword provides more about the life of George Crum.

little melba and her big trombone: I Got the Rhythm Connie Schofield-Morrison, 2014-06-03 On a simple trip to the park, the joy of music overtakes a mother and daughter. The little girl hears a rhythm coming from the world around her- from butterflies, to street performers, to ice cream sellers everything is musical! She sniffs, snaps, and shakes her way into the heart of the beat, finally busting out in an impromptu dance, which all the kids join in on! Award-winning illustrator Frank Morrison and Connie Schofield-Morrison, capture the beat of the street, to create a rollicking read that will get any kid in the mood to boogie.

little melba and her big trombone: Above the Rim Jen Bryant, 2020-10-06 The story of Elgin Baylor, basketball icon and civil rights advocate, from an all-star team Hall-of-famer Elgin Baylor was one of basketball's all-time-greatest players—an innovative athlete, team player, and quiet force for change. One of the first professional African-American players, he inspired others on and off the court. But when traveling for away games, many hotels and restaurants turned Elgin away because he was black. One night, Elgin had enough and staged a one-man protest that captured the attention of the press, the public, and the NBA. *Above the Rim* is a poetic, exquisitely illustrated telling of the life of an underrecognized athlete and a celebration of standing up for what is right.

little melba and her big trombone: Little Lena and the Big Table Pj McIlvaine, 2019-04-10 Lena tries every year to be part of the Big adult table. She is tired sitting with the babies. Lena does everything she can to prove she is big enough to sit with the grown-ups. It is not until Little Lena has a big idea on how to solve the families problem. Will sitting at the big table be everything she hoped?

little melba and her big trombone: Trombone Shorty Troy Andrews, 2015-04-14 The Caldecott Honor and Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award-winning picture book biography from Grammy-nominated musician Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews and celebrated illustrator Bryan Collier "Who's that playing out there?" Bo Diddley asked the New Orleans crowd. It was a small child who'd been nicknamed "Trombone Shorty" because his trombone was twice as large as he was. Trombone Shorty was lifted in the air and carried through the audience until he reached the stage with Bo Diddley. He has been onstage ever since. Hailing from the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans, where music always floated in the air, Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews didn't always have the money to buy an instrument, but he did have the dream to play music. This is the story of how he made his dream take flight. Today, Troy Andrews is a Grammy-nominated musician who tours the world with his band, Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue. He continues to inspire hope for the next generation in New Orleans and for music lovers everywhere.

little melba and her big trombone: Just Beyond the Very, Very Far North Dan Bar-el, 2021-10-05 Duane the polar bear and the other animals of the very, very far north find their friendships deepening as they are challenged by the arrival of a contentious weasel and an unexpected departure.

little melba and her big trombone: Queen of the Scene Book and CD Queen Latifah, 2006-09-26 A self-confident young African-American girl explains why she is queen of the scene at the playground.

little melba and her big trombone: Quacky Baseball Peter Abrahams, 2011-02-22 It's opening day at the ballpark, and Thumbby Duckling is nervous. He hopes it won't be one, two, three strikes, he's out! Trailing by three in the bottom of the ninth, the Webbies are counting on Thumbby to save the day. Can Thumbby shake his jitters and show his team that he's a star player? From Peter Abrahams and Frank Morrison comes the story of one duck's quest to make it in the big leagues.

little melba and her big trombone: If You Ever Want to Bring a Piano to the Beach, Don't! Elise Parsley, 2016-05-03 The second book in the New York Times bestselling series that began with *If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't!* is another uproarious cautionary tale about things that DON'T belong together! If your mom says to get ready to play at the beach, she means with a boat, or a Frisbee, or a shovel. She is NOT talking about the piano. But Magnolia is a little girl

with a big idea, determination, and one very heavy upright piano that, she insists, she needs to take with her. What's the worst that can happen? In a riotous series of mishaps, Magnolia quickly learns that--not surprisingly--a piano doesn't mix well with sand, sun, and seagulls!

little melba and her big trombone: Jump at the Sun Alicia D. Williams, 2021-01-12 From the Newbery Honor-winning author of *Genesis Begins Again* comes a shimmering picture book that shines the light on Zora Neale Hurston, the extraordinary writer and storycatcher extraordinaire who changed the face of American literature. Zora was a girl who hankered for tales like bees for honey. Now, her mama always told her that if she wanted something, "to jump at de sun", because even though you might not land quite that high, at least you'd get off the ground. So Zora jumped from place to place, from the porch of the general store where she listened to folktales, to Howard University, to Harlem. And everywhere she jumped, she shined sunlight on the tales most people hadn't been bothered to listen to until Zora. The tales no one had written down until Zora. Tales on a whole culture of literature overlooked...until Zora. Until Zora jumped.

little melba and her big trombone: Jose! Born to Dance Susanna Reich, 2005-08-01 José was a boy with a song in his heart and a dance in his step. Born in Mexico in 1908, he came into the world kicking like a steer, and grew up to love to draw, play the piano, and dream. José's dreaming took him to faraway places. He dreamed of bullfighters and the sounds of the cancan dancers that he saw with his father. Dance lit a fire in José's soul. With his heart to guide him, José left his family and went to New York to dance. He learned to flow and float and fly through space with steps like a Mexican breeze. When José danced, his spirit soared. From New York to lands afar, José Limón became known as the man who gave the world his own kind of dance. ¡OLÉ! ¡OLÉ! ¡OLÉ! Susanna Reich's lyrical text and Raúl Colón's shimmering artwork tell the story of a boy who was determined to make a difference in the world, and did. José! Born to Dance will inspire picture book readers to follow their hearts and live their dreams.

little melba and her big trombone: Ron's Big Mission Rose Blue, Corinne Naden, 2009-01-22 Nine-year-old Ron loves going to the Lake City Public Library to look through all the books on airplanes and flight. Today, Ron is ready to take out books by himself. But in the segregated world of South Carolina in the 1950s, Ron's obtaining his own library card is not just a small rite of passage—it is a young man's first courageous mission. Here is an inspiring story, based on Ron McNair's life, of how a little boy, future scientist, and Challenger astronaut desegregated his library through peaceful resistance.

little melba and her big trombone: If You're Going to a March Martha Freeman, 2018 Answers many questions about participating in a march, including what to wear, how to get there, and why marching is important.

little melba and her big trombone: African Americans of Chattanooga Rita L. Hubbard, 2007 Beginning in 1541 with Hernando De Soto's Spanish expedition for gold, African Americans have held a prominent place in Chattanooga's history. Author Rita Lorraine Hubbard chronicles the ways African Americans have shaped Chattanooga, and presents inspirational achievements that have gone largely unheralded over the years. Did you know that Chattanooga is: * the hometown of the first African American appointed to lead counsel on a Supreme Court case * the home of the nation's oldest student, who learned to read at age 116 * the home of the African American blacksmith who put shackles on the Andrew's Raiders after the Great Locomotive Chase * the site of one of the first integrated police departments in the South... and so much more!

little melba and her big trombone: The Boy Who Loved Math Deborah Heiligman, 2013-06-25 Most people think of mathematicians as solitary, working away in isolation. And, it's true, many of them do. But Paul Erdos never followed the usual path. At the age of four, he could ask you when you were born and then calculate the number of seconds you had been alive in his head. But he didn't learn to butter his own bread until he turned twenty. Instead, he traveled around the world, from one mathematician to the next, collaborating on an astonishing number of publications. With a simple, lyrical text and richly layered illustrations, this is a beautiful introduction to the world of math and a fascinating look at the unique character traits that made Uncle Paul a great man. The

Boy Who Loved Math by Deborah Heiligman is a Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2013 and a New York Times Book Review Notable Children's Book of 2013.

little melba and her big trombone: *Ticktock Banneker's Clock* Shana Keller, 2016-09-01 Throughout his life, Benjamin Banneker was known and admired for his work in science, mathematics, and astronomy, just to name a few pursuits. But even when he was born in Maryland in 1731, he was already an extraordinary person for that time period. He was born free at a time in America when most African Americans were slaves. Though he only briefly attended school and was largely self-taught, at a young age Benjamin displayed a keen aptitude for mathematics and science. Inspired by a pocket watch he had seen, at the age of 22 he built a strike clock based on his own drawings and using a pocket-knife. This picture book biography focuses on one episode in a remarkable life.

little melba and her big trombone: *The Story of Rap* Lindsey Sagar, 2019-06-13 From Grandmaster Flash to Jay-Z rap has shaped generations and transformed the charts. Bop along with the greats in this adorable baby book that introduces little ones to the rappers that started it all.

little melba and her big trombone: *Nighttime Symphony* Timbaland, Christopher Myers, 2019-05-14 Baby falls asleep to a thunderstorm in the city, where all of the sounds blend together into a lullaby.

little melba and her big trombone: *Josephine's Dream* Joan Betty Stuchner, 2008-05 Josephine Baker was a famous singer, dancer, and entertainer. After moving to France to break free of prejudice, she eventually helped with the French resistance as a spy in World War II and won a medal for her service...--Jacket.

little melba and her big trombone: *Chasing Freedom: The Life Journeys of Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony, Inspired by Historical Facts* Nikki Grimes, 2015-01-06 Nikki Grimes offers a glimpse into the inspiring lives of Susan B. Anthony and Harriet Tubman, with breathtaking illustrations by Michele Wood! What if Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony sat down over tea to reminisce about their extraordinary lives? What would they recall of their triumphs and struggles as they fought to achieve civil rights for African Americans and equal rights for women? And what other historical figures played parts in their stories? These questions led Coretta Scott King Award winner Nikki Grimes to create CHASING FREEDOM, an engaging work of historical fiction about two of the nineteenth century's most powerful, and inspiring, American women. With breathtaking illustrations by Coretta Scott King Award winner Michele Wood, CHASING FREEDOM richly imagines the experiences of Tubman and Anthony, set against the backdrop of the Underground Railroad, the Civil War, and the Women's Suffrage Movement. Additional back matter invites curious young readers to further explore this period in history--and the larger-than-life figures who lived it.

little melba and her big trombone: *Manners Mash-up*, 2011 Should you eat nachos at the opera? What about wearing your birthday suit to a birthday party? And just where do you put that napkin? These etiquette questions have been puzzling kids for ages. Now fourteen hilarious and well-loved illustrators show you all the answers and many, many more, right inside this book! YOU'LL BE THE BEST-BEHAVED KID IN THE WORLD!* *results not guaranteed

little melba and her big trombone: *Afro-Bets ABC Book* Cheryl Willis Hudson, 2015-07-31 Black youngsters form themselves into letters of the alphabet.

little melba and her big trombone: *Welcome to Jazz* Carolyn Sloan, 2019-10-15 AN INTERACTIVE, SWING-ALONG PICTURE BOOK—WITH 12 SOUND CHIPS! Are you ready to swing? Discover the wonders of jazz: How to get in the groove, what it means to play a solo, and the joy of singing along in a call-and-response. In this interactive swing-along picture book with 12 sound chips, you'll hear the instruments of jazz—the rhythm section with its banjo, drums, and tuba, and the leads, like the clarinet, trumpet, and trombone. And you'll hear singers scat, improvising melodies with nonsense syllables like be-bop and doo-we-ah! Along the way, you'll learn how this unique African American art form started in New Orleans, and how jazz changed over time as innovative musicians like King Oliver, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and Billie Holiday added

their own ideas to it. Press the buttons to hear the band, the rhythms, and the singer calling out:
“OH WHEN THE SAINTS—oh when the saints...”

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