The Sound Of Kwanzaa

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The Sound Of Kwanzaa

by Dimitrea Tokunbo
Illustrated by Lisa Cohen

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**Synopsis**

Hear the words, sing the songs, dance to the beat, and shout "Harambee!" as you jump into this joyful celebration of the sounds of Kwanzaa! The sound is Umoja--bringing us together. The sound is Kuumba--the songs of our ancestors. The sound is Kwanzaa! Lively verse and colorful illustrations guide you through the seven principles of this festive holiday. All you have to do is come close, gather round, and discover what Kwanzaa is all about!

**Book Information**

Hardcover: 32 pages
Publisher: Scholastic Press (October 1, 2009)
Language: English
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Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 12.3 x 0.4 inches
Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars (See all reviews (4 customer reviews))
Best Sellers Rank: #690,060 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Kwanzaa #322 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > Customs, Traditions, Anthropology #999 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American
Age Range: 4 - 8 years
Grade Level: Preschool - 3

**Customer Reviews**

I purchased this book for reading to pre k and kindergarten children to understand Kwanzaa. It was very good. The illustrations are bright and colorful. It was a big success at our Kwanzaa celebration.

The Sound of Kwanzaa by Dimitre Tokunbo is one of the better Kwanzaa books to share with groups of young children. Lisa Cohen’s colorful illustrations are bright and vivid and hold a young child’s attention. Most Kwanzaa books are too difficult for young children to understand. This book fills that gap. My young kindergarten and first grade students were delighted with this book and I would recommend it for elementary librarians to add to their Kwanzaa collections.

Dimitrea’s a dear friend of mine, so I was looking forward to this book for a "very" long time before it
was published. And the published book didn't disappoint—it's a charming choice, especially to read out loud to a group of kids. If you can make it to one of Dimitrea's readings, I'd highly recommend taking the time as she's just-plain delightful. There are a lot of books on Kwanzaa (a lot of books on holidays in general, actually) so what makes this one such a must-have? For me, it was the way this story lives up to its title and focuses on the sounds of celebration, also the book is quite active (for instance, "Beating drums and singing voices, we perform for Kuumba") making it a fun choice for littler people who might enjoy acting it out alongside the reader. The illustrations are bright and colorful and full of charm as well. (And the recipe for no-bake brownies at the back is really, really yummy!) An absolutely lovely addition to the holiday genre—and (hint, hint) this one would make a great gift, too.

We read this as a part of our Kwanzaa celebration with family. The children enjoyed it and even read some of the pages. I would recommend it to others.

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