

Foreword Review PICTURE BOOKS

## Wanjiku, Child of Mine

Ciiku Ndung'u-Case Karen Vermeulen, Illustrator Catalyst Press (Aug 6, 2024) Hardcover \$17.99 (32pp) 978-1-960803-01-6

Vibrant, textured illustrations accompany this eloquent picture book about embracing your identity. Wanjiku grows up in a Kikuyu village in Kenya. She helps her grandmother tend to the goats and cows and learns about the origin of her people and her name. When her family moves to Nairobi, she becomes "Catherine"; though she wonders at the city, she feels disconnected from home. At boarding school, though, she bonds with women from different cultures and is thankful for a place to be Wanjiku once again.

## DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (July / August 2024)

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