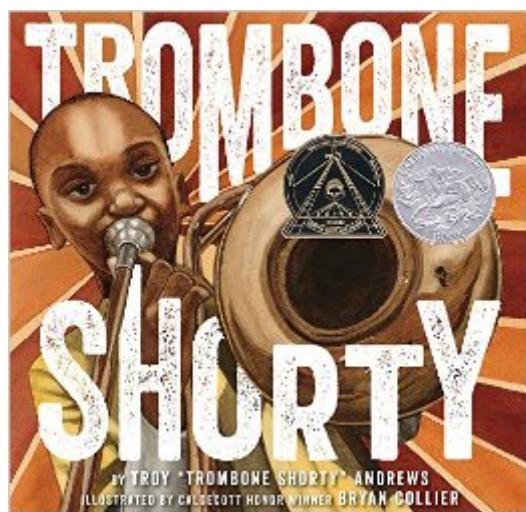


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# Trombone Shorty



## Synopsis

A 2016 Caldecott Honor Book and Coretta Scott King (Illustrator) Award Winner Hailing from the Tremé neighborhood in New Orleans, Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews got his nickname by wielding a trombone twice as long as he was high. A prodigy, he was leading his own band by age six, and today this Grammy-nominated artist headlines the legendary New Orleans Jazz Fest. Along with esteemed illustrator Bryan Collier, Andrews has created a lively picture book autobiography about how he followed his dream of becoming a musician, despite the odds, until he reached international stardom. Trombone Shorty is a celebration of the rich cultural history of New Orleans and the power of music.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 840 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Harry N. Abrams (April 14, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1419714651

ISBN-13: 978-1419714658

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.4 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (31 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #12,167 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Jazz #3 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Musical #19 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This book is beautiful, from the illustrations to the story. I want to buy copies for all of my friends kids to show them where passion and practice can get you and that there are places in the world where music truly is life.

My PTO committee bought this book for our school library, hoping to use it as one tool to get fifth-graders thinking about joining the school band. I was unfamiliar with Trombone Shorty's music or his story, but was tasked with creating a set of discussion questions for our students. After

reading his story -- written in language that is at once rhythmic in tone and humming with the energy of his New Orleans neighborhood, Treme -- I was fascinated by the story he wrote and wanted to hear the music he created; and now I'm a fan. Not even in elementary school yet, Andrews and his neighborhood pals spend their time creating homemade instruments and making music. When he discovers a beat-up old trombone twice his size, he learns to play it and takes to carrying it around. The tale hits its climax with a pivotal moment in his life: He's at a music festival in New Orleans, Bo Diddley is on the stage, and the preschooler begins playing along. Diddley stops the music, brings the prodigy Andrews to the stage, and introduces the rest of the festival to Trombone Shorty, much to the audience's delight. This is great for read-alouds for kids in kindergarten and above, particularly when paired with Trombone Shorty's music. The story of his childhood shows his lifelong love of music and New Orleans, and Bryan Collier's joyous collage and ink artwork is an essential piece of the vibrant tone of this book. The book ends with a straightforward afterward from Andrews, along with some photos from his session with Bo Diddley and other moments in his life. My own children are 16 and 8, and I thought my days of purchasing picture books were mostly over. This book, however, has a way of lifting me up every time I read it.

I'm really impressed with the artwork of this book! The large majority is done in ink and watercolor, but the artist didn't simply draw things and call it a day. On most of the pages, each individual component of the drawing--people, instruments, backgrounds, and so on--were drawn on their own, and then cut out and put together in a collage. It has an interesting effect, with things seeming to not QUITE fit together with perspective, making them instead pop out. Some the collage pieces also include pictures taken from other print materials, mostly for large crowds (so the people in the crowd look more realistic than those in the foreground!) or for patterns, like wallpaper or cloth. The patterns in particular remind me of the pattern-pasting techniques used in manga. The story itself is good, as well, though after raving about the artwork, I'm not sure what I could say to match! It tells the childhood of Troy Andrews, including how he got his nickname, "Trombone Shorty." The story emphasizes the importance of practicing to hone your skills, as well as believing in yourself. A must for every child who loves music. Make sure you have some of Troy Andrew's music on hand to play after you're done reading, and perhaps don't read this for bedtime. Your kid is going to be amped to make-believe their own Mardi Gras parade!

I loved the art work- for this book. It's a simple story about Troy Andrews who grew up to become a famous musician. It's a great book for young readers. Andrews always loved music and he

continued to hone his craft as he got older. Now that he is famous he tries to help other youth to reach their full potential. Highly recommended.

Trombone Shorty by Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews and Illustrated by Bryan Collier was a Caldecott Honor book this year. The Caldecott is an award given for the best illustrations, and Collier has won an Honor 4 times. Collier has illustrated some books that I really love, like Martin's Big Words. That is another really great book. This book, Trombone Shorty is an autobiography. Therefore it is a non-fiction, true, book about the author's life. For an autobiography written in picture book format it really is well done. The pictures are phenomenal, hence winning the honor award, and the storyline is interesting. I give this book 4 out of 5 stars. This is a really great book, and I think it would make a great addition to most elementary school libraries as well as public libraries. Younger children, especially 1st through 5th grade will enjoy this book. Musically minded children will love it, and music teachers will be able to find useful in class. Librarians and teachers will be able to use this book for many different lessons. Boys and girls alike will enjoy this book, and the pictures and somewhat shorter text (especially short for a biography book) will make it a great read aloud. The only reason this book lost a star is b/c the writing of the book was just okay. It was good, but the writing could've been more fluid. All in all, I thoroughly enjoyed this fun informational book about an impressive music artist. For more book reviews: [alohamoraopenabook.blogspot.com](http://alohamoraopenabook.blogspot.com)

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