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# Ella Fitzgerald: First Lady Of Song (Carter G. Woodson Honor Book)



## Synopsis

These informative and inspiring biographies will give young readers a look at the lives of some of the world's most influential people in history. Each over 100 pages, the books are also ideal for reports.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1010L (What's this?)

Series: Carter G. Woodson Honor Book

Hardcover: 112 pages

Publisher: Twenty-First Century Books (March 19, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822549336

ISBN-13: 978-0822549338

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 6.4 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,501,852 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Jazz #337 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Musical #1793 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 5 - 8

## Customer Reviews

Gr 4-8-A straightforward, factual biography that begins with Fitzgerald's years as a struggling, homeless teenager who entered singing contests in Harlem. The author continues with descriptions of her subject's early career as the lead vocalist with Chick Webb and His Orchestra; her rise to celebrity status in 1938 at age 20 with her first hit record, "A-Tisket, A-Tasket"; her easy mastery of new techniques, such as bebop and scat singing; and her many awards and honors. Clear, detailed descriptions of the differences between swing bands and bebop bands, the art of scat, and the contributions of other jazz greats such as Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong make this book useful as a brief history of jazz as well as a biography. Bud Kliment's *Ella Fitzgerald* (Chelsea, 1988) has a chattier tone and includes more personal anecdotes and photos, but was written before Fitzgerald's 1996 death. However, Krohn incorrectly gives 1985 as the year Fitzgerald received the National Medal of Arts when it was really 1987, and her description of the Hollywood Bowl as "a club

in Los Angeles" is an understatement roughly equivalent to calling the Grand Canyon a small indentation in the ground. Good-quality, black-and-white photos appear throughout, and there are two lists of online sources—one of sites devoted to Fitzgerald's life and career and a shorter one about the history of jazz. Ginny Gustin, Sonoma County Library System, Santa Rosa, CA Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

I noticed this book won The Carter G. Woodson Book Award, presented to exemplary books written for children and young people each year at the National Council for Social Studies Annual Conference. Definitely worth the purchase. Ella Fitzgerald broke through many artistic and social boundaries and too few young people know about her life.

I purchased this book for my son and read it myself. I was surprised how much I enjoyed it because I don't usually get much from a young adult book. Very well written and fascinating. My son loved it as well and passed the book on to his teacher. She now uses the book in her fifth grade class as part of a project.

I loved this book and so did my students! Inspirational and motivational, we used Ella's life story to talk about how to fall in love with life. Krohn really knows how to bring out the best in others!

For any libraries or schools with an interest in jazz, popular music or great American icons, this book should be included. It's easy to read, the index is helpful, and while there are a few errors, it's still pretty good. Very nice photographs included.

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