

You Are Magic



READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Embracing individuality, following your dreams, and perseverance and resilience

Book Brief: Ariana's story inspires young fans to embrace their individuality, overcome challenges, and follow their dreams, all while advocating for kindness, mental health, and positive change.

Author:

Emma Carlson Berne

Illustrator:

Fuuji Takashi

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about Ariana.

Prior Knowledge: Ask students, "What is something that makes you feel magical?"

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [vocabulary guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "Let's read to find out what makes Ariana Grande magical."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- How do you think Ariana felt performing in front of a crowd?
- What does the author mean by this quote? "You see it, you want it...so you get it!"
- How does music make Ariana feel?



Think Aloud: "Hmm... I notice that music is really important to Ariana. Look here—something sad or scary is happening (point to the dark page). Ariana uses her music to help her feel brave and strong. When she sings, the dark turns into something bright and magical (point to the light page). I even see a little tear on her face, which shows she's feeling big emotions. I think the author wants to show us how music can help someone through a tough moment."

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "Ariana showed us that music isn't just something she loves, it's magical, too. What are some ways Ariana compares music to magic in the story? What clues do you see in the pictures or words that help you think that?"

Extending Our Thinking: Using [RIF's Main Idea and Graphic Organizer](#), have students find the main idea of the story and use details from the text to support it.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more titles about embracing individuality:
 - [Spotlight on Cynthia Erivo \(2025\)](#)
 - [Every Body: A Celebration of Diverse Abilities \(2023\)](#)
 - [Free to Be Elephant Me \(2021\)](#)