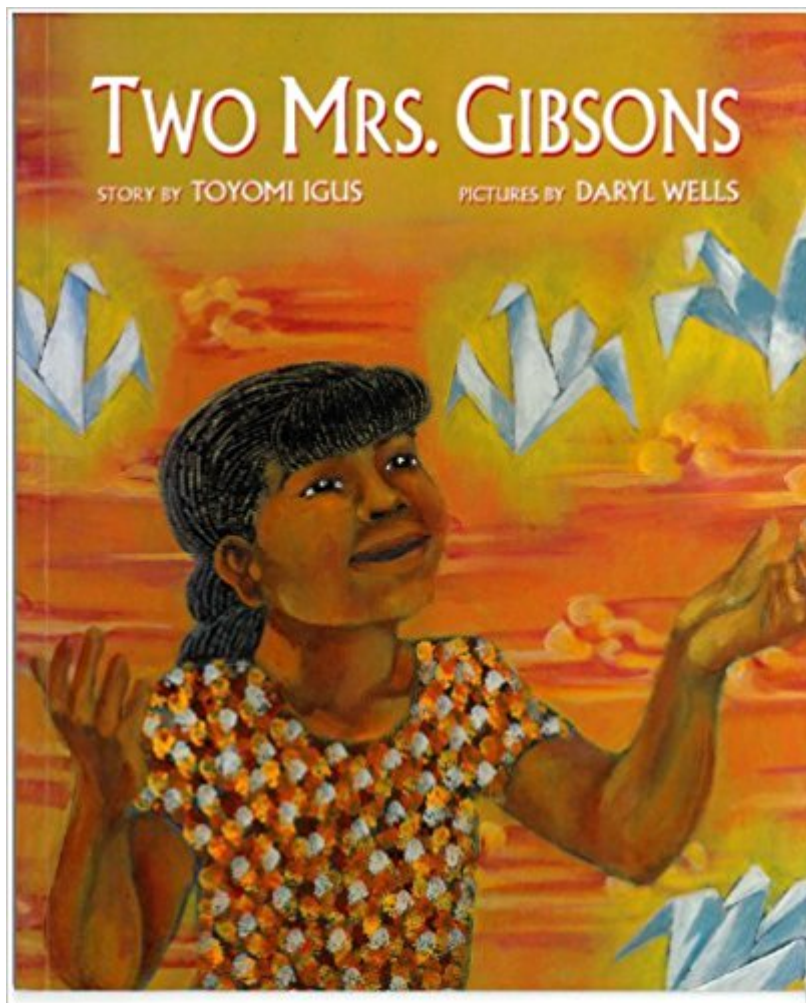


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# Two Mrs. Gibsons



## Synopsis

Two Mrs. Gibsons is author Toyomi Igus's tender and touching tribute to the two most important women in her life her Japanese mother and her African American grandmother. From memories of her grandmother's big bear hugs to her mother's light down-filled comforter hugs, from listening to her grandmother's lively spirituals to her mother's soft lullabies, from playing with her grandmother's fancy going-to-a-Sunday-meetin' hats to trying on her mother's kimono, Toyomi celebrates the joys and rich diversity of growing up biracial.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD530L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Lee & Low Books (September 9, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0892391707

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Product Dimensions: 7.7 x 0.1 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #164,602 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in Books > Children's

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Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American

Age Range: 6 - 7 years

Grade Level: 1 - 2

## Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 3?A narrator describes her life growing up with her African American grandmother and Japanese mother. She contrasts the women's habits, attitudes, and personalities, and the activities she shares with each. The story is a loving mood piece, telling of strength through difference as together mother and grandmother provide a loving and nurturing environment. Igus's simple, affecting prose speaks directly to the heart and is well matched by Wells's warm, lush paintings. An aura of the suburban America of a few decades ago pervades these folksy illustrations, mirroring the text in both tone and detail. Multicultural in the best and most basic meaning of that much-abused term, Two Mrs. Gibsons will be prized for independent reading and

group sharing. ?John Philbrook, San Francisco Public Library Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ages 5<sup>^</sup>-8. There are two Mrs. Gibsons in this young girl's life, and she remembers both of them lovingly. The older Mrs. Gibson has skin the color of chocolate, big hands, and a big voice, and she gives big, fat hugs. The younger Mrs. Gibson has skin the color of vanilla, writes Japanese, and cooks the family food from her homeland. It is not until the end of the book that readers discover that the first Mrs. Gibson is the girl's grandmother, while the second is her mother. This probably will be a surprise to those too young to figure out the relationship, but even without that pertinent bit of information, children should enjoy getting to know these women. The story does get repetitious at times; however, sturdy, detail-filled paintings will help hold attention. An author's note tells readers that this is Igus' personal story. Ilene Cooper --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Two Mrs. Gibsons" is very special to me because I have a Japanese mother and black father...just like the girl in the story. I found this years ago and it really touched me because I wished I had a book like this when I was younger...not to mention the racial mix is not common. I do not have children yet, but I have purchased this book as gifts for several of my friends for their mixed race children. I think it is important to have these kinds of stories read to children of any race...especially for children of mixed races to identify with.

Reading rainbow introduced me to this book when I was five. I didn't come across it again till I met my wife many moons later. As we are an interracial family, I will be sure to be reading this book to our children in the future. Igus writes with an elegant, yet simple, style.

When I read this book to my 6 year old granddaughter, she didn't quite get the final description of the relationships but it came to her very quickly. The character description is wonderful and the moral of the tale beautifully portrayed. Eve can read this on her own but loves having it read to her (with all the voices acted.) I never tire of reading it.

My class really loved it!,

This is a story (well, not much in the way of a plot...) about the author's mother and grandmother,

and how through their differences they were, in many ways, the same. There's not much of a story there, but still, I liked the book quite a bit.

Toyomi Gibson writes about the two most important and influential Mesdames Gibsons in her life. One is her mother who is Japanese and the other is her paternal grandmother who is black. She draws beautiful contrasts and cultural bonds between the two women; for example she describes the Japanese dinners her mother makes and the soul southern cooking she enjoys when she eats with her grandmother. Her mother is delicate and petite; her grandmother is husky and stout. Her mother is known for her quiet anger whereas her grandmother has a booming voice that she also uses for singing in church. Both women encourage the young Toyomi to explore her rich ancestry; her mother has kimonos tied with obi sashes for her to play dress up in and her grandmother has a wide collection of hats she wears to church. Although the two women look nothing alike and have contrasting expressions, they both love Toyomi and her father. *My Two Grannies* is a good companion book to this one. This book also features a child who is biracial and her two grandmothers who love her very much. I can't recommend this one highly enough.

This book, *Two Mrs. Gibsons* is about a little girl who describes two Mrs. Gibsons. Which one appears to be her mother and the other her grandmother. She describes both Mrs. Gibsons. She loves both Mrs. Gibsons and in the story she describes the two women's different personalities. She describes her grandmother as a color skin of chocolate and her mother color skin like vanilla. It's a great book because it is descriptive. It contrasts a lot about both Mrs. Gibsons. Although the two women look nothing alike and have contrasting expressions, they both love Toyomi and her father. I think if people read this book they will like it as much as I liked it.

This book is about a girl who describes the 2 Mrs. Gibson's she knows. One who is her Japanese mother and the other who is her African American grandmother. She writes about the memories of her grandmas big bear hugs and her mother light down comforter hugs. How she listened to her grandma's lively spirituals, and her mother's soft lullabies. She also remembers playing with her grandmother's fancy going to Sunday meetings and trying on her mother's favorite kimono. This is a great book because the author talks about 2 special women in her life that loved her and took care of her through out her childhood.

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