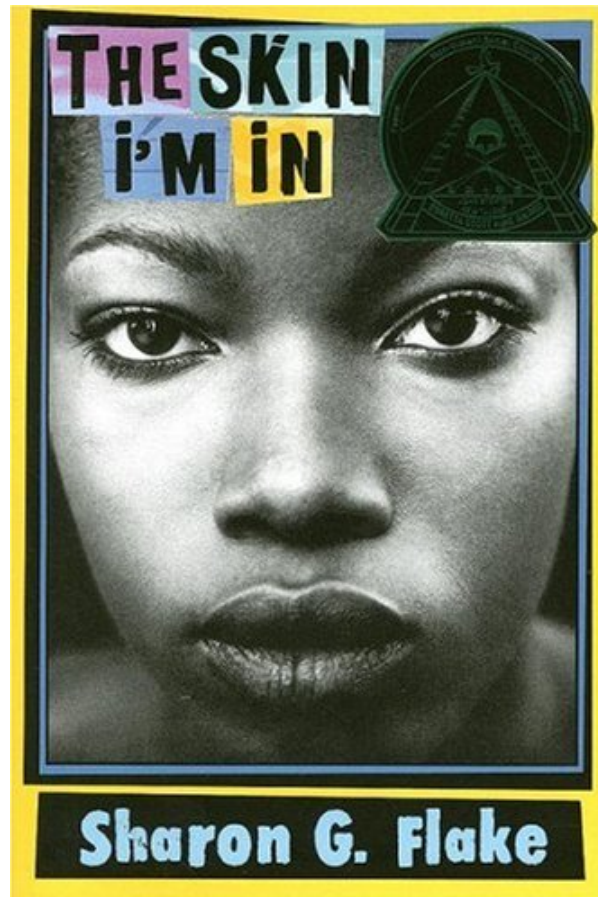
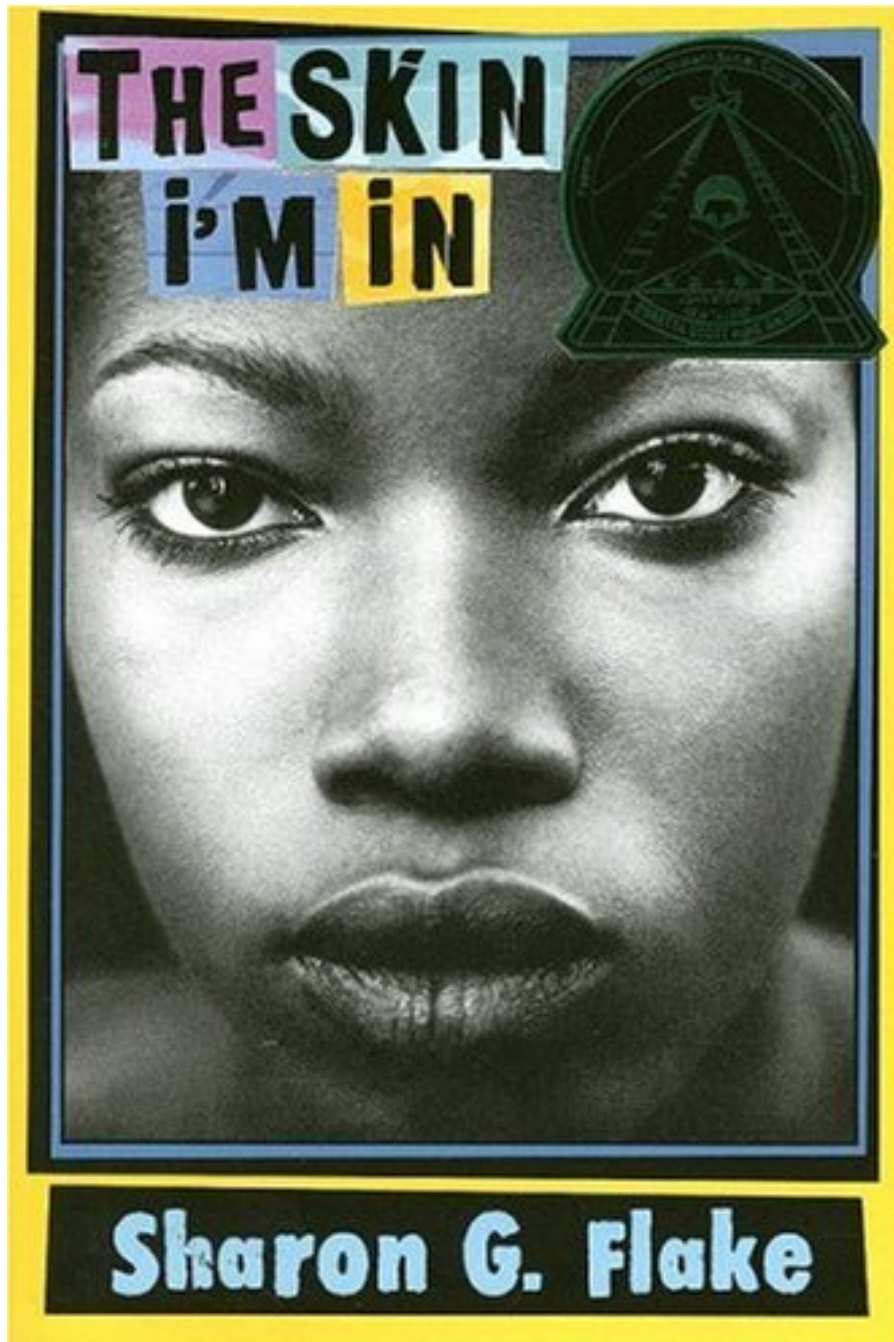


THE SKIN I'M IN BY SHARON FLAKE



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From School Library Journal

Grade 6-8-Seventh-grader Maleeka Madison is miserable when a new teacher comes to her depressed inner-city school. Miss Saunders evidently is rich, self-assured in spite of the white birthmark across her black skin, and prone to getting into kids' faces about both their behavior and their academic potential. Black and bright, Maleeka is so swamped by her immediate problems that Miss Saunders's attentions nearly capsize her stability. The girl's mother has just emerged from a two-year period of intense mourning for her dead husband, during which time her daughter has provided her with physical and moral support with no adult assistance. At school, Maleeka endures mean-spirited teasing about the darkness of her skin and her unstylish clothing. She seeks solace in writing an extended creative piece, at Miss Saunders's instigation, and also in the company of a powerful clique of nasty girls. Told in Maleeka's voice, this first novel bristles with attitude that is both genuine and alarming. The young teen understands too well that her brains aren't as valuable as the social standing that she doesn't have. In the end, she is able to respond positively to Miss Saunders; she also becomes socially anointed through the affections of the most popular boy in the school. This message rings true in spite of the fact that Maleeka's salvation isn't exactly politically correct. Young teens will appreciate Flake's authenticity and perhaps realize how to learn from Maleeka's struggle for security and self-assurance.

Francisca Goldsmith, Berkeley Public Library, CA

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About the Author

Sharon G. Flake won the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Award for her first novel *The Skin I'm In* and is a two-time Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book winner. Beloved by children and adults, critics and booksellers, librarians and teachers, she is the author of a middle-grade novel and five books for young adults that have sold more than half a million copies. The mother of a college-age daughter, Flake writes full-time from her home in Pittsburgh.

To learn more about Ms. Flake, please visit her at www.sharongflake.com.

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THE SKIN I'M IN BY SHARON FLAKE PDF

Maleeka suffers every day from the taunts of the other kids in her class. If they're not getting at her about her homemade clothes or her good grades, it's about her dark, black skin.

When a new teacher, whose face is blotched with a startling white patch, starts at their school, Maleeka can see there is bound to be trouble for her too. But the new teacher's attitude surprises Maleeka. Miss Saunders loves the skin she's in. Can Maleeka learn to do the same?

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- Binding: Paperback
- 176 pages

Features

- Great product!

From School Library Journal

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To learn more about Ms. Flake, please visit her at www.sharongflake.com.

Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Nice book

By Antonio P.

I purchased this book "The Skin I'm In" because I needed it for school. I have bought similar products before and have never been satisfied. I am so pleased with this purchase I made because the product exceeded my expectations. It performs very well and is constructed with quality materials. I will be definitely buying more in the future and will also recommend friends and family to buy this product. It has only been a few days since I use it but so far I do not have any complaints. The product was also very well packaged which protected it from shipping and handling damages.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Necessary Read

By K. L. Burchett

Maleeka Madison didn't always feel bad about herself. It was the taunting and teasing of her peers that caused her to feel like she was nothing because she had dark skin. Besides making fun of her complexion they teased her about her hair and her clothes and they even picked on her because the teachers liked her and because she got good grades. It seemed like there was nothing she could do to be accepted.

Then one day Maleeka created a fictional character for an English assignment. Eventually, this made up slave girl helps Maleeka find the courage to speak up for herself, demand respect and accept the skin she's in. This story shows just how much some young people have to deal with and how cruel other young people can be. The message Flake makes very clear: Self acceptance is much more important than social acceptance.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Interesting and Different

By Michelle

My 13 year old and I read this book outloud together. She seem to enjoy it and found it interesting. I did also. Clever and age relate able.

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From School Library Journal

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