



# BOOK RESUME: BORN READY: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

Penelope knows that he's a boy. (And a ninja.) The problem is getting everyone else to realize it.

In this exuberant companion to Jodie Patterson's adult memoir, *The Bold World*, Patterson shares her son Penelope's frustrations and triumphs on his journey to share himself with the world. Penelope's experiences show children that it always makes you stronger when you are true to yourself and who you really are.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "This representation of a Black family and transgender child shines with joy and affirmation... A triumphant declaration of love and identity."

—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"A heartening true story for children that offers guidance to caretakers."

—*Publisher's Weekly*

"Readers will be rooting for Penelope from the first page to the last."

—*The Horn Book*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- SELECTION 2022 - Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices - 2022 Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices - Understanding Oneself and Others
- SELECTION 2022 - Kansas National Education Association Reading Circle Catalog - 2022 KNEA Reading Circle Catalog - Primary Level
- SELECTION 2022 - Notable Books for a Global Society Award

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Guide from Welcoming Schools](#)

**Title:** Born Ready: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope

**Author:** Jodie Patterson;  
Illustrated by Charnelle Pinkney Barlow

**Imprint:** Crown Books for Young Readers

**Publisher:** Random House Children's Books

**On sale date:** April 21, 2021

**ISBN:** 9780593123638

**Format:** Hardcover

**Age Range\*:** 4-8

**Grade Range:** PreK up  
(Recommended by School Library Journal)

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\*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.