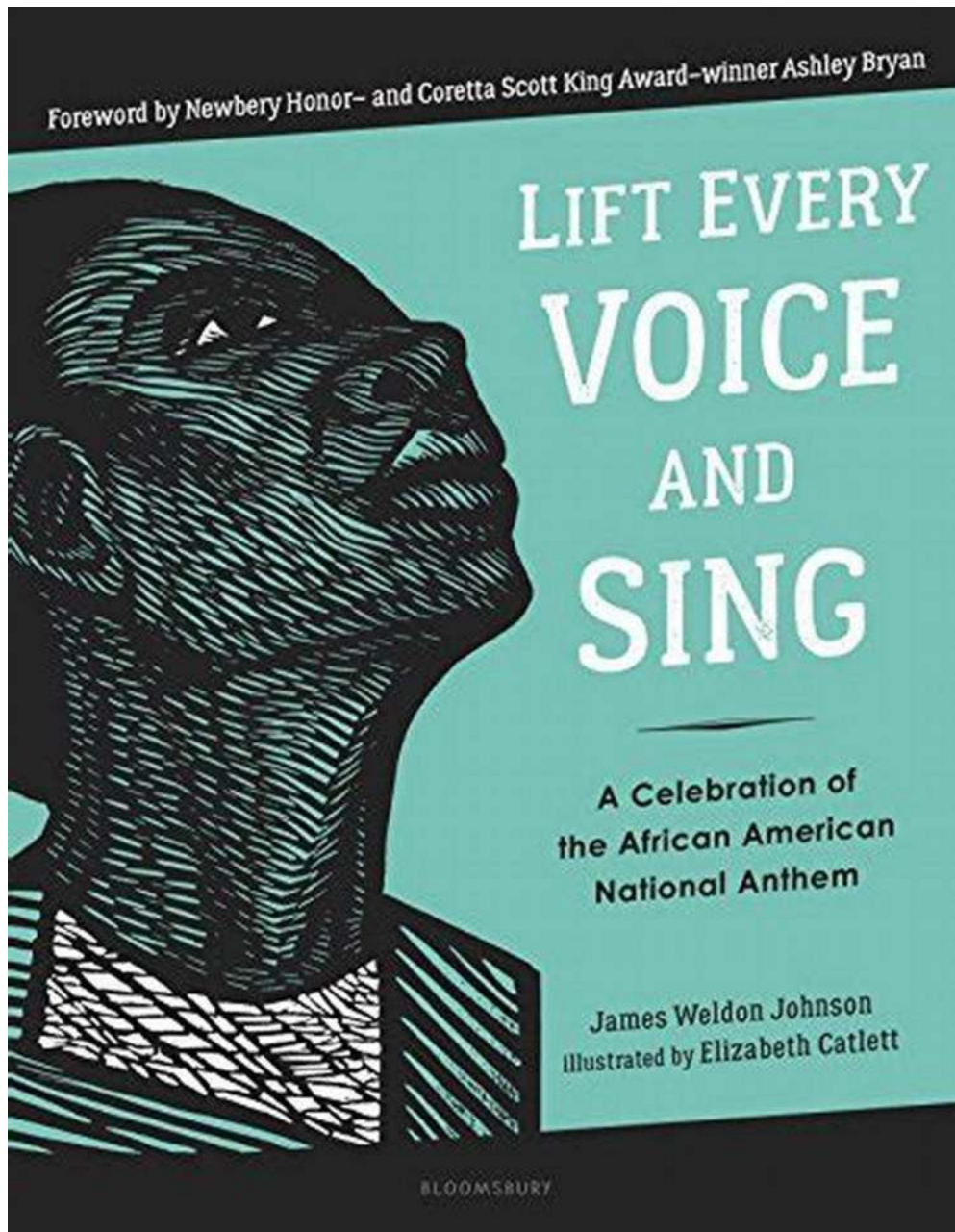


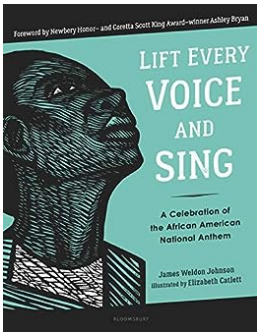
# **Lift Every Voice And Sing: A Powerful Anthem That Resonates Across Generations**

Imagine standing together, surrounded by thousands of voices harmonizing in unison, singing a song that sends chills down your spine - this is the experience of "Lift Every Voice And Sing." Known as the Black National Anthem, its journey started over a century ago, and yet its message of resilience, hope, and unity continues to touch hearts and inspire change.



## The Origins of "Lift Every Voice And Sing"

In 1899, two brothers, James Weldon Johnson and John Rosamond Johnson, created a poem and set it to music. It was initially performed by a choir of 500 schoolchildren on February 12, 1900, to honor Abraham Lincoln's birthday. This transformative moment soon became an enduring legacy.



## Lift Every Voice and Sing

by James Weldon Johnson (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 5123 KB

Print length: 36 pages

Lending : Enabled



The lyrics of "Lift Every Voice And Sing" depict the struggles and triumphs of the African American community throughout history. It serves as a powerful reminder of the strength and resilience in the face of adversity. The soaring melody and powerful harmonies capture the emotions shared by generations of individuals who have fought for equality and civil rights.

### **A Symbol of Unity**

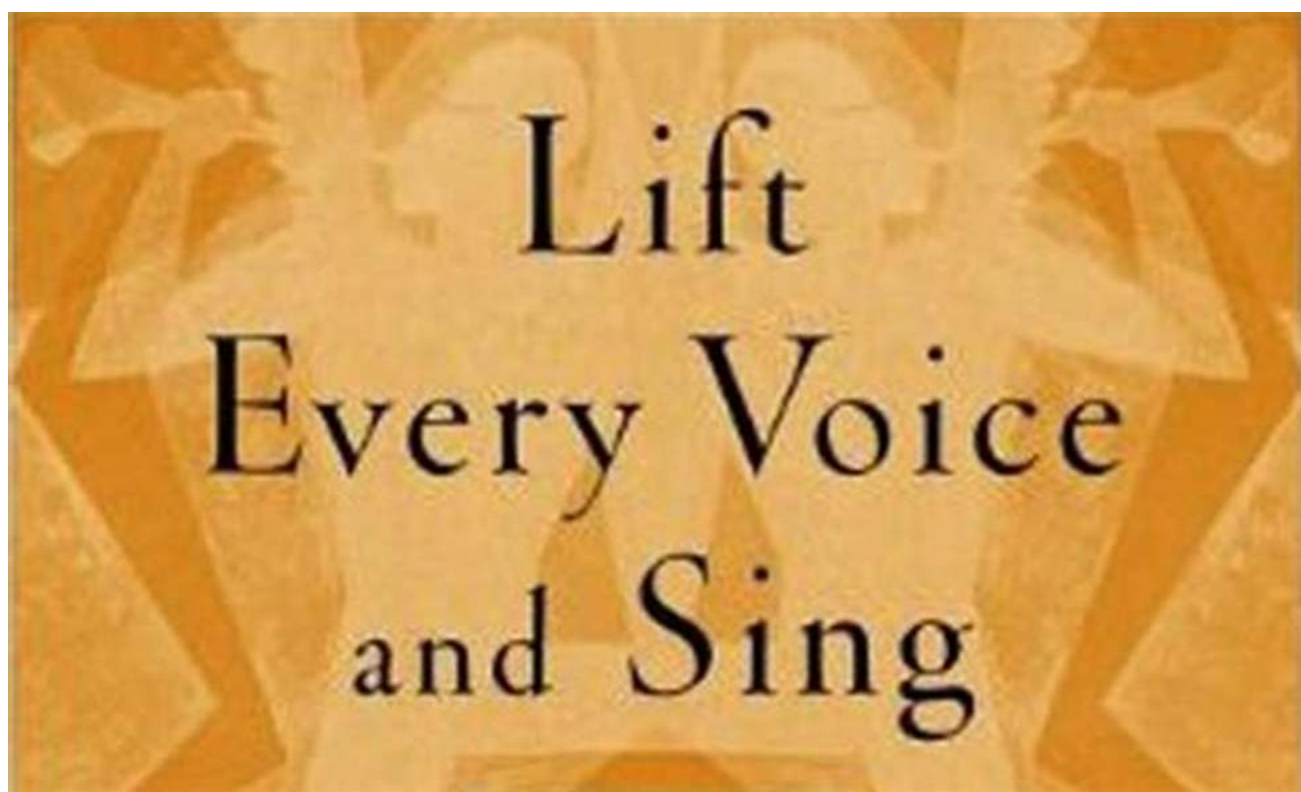
Over the years, "Lift Every Voice And Sing" has become synonymous with unity and solidarity within the African American community. It has been performed at countless rallies, protests, and cultural events, serving as both an anthem of pride and a call to action.

The song gained further recognition during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, when it served as a rallying cry for activists fighting against racial discrimination and segregation. Its lyrics resonated deeply with those seeking justice and equality, providing them with strength during the most challenging times.

### **Legacy and Influence**

The impact of "Lift Every Voice And Sing" stretches far beyond the African American community. It has been performed by various artists, choirs, and orchestras worldwide, transcending borders and cultural barriers. Its universal message of hope and perseverance has resonated with people of all backgrounds.

Over the years, notable figures in music, such as Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, and Beyoncé, have performed their own renditions of the song, adding their unique styles and interpretations. This continuous reinterpretation of "Lift Every Voice And Sing" ensures its relevance and cultural significance in contemporary society.



### **The Importance of Remembering**

"Lift Every Voice And Sing" is not merely a song. It holds within it the memories, struggles, and aspirations of a community that has faced immense adversity. It

serves as a reminder of the importance of celebrating and preserving cultural heritage.

Central to the preservation of this anthem is the education and exposure of younger generations. By teaching the historical context and significance of "Lift Every Voice And Sing" in schools, we ensure that future generations understand and respect the struggles and achievements of those who came before them.

## **A Song of Resilience**

As the lyrics of "Lift Every Voice And Sing" proclaim, it is a song that encapsulates the resilience of a community that has faced centuries of hardship. It serves as a call to action, reminding us to unite, to stand up against injustice, and to strive for a better future.

Whether it is sung in a church, at a graduation ceremony, or as a stirring performance at an event, "Lift Every Voice And Sing" continues to move and inspire. Its legacy lives on, reminding us of the power of music to unite and uplift the human spirit.

"Lift Every Voice And Sing" is more than a song; it is a symbol of strength, resilience, and unity. Its profound impact on generations of individuals is a testament to its timeless relevance and power. As we continue to face social and cultural challenges, let us remember the words of this anthem and strive towards a more equitable and just world.

### **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

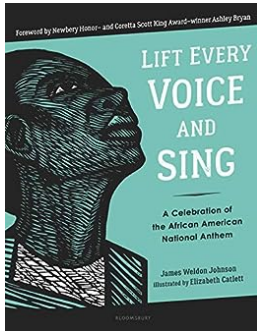
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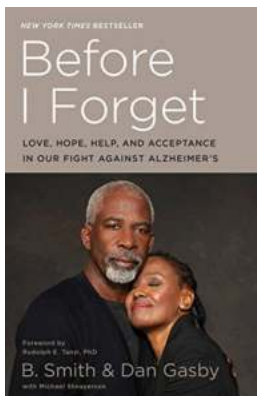
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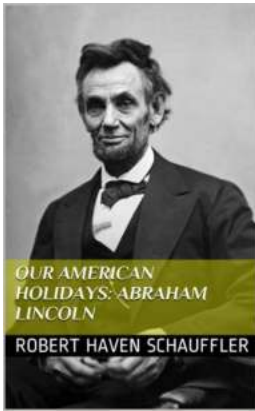


A moving history of the African-American struggle for equality, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" was written for schoolchildren to sing at an Abraham Lincoln birthday celebration in 1900 and was named the official African-American anthem in 1949. With linocuts of renowned Harlem Renaissance artist Elizabeth Catlett, this text and art pairing captures the achievements, spirit, joy, and struggle of the African-American experience. This reissue will feature new backmatter contextualizing the history of the song as well as the significance of Ms. Catlett as an artist.



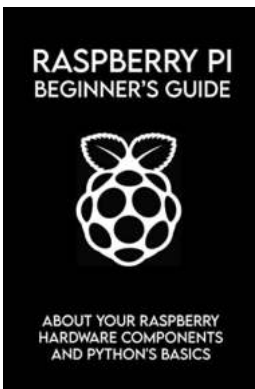
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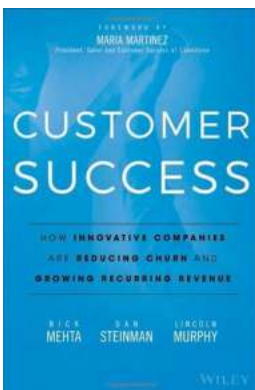
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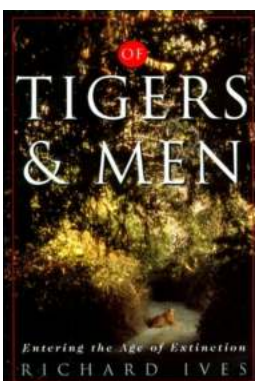
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