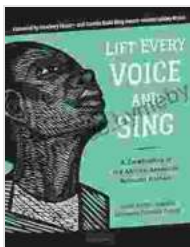
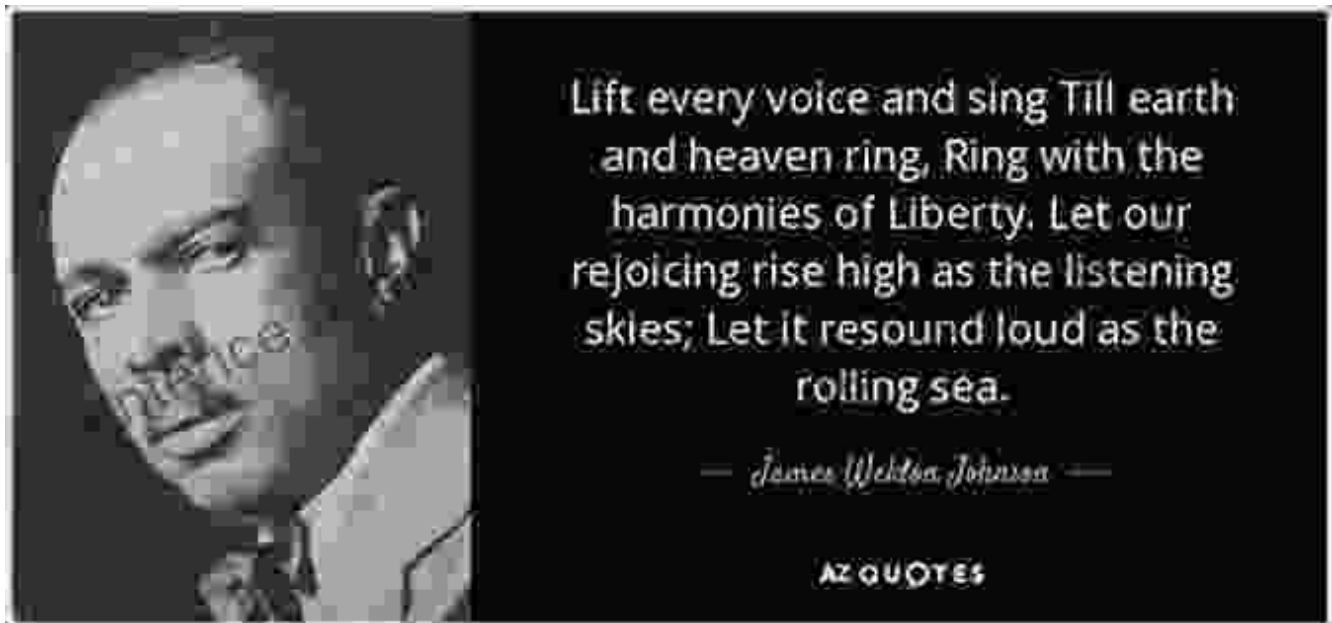


Lift Every Voice and Sing: An Anthem of Hope for a Better World

A Timeless Masterpiece of African American Literature



Lift Every Voice and Sing by James Weldon Johnson

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 5123 KB

Print length : 36 pages

Lending : Enabled



James Weldon Johnson's 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' is a timeless masterpiece of African American literature. First published in 1900, the poem has become a beloved classic, inspiring generations of activists, artists, and leaders. It is often referred to as the "Black National Anthem"

and is widely celebrated as a powerful and moving anthem that celebrates the strength, resilience, and determination of the African American community.

Johnson wrote 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' in 1899, at a time when racial tensions were high in the United States. The poem was first performed by a choir of 500 schoolchildren at a celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday in Jacksonville, Florida. The audience was deeply moved by the performance, and the poem quickly gained popularity. It was soon adopted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as its official anthem and has since become a staple of African American churches, schools, and community gatherings.

A Call to Action

'Lift Every Voice and Sing' is more than just a beautiful poem; it is a call to action. The poem urges African Americans to rise above the challenges they face and to work together to create a better world. Johnson writes:



“Lift every voice and sing, 'Til earth and heaven ring, Ring with the harmonies of Liberty; Let our rejoicing rise High as the listening skies, Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.”

These words have inspired generations of African Americans to fight for their rights and to work towards a more just and equitable society. The poem has been a source of strength and hope during times of struggle and a reminder of the power of community and unity.

A Legacy of Inspiration

'Lift Every Voice and Sing' has had a profound impact on American culture. The poem has been performed by countless artists, including Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, and Beyoncé. It has been referenced in speeches by Martin Luther King, Jr. and Barack Obama. And it has been used as a rallying cry for civil rights protests and other social justice movements.

The poem's legacy of inspiration continues to grow today. In 2017, 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' was designated as the official state song of Florida. In 2021, the poem was featured in the Super Bowl halftime show, performed by Alicia Keys. And in 2022, the poem was selected as the theme for the National Book Festival.

A Timeless Message of Hope

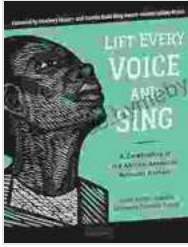
James Weldon Johnson's 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' is a timeless message of hope and inspiration. The poem celebrates the strength and resilience of the African American community and urges us all to work together to create a better world. The poem's message is as relevant today as it was when it was first written, and it continues to inspire and uplift generations of readers.

If you are looking for a book that will inspire you, uplift you, and make you believe in the power of hope, then I highly recommend reading 'Lift Every Voice and Sing.' This powerful and moving anthem is a must-read for anyone who cares about social justice, equality, and the human spirit.

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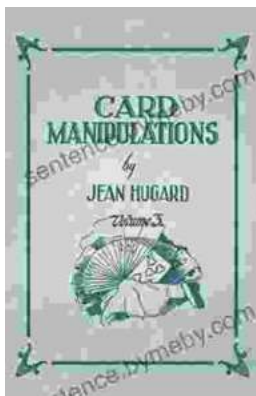


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