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SHORT TAKES



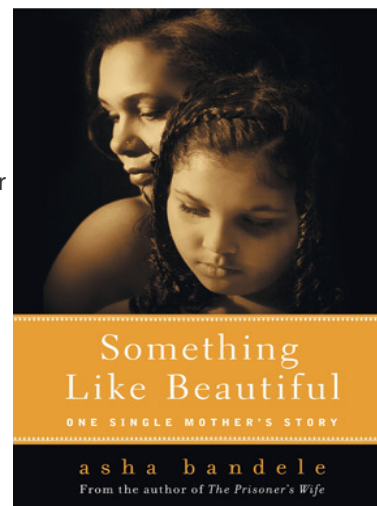
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Poor ○ ○ ○ ○ ● Best

BOOKS – ADULTS

• Asha Bandele's newest work, "Something Like Beautiful: One Single Mother's Story," is published by HarperCollins and is Bandele's fifth book. In this work the author of "The Prisoner's Wife," her memoir about her marriage to an incarcerated individual, Bandele employs her usual poetic style to discuss the hard realities of single motherhood speaking, she says, honestly about not only her story but the story of thousands of black women and a vision for a better future. Currently available in hardback, the book retails for \$23.95.

• "In Search of Our Roots: How 19 Extraordinary African Americans Reclaimed their Past," was recently released by Crown Publishing Group. Edited by Henry Louis Gates Jr., the book is based on the Public Broadcasting Service series "African American Lives," which Gates hosted in 2006 and 2008. While the PBS series explored some of the stories of prominent African Americans such as Quincy Jones, Whoopi Goldberg, Chris Rock and Oprah Winfrey, the book sheds new light on Gates' findings by tracing these and other family sagas with the aid of historical consultants and state-of-the-art DNA analyses. Cost: \$27.50.



BOOKS – CHILDREN

• "NuBiAh, Land of African Kings and Queens" is a bedtime stories coloring book that highlights the story of great African civilizations. Told by a griot, the stories are intended to not only shine a light on great ancient history but to instill in children values and principles to help them succeed in life. The coloring book, which retails for \$9.95, is designed to be an interactive experience for parents to share with their children. Authored by Thomas Jones, the work is illustrated by Linda Knoll and has poetry contributions by Arthur Culpepper and Willam Marlow. Sponsors are available to provide copies to churches. Information: (310) 654-0904, www.nubiah.com, e-mail info@nubiah.com.

• The 2009 Coretta Scott King Award, which recognizes outstanding African American authors and illustrators, went to "We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball," written and illustrated by Kadir Nelson, and "The Blacker the Berry: Poems," illustrated by Floyd Cooper and written by Joyce Carol Thomas. "We Are the Ship," which is for readers age 9 through 12, is illustrated throughout with both full-page and double-page oil paintings that convey depth and emotion, tells the story of Negro League

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