



Early Sunday Morning

Denene Millner , Vanessa Brantley-Newton (Illustrations)

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Early Sunday Morning is the **first offering from Denene Millner Books**, the new children's line published under Agate's Bolden imprint in partnership with Denene Millner, the noted parenting authority, editor, and New York Times bestselling author.

Love and family. These are the things that a little girl finds most special about Sunday mornings. *Early Sunday Morning* follows June, Mommy, Daddy, and brother Troy through their weekend routine as June prepares for a special performance leading the children's choir at church on Sunday morning.

Readers spend the weekend with June as she collects helpful pieces of advice on how to be less nervous about her big solo. Along the way, she visits the barbershop with Mommy and Troy, gets her hair done by Mommy, receives a special dress from her aunt, and shares her family ritual of getting ready for Sunday morning service. As her special moment approaches, June leans on the support of her whole family, as well as advice from her father, to conquer her fear of singing in front of the congregation.

Early Sunday Morning is a heartwarming celebration of the special time a young girl and her family share together as she learns how to lift her mighty voice.

Early Sunday Morning Details

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Author : Denene Millner , Vanessa Brantley-Newton (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review Early Sunday Morning for online ebook

Cassandra says

A little girl frets about singing her first solo in church!

Elizabeth says

Great art. Great story about confidence and stage fright.

Tracie says

A young girl is nervous about her solo in the church choir and everyone gives her advice to calm her nerves.

Rachel says

This was an amazing picture book. I've been trying to be intentional about bringing more books into the home with a diverse cast of characters. This one was recommended in a Facebook group and the cover artwork drew me in so we grabbed it at the library.

It has become a quick favorite! I don't think I've ever read a book that was so affirming of a family loving God and going to church regularly with such sweetness and real earnestness. This was just a story about a regular little girl being nervous about singing but the backdrop was incredibly rich. So happy I picked this one up!

Janet says

This is a delightful children's book. Family oriented with love and encouragement. This was a Goodreads giveaway winner.

Jillian Heise says

This is a delightful book! The story of a young girl who is nervous about her solo coming up with the church choir. The most wonderful part of this story is the glimpse into the everyday life of a young black girl, her neighborhood, her loving family, and their church community. When we talk about #WeNeedDiverseBooks & #ownvoices stories, I think this type of book is exactly what is meant. This would be a fantastic picture book to share in classrooms with a universal theme that most kids will be able to relate to. This is the epitome of a mirror & window books.

Linda says

What a lovely book about a young girls fear of singing her first solo at church. The illustrations are lovely and the story is very relatable to early elementary children.

Katie Dicesare says

I love this sweet story! I loved the ending and was just as surprised as the little girl!

Mary says

This book is really inspiring - a young girl is nervous about singing in front of her church, but she finally gets up the courage to do it and do it well. Beautiful illustrations and a sturdy presentation.

Great Books says

If you are searching for an uplifting book about love and family to share with your child, Early Sunday Morning is an excellent choice. A loving African American family enjoys their weekend as daughter June prepares for her first solo in the choir. It's a heartwarming story full of positive messages as friends, family and neighbors help June overcome her fear and find her voice. Reviewer 11

Kelly says

Very nice story of a little girl singing a solo in church for the first time, and the feelings that go with it. Illustrations were very nice.

Leslie Reese says

This book is so endearing. As soon as I finished reading it, my thought was "What little girl can I share this with?" It is a story that all children can enjoy, but I know there are a lot of "regular" black children in "regular" families who will feel sparks of recognition in this tale about a little girl who is going to be singing her first solo in the youth choir next Sunday.

Before the day comes she experiences jitters, faces teasing classmates at school, and receives words of advice from members of her family and community. (When her brother, Troy, is getting his hair cut by Mr. Harvey, the barber tells her *"See, what you have to do is pretend everyone in the audience has a big ol' watermelon head. You'll be too busy laughing to be scared."*) On the big day it looks like her father may

have to miss her performance because he's had to work double shifts at work.

Vanessa Brantley-Newton's illustrations are perfect and lively - one of my favorites shows the bottoms of the little girl's bare feet (-which brought back memories from my own childhood when a white playmate was impressed to find that the palms of my hands and soles of my feet weren't brown like the outsides.)

Heather says

Loved this book!

Dena (Batch of Books) says

A young girl will be singing in the choir on Sunday, but she's nervous. With a little help and love from her family, she gets control of her nerves and delivers a wonderful performance.

This sweet book is a lovely addition to the world of children's religious books. It celebrates family, love, faith, and music. It's the perfect read for Sunday mornings!
