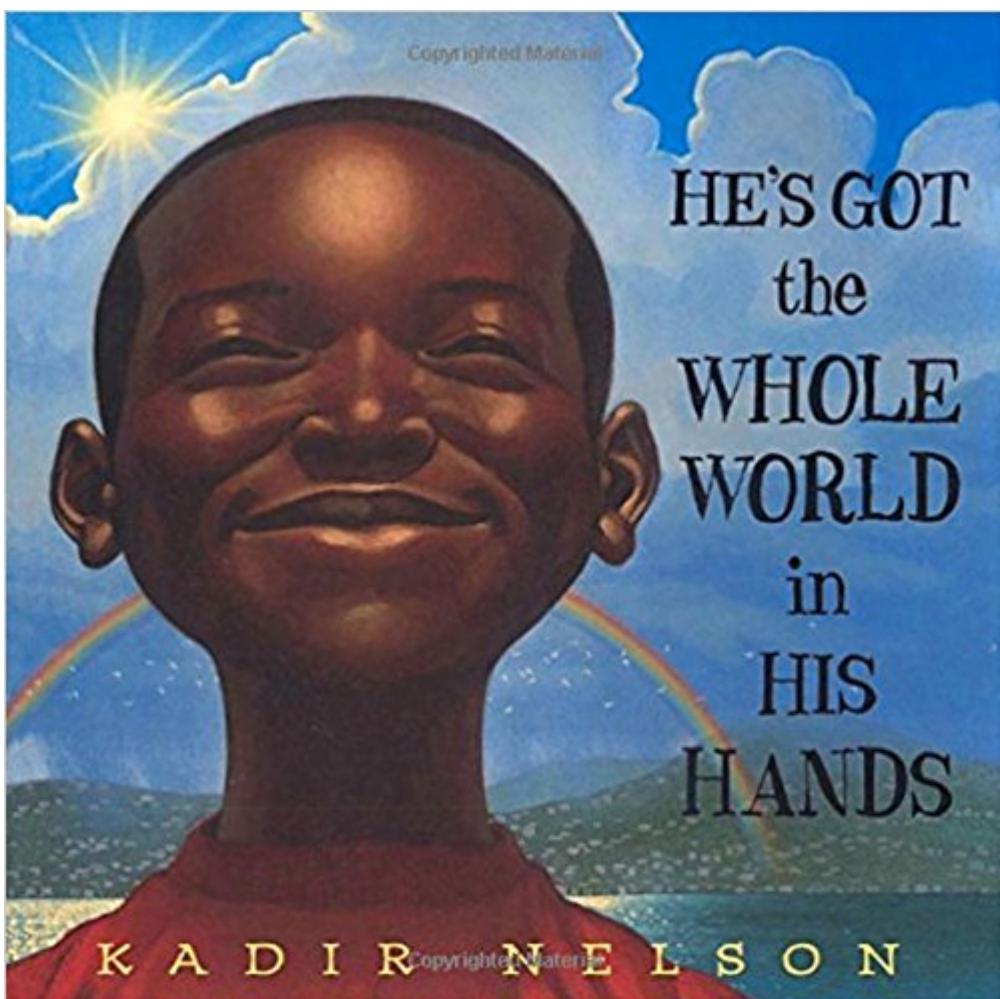


The book was found

# He's Got The Whole World In His Hands



## **Synopsis**

What began as a spiritual has developed into one of America's best-known songs, and now for the first time it appears as a picture book, masterfully created by award-winning artist Kadir Nelson. Through sublime landscapes and warm images of a boy and his family, Kadir has created a dazzling, intimate interpretation, one that rejoices in the connectedness of people and nature. Inspired by the song's simple message, Kadir sought to capture the joy of living in and engaging with the world. Most importantly, he wished to portray the world as a child might see it—vast and beautiful.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: AD270L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Dial Books; First Edition edition (August 8, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803728506

ISBN-13: 978-0803728509

Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 0.3 x 10.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 79 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #26,633 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Songbooks #10 in Books > Arts & Photography >

Music > Musical Genres > Religious & Sacred Music #18 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Golf

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Starred Review. PreSchool-Grade 2 Nelson's vibrant signature illustrations rendered in pencil, oil, and watercolor breathe new meaning and life into this favorite Sunday school spiritual in which families, communities, and forces of nature are celebrated with lively images and inspiring scenes. The cover painting of an African-American boy against a colorful landscape beckons readers inside to discover the wonders of creation. With each page turn and line of verse, Nelson gives fresh, thought-provoking interpretations to the lyrics that will stir the imagination and spark discussion. For example, He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands depicts the boy, present throughout the book, holding a childlike drawing of people of different races and skin tones,

suggesting the notion that all humanity should be viewed as brothers and sisters. The simple, repetitious flow of the words and the refrain make this an excellent read-aloud choice as well as a sing-along favorite. A moving, artistic celebration of our world and the people who share in its splendors.  Tracy Bell, Eastway Elementary School, Durham, NC Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

**\*Starred Review\*** PreS-Gr. 2. This picture book's surprisingly intimate interpretation of the well-known spiritual makes it accessible to young children and their own "whole world." Nelson uses pencils, oils, and watercolors to create a series of striking, beautifully composed pictures. The opening scene of sun just visible beyond the arc of the earth in space gives way to a San Francisco cityscape with the sun against the skyline. With the words, "He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands," the pictures introduce an African American boy holding up a childlike portrait of his multi-ethnic family. His fingers on the sides of the picture visually echo God's hands supporting his brothers and sisters in the song. A series of double-page spreads show the boy with family (particularly his father) engaged in a variety of activities: flying kites, fishing, doing a jigsaw puzzle of the earth. In the end, the scenes move away from the immediate family, enlarging the child's vision to include a park full of people, a hillside of homes by the bay, and finally, a shuttle's-eye view of the earth's curve, with the moon and stars lying beyond. The last double-page spread carries the piano music and four verses of the song, followed by a historical note. Winner of the Coretta Scott King Award for illustration for *Ellington Was Not a Street* (2004), Nelson envisions the song in a highly personal and involving manner while embodying its strength and spirit. Carolyn Phelan  
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**KADIR NELSON IS MY FAVORITE.** The illustrations in this book are consistent with his other works: high quality, beautiful, life-like paintings. If you want to get someone a magnificent book, it's this. I teach first grade. I have so many Kadir nelson books now. I have yet to be disappointed.

Where do I begin?? LOVE LOVE LOVE this book. I actually just ordered 6 additional copies to give out as Christmas gifts. I was looking for a book that my 4yr old son could see himself in because at age 4, he was now very much aware of the color of his friends and family. I am yellow, his dad is black, one day he said I want to be yellow like you mommy, not brown. So, I immediately ordered 5 books about the beauty of diversity and how we are all different but all beautiful etc. This was one of them. When bedtime came and I pulled out all 5 books, he immediately grabbed this one with the

beautiful brown boy on the cover and exclaimed "I want this one!" Wow is all I can say! The pictures are absolutely breathtaking and rich. The story is very simple but the illustrations bring the pages to life. It is such a plus that by age 4 most children know the song already, so after the story you can sing the song with your child. I highly recommend this book to everyone! Out of all 5 books, this was the best!

I have a 2 month old and bought this book as a 2mth milestone gift. The colors are vibrant and the pictures are spot on. The main characters look like our family and even though my baby is only 8 weeks, he loves the pictures and the song songy way I read. I paired the book with a YT music video of the song that used children and he loved it.

Wonderful book which delivers the message that God has dominion over all things, no matter who we are or where we are in this world, no matter how big or small, whether it's the sun, moon, stars, the elements, everything in the world and the universe is in his hands. The book ends with the traditional spiritual with the same title.

Both my 4 year-old and I love this. We've never managed to read it normally though. We always sing it together!

vibrant colors and illustrations

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" is currently my son's favorite song; he sings it nearly every day, so as soon as I saw this book, I had to buy it. I'm so glad I did. The lyrics to this spiritual-turned-favorite-hymn provide all the text. Written music is also provided on the last page. The illustrations are what truly make this book exceptional. Award-winning artist Kadir Nelson chose San Francisco as his setting. The illustrations feature a multiethnic family living in and engaging the world from a child's perspective. What I Like: Everything! The colors, the size, the diversity, the message of faith and community. The illustrations are magnificent! The entire book is quite striking. I love it! Better yet my kids do too. :) What I Dislike: Nothing. Overall Rating: Excellent. Tanya -- Christian Children's Book Review

Very nice book, especially the illustrations. Love that the characters are black, not just light to medium brown skin peoples, but darker skin also gets representation in this book. There really isn't

a story line, it's just a verson of the song in print. Its really about the illustrations which are really nice. My daughter enjoys it quite a bit. We usually just end up sing the pages other than reading.

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