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Journey To Ellis Island: How My Father Came To America



Synopsis

As the huge ship pulled into New York Harbor, Jehuda and his family quickly gathered their few belongings. Looming ahead of them was a giant green statue, and beyond lay the huge city. Jehuda thought to himself, So this is America! Jehuda and his family have struggled through hunger, poverty, and war in their Russian homeland. They even lost their beloved father and a sister to the fighting. Thankfully, Jehuda's brother moved to America, and was able to send his mother and siblings money for passage on a ship. Now, armed with a few bags of clothing and a traditional teapot, the family is grateful to be heading toward their new life in New York.

Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 and up

Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

Carol Bierman is a teacher of American Immigration and Holocaust classes. She lives in Rockland, New York. Laurie McGaw is the illustrator of the award-winning Polar the Titanic Bear, as well as Discovering the Iceman and Secrets of Vesuvius. She lives in Mulmur Hills, Ontario. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a thoroughly enjoyable book bought to use as a read aloud for HOAC Lapbook. We got to see (some of the images are burned in my mind) what it was like for one family coming to America and why they wanted to come. I found as I pre-read it that I couldn't put it down because I really

wanted to know what was happening with this family, how were they going to make it, and would they be accepted (despite the title's giveaway). I feel this was money well spent. I heartily recommend it over *Coming to America* by Betsy Maestro which I didn't find nearly as enjoyable.

This book was described as having a binder easy to read and cost approximately \$49.00 and when I received it it was not in a binder form and it had only 47 pages with a price tag of \$6.95. I was totally ripped off.

Good information and an interesting journey, but when I got it for my wife she asked if it was a children's book. Has many nice pictures and a good narrative. jafmusicmix.com

My third graders loved this! Very informative and emotional. I have added this book to my file to use every school year.

This review is from Debbie, Paul, Ryan and Melissa. We all modelled for the illustrator, Laurie McGaw, of this book. It was a wonderful experience since some of our grandparents left Russia and Poland because of the war and we felt we could relate to the people in the book. The book has been presented to our children's school in conjunction with the Holocaust unit. Teachers and kids alike found the book to be very interesting and beautifully illustrated. We recommend it to all nationalities and ages. It is not only a book about Jewish people, but also a book about what any immigrants coming to North America might have experienced.

This true story written from the perspective of an 11-year-old immigrant, truly sums up the immigrant perspective. My 4th grade students, journaled each day as if he or she were the central character, and begged for each of the five chapters. This book alone, replaced a 4-week unit that I had used previously to emphasize the impact of immigration on our state. Written by the author's daughter, with photos showing then and now, it is wonderful. FYI: We used, as the final journal entry, an account written by Yehuda when he finds his journal 70 years later and recounts the years since arriving in America.

I worked at a senior center that Julius went to. His daughter did a great job getting his story down in print for future generations to hear and understand. I just pulled out my copy he gave me for my son to share with his class who are studying that time period. Bring the history alive.

The story reads well for any student needing to understand the trials and tribulations of people immigrating to the U.S. Important character traits are developed and their importance in reaching a goal are emphasized. The artwork makes a dramatic statement to anyone who opens the book. Elementary students should be attracted by this outstanding feature. As a school director and recently retired teacher, I purchased a copy for each of our elementary libraries because of the quality of this book.

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