



## Welcome Song for Baby

*Richard Van Camp*

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## Welcome Song for Baby Richard Van Camp

From renowned First Nations storyteller Richard Van Camp comes a lyrical lullaby for newborns. Complemented with stunning photographs, this evocative board book is perfectly suited as a first book for every baby.

## Welcome Song for Baby Details

Date : Published October 1st 2007 by Orca Book Publishers

ISBN : 9781551436616

Author : Richard Van Camp

Format : Board Book 24 pages

Genre : Childrens, Poetry, Cultural, Canada, Family, Parenting, Picture Books, Literature, Jewish

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## **From Reader Review Welcome Song for Baby for online ebook**

### **Sarah Ragan says**

Adorable pictures and story! I loved this book and it would be a good book to show babies other babies and what they look like. There are different nationalities and sexes too.

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### **Madeline Masluk says**

This book is a good way to read to an unborn baby and I would recommend this book to any who is expecting a baby or read to their new born baby to show how much they are cared for. But to someone who is looking for a fun book to read I would not recommend this book.

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### **Qwo-Li says**

This is the sweetest baby book I've ever seen. The photos are adorable, and the text by Richard Van Camp is so beautiful that it makes me cry. Here's an example:

Hey ya hey  
Hey ya hey  
Hey ya hey

Dear one  
Cherished one  
Loved one  
You have made the world beautiful again

This book is being given to every newborn baby in British Columbia in 2008, as part of the Books for BC Babies initiative. How cool is that?

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### **Canadian Children's Book Centre says**

Kisses Kisses Baby-O! Sing a Song of Mother Goose

In the Spring 2007 issue of Canadian Children's Book News, I put out a call to publishers for "more board books please!" Now, one year later, I am delighted that publishers have responded with an amazing new crop

of high quality Canadian board books for babies. Orca Book Publishers have produced a stunning new board book written by renowned First Nations storyteller Richard Van Camp. *Welcome Song for Baby* is a lullaby that welcomes a child into the world: “the sun rises for you/the earth welcomes you/we raise our hands to you.” It is a song and a chant and a celebration of the joy a new baby brings into the world. The full page, full-colour photographs are stunning. Each photo focuses on beautiful baby faces from many cultures. Like Robert Munsch’s *Love You Forever*, *Welcome Song for Baby* is a book that honours the precious bond between parent and child. Nova Scotia’s Nimbus Publishing have produced the first Nova Scotia board book for babies, *Kisses Kisses Baby-O!* written by award-winning author and literacy advocate Sheree Fitch. The strength of this book is the lyrical language, which weaves words through a baby’s day: “Eyes blink open/sun winks in/hello baby!/day begins kisses kisses/head to toe/kisses kisses/baby-O.” This book is a joy to read aloud with bounce and rhythm and lipslippery language like “slurpy burpy and snuggle huggle” that will tickle the tongue. Hilda Rose’s illustrations of touching, kissing and cuddling model loving interactions between family and baby. Scholastic Canada has added to its growing list of board books with a re-issue of an old favourite — *Sing a Song of Mother Goose* illustrated with the vibrant Plasticine art of Barbara Reid. Scholastic didn’t simply re-issue the original 1987 version in board book format, a mistake often made by publishers, but have done a fresh new re-design with a selection of 14 verses and all new illustrations. I was delighted to see Reid’s addition of a pile of soft pillows under the cradle in “Rock-abye Baby.” The result is a perfect first Mother Goose collection for families, daycares and libraries.

Reviewed by Carol McDougall in *Canadian Children's Book News*  
Spring 2008 VOL.31 NO.2

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### **Nicki says**

I love reading, and I love singing. I do not like speaking a song when I feel like I should be singing it. There should have been music at the end or something. Also, this was VERY repetitive, and clearly had a secular worldview. I certainly don't want to be speaking, "You are a child of the universe" over my child. The photos were the one redeeming feature of this book.

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### **Elizabeth says**

I like this lullaby a lot -- plus baby faces :) Definitely gonna order this for my brother and sister-in-law who are expecting an air-breather next month.

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### **CaseyTheCanadianLesbrarian says**

Oh my god, this amazing and beautiful. I think little kids would love all the pictures of (ethnically diverse) babies and the message is so sweet and tear-jerky. I don't even have kids and it made me want to cry (in a good way).

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### **Amanda Wilson says**

this book is just shy of perfect for me. one page would be amazing, and then there was a sentence that seemed out of place to me and kind of ruined the vibe. but overall it was a good book! i loved the pictures

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### **Sara says**

Big photos of families and mothers kissing babies. Very sweet. My daughter loves those pictures and even kisses them too. She points out the babies, the daddies, and the noses- it's all she can identify so far. The poem was pretty, but not something I will remember after closing the pages. Not a favorite book of mine, but my daughter likes it, and that's all that matters!

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### **Andrea says**

This is such a beautiful, sing-song book to read to babies and toddlers. It is a reminder of how babies keep the world turning, and how we are all responsible for creating/maintaining a beautiful world for them to emerge into and grow.

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### **Cheriee Weichel says**

Probably 3.5 stars. The babies and I liked the photographs of the diverse families. The text is lovely, but more appealing to adults than very small children. I tried singing it and that engaged my granddaughter a bit. Still, just looking at these pictures while holding your little one is worth your while.

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### **Susan says**

lovely photos.

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### **Marie says**

Review: Welcome Song for Baby

VanCamp, R. (2007). Welcome Song for Baby; A lullaby for newborns. Victoria, B.C., Canada: Orca Book Publishers.

Why the book was chosen

The book Welcome Song for Baby is beautiful on the outside. The book features a picture of a newborn baby with his/her mother. The mother's moment is tender. She presses her lips ever so tenderly on her babies forehead; her baby silently accepts this gift with eyes slightly open.

This book is for young children and babies, although it is also for parents to lullaby to the babies.

#### Summary/Overview of the book

A lullaby for newborns, the song has accepted this tiny bundle as a gift to the world. The song lyrics illustrate that the world is a welcoming place. The book implies that love was known, but not as evident as much as the day a baby is born and held. The message is straight to the point, "the baby is sacred, precious and our future and the baby is our sacred responsibility." All together we will grow, teach, play, and be nourished. Babies make our world go round and the universe.

#### Specific quotes from the text

"You are a child of the universe...A caretaker for future generations...Walk gently...Walk true"

"We live...We laugh...We love now...In your honour"

"...for someone so small...You are about to change our lives...For someone so small...You are about to change our world...For someone so small...You are about to change the universe...Forever"

My questions, inferences, visual images, thoughts, reactions, feelings, opinions

My reaction is that this is not only a beautiful book but that it is a treasure. I would want this book for my Grandson Austin and other babies born into the world. My reaction is love; it brings to the surface inside of me adoration for my children and expecting parents. What a beautiful gift!

Re-evaluating the story with reference to values, ideals, beliefs, and/or institutions of Aboriginal peoples

Since it is a belief that our children are gifts from the Creator, we are given these tiny beings to care for and protect. The lyrics follow the values of the very foundation of Aboriginal people and its institution the family. These teachings are: 1) Wisdom, the acknowledgement of the power of the little ones from above; 2) Love, a newfound peace that a child brings into the family; 3) Respect is shown in the honouring of the new entity into the world; 4) Honesty is to know that this action of having a baby in your life is going to affect the family, community and world; 5) Humility is to know that each child is going to bring about and has already gifted us with a new sensitivity to love; 6) Truth is knowing that the child has more power than we will ever know; 7) Bravery is to know that we are responsible to nurture the baby and we must be models for the baby. Most important to us is in our Humility; it is in our teachings, that they will be carried forward beyond our years; we are gifted with that knowledge and it is the bravest thing to do.

My transformation thoughts: What is not written in the story but now I am thinking about...

I am thinking. I am a Grandmother! My Austin, my Awesome Grandson and my universe has changed forever since his birth. "Hey ya hey, hey ya hey, Hey ya hey...Ho!"

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#### **H says**

I read this to my baby almost every night, sometimes through tears due to the touching text.

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**Allison says**

I am rating this book based on the pictures! The text is mediocre, but the pictures are beautiful.

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