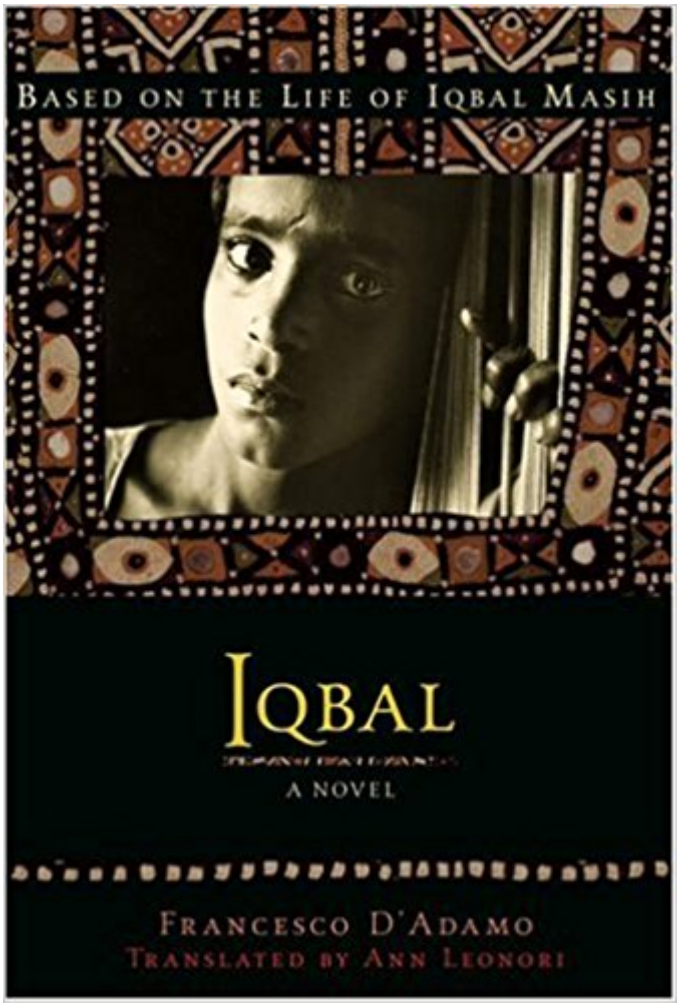
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Iqbal



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Synopsis

When young Iqbal is sold into slavery at a carpet factory, his arrival changes everything for the other overworked and abused chidren there. It is Iqbal who explains to them that despite their master's promises, he plans on keeping them as his slaves indefinetely. But it is also Iqbal who inspires the other children to look to a future free from toil...and is brave enough to show them how to get there. This moving fictionalized account of the real Iqbal Masih is told through the voice of Fatima, a young Pakistani girl whose life is changed by Iqbal's courage.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730 (What's this?)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Aladdin; Reprint edition (July 1, 2005)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.6 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 79 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #14,853 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #9 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia #30 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Grade 4-7-Thirteen-year-old Iqbal Masih was murdered in his Pakistani village in April, 1995, a few months after he had received an international prize and traveled to Sweden and the United States, speaking about his six years as a bonded child in Lahore carpet factories. The murderers-perhaps part of the "Carpet Mafia"-have never been caught. In smoothly translated prose, D'Adamo retells the boy's story through the eyes of a fictional coworker. Also sold into servitude to pay her father's debt, Fatima worked in Hussain Khan's carpet factory for three years and had forgotten almost everything about her previous life. She had grown used to the long hours, the scanty rations, the heat, and the cramped quarters of a life spent tying carpet knots and sleeping beside her loom. She

and the others in the workshop are stunned when Iqbal appears and tells them that their debts will never be paid. He tries to convince the children that their situations can change and he escapes to the market where he hooks up with members of the Bonded Labor Liberation Front. Fatima doesn't come alive as a character in her own right, but the situation and setting are made clear in this novel. Readers cannot help but be moved by the plight of these youngsters. This thinly disguised biography makes little effort to go beyond the known facts of Iqbal's life. Nonetheless, his achievements were astounding, and this readable book will certainly add breadth to most collections.Kathleen Isaacs, Edmund Burke School, Washington, DCCopyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Gr. 4-7. This moving docu-novel, translated from the Italian, adds a new dimension to the recent biographies of Iqbal Masih, the brave young activist who brought global attention to the appalling facts of contemporary child labor. Told from the fictionalized viewpoint of Fatimah, a young Pakistani girl who toils alongside Iqbal in a carpet workshop and is inspired by him to rise up, the personal story is a close-up view of the power of Iqbal's cause and the anguish of his death. The harsh facts will rivet readers. Fatimah tells what it's like to be rented as a child to a cruel master, her small fingers valued for their flexibility in weaving. Foreign clients come to buy the carpets and barely notice her. Iqbal's artistry thrills the master, until Iqbal cuts his carpet, runs away, and shows Fatimah--and the world--the necessity of rebellion. D'Adamo frames the story with an introduction about child workers now and a terse epilogue about Iqbal's murder ("He was about thirteen"). The writing is simple yet eloquent. Hazel RochmanCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

This book was a required read for my 6th graders and there was some rumblings from other parents about it. Thus I decided to read the book and make my own opinion and determination for my son. IT IS A MUST READ FOR ADULTS AND YOUNG ADULTS! I believe we all need to read books about other cultures to better understand world cultures and how our world here in America differs from those aboard. In addition, understand the courage Iqbal had to endure and to never give up on finding freedom (for him and others like him). What a great message for our kids to learn - courage to stand up for what is right and understanding other cultures outside of the U.S.

I used this as a read-aloud in my 6th grade class. The kids were riveted - such a moving and appropriate book to address the big issues of child labor and exploitation in a way that is accessible

to elementary students. Wonderful book!

I homeschool my 7th-grader, and I assigned this book to him for history class. My son was captivated by the main character of this book who is willing to sacrifice anything in order to be free. This book provided my son with invaluable insight into the lives of child laborers in underdeveloped parts of the world. No textbook could have accomplished the same. My son and I highly recommend this book to others.

My daughter had this as summer reading. She read it enthusiastically and really enjoyed it. The story is a fictionalized account of a real child and his struggles to free children from slave labor. It is well written and appropriate for kids 9 or above.

This is an excellent book for children ages 10-12. I bought this book in hopes of reading it to my 4th grade English students, but the school at which I work in the Middle East has too many unfortunate restrictions on course materials. However, if I were teaching in the US, I would not hesitate to read this book to my students or to recommend it for their reading list. This well-written book provides children with an opportunity to consider childhood struggles and children's abilities not only to triumph over those struggles, but to also make the world a better place for other children.

clean book in good shape and quickly delivered. only problem was with website promotion that "included" itself in my order causing me to pay for two and receive two books when i only wanted or needed one. i'll add them to my classroom library. heartwarming story of perseverance and short lived triumph that lends credence to the saying that "silence is compliance" I cried.

This was a required purchased for school. My sons did not enjoy the book, I guess because of the story line.

I'm using Iqbal's story in a middle school reading class. Our topic is child labor around the world. They are enthralled with this story.

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