

## ADVANCE INFORMATION SHEET

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### *'The Mysterious Melody' by SP K-Mushambi*

The Mysterious Melody tells of the first adventure of Naniso and Shinga. They are 10-year-old twins living their ordinary life in England when they stumble upon a Mbira, or thumb piano, a traditional instrument from the land of their ancestry. This discovery and the melody that comes from it ignites a curiosity about their somewhat unfamiliar Zimbabwean heritage and they begin to explore its fables, tales, music and legends. In this story and in their subsequent adventures with their friends, Naniso and Shinga weave through the tapestry of their multi-cultural inheritance and begin a journey of discovery into what makes them who they are.

#### About the author

Portia Mushambi, writing under the pen name SP K-Mushambi, is a finance professional turned first-time author. Inspired by her experience of growing up in Zimbabwe and raising children in the UK, she enjoys sharing the rich and vibrant culture of Zimbabwe with her daughters, especially as they do not have the opportunity to encounter it daily, as she did. Portia believes that we are all multi-cultural, whether it be through heritage or via association. She aims to touch the hearts and minds of young children of all backgrounds with positive representations of Africa within literature and artistic output.

Since publication in July 2019, Portia has participated in book markets and festivals, including some hosted at The British Library (Africa Writes) and The Royal Festival Hall (Africa Utopia). She has facilitated workshops for a summer Youth Residential Program and will be running workshops as part of the First Bracknell Literary Festival this October.

Portia is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (SCBWI)

#### Reviews:

"This is packed with all the vital ingredients of a children's book – mystery, intrigue, exploration, family relationships, working together and learning about heritage and culture. This book is worthy of a place on all bookshelves."

Daniella Blechner, Founder, Conscious Dreams Publishing Ltd

"It is so refreshing to have such a high quality read for kids who don't get to see themselves represented that much. This book is well written, the graphics are good, and my kids enjoyed it, looking forward to the next one. Kudos to the author."

Amazon reader, parent review

#### The Essential Details



**Category:** Children's Literature (6-11)

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Paperback – 02 July 2019

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**Price:** £9.99

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