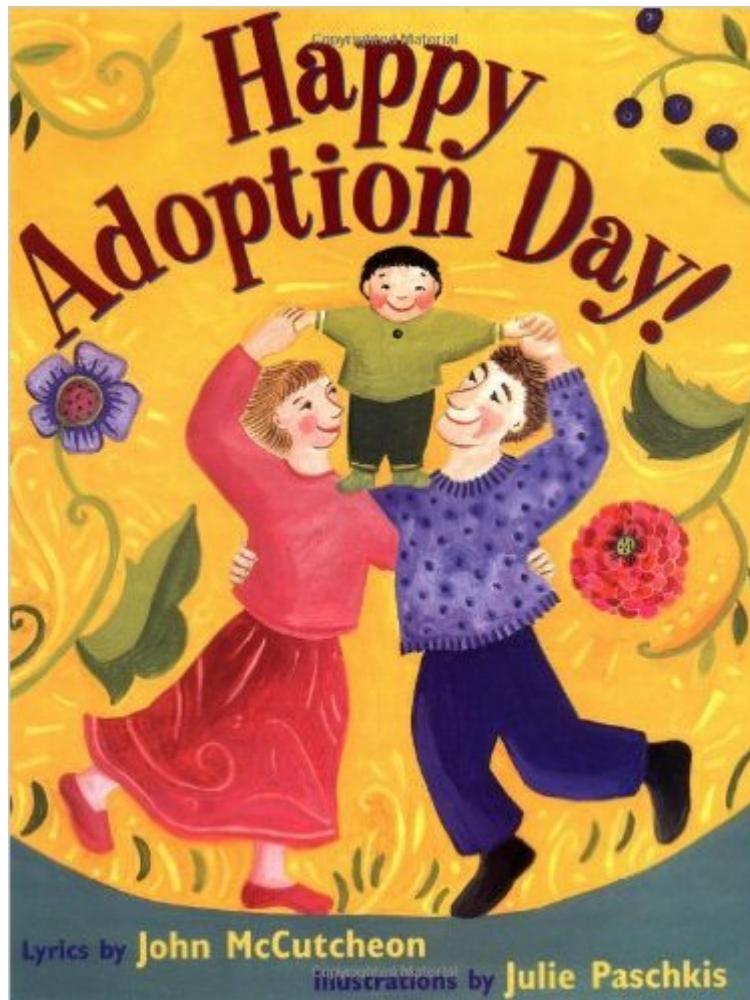


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# Happy Adoption Day!



## Synopsis

This adaptation of McCutcheon's song commemorates the day when a child joins an adoptive family. Complete with musical notation, these verses reassure adopted children they are special. Full-color illustrations.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 350 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (May 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316603236

ISBN-13: 978-0316603232

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (47 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #63,255 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Adoption](#) #4506 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: [Preschool - 3](#)

## Customer Reviews

We received this book (and the companion CD - Family Garden) as a gift for our daughters adoption day. In our family (three kids and counting - by adoption) we celebrate adoption days in much the same way as birthdays with cake, presents songs etc. That is where this book comes in. It is absolutely perfect. On each child's adoption day, they blow out the candles on the cake and we open this book, put in the CD and all sing together. The kids absolutely love it and you can see in their eyes whether it is their day or not, that there is a deep and loving meaning to the whole process which makes this so much more than just a book and a song. As I said to my sister who gave it to us, it is truly the gift that keeps on giving. Wishing you many happy adoption days.

We received this book as a Christmas gift shortly after our 2nd child arrived from Korea. I read it to my daughter at nap time and found myself dissolving into tears. Here was OUR story. This is a delightful book for any adoptive family, especially those with children from Asia. The song is

marvellous; we sing it regularly and of course on those "adoption day" celebrations.

Adoption day is a kind of birthday. Some families (like ours) may choose after a while to celebrate only a child's actual birthday. Nevertheless, this book is a helpful way to celebrate a child's acceptance into his or her adoptive family, especially for kids adopted at older ages or internationally. There is nothing wrong with stating that the world is troubled. After all, it is. But the overall message of this beautifully illustrated volume is one of acceptance and love. It is a keepsake that most adoptive families will cherish. Hurrah, John McCutcheon! Alyssa A. Lappen

Books about adoption are very important to me. My wife and I have adopted two girls from China so we want to read them stories that show adoption as something beautiful. Happy Adoption Day has great color, lots of smiles, and even comes with a song that you can play on the piano or some other instrument. Unfortunately I didn't like some of McCutcheon's lyrics. I don't like how he repeatedly says, "For out of a world so tattered and torn, You came to our house on that wonderful morn...". The entire world is messed up, and I don't like this "we saved you" mentality. Elsewhere John writes, "Some parents come different, some come the same...". If you come from a conservative mindset, I can see how you might want to explain this in a different manner.

Still brings a tear every time I read it or make dh sing it. We have a four year old bio son, 20 month old triplets who we adopted (we have had them from seconds after their birth), and I am pregnant with boy number five. Because two of our five are bio, we don't call November 18 "Adoption Day," but "Family Day." Still, I cannot read this lovely song, or point to the vibrant pictures without my voice shaking. My kids are all young, so I have no way of knowing how they will like it when they are old enough to have questions. It just seems to express beautifully and simply much of what I feel as an adoptive mom. It is certainly not a comprehensive thought-provoking manual for addressing the deeper adoption issues I hope to discuss with my kids as they mature. This is merely a celebration and a love song, and for now that is quite enough for me.

As an adoptive Mom, I get so tired of kids books that talk about being saddened or depressed by adoption. Yes, kids may need to talk through those issues at times, but I wanted a book that would introduce adoption to my infant daughter in a positive way. "Happy Adoption Day" does that beautifully, with joyful rollicking text and an explosion of colorful illustrations. This book is such a favorite of my (now 2 year old) daughter that I had to put it up on a top shelf and bring it down only

by request because it was about to disintegrate! Read a more complete review and learn more about my adoption story at my blog [...]

Great book. This is our second purchase of the book. We bought one for us and liked it so much, we now buy it as a gift.

As an adoption social worker, I like finding good adoption kids' books. This one celebrates adoption, which is great. It reminds me of a teenager I tutored years ago whose parents celebrated both his birthday and his "Gotcha" day. People used to keep adoptions secret -- that we now acknowledge and celebrate it is wonderful, and this book adds to that celebration. My one (quite large) reservation is that the book paints a really negative picture of the child's life before adoption; the chorus of the song repeats throughout the book, and refers to the child's previous life as "a world so tattered and torn." Another reviewer of this book mentioned that the entire world is "tattered and torn." I agree. I can see how this song could lead a child to view the adoptive parents as "saviors" and may create a sense of shame or indebtedness as the child reflects on their past life. This book might be OK for kids who were adopted after experiencing abuse or neglect in another place, but parents would still need to be careful to ensure that a child understands that whatever "tatteredness" was in the child's past life, it's not the child's fault.

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