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# Nelson Mandela



## Synopsis

This stunning picture book biography of Nelson Mandela by Kadir Nelson is a recipient of the Coretta Scott King Honor award. In this lush, acclaimed book, award-winning author-illustrator Kadir Nelson tells the story of global icon and Nobel Peace Prize winner—Nelson Mandela—in poignant free verse and glorious illustrations. It is the story of a young boy's determination to change South Africa, and of the struggles of a man who eventually became the president of his country. Mandela believed in equality for all people, no matter the color of their skin. Readers will be inspired by Mandela's triumph and his lifelong quest to create a more just world. Resources in the back include an author's note and a bibliography listing additional sources for readers who want to find out more.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 960L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Katherine Tegen Books; International ed. edition (January 2, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061783749

ISBN-13: 978-0061783746

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9 x 12.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 43 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #67,460 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Political #42 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #45 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Social Activists

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Gr 1-5-This picture-book biography matches Mandela's outsize achievements with large, powerful images, resulting in a presentation that will seize and hold readers' attention. The front cover features a portrait of Mandela that fills the space. His pleasant but determined expression immediately projects a sense of strength. The title and author move to the back cover so as not to compete with the opening image. A stark graphic design incorporating black, green, yellow, and red, colors from the South African flag, on the title page helps set the stage for the narrative. Nelson's

paintings range from poignant, when Mandela's mother tells him good-bye as he leaves home for more education at the age of nine, to exuberant, when Mandela and 100 men arrested for protesting apartheid respond by dancing and singing, to inspiring, when people organize rallies demanding his release. When freedom finally comes, "a colorful sea of people" celebrate. Mandela's heroic struggle might be new to many children today, and Nelson's dynamic treatment provides enough detail to give a sense of the man and to acknowledge his important place in history. -Lucinda Snyder Whitehurst, St. Christopher's School, Richmond, VA (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Starting with the full-page cover portrait, this glowing picture-book biography offers a celebratory introduction to Nelson Mandela's life for young readers. Clear free verse and handsome, unframed paintings follow the iconic leader from his tribal childhood and his work as a young city lawyer through his political leadership against the brutality of apartheid, his long imprisonment, and then the triumph of his election as president of his country. The story doesn't mention conflicts both political (the splits in the anti-apartheid movement) and personal (the bitter rift with his daughters), as well as the continuing inequality South Africans face. Still, words and images bring close the cruel apartheid segregation in daily life, including one double-page spread of Cape Town's glorious beaches with the sign that reads White Area. Then there is the view of prisoners on Robben Island hammering rocks into dust. In contrast, the final pages show today's nonsegregated beaches and people of all races standing together free at last. A long final note fills in more. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** With an internationally beloved leader as its subject and a multi-award-winning artist as its creator, this title is sure to be on every library's must-purchase list. **Preschool-Grade 3.** --Hazel Rochman

I would not have known about this book except that the author/artist was interviewed on the NewsHour (PBS) at the time--it was last week--of Nelson Mandela's death. I don't have the vocabulary to describe the artwork. But when one reviewer says she was disappointed because this is a children's book (yes, of course it would be sold as one), I can only say that this book is for everyone who has a love for the life and work of Nelson Mandela. This is a book that you can count on as being just one of those absolutely perfect gifts. The text is straight forward, but it is the art work that is so awe-inspiring.

I bought this book for my first grader. It is a wonderful book about Nelson Mandela. It is wonderfully

illustrated and written. I highly recommend this book for all elementary age kids.

I purchased two copies of this book as holiday gifts for two young boys just before the passing of Nelson Mandela, and I'm so glad I did! The illustrations are outstanding and bring the story to life! This is an excellent way to educate a young child on the life and legacy of this great leader in a captivating and meaningful way! I wish this illustrator would also produce a coffee table book of great leaders for adult consumption!

Beautiful book. Inspiring story. I first saw this book at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. I donated it to my granddaughter's school library.

Loved it. Vivid colors. Easy reading. I read this on Nelson Mandela's birthday to children ages 5-12 who attended a summer Camp program. The book allowed for great discussion.

Great read and great illustrations! Kadir Nelson is a very talented artist and author. But the illustrations are just too good in this book, just awesome! And by the way his other books will blow you away also, check em out.

I bought this book to encourage my kids to learn about Mandela. The pictures worked for those who could not read that well, excellent short reading for the ones who don't like to read, and the story was told and understood brilliantly short with pictures

I bought this BEFORE the death of Nelson Mandela and was so glad to have it at school on the day of his death. The artistry is amazing. A toddler looked with me at this book and college students enjoyed it too. This one will undoubtedly win awards!

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