

Heart and soul : the story of America and African Americans

# Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans



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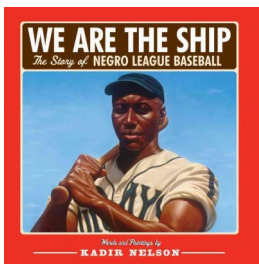


"Painting historical American subjects pushes me to learn more about who I am, where I come from, and the role my ancestors played in helping form our country." Kadir Nelson, author and illustrator of *Heart and Soul*.

Kadir Nelson's work brings history alive for students today. In the Prologue to *Heart and Soul* he notes that young people won't always have the chance to speak with the people who lived through the Civil Rights Movement, or who played baseball for a league that no longer exists. So he documents the stories from these people, vividly portrays them, so that they will be known and remembered, learned and absorbed by future generations.

*"Heart and Soul is not only the story of my family, but an intimate introduction to American history that I hope will remind readers of our extraordinary story and inspire them to learn more about America as I have done - by exploring their unique family stories and their connection to the American story."*

Find *Heart and Soul* and other outstanding [books by Kadir Nelson](#) through the Library's catalog. See [Kadir Nelson's website](#) to learn more about him and his art. Visit the [African American History Month website from the Library of Congress](#) to discover more about the remarkable people and events that connect us all.



Posted by Lisa C. on February 18, 2014

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**Reviews Subjects:**

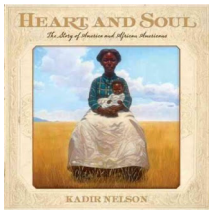
[African American](#)

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# Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans

# African Americans



February is National African American History Month, and fittingly, Kadir Nelson's

Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans, recently won the American Library Association's 2012 Coretta Scott King Author Award. Nelson has provided an overarching introduction to the difficult history of African Americans, told in the voice of an elderly female whose grandfather was born in Africa and was kidnapped and taken to America as a slave at age six.

The narrator takes us from the American Revolution, through the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Great Migration, Jim Crow laws, the fight for civil rights, and all the way up through the election of Barack Obama. Nelson ably intertwines important events in the United States with portraits of notable African Americans, as well as with the experiences of all African Americans. Stunning paintings by Nelson illustrate the book, and both words and pictures give powerful voice to the hardships and pain born by African Americans in this country, as well as to their striving for a better, more just, future. Highly recommended for grades 4 and up.

Posted by Ellen A. on February 11, 2012

**Blogs:**

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

**Reviews Subjects:**

American History

Award Winner

**Reviews Titles:**

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