**A sign in the dark

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**Black Is a Rainbow Color**

by Angela Joy (Author), Ekua Holmes (Illustrator)

*For Immediate Release – Black Is a Rainbow Color* is a sweeping celebration told through debut author Angela Joy’s rhythmically captivating and unforgettable words. It is stunningly illustrated by Caldecott Honoree and Coretta Scott King Award winner Ekua Holmes.

A child reflects on the meaning of being Black in this moving and powerful anthem about a people, a culture, a history, and a legacy that lives on.

*Red is a rainbow color.*  
*Green sits next to blue.*  
*Yellow, orange, violet, indigo,*  
*They are rainbow colors, too, but*  
  
*My color is black . . .*  
*And there’s no BLACK in rainbows.*

From the wheels of a bicycle to the robe on Thurgood Marshall's back, Black surrounds our lives. It is a color to simply describe some of our favorite things, but it also evokes a deeper sentiment about the incredible people who helped change the world and a community that continues to grow and thrive.

Author Angela Joy said, “During a Black History Month long ago, my six-year-old looked at me and asked, “Mama, why do you keep calling us Black when really we’re *brown?*” It was an innocent question, but it confused me. How could I put into words what I’d learned by osmosis? It took time, reflection, and a few false starts, but the result is *Black Is a Rainbow Color*.”

“I never dreamed I’d be an author. My dream was music and I spent many years making that dream come true. But when my children were born, my dreams changed. I noticed how difficult it was to find books with families that looked like ours. In fact, the year my youngest was born, only 10% of all children’s books were by or about people of color.\* Blessed with the gifts of time, vision, and opportunity, I decided to throw my hat into the ring as a writer with a single goal in mind: to bring greater diversity to the bookshelves of children.”

“I hope that *Black Is a Rainbow Color* will be a help to parents and educators who believe as I do: that bookshelf diversity leads to everyday diversity; and that everyday diversity—on street corners and playgrounds, places of worship and birthday parties—is the most beautiful rainbow of all.”

\*Lee and Low Books

*Black Is a Rainbow Color* is published by Roaring Book Press, an imprint of Macmillan Publishers (January 14, 2020)

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**A person holding a sign

Description automatically generatedAngela Joy**was born and raised in Minneapolis. Before graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of Minnesota, Angela attended New York University and Spelman College. She then traveled as a background vocalist, also working in television and movie soundtracks.

Currently, Angela is a writer, substitute teacher, Girl Scout Cookie Manager, Troop Leader, 5th grade book club moderator, and music lover. She is the co-founder of the McGaugh International Culture Club. *Black Is A Rainbow Color* is her first book.

***Black Is a Rainbow Color* Specs**

* **Age Range:** 4 - 8 years
* **Grade Level:** Preschool - 3
* **Hardcover:** 40 pages
* **Publisher:** Roaring Brook Press (January 14, 2020)
* **Language:** English
* **ISBN-10:** 1626726310
* **ISBN-13:** 978-1626726314
* **Product Dimensions:**10 x 0.5 x 10.1 inches

**Praise for *Black Is a Rainbow Color***

“Both a beautiful celebration of black culture and an excellent first black history book for young children.” ―*Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**

“A treasure trove of positivity, strength, and pride for anyone seeking to uplift and educate young people.” ―*Horn Book*, **starred review**