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We are America: A Tribute from the Heart

Kristie Hinckley

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Title: We are America: A Tribute from the Heart  
Author: Walter Dean Myers  
Illustrator: Christopher Myers  
Reviewer: Kristie Hinckley  
Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers  
Publication Year: 2011  
ISBN: 9780060523084  
Number of Pages: 28  
Interest Level: Primary  
Rating: Excellent  

Review

After reading powerful notes by the author Walter Dean Myers and illustrator Christopher Myers, the reader embarks on a journey through the history of America. The book begins from the perspective of a Native American before the founding of the nation we now call America. The United States of America has always been a land of hope and possibility and has seen its share of trials, slavery and war being among the most prominent. The book does a wonderful job portraying the great variety of people and nationalities that make up this beautiful country.

We are America: A Tribute from the Heart is powerful book about what it means to be American. Most page spreads include a powerful painting, a patriotic poem, and an inspiring quote. The end pages are filled with paintings of the nation’s symbolic monuments and historic figures. Powerful similes and metaphors are used throughout this book. This book would be an excellent introduction to a unit on American history or a perfect book to share with young readers on an American holiday like Independence Day or Martin Luther King Day. Readers will be left awed and grateful for this country and will have a renewed commitment for patriotism.