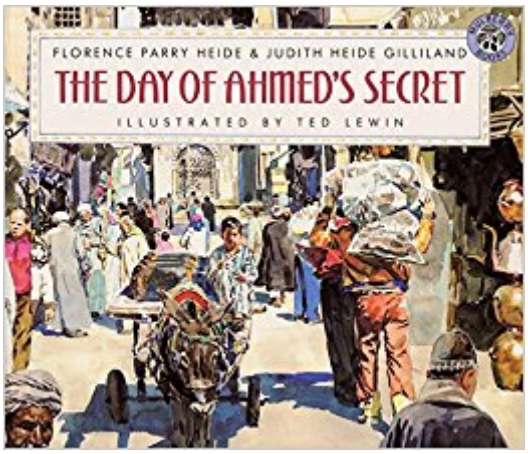
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Day Of Ahmed's Secret



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Synopsis

The Day of Ahmed's SecretAs young Ahmed delivers butane gas to customers all over the city of Cairo, he thinks, I have a secret. All day long, as he maneuvers his donkey cart through streets crowded with cars and camels, down alleys filled with merchants' stalls, and past buildings a thousand years old, Ahmed keeps his secret safe inside. It is so special, so wonderful, that he can reveal it only to his family, only when he returns home, only at the end of the day.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD810L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 1st Mulberry ed edition (April 25, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0688140238

ISBN-13: 978-0688140236

Product Dimensions: 10.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #96,472 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #61 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #114 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

In this admirable introduction to life in an alien culture, readers are whisked to the busy streets of Cairo--where young Ahmed is making his daily rounds on a donkey cart, delivering large canisters of butane gas. The city is presented through his eyes, and text and illustration work together in harmony to produce a sense of place so vivid that readers can almost hear the cry of vendors in the crowded marketplace and feel the heat rising from the streets. On this particular day, Ahmed carries a secret with him (he has learned to write his name in Arabic), one children will enjoy trying to guess. The authors have produced fluid prose, and Lewin's sensitive, luminous watercolors hint at the mystery and timelessness of this exotic city. Ages 6-9. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ahmed has monumental news to share with his family, but first he must complete the age-old duties of a butagaz boy, delivering cooking gas to customers all over Cairo. The juxtapo sition of old and new is a repeated theme in Heide and Gilliland's thought ful story of a young boy living in the bustling metropolis surrounded by thousand-year-old walls and buildings. His philosophical musings as he steers his donkey cart on his appointed rounds could be those of any youngster, living in any age, waiting for the appropriate moment to share his special secret. En hanced by Lewin's distinguished pho torealistic watercolors, the sights, sounds, and smells of the exotic setting come to life. Sweeping double-page spreads reveal the sun-bleached streets, pedestrians bearing all manner of bundles, and colorful market stalls. At home at last, surrounded by his lov ing family, Ahmed demonstrates his newly acquired facility, proudly writing his name in Arabic. Life goes on in the hectic, noisy cities of the world regard less of a day's news and yet, the bound less energy and promise of youth rein force the ideal that anything is possible. Ahmed's story is a joyful celebration of that spirit.-Luann Toth, School Library JournalCopyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.
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I gave this a 5 star rating for many reasons: the book arrived much earlier than expected and in perfect condition! I bought a few copies to give as gifts for friends in teaching/childcare professions and for friends who are having kids of their own. I recently went to Egypt to travel around, and after being there, and reading this book, I can't imagine a book having better illustrations. The font is classic black color and great size (easy to read and not distracting for kids at all). I can't write enough about the illustrations- they are so incredibly lifelike, that you really feel like you're in the streets of Cairo while reading it. I would recommend this book for gift giving, or for kids 4th grade and under. I would also recommend this for anyone who wants to spark a curiosity and appreciation for cultures in children at an early age.

ExcellentÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â|my 4 year old grandson "got it". Powerful cultural messageÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â|gently conveyed. Marvelous illustrations.

This is a very sweet book. I got it because I wanted my book-loving, half-Arab children to read good quality books with Arab characters, and I wasn't disappointed.

This book is well written and illustrated and will always be a constant reminder of my days living and

working in Egypt. I have gladly shared this book with many of my friends and colleagues and will continue to do so. Proud to add it to my collection of memorabilia of my life in Egypt.

This is a beautiful, quiet book with gorgeous watercolor illustrations. I love this book, but unfortunately my preschoolers had no interest in it. Oh well, I will treasure it!

A

Lavishly illustrated. Throughout the bustling city of today's Cairo, young Ahmed rides his donkey cart, past buildings a thousand years old. The sights and sounds of the city fill the day, and when at last Ahmed hurries home, young readers will be excited to learn the secret Ahmed has been waiting to share with his family - he has learned to write his name!Teachers/Librarians: wonderful for K - 6th grades. Those 5th and 6th graders would love seeing how their name looks written in the Arabic script. Ask an Arab parent or someone in your community to do this for your class, or send your class set of names (first names only) to this reviewer and I'll write them out, scan them and send them back to you. (Include your grade level and name/location of school please.)

I agree with the many positive reviews posted here, so will not cover the same ground. I picked this up intended for a gift for a child but ended up keeping it for myself. The pictures are so beautiful and real -- obviously the illustrator has been to Cairo. I feel transported to the streets there when I go through the book. And what a charming tale, too. I was happy to learn from one review that there are two more books in the series and will plan to get them. And I am going to get a hard cover version of this book, because as someone else pointed out, this is a keeper. Just added my post so that people without children would consider adding this book to their libraries if they enjoy looking at lovely pictures of old Cairo and of average Egyptians and/or would enjoy reading a sweet story about a poor Egyptian boy and his family.

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