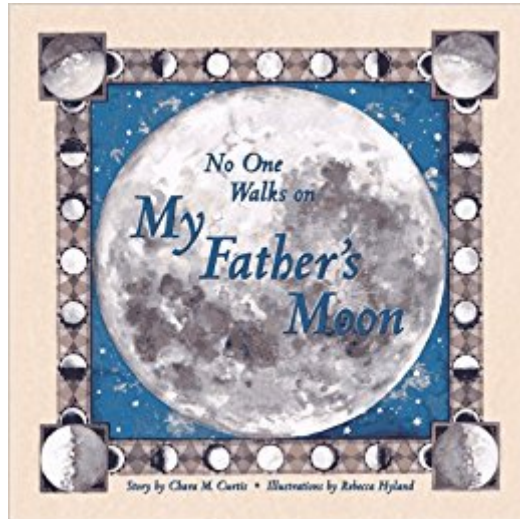


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No One Walks On My Father's Moon



Synopsis

There once lived a boy who was eager to learn all this great world could teach him. (From the text.) Recommended for ages 9 through adult. A boy races home to share the exciting news with his father: a man has walked on the moon! But he is hurt and bewildered by his father's reaction. *“No man can walk on the face of God's shining light!”* Seeking only to understand, the boy learns to reconcile scientific discovery with religious poetry. He learns that *“in truth is the many in one,”* and allows that truth to return him to love. The story could be written of any time or place where truth is perceived as *“either/or.”* In this tale of father and son, the conflicts of generations, cultures and creeds are viewed from the depth of understanding and heart of compassion that have endeared Ms. Curtis to readers worldwide. Rebecca Hyland's illustrations resonate with the sensitivity that has made *No One Walks on My Father's Moon* a treasure, utilized in university-level Children's Literature/Critical Theory classrooms and discussed in articles such as that which appeared in Tikkun Magazine in Spring 2010 (<http://www.tikkun.org/article.php/mar2010wend-walker>). *No One Walks on My Father's Moon* was honored in 1997 with the Washington State Governor's Writers Award.

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

A Turkish schoolboy's excited announcement about the first lunar landing enrages his Islamic fundamentalist father, who is convinced that the news cannot be true and beats the boy for lying. When the father holds out his hand afterward for his son to kiss, in keeping with custom, Curtis explains in characteristically over-earnest tones that "the beating had hurt the boy's heart even more than it had hurt his body, and so his lips felt cold and numb against his father's hand, the warm blood of love no longer flowing through his veins." A wise teacher comforts the grieving boy by suggesting that the moon is different for each person who sees it. The teacher's conclusion, "in truth is the many in one," helps the boy understand his father's point of view and achieve reconciliation. The story's point, that one can respect and love another even if he or she holds beliefs contrary to one's own, makes less of an impression than the great pomp and circumstance with which it is delivered. While the book is attractive to look at?it's handsomely designed and Hyland's watercolors are set off by elaborate borders?stressing the worthiness of a given message isn't necessarily the right strategy for appealing to a child. Ages 9-up. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 4⁺-8. The tension between science and religion is movingly dramatized in this picture book set in Turkey and based on a true story. A young boy is thrilled to hear that a man has walked on the moon, but his Islamic father beats him severely for the blasphemy of challenging the Koran. "No one can walk on the face of God's shining light!" his father cries in rage. The boy is furious with his father, but with the help of a kind teacher, he comes to realize that although only one moon revolves around the earth, it is a different moon for each one who sees it. The message is too heavily spelled out, with much talk of feeling your pain and healing. But many readers will recognize the conflict between generations and between different ways of knowing, whether the subject is the moon walk or evolution or Genesis. The framed watercolor paintings are beautifully detailed, placing one boy's stirring story against scenes of the traditional village, the modern schoolroom, the scientific facts, and the religious vision. Hazel Rochman

I was a little concerned at the beginning but it was a good lesson for both parents and children alike.

My daughter read it aloud to me twice. I could see that she was moved. This is an excellent book for youngsters who are trying to make sense of different opinions, who are exposed to several world-views. It's a story about inter-generational understanding. A special book for sensitive, searching young souls.

A touching account of growing up and moving on while honoring our parents for what they could and did give us. It is also a reminder that we cannot know the lens of others unless we are open to allowing them to tell us.....and we need to trust and live through our own heart's knowing.

It's a great book if you are pro-child abuse! Here is some of the excerpts from this book I find DEEPLY disturbing: About the boys father, "and with that, he grabbed the boy and beat him until he was too weak to utter a cry." And then there is the VERY worst part where the child goes to school to tell his teacher what had happened and the book's states "The teacher left the boy alone to cry his tears, for this is what a hurting child must do if he is to heal." Absolutely appalling that the book is actually advocating that a teacher leaves a beaten child alone to cry in pain stating that this is the only way a child can heal from the experience of child abuse. Then it leaves the child to have to be the one to investigate and justify the cause of his child-abuse, understand the complexities of child abuse and to come to the conclusion and understanding that what his father did was ok because his father believed it to be ok and that it was the child who was the one who was wrong for not being sensitive to the father's beliefs and therefore deserved what happened to him. In any culture, religion or creed this book gives a misguided, violent and disturbing interpretation of generational beliefs that even go so far as to advocate violence, victim-blaming, teacher's ignoring the abuse and a pro-child-abuse-in-the-name-of-religion stance. I can not believe this was written to begin with let alone sold and even sold on !

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