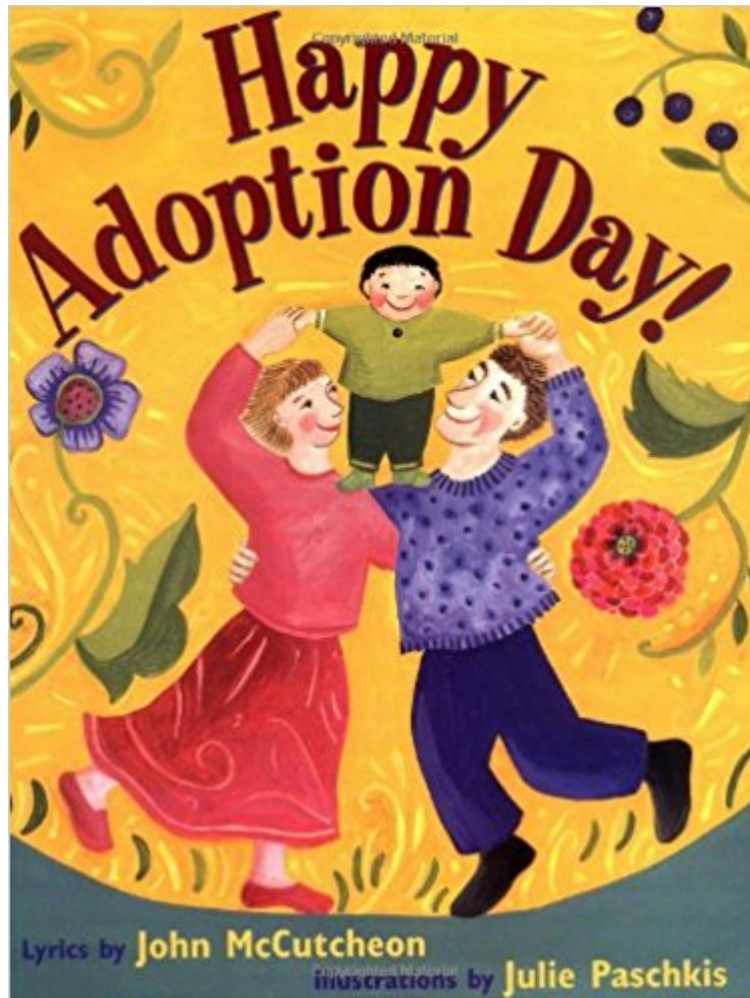




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# Happy Adoption Day!



## Synopsis

This adaptation of McCutcheon's song commemorates the day when a child joins an adoptive family. Complete with musical notation, these verses reassure adopted children they are special. Full-color illustrations.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 350 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (May 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316603236

ISBN-13: 978-0316603232

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 55 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #82,997 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Adoption](#) #4732 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Inspired by a friend's tradition, noted children's singer/songwriter McCutcheon created this original song for those who might like to mark a special anniversary in their family's life—adoption day. His thoughtful lyrics (the score is included, of course) emphasize the joy and wonder of the event—"Out of a world so tattered and torn,/ You came to our house on that wonderful morn/ And all of a sudden this family was born"—and there's a rousing chorus just right for a festive party. In a move sure to accommodate many adoptive families, Paschkis (So Sleepy/Wide Awake) pictures the parents as white and the baby as Asian. Her gouache illustrations have a strong hint of traditional Scandinavian folk art, updated by bold color combinations, and they lend themselves particularly well to the multiethnic cast of friends and family with which she peoples each page. For a pleasingly themed read-aloud or gift, pair this volume with Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell's equally merry *Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born* (reviewed below). Ages 2-6. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

PreSchool-K-McCutcheon's song, written from the point of view of adoptive parents, is joyous and reassuring-"Whatever you learn, whoever you know,/You've still got a home in our hearts."

Paschkis's folklike gouache paintings are attractive and well designed to incorporate the text.

However, they illustrate more than the annual celebration. They show scenes of the (Caucasian) adoptive parents making preparations for the baby's arrival, the adoptive parents in an airplane, the (Asian) baby in its new cradle, and the growth of the child. In every scene, everyone is smiling. The song mentions mixed-race and single-parent families: "No matter the skin, we are all of us kin." But another line in that verse sends a confusing message: "No matter how you came to be." That line, from the parents' point of view, is a message of acceptance, but a child may understand it as "It shouldn't matter to you how you came to be." The book reinforces the second interpretation by not picturing the baby before its appearance in the adoptive home, as though it had no history of its own. The relinquishment that precedes adoption does matter to the adoptee but is often hard for adoptive parents to talk about. This book does not help them to do so. Nancy Schimmel, formerly at San Mateo County Library Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is Amazing! I started reading this book to my kids about a week before we finalized their adoption. It got them excited about their story and about their Adoption day. They also took it to preschool to share with the other kids about their Adoption day. It's one of the few adoption books that don't mention God or Religion. It's also all encompassing so whether your child was adopted from foster care, DIA, or International adoption, the book applies. and it makes the kids feel special (because they are!)

Bought this as a gift for my 8 year old son who we adopted last week. Very cute!

We read this over and over

Great book for an adoptive child or family adopting. It includes the words of John Mc Cutcheon "Happy Adoption Day' which can be sung to or by a young child. A story of adoption with multi ethnic children celebrating their unique adopted family. I've given this book as a gift, many times. Happy Adoption Day

This book is based on a beautiful song (printed with the music in the back of the book) that the author wrote for a friend. It doesn't address the "issue" of adoption as much as talking about how this family comes together and how the paths of their lives lead them together. (rather fate-based?) It also speaks to the diversity of many families ("No matter single or pairs. . . No matter the skin, we are all of us kin. . .") and, albeit briefly and generally, is very reassuring that families are made up in many different ways. The song is very nice and my daughter enjoys me singing it at the end of the book. Through the pictures, you can point out that one child has two mother's, or two children have just a father, and that one child has different eyes or skin from his parents. My husband and I love this book, but if you are ultra-conservative (one would hope any adoptive parent wouldn't be), it won't be for you. It is a great lesson in diversity!

Purchased for my grand daughterS my daughter is adopting nov 17th

Wonderful book, We love our little girl and she loves her book. Forever family!!

I give these to all adoptive families on their adoption day - everyone at the legalization signs this - the families all feel it is a special gift.

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