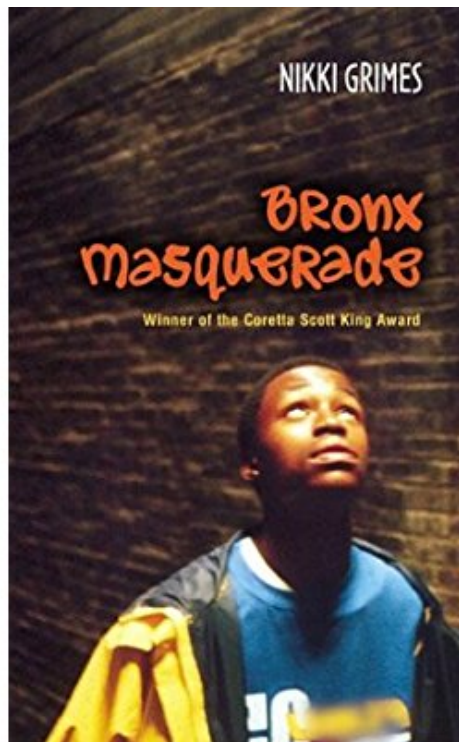


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Synopsis :

Amazon.com Review Open Mike Friday is everyone's favorite day in Mr. Ward's English class. On Fridays, his 18 high-school students dare to relax long enough to let slip the poets, painters, readers, and dreamers that exist within each of them. Raul Ramirez, the self-described 'next Diego Rivera,' longs 'to show the beauty of our people, that we are not all banditos like they show on TV, munching chicharrones and sipping beer through chipped teeth.' And while angry Tyrone Bittings finds dubious comfort in denying hope: 'Life is cold. Future?...wish there was some future to talk about. I could use me some future,' overweight Janelle Battle hopes to be seen for what she really is: 'for I am coconut / and the heart of me / is sweeter / than you know' They are all here: the tall girl, the tough-talking rapper, the jock, the beauty queen, the teenage mom, the artist, and many more. While it may sound like another Breakfast Club rehash, Grimes uses both poetry and revealing first-person prose to give each character a distinct voice. By book's end, all the voices have blended seamlessly into a multicultural chorus laden with a message that is probably summed up best by pretty girl Tanisha Scott's comment, 'I am not a skin color or a hank of wavy hair. I am a person, and if they don't get that, it's their problem, not mine.' But no teen reader will have a problem with this lyrical mix of many-hued views. (Ages 12 and older) --Jennifer Hubert --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title. Read more From Publishers Weekly When a high school teacher in the Bronx begins to host open-mike poetry in his classroom on Fridays, his students find a forum to express their identity issues and forge unexpected connections with one another. Grimes's (Jazmin's Notebook) creative, contemporary premise will hook teens, and the poems may even inspire readers to try a few of their own. The poetic forms range from lyrics penned by aspiring rapper Tyrone to the concrete poem of a budding Puerto Rican painter Raul (titled 'Zorro' and formed as the letter 'Z'). Ultimately, though, there may be too many characters for the audience to penetrate deeply. The students in Mr. Ward's English class experience everything from dyslexia and low self-esteem to teenage motherhood and physical abuse. The narrators trade off quickly, offering only a glimpse into their lives. Not even Tyrone, who breaks in after each student's poem to offer some commentary, comes fully to life. The students' poems, however, provide some lasting images (e.g., overweight Janelle, who is teased for her 'thick casing,' writes, 'I am coconut / and the heart of me / is sweeter / than you know'). Any one of these students could likely dominate a novel of his or her own, they simply get too little time to hold the floor here. Ages 12-up. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title. Read more See all Editorial Reviews Bronx Masquerade - Nikki Grimes children's book author ...nikkigrimes.com/books/bkbronx.htmlBronx Masquerade Dial Books for Young Reader, 2002 ISBN: 978-0-8037-2569-0. From the book. I woke up this morning exhausted from hiding the me of me so I stand here ...Comprehension Guide for Bronx Masqueradewww.nikkigrimes.com/teacher/bronxcg.htmlComprehension Guide: Bronx Masquerade by Nikki Grimes Dial Books for Young Readers/PenguinPutnam, 2002 ISBN: 0-8073-2569-8: Knowledge: 1. Define the following poetic ...The Road to Paris Summary and Analysis - Free Book Noteswww.freebooknotes.com/summaries-analysis/the-road-to-parisFull Book Notes and Study Guides. Sites like SparkNotes with a The Road to Paris study guide or cliff notes. Also includes sites with a short overview, synopsis, book ...Macmillan - Distinguished & Award Winning Global Publisher ...us.macmillan.comO's Little Book of Calm & Comfort. By The Oprah Magazine O. A thoughtful collection of soul-soothing writing, O's Little Book of Calm &...Vampire Fiction for Young Adults - The Monster Librarianwww.monsterlibrarian.com/vampiresya.htmThis page contains reviews and book lists for vampire fiction for young adults/teens. This is

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