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Genghis Khan (Illustrated Biography)



Synopsis

As a boy, Genghis Khan inherited the role of leader after his father's death. As a man, he earned it by fiercely protecting his people, no matter the cost, and by demanding total loyalty from those he led. His is a story of courage and survival, sacrifice and death. The boy who became the great Genghis Khan would take his people from the brink of survival to near-world domination and lead the largest empire ever created in the lifetime of one man. Based on both history and legend, Demi's classic story takes readers into a world of battle and victory and shows why Genghis Khan has gone down in history as the greatest conqueror of all time.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 970 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: Two Lions (March 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0761455477

ISBN-13: 978-0761455479

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.5 x 10.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 40 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #810,464 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #122 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Asia #1252 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical #4182 in Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4th - 7th

Customer Reviews

Demi describes this handsome but problematic life of the Mongol leader generally known as Genghis Khan as her own "interpretation...based upon both historical resources and folklore." Emphasizing his heroic deeds, genius as a leader, and the sheer magnitude of his empire, she conjures up a warlord to inspire pride, as Diane Stanley did with Shaka, King of the Zulus (1988); like Stanley, she focuses more on the glory than on the gore--the tyrant's horrendous other side. Demi's illustrations are rich with shining gold; they have an elegant simplicity of design and subdued colors suitable to the subject's gravity. The small, simply represented figures, though derived from oriental art, at times seem inappropriately childlike, while the playful camels and horses (especially

on the endpapers) are downright coy. Though the book as a whole is beautiful, the style tends to trivialize the subject. Perhaps it's curmudgeonly to complain of the heroic treatment of a national hero; after all, *The White Stag* (1937) celebrated Attila the Hun, yet won the Newbery. What Demi includes here is fascinating, well-researched, and contains a good many harsh truths. Still, much is omitted, and it's worrisome to present children with such a positive picture of a military leader whose wars were typified by one source as "ruthless carnage." (Biography/Picture book. 7-12) -- Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Demi was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and now lives in Yarrow Point, Washington. Demi is the author and illustrator of more than one hundred children's books, including picture-book biographies. Her work has received numerous awards and accolades.

I've read this book more than once. In simple language, it explains the complex world of the Mongolian Genghis Khan. Best for 4th or 5th grade level readers.

Just know if you read this to children you will have some graphic scenes come up. I enjoyed it as a historical piece and learned something new!

This was very well illustrated and written. I love Demi's work and I am sure you will too! It was great even in kindle.

My son likes it.

I'm not sure why, but every word with "fl" or "fi" is missing those letters. Also, although the pictures seem nice, they are very small, and you can't enlarge them. So, not a very good Kindle book. Maybe the hard back is better. The story and picture are nice, just not suitable for ebook.

The print is so small and light I can't even begin to read it. Even some of the figures are too small. It's too bad because it could have been an enjoyable book and I might have bought others in the series.

I read this with my sons today. They loved it and so did I. The artwork was beautiful and the story

well-written. We will read this again.

Demi's illustrations are stunning! Great way to introduce such "epic" figures in history. I have never been disappointed by any of her books! I am a former elementary librarian.

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