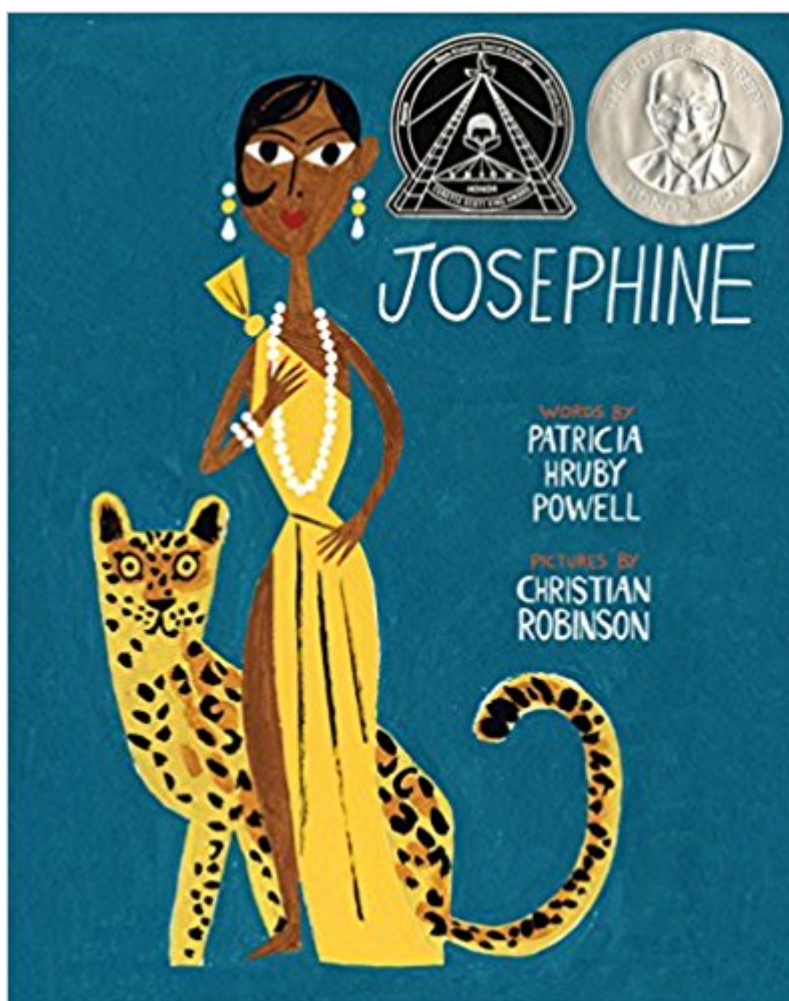


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# Josephine: The Dazzling Life Of Josephine Baker (Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Books)



## Synopsis

Coretta Scott King Book Award, Illustrator, Honor Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award, Honor Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, Nonfiction Honor Parent's Choice Award Wall Street Journal's 10 Best Children's Books of the Year List Bologna Ragazzi Nonfiction Honor 2014 In exuberant verse and stirring pictures, Patricia Hruby Powell and Christian Robinson create an extraordinary portrait for young people of the passionate performer and civil rights advocate Josephine Baker, the woman who worked her way from the slums of St. Louis to the grandest stages in the world. Meticulously researched by both author and artist, Josephine's powerful story of struggle and triumph is an inspiration and a spectacle, just like the legend herself.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 790L (What's this?)

Series: Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Books

Hardcover: 104 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books; First Edition, First Printing edition (January 14, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1452103143

ISBN-13: 978-1452103143

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.7 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 44 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #61,147 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Performing Arts #94 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Women #125 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Gr 5-8 • This charming biography invites readers to step inside the vibrant and spirited world of performer and civil rights advocate, Josephine Baker. Robinson's paintings are as colorful and rich as Josephine Baker's story, offering page after page of captivating and animated illustrations and rhythmic text, which is written in blank verse. In a few short and well-organized parts, readers learn the story of one of the world's most well known female performers who danced and sang her way from the poor and segregated streets of St. Louis to the dazzling stages of Paris

all the way to Carnegie Hall. Text and illustrations work in tandem to accurately document Josephine's extraordinary life and the era in which she lived. Clear and lively descriptions of Josephine's story play out creatively in the text, introducing readers to basic principles of poetic structure in storytelling and offering an accurate portrait of a woman who fought for racial equality and civil rights through her life's passion: performance. Reluctant readers of nonfiction and poetry lovers alike will be drawn to this book's musical, theatrical nature, making for a fun, enriching, and holistic reading experience. This unique and creative work is a first purchase. —Natalie Braham, Denver Public Library

Josephine is a free-verse biographical poem that pulls its inspiration from the life of a fascinating performer and civil rights pioneer. Josephine Baker grew up in the shantytowns of St. Louis, often considered the home of ragtime music. At only 13, she left home to travel with a dance troupe, honing her silly on-stage persona and earning pennies. Through a series of unlikely but fortunate events, her talent was discovered and soon she was dancing the Charleston on a stage in Paris. While most of the milestones of her notorious career and turbulent life are included, Powell focuses on events that carried the most personal weight for Baker, such as almost losing her leg in a childhood accident, her refusal to dance in segregated American dance halls, and her first time on a transatlantic boat trip. Quotes from Baker punctuate the engaging narrative poem and Robinson's gorgeous, colorful acrylics (with cute Lego-faced characters) honor the colorful exuberance of both the Jazz era and Baker's life. Well researched and spirited, this features innumerable points of discussion for young readers. Grades 2-4. --Erin Anderson

A great way to educate on black history in America. Highly recommended

Beautiful, informative book that will give a new (or new-found!) respect for the subject matter. I loved it so much, I bought one for our son's school library as well as for our home picture book library.

This book is just too good to be true. I was so surprised at the wonderful illustrations that matched the text. The life of Josephine from her childhood intertwined with her adult life. I could not put the book down. Read it and you will be delighted..

Beautiful illustrations and an informative story. This is a book for young children but the author took care not to "dumb down" the text. Appreciated by my whole family!

Love this book. My daughter and I are reason this this week. Beautiful pictures and words. So happy with this purchase.

The story is easy for elementary school students to understand. The illustrations are amazing!

Bought as gift

Book jacket was torn

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