Practical and easy to understand, this is a useful resource that will assist facilitators with the implementation of multicultural storytimes into everyday library programming. Published by the American Library Association, the content is also relevant to Australasian audiences. The introduction gives an overview of the increasing cultural diversity occurring in our communities and how all storytimes should reflect this change. Rather then offering multicultural storytimes to celebrate special events or holidays, the authors offer a new paradigm in which all storytimes should reflect the diversity evident in our communities regardless of the topic.

This resource encourages the facilitator to introduce children to a wide variety of cultures and experiences as an everyday occurrence through hands-on ideas, including book recommendations, activities, craft ideas, finger plays, songs and flannel boards. Materials for two- to three-year-olds are marked with an asterisk. It is possible to print full versions of all the illustrations, games, flannel boards and worksheets from the Multicultural Storytime Magic Web Extra page at www.alaeditions.org/webextras/.

The work covers 44 popular storytime themes such as ABC Time, Bedtime, Books and Libraries, Bugs and Insects, Counting, Fairytales, Fast and Slow, Holidays and Celebrations, Shopping, Transportation, Under the Sea and Weather. It would be possible to mix and match the resources to develop your own unique programme. These resources all relate to diversity in society and abilities, and there is a particular reference to deaf children and culture.

There is a good cross section of resources recommended. For example, Theme 16 is Farm Fun and lists four books from Vietnam, Cuba, Chile and Hungary, a flannel board in Spanish, a German immigrant song, various finger plays and songs in Spanish, Japanese, Chinese and Native American and an activity in Spanish. These are all easy to understand even if you are not familiar with the language or culture.

Sourcing some of the books that were recommended by the authors seemed problematic in Australia, though they could easily be substituted with other available resources. Indigenous resources and oral histories of different cultural groups evident in the community could easily be substituted in these areas.

Appendix A gives the reader a very simple overview of the individual cultures and a list of books referred to in the resource. This is handy if you want to focus on a particular country, as all the books across the various themes are listed. Although this is a good quick reference guide, I recommend that the facilitator do more research into the individual cultures rather then relying on the information in this appendix. Appendix B is a list of storytime resources.

_Multicultural Storytime Magic_ is a valuable and practical resource that would assist any storytime facilitator to easily implement diverse resources into everyday storytimes.