



## Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet)

By Lorenzo Pace

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**Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet)** By Lorenzo Pace

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## **Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet) By Lorenzo Pace Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Noted sculptor Pace makes a stunning children's book debut. Disarming in its simplicity, his narrative conveys complex themes in a fairy tale structure. "A long time ago in Africa," reads the left-hand page of the first spread, opposite a childlike outline of the continent in orange, clearly labeled, which vibrates against a cherry-red background. The next two spreads continue, "a little boy named Jalani/ loved to play in the forest." Jalani's smiling face dominates his portrait; the forest is a grove of lollipop trees. In these three spreads, Pace introduces the key elements of his story. Like other classic fairy tales, the forest, once a child's magical kingdom, becomes a source of terror; this is the scene where "a strange man came and took him away." Pace marks Jalani's transition into life as a captive in America with a single word, "Locks," paired with the image of a padlock so carefully rendered that it seems to be animated on the page. The compositions depict Jalani's fellow field hands but never his oppressors, and his memories sustain him until he is finally freed. He keeps the lock, however, and hands it down to his eldest son "so they would never forget from where they all came." Based on the biography of Pace's own great-great-grandfather, the volume ends with a photograph of the lock. In his choice to adhere to a child's vocabulary and view of the world, Pace conveys the childlike hope that kept Jalani and his past alive. Ages 8-up.

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From [Booklist](#)

Ages 3-5. Pace's picture book tells the history of slavery for young children with a few simple words and big, childlike illustrations. It begins almost like a scary fairy tale. A little boy named Jalani loved to play in the forest. One day a strange man comes and takes him away in a boat to a far-off land, locking him in chains and forcing him to work. Jalani never plays again. After many years, freedom comes, but he keeps his lock, which he passes on to his grandchildren to pass on. Background notes on the last page, which will interest a much older audience, explain that the lock is real. It originally shackled Pace's great-great grandfather, and a bronze replica of it is interred in Pace's African Burial Ground Memorial Sculpture in New York City. The details about the memorial and the burial ground will move children and those who read to them as much as the elemental history of the child torn from home. *Hazel Rochman*

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About the Author

Dr. Pace is an accomplished and renowned sculptor. Throughout his career, he has worked with a broad range of objects and materials. His sculptures, installations and performance art have received international acclaim and he has exhibited in galleries and museum all over the world. In 1993, Dr. Pace skyrocketed to national attention when he was commissioned to build a monument at New York City's Foley Square paying homage to the African slaves originally buried at that site. In 1991, the remains of over 400 African slaves were excavated during the construction of a federal building in the city's financial district. The City of New York wanted to create a memorial and Dr. Pace was chosen. He worked on this project for nearly ten years. The result is the beautiful 300-ton granite sculpture named "Triumph of the Human Spirit." A duplicate of the lock that Steve Pace passed down to his descendants is buried in this monument. He is presently a professor of art at the University of Texas.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Shawn Farr:**

Throughout other case, little individuals like to read book Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet). You can choose the best book if you like reading a book. Given that we know about how is important a book Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet). You can add understanding and of course you can around the world by a book. Absolutely right, mainly because from book you can understand everything! From your country till foreign or abroad you will find yourself known. About simple matter until wonderful thing it is possible to know that. In this era, we can easily open a book or even searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You can use it when you feel bored stiff to go to the library. Let's examine.

#### **Gerard Williams:**

Your reading 6th sense will not betray anyone, why because this Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet) book written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who also read the book. Written with good manner for you, leaking every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still question Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet) as good book but not only by the cover but also by the content. This is one publication that can break don't judge book by its handle, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this particular!?! Oh come on your examining sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

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#### **Mario Curtin:**

In this age globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to you personally is Jalani and the Lock (African American Quartet) this reserve consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how does the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some research when he makes this book. Here is why this book suitable all of you.

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