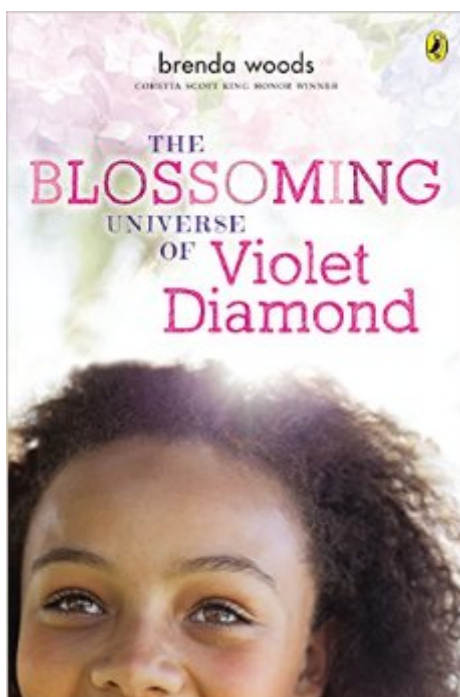


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# The Blossoming Universe Of Violet Diamond



## Synopsis

Coretta Scott King Honor winner Brenda Woodsâ™ moving, uplifting story of a girl finally meeting the African American side of her family explores racism and how it feels to be biracial, and celebrates families of all kinds. Violet is biracial, but she lives with her white mother and sister, attends a mostly white school in a white town, and sometimes feels like a brown leaf on a pile of snow. Now that sheâ™s eleven, she feels itâ™s time to learn about her African American heritage, so she seeks out her paternal grandmother. When Violet is invited to spend two weeks with her new Bibi (Swahili for "grandmother") and learns about her lost heritage, her confidence in herself grows and she discovers sheâ™s not a shrinking Violet after all. From a Coretta Scott King Honor-winning author, this is a powerful story about a young girl finding her place in the world.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0670 (What's this?)

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (January 22, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0147514304

ISBN-13: 978-0147514301

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.6 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #355,535 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #318 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism #831 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational #1091 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Violet Diamond is an eleven year old biracial girl who has many questions. Her mom is white, and her dad, who died before she was born, was black. She attends a mostly white school where she sometimes âœfeels like a brown leaf on a pile of snow.â • Sheâ™s tired of people asking if sheâ™s adopted. As she is surfing the internet, she discovers that her grandmother is an artist and

asks to go visit her art exhibit. Yet, it is not the reaction she expected. Can Violet bond with this other side of the family, Will forgiveness and healing happen between her mother and Grandmother. Well, if you are not hooked by this tease then I challenge you to pick up a copy of this modern young adult novel. Brenda Woods's™ emotional, inspiring story of a girl connecting with the African American side of her family explores racism and how it feels to be biracial, and devolving her own sense of self. I found the book fast paced and very easy to capture my attention. It is appropriate for children age 8 to 14. I found Wood's™ novel to be well-written, with charming and relatable characters. However, Wood does present a bit of a simplified picture of the biracial/racism issues. Racism is a complicated topic to express with a range of strong opinions within our society due to past history and current media. But, with that being said, I don't™ believe that it is realistic for a middle grade novel to present all of these issues in an in-depth way. The Blossoming Universe of Violet Diamond by Brenda Woods would be a good starting point for a school or family discussion on racism as a way to create solutions for acceptance and kindness. My favorite quote from the novel is, "Sometimes people make a mistake for so long that it starts to feel like it's not a mistake at all."

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