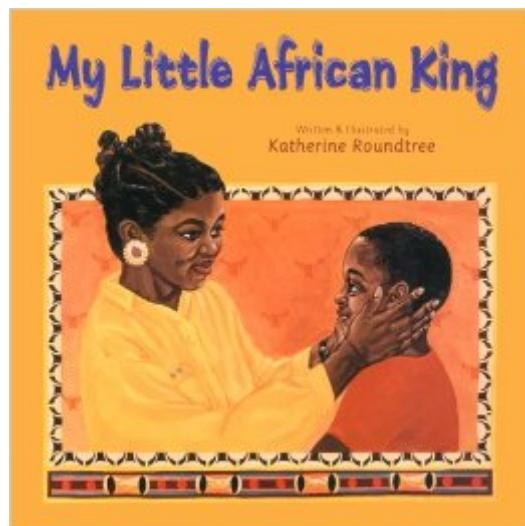


The book was found

# My Little African King



## **Synopsis**

Mansa Musa was one of the great rulers in African history. He was so extraordinary that the Mandinke considered him the "Black Moses," believing he had been sent from Allah to build Mali into a mighty empire, the greatest in the medieval world. In this book, a young boy beams in wonder and pride as his mother shares the rich history of his ancestors.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Writers & Readers (July 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0863162495

ISBN-13: 978-0863162497

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 10.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 starsÂ  [See all reviewsÂ \(1 customer review\)](#)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,116,786 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #105 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Africa #794 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #2211 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American

Age Range: 7 and up

Grade Level: 2 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

"My Little African King," written and illustrated by Katherine Roundtree, is a children's book with an Afrocentric flavor. In the book, a contemporary Black mother tells her son about Mansa Musa, the 14th century ruler of the African empire of Mali. Roundtree's simple rhyming text is accompanied by colorful, evocative artwork. My problem with the book lies in the author's portrayal of Mansa Musa, and with the values the book seems to promote. Throughout the book she focuses on Mansa Musa's wealth, military power, and authoritarian control of his domain. Typical illustrations show a decadent cache of coins and golden artifacts, soldiers riding with swords drawn, and armed security guards marching in formation. The text thus seems to celebrate a militaristic, violent, wealth-obsessed police state. Ironically, the text notes that Mansa Musa's empire stretched from "the salt mines of Taghaza to the copper mines of Kakedda." Of course, Roundtree conveniently avoids mentioning that these sites were probably worked by slave labor. One encyclopedia article I

consulted noted that Mansa Musa took a personal retinue of 12,000 slaves with him during a pilgrimage to Mecca. Thus there seems to be a bit of "politically correct" evasiveness to Roundtree's portrait. Roundtree is clearly a talented writer/illustrator, but this book raises some troubling questions. I recommend that concerned parents preview this book before sharing it with their children.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

African: African Recipes - The Very Best African Cookbook (African recipes, African cookbook, African cook book, African recipe, African recipe book) African Cooking: for beginners - African Recipes Cookbook (African recipes - African cooking - African Food - African Meals 1) My Little African King The Little Book of Circle Processes : A New/Old Approach to Peacemaking (The Little Books of Justice and Peacebuilding Series) (Little Books of Justice & Peacebuilding) The Little Book of Horse Racing Law: The ABA Little Book Series (ABA Little Books Series) Cooking with Harissa: Delicious Recipes with a Spicy North African Style (Harissa Cookbook, Harissa Recipes, North African Recipes, Tunisian Recipes, Algerian Recipes, Moroccan Recipes Book 1) Right to Ride: Streetcar Boycotts and African American Citizenship in the Era of Plessy v. Ferguson (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture) They Came Before Columbus: The African Presence in Ancient America (Journal of African Civilizations) The African Presence in Santo Domingo (Ruth Simms Hamilton African Diaspora) Black Genius: African-American Solutions to African-American Problems King's African Rifles Soldier vs Schutztruppe Soldier: East Africa 1917-18 (Combat) Great Speeches by African Americans: Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Barack Obama, and Others (Dover Thrift Editions) Peters and King: The Birth & Evolution of the Peters Cartridge Co. & the King Powder Co. King: William Lyon Mackenzie King: A Life Guided by the Hand of Destiny Stephen King Films FAQ: All That's Left To Know About the King of Horror on Film (FAQ Series) The Three Theban Plays: Antigone - Oedipus the King - Oedipus at Colonus (Theban Plays of Sophocles - Antigone - Oedipus the King - Oedipus at Colonus) The King's Hounds (The King's Hounds series Book 1) The King's Hounds (The King's Hounds series) The Complete Stephen King Universe: A Guide to the Worlds of Stephen King Isolated: A Jason King Thriller (Jason King Series Book 1)

[Dmca](#)