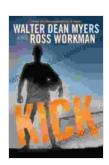
Kick Walter Dean Myers: A Journey of Healing and Self-Discovery

In the realm of young adult literature, Walter Dean Myers's "Kick" stands as a poignant and transformative tale that has resonated with countless readers. Published in 1973, this novel delves into the depths of human resilience, exploring the complexities of family, race, and the struggles of growing up in an unforgiving world.

Plot Summary

"Kick" revolves around the life of Robert "Kick" Buttowski, a 17-year-old African American boy living in Harlem, New York City. At the outset of the novel, Kick is a troubled and withdrawn youth, grappling with the loss of his father and the weight of his family's expectations. However, as the story unfolds, he embarks on a transformative journey that will forever alter his perception of himself and the world around him.



Kick by Walter Dean Myers

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1018 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 213 pages

X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



One fateful day, Kick is wrongly accused of stealing a pair of gym shoes from a local store. Feeling humiliated and betrayed, he runs away from home, determined to prove his innocence. Along the way, he encounters a diverse cast of characters, each of whom plays a crucial role in his path to healing and self-discovery.

Themes and Characters

Race and Identity: "Kick" unflinchingly explores the complexities of race and identity in America. Kick's experience as a young African American boy highlights the challenges and prejudices he faces on a daily basis. Through his interactions with others, he grapples with issues of self-worth and the search for a sense of belonging.

Family and Relationships: The novel also delves into the complexities of family dynamics. Kick's father's absence leaves a void in his life, while his mother struggles to provide for the family and maintain a connection with her son. Through his relationships with his friends and mentors, Kick learns the importance of love, support, and forgiveness.

Resilience and Growth: Above all, "Kick" is a testament to the power of resilience and the transformative nature of growth. Kick's journey is filled with challenges and setbacks, yet he perseveres, learning from his mistakes and finding strength within himself. Along the way, he discovers the importance of facing his fears, embracing his true identity, and fighting for what he believes in.

Critical Reception and Impact

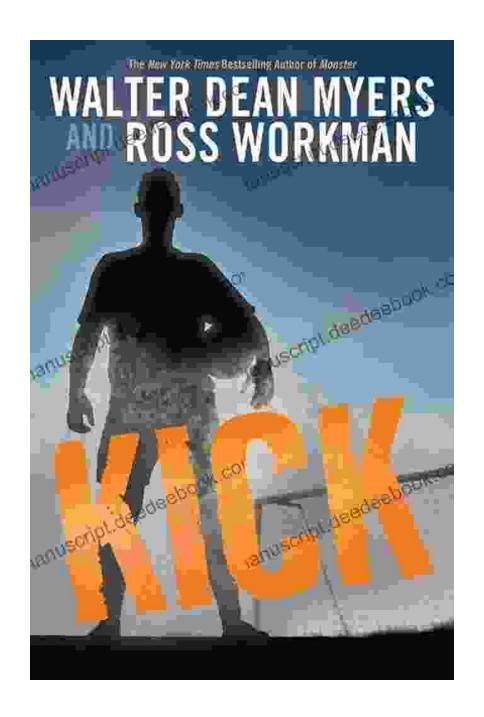
"Kick" has been widely acclaimed by critics and readers alike for its honesty, depth, and literary merit. It has received numerous awards, including the Newbery Medal and the National Book Award for Young People's Literature. The novel has also been adapted into a play and a television movie.

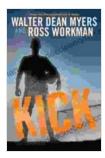
"Kick" has had a profound impact on young readers, offering them a relatable and inspiring story of self-discovery and empowerment. It has helped to break down stereotypes and challenge perceptions, fostering a greater understanding and empathy among young people.

Walter Dean Myers's "Kick" is a timeless classic that continues to inspire and resonate with readers of all ages. It is a powerful and moving story that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative power of self-discovery. Through Kick's journey, readers are reminded of the importance of facing challenges with courage, embracing their true identities, and fighting for their dreams.

Additional Information

* Author: Walter Dean Myers * Genre: Young adult literature, realism * Setting: Harlem, New York City * Publication Year: 1973 * Awards: Newbery Medal, National Book Award for Young People's Literature * Adaptations: Play, television movie * Themes: Race and identity, family and relationships, resilience and growth

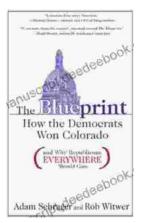




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