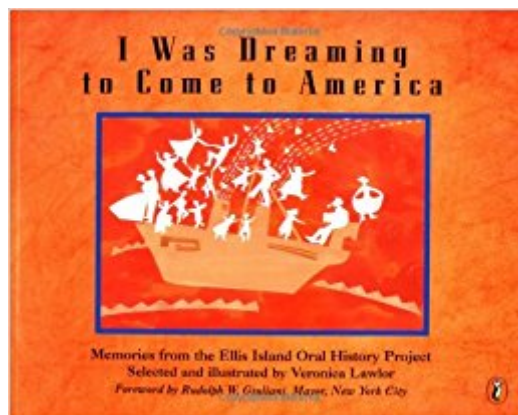




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I WAS DREAMING TO COME TO AMERICA: MEMORIES FROM THE ELLIS ISLAND ORAL HISTORY PROJECT (PAPERBACK) 1997 PUFFIN



Synopsis

In their own words, immigrants recall their arrival in the United States. Includes brief biographies and facts about the Ellis Island Oral History Project. In their own words, coupled with hand-painted collage illustrations, immigrants recall their arrival in the United States. Includes brief biographies and facts about the Ellis Island Oral History Project.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 950L (What's this?)

Paperback: 48 pages

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Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

Lawlor's debut, a picture-book collection of pieces culled from the Ellis Island Oral History Project, is visually and emotionally stunning. In 15 carefully chosen excerpts, immigrants from various ethnic backgrounds recount their reasons for coming to America and describe their feelings about leaving their country, about making the trip or about arriving on a foreign shore; all but two of the narrators were under 20, one only six at the time of their voyages. Whatever the circumstances, each vignette reflects a strong sense of hope. Lawlor's handpainted paper collages are equally powerful. Their haunting images are strikingly set against ecru-colored pages that bear faintly printed motifs from the pictures they border. Spare details—a girl floating past Lady Liberty, a figure literally putting down roots in two lands—capture these travelers' turbulent emotions. This selection gives credence to the reminiscences of an Ellis Island inspector: "In those days there were crying and laughing and

singing all the time at Ellis Island." Ages 12-up. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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Grade 4-6? Begun in 1975, the Ellis Island Oral History Project is an informal collection of interviews with individuals who immigrated to the U.S. through Ellis Island. Short selections?each 1 or 2 paragraphs long?from 15 of those interviews are reprinted here. The subjects were for the most part children when they arrived in the period 1900-1925. One was future Israeli leader Golda Meir. Many of the selections describe the facility itself; others talk of family and feelings. Opposite each remembrance is a striking, childlike, hand-painted collage; both are superimposed on a beige-toned reproduction of the collage picture. This is an attractive offering, but beyond mere browsing it may lack an audience. Other books geared to specific immigrant groups, such as the Hooblers' The Irish American Family Album (1995) and The Italian American Family Album (1994, both Oxford) contain similar information quoted more extensively.?Diane S. Marton, Arlington County Library, VA Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Veronica Lawlor's joyful and brilliant illustrations marry with wonderfully chosen quotes from Ellis Island immigrants to create an imaginative and powerful set of vignettes. This unique book is a personal, concrete, and fanciful window into a pivotal time and place in America's history. Highly recommended!

Amazing book! Great illustrations and sweet story. Must get!

This was a good lesson resource for teaching Ellis Island. My students even made their own pictures after reading this book.

The product arrived on time and was well packaged. My wife has been baking some wonderful loaves of artisan-type rye, white and whole wheat breads. They are very crusty, and we had experienced some difficulty finding a product that could handle the crust. This product worked extremely well, cutting through the crust with ease. We are very pleased with our recent purchase. i love it , good product with high quality. very comfortable and very fine . fine.

This is a lovely looking book. Both the art and the memoirs of individuals who came to the United

States through Ellis Island are arresting. At the same time, there's a certain boredom that comes from reading one snippet after another. Somehow, it seems that this book needs something more in order to work well, though I can see it being used in history classes or writing classes as a book from which students would get ideas for more in-depth work.

This is a book of quotes from Ellis Island immigrants. It's interesting, but you don't really get in to any one person's story enough for it to be dramatic.

It's a really pretty book. I really advise you to buy it. The images are both personal, unique, as well as intelligent.

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