



2Fish: (a poetry book)

Jhené Aiko Efurú Chilombo

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Grammy nominated singer/songwriter Jhené Aiko Efuru Chilombo has developed and refined a method of emoting through writing. *2Fish* is a collection of intimate poems (and a few short stories) written by Chilombo from adolescence to adulthood, in no particular order. The book details Chilombo's thoughts in their most raw and honest form taken directly from a collection of notebooks she has kept since age 12.

2Fish: (a poetry book) Details

Date : Published December 19th 2017 by Ulysses Press

ISBN :

Author : Jhené Aiko Efuru Chilombo

Format : Kindle Edition 144 pages

Genre : Poetry, Nonfiction

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From Reader Review 2Fish: (a poetry book) for online ebook

Diep says

I'm probably very, very biased but I love Jhené with all my heart and soul. Words cannot explain how much her music and she as a person mean to me.

2fish definitely made me cry twice, I'm not gonna lie. Jhené has this incredible talent of expressing herself through her words, lyrics, poems. I'm in awe, honestly.

I might have to re-read this book a few more times to understand what she's really trying to say to us.

Other than that, I hope to see more poetry books of hers in the future.

TW for addiction, drug abuse, death

Naydia Westerman says

Incredible Depth

This collection has her soul and her mind woven in between the words. *69Fish* made me cry - such innocence and depth. I appreciate the ways she shared the moments that shaped her. It made my mind remember the things I do and the moments I share with my children can weigh heavy. First collection with SO many bookmarks. Read it people!! I patiently wait for more.

Bobbieshiann says

you every read something and have to take your time to understand it, and once you do, it seems like you have unlocked every hidden message?

in the beginning i was just like okay but then i started to hear

her cry for help. her heartbreak. she was losing so much of herself while also dealing with deaths.

she looked for answers through drugs. looks for answers through death but only coming close to meeting it. you try not to live but you wake up everyday and have no choice but to figure it out. ("never over dose, wakes up to war outside".)

when she shares her heartbreak she does not share it in as a intimate relationship with a lover. she speaks of losing her brother and how hard it is to cope. you can read how fresh her pain is and how opioids was her drug of release. a release that was not real. it caused more pain. an addiction that drowned her in sorrow and suicidal thoughts.

as a fan, her music has always moved me but this poetry book and her latest album together really are a TRIP. we are all suffering and wanting to be heard. we just have to find a way to ask for it.

What the Fluff says

This was overall a nice poetry collection. The illustrations were very nicely done; this little book has a lot of heart.

The style of many of these poems are, like other reviews have pointed out, more like song lyrics than poetry. These poems sometimes seemed "unfinished".

I felt like some of the writing had clichés, and made the poetry seem like beginner-level-needs-editing work. However, it was still so heartfelt and honest that the positives outweighed the negatives.

I guess it must have been a sizing mistake, but much of the handwritten parts shown were zoomed in too close, and words were cut off.

I feel like the poems about the writer's brother dying, and the grief that ensued, will stay with me in particular. I understand Jhené Choolombo when she writes about how the bond between siblings can never be matched by any other relationship. I also admire her passion for perseverance. No matter how bad it may seem, you will see the sunlight.

Main themes/subjects include: love, relationships, body image, family, grief, depression, drug use.

Juleah says

It took me a while to finish the book bc I really took my time and I actually read it twice because I wanted to really understand what she was saying. The way Jhené writes, 3 ppl could be reading the exact same thing but interpret it in 3 different ways. I love the complexity yet simplicity of it. She's a collection of paradoxes. She is but she isn't. She's up but she's down. She makes perfect sense and none at all. Jhené belongs to no one.

This book is all about...coping in my opinion. She's dealt with the loss of her brother, her grandmother, and even herself. She's very vulnerable in this book and I appreciate that. We definitely see another side to her. I especially love how she wrote a poem about my all time favorite rapper. I'm sure y'all can guess who.

If you're new to poetry, most of her poems may go over your head. Don't expect to understand what you read right away. Really think about what she's saying and the context in which it's being said.

I recommend everyone to read this book.?

Michelle Arredondo says

Read this as soon as I got it (late on my review). To be honest, I read this...loved it...read it over again...still loved it. Gave it to my teenage daughter to read because she is the biggest Jhené Aiko fan and she loved it. The beauty of this poetry collection...is that it is not just a book of poetry. It's like a journal...a personal journal and I love that style when it comes to poetry books. It's just so special to open a book of poetry and find much more than lines of words. Poetry books are often scarce in content...a few pages...minimal use of the entire page. Poetry books are often to the point....just poetry. But this book and it's style had more. I loved the snippets of entries. I loved the little doodles and sketches. If you know her music you'll learn that it's very much in that style...she has a way with flow, a way with describing things poetically but not over done. You can read something that seems like it could be easily written by yourself because it's that to the point....and then you read further and can clearly understand why she is the grammy nominated songwriter. Just beautiful...I wish it was over 1,000 pages.

Thanks as always to the wonderful people of goodreads, Jhen Aiko Efuro Chilombo, and to Ulysses Press for my free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review to which I gladly and voluntarily gave.

Tricia Pham says

I am a big fan of Jhene Aiko and after reading this poetry book, I was able to have a glimpse of what she went through in life. I was able to implement her poetry to my life experiences as well. A very short book, but well worth a read for those who enjoy poetry about love, loss, motherhood, and life.

sirenadelsol says

Feb 1, 2017

I am afraid I am not good enough
to deserve anything great
I can not stop comparing

Im afraid I will never get it right
Im afraid I will give up before my time

I am afraid I am losing myself to my addictions
I am afraid
I am addicted to everything

I need so much attention
but also, so much space
I am afraid that I will push everyone away

So far best poetry book I've read in 2018

Sylvia says

*Simply haunting and beautiful.
So full of emotion and pain.
Lovely.*

Michelle Risa says

jhené aiko is one of my favorite artists of all time. her voice is therapeutic, as well as her lyrics. the way she puts so much of her soul into each of her songs has resonated with me for the past few years. some of her songs remind me of old friends, past relationships, good experiences, bad... when i heard she was going to organize her poems into a book, part of her M.A.P., i was so excited and i knew i had to read it. i was gifted

this book from a friend for christmas and i could've read it all in a single day, but i took my time instead. i feel like she just really puts herself out there in everything she does. i learn more about her with every song and every poem and every video. i relate to her so much even though we have totally different experiences. this poetry book was really nice, and i hope she continues to publish more of her poems and stories.

Daniel says

I guess this wasn't really for me. But, I'm not going to pull any punches here. I found the writing juvenile and syrupy and full of contrived sentiment. I found it immature in longing for things that only make sense to you when you haven't ever had anything of substance in your life. And I found it dumb.

Now, in the interest of fairness, there was one "fish" that I did really like, the one about buying coats for the skeletons in your closet. That one worked. And it worked well. But it is too little for me to surmise that this poet has any real ability beyond the overly sweet, wafer thin feelings she spreads on the pages.

The rest of the poems? Meh. This book is like listening to a double album that has only one great song on it. At least it's short and won't take up the kind of time listening to a double album would take. So, it's got that going for it.

Your mileage may vary, and I can see how many readers would like the author's points of view. But they're not for me. I prefer a poem with a sharp, dirty, serrated edge that's going to hurt when it plunges into your heart. These were mostly plastic butter-knives. They bend when they hit your chest and barely leave a scratch.

One last note: when I read and reviewed this book, I didn't know that it was the work of a very young person. I just knew that there was a buzz around it and that people were talking about it in glowing terms and I had to find out why. It makes sense now. It reads exactly as what it is.

Alvini says

It's simply beautiful and touching everytime she talked about his bro?

Lizz says

Wow! This book was amazing, from the first page to the last page. After reading this I learned so much about Jhene Aiko; from losing her brother to using drugs. Even though I cannot connect with her specific life struggles, I was able to connect with her poetry in other ways.

Everyone should read this book!

RastaMone says

Ive been a Jhené Aiko fan since the beginning of time and now that I have read this book I love her even

more. 100% this book was filled with paradoxes and I loved every bit of it. As women growing from a child into an adult we go through a lot of changes and the list of those changes could go on forever. Reading this book I seen a lot of myself in Jhené and I couldn't ever be more grateful that she wrote this. Ones with a certain level of understanding or overstanding will appreciate the lovely paradoxes written in this book. So, thank you Ms. Jhené your music and soul are appreciated. ?

Chapter by Chapter says

I have been a huge fan of Jhene Aiko's since for years, and years, and when I first saw 2Fish in stores, I knew that I had to pick it up. The collection of short stories and poetry were so personal to their author and honestly changed the way that I view an artist who I've respected, and looked up to, since I was young. Everything about 2Fish was intimate, beautiful, and raw. This was a book that made me emotional. It was fantastic.

The content in 2Fish looks at Jhene's experiences with substance abuse, the loss of her brother, her past romances, and past experiences in her life. There are a lot of hand-written notes in the poetry book of familiar lyrics that she's written—and anyone who listens to her music would quickly recognize them, including references to songs from her latest album Trip. I found that 2Fish was so well-thought out and honest. It was absolutely, stunningly beautiful.

Jhene's talent with words are evident throughout 2Fish. There were so many poems that ripped out my heart, and made me so emotional. Her writing was beyond relatable, especially when it came to the poems she wrote about her late-brother. The way she describes the relationship between she and her brother perfectly describes the relationships, and emotions, shared between siblings. The poem '43Fish' brought me to tears (after reading it I was crying until I was finished the book). There is just so much emotional depth to 2Fish that help to make it such a worthwhile reading experience.

I would recommend 2Fish to readers who are fans of Jhene's music. To any readers who are looking for a heartfelt and emotional poetry book, this is the read for you. To any readers who want a poetry book that is raw and real, you won't want to put this one down.
