

Not Quite Snow White

Student Name

Lamar University

Child Development

## **Not Quite Snow White**

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*Not Quite Snow White* is written by Ashley Franklin. *Not Quite Snow White* is recommended for children between the ages of four to eight. *Not Quite Snow White* was published on July 9, 2019. I have not been able to read this book prior to this assignment. This book does teach a valuable lesson to children about pursuing their dreams and not allowing other peoples' opinions bring her down.

### **Summary**

This story involves a little girl named Tameika. She loves to sing and dance. She hopes to one day to become a princess in a play. There is an opportunity for students to audition for snow white the musical. She is very excited to show everyone her dancing and singing skills. After the auditions, she heard negative comments from other students concerning her height, weight, and color of skin. These comments made her doubt her abilities to be in the musical. Her parents helped her overcome it by letting her know that she is enough. Those factors that are bringing her down do not matter. You can be a princess no matter what color or shape you are.

### **Self Esteem**

In *Not Quite Snow White*, Tameika would be considered a child with high self-esteem. As explained in the book, "Self-esteem refers to global evaluation of the self; it also called self-worth or self-image" (Santrock 2019 p. 382) She loves to dance and sing. Tameika enjoys being part of plays and acting as different characters. Her school was holding auditions for snow white the musical. She has never played the part as the princess. She wanted that part very badly and knew she was more than qualified. After auditions, some of her other classmates started saying negative comments about her appearance. The students were saying things like she is too

chubby, tall or brown to play the role of snow white. As Tameika stated in *Not Quite Snow White*, “Could those kids be wrong? Maybe she was wrong for wanting to be this princess” (Franklin 2019 p.13) These comments about her appearance have brought doubts about her ability. As stated in the child development book, “High self-esteem may refer to accurate, justified perception of one’s worth as a person and one’s successes and accomplishments. (Sanstroek 2019 p.382.) She had a self-image of herself that she could be anything or anyone she wanted to be. Those negative comments have lowered her self-esteem. She begins to believe the remarks made by her classmates are true. As stated in the book, low self-esteem may reflect either an accurate perception of one’s shortcomings or distorted, even pathological insecurity and inferiority.” (Santrock 2019 p. 382) Luckily, her parents were able to give her advice to allow her to see that she is enough. She was able to audition and actually got the main part as Snow White even with all the negative comments that were trying to bring her down. Tameika needed to realize that appearance had not to do with the talent she had. She got the role because they saw that she had the skills to bring that character to life.

### **Emotion-Coaching Parents**

After the day that Tameika had, she was really down and quiet during dinner with her parents. As stated in *Not Quite Snow White*, “At dinner, Tameika didn’t tap her feet or clang rhythms with her spoon.” (Franklin2019 p.20) Her parents noticed that she was acting different, so they asked her to see what was wrong. Her parents would be considered emotion-coaching parents. As defined by the child development group, “Emotion-coaching parents monitor children’s emotions, view their children’s negative emotions as opportunities for teaching, assist them in labeling emotions and coach them in how to deal effectively with emotions.” (Santrock 2019 p. 281) Tameika told her parents the mean comments her classmates have been saying about her.

Her parents helped her labeling emotions by letting her know that she is enough. As her parents stated, "You're just enough of all the right stuff." He kissed her forehead. Tameika smiled. Maybe her parents were on to something." (Santrock 2019 p.281) They explained to her that those comments that people are saying does not make her a princess. A princess can be short, tall, skinny, chubby, and any color.

### **Strengths and Practical Use**

*Not Quite Snow White* is a great book to read to children. This book teaches so many valuable lessons that help children throughout life. This book teaches you should not let peoples' thoughts get in the way of your dreams. People will always have rude things to say about someone. One should always believe in themselves They also tackle the issue of diversity. The author is teaching that any child of any color can be anything they want to be. They should not allow the color of their skin to hold them back from any opportunities. This book has a lot of illustrations that will sustain the reader's attention. Not Quite Snow White is a great book to read as family. This book can be a fun and creative away to bring a family together.

### **Conclusion**

This book reminded how I felt when I was in dancing classes as a child. I was a little over weight. I would hear other girls say that I should not be wearing tight clothes because you could see my stomach falling out. I never really noticed anything. I thought I looked great and felt really confident. Once I heard the girls' comments, it made me so self-conscious I did not want to go to my dance classes because all I saw was how I looked. They made me believe that I couldn't be in dance because I was fat. My mom sat down with me and explained that people can be really mean. The way to overcome bullies is to simply prove them wrong. She told me that I was perfect the way I was. My mom reminded that the only thing that matters is that I am having

fun and doing what I love to do. My favorite quote from the book is.” Maybe she was just enough of all the right stuff.” (Franklin 2019 p.28) This quote is very powerful to me. People now a day can say things without thinking how it will affect a person. Those words can make you feel like you’re not enough. We shouldn’t focus on all the wrong things about someone. We should focus on the great and amazing things about them.

**References**

Santrock, J.W (2019). *Children* (14<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York, NY: McGraw- Hill Education.

Franklin, A., & Glenn, E. (2019). *Not quite Snow White*. New York, NY: Harper, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers.