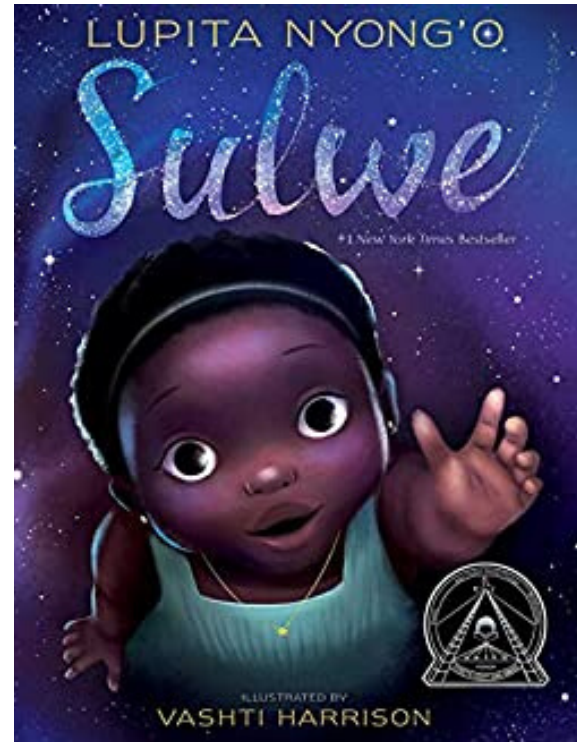




# SULWE

## LUPITA NYONG'O

Sulwe's skin is darker than everyone else in her family's skin. At school she also has the darkest skin, and the other kids make fun of her and give her nicknames based on her skin color. She feels like she is ugly and wishes her skin was a different color. She does everything she can to change it before she finally learns that true beauty and brightness shine from within.



### Questions:

1. Do you look like your parents and siblings? How would it feel to look different from everyone else in your family?
2. Has anyone ever teased you or given you a nickname based on the way you look? Was it nice or mean? Did it feel good? Were they trying to hurt you or trying to be funny? Is it okay to be mean if you're trying to be funny?
3. What would it feel like to hate something about how you looked that much? Is how you look something you can change? Will eating lighter foods or using an eraser help her? What could help her feel better?
4. How would it feel if most people were only saying mean things about you? How does she feel when the kids at school tease her? With so many negative voices, could she really feel her mom's voice calling her beautiful?
5. Even though night is different from day, does it still have ways it is beautiful?
6. What would it be like to live with it always sunny and bright outside? What would be different? Would you like it? Would everyone like it?
7. "You don't know what it's like to be treated badly for being dark." This happens to a lot of people in America- they get treated worse because their skin is dark. Is that fair? Is it right? What can we do to make sure that doesn't happen anymore?
8. Do we need nighttime? Does night's darkness mean she isn't helpful and good?
9. After she hears the star's story, Sulwe feels better about herself. Does her dark skin mean that she is not bright and beautiful and worthy of love and friendship? Now that she knows how beautiful she is inside, do you think she will make more friends? Is it more important what other people think about her or what she thinks about herself?
10. If you went to school with Sulwe, would you be her friend?