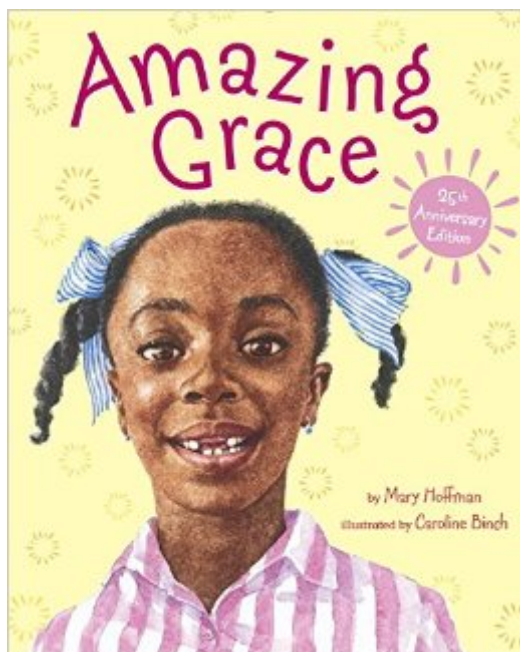


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# Amazing Grace (Reading Rainbow Books)



## Synopsis

Grace loves stories, whether they're from books, movies, or the kind her grandmother tells. So when she gets a chance to play a part in Peter Pan, she knows exactly who she wants to be. Remarkable watercolor illustrations give full expression to Grace's high-flying imagination.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 680L (What's this?)

Series: Reading Rainbow Books

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Dial Books; 1st edition (September 2, 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9780803710405

ISBN-13: 978-0803710405

ASIN: 0803710402

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.3 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (60 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #5,255 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in Â Books > Children's Books >

Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American #24 in Â Books > Children's

Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts #60 in Â Books > Children's Books >

Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Do you need a book that confronts racism, appreciates theater, and shatters stereotypes on a primary level? If so, *Amazing Grace*, by Mary Hoffman, is the book for you. Not only does this book cover the above topics, but it also highlights key items for younger readers, such as reading about individual achievements and moral dilemmas. Grace, a first grade African American female, has an imagination with no boundaries. Grace loves to act out stories that she is told. At school, Grace's heart runs with excitement when her teacher announces that the class is going to do the play *Peter Pan*. Everyone wants to be Peter Pan, which highlights the enthusiasm for theater among these students. However, as Grace wants to be Peter Pan, her classmates tell her first that she can't because she is not a male. The second reason her classmates say is that she can't be Peter

Pan is because she is black. Here lies the racism in this book. The teacher allows each student to take home lines and memorize them to try out for roles. The best would get Peter Pan. In the mean time, Grace's grandmother takes her to a Romeo and Juliet ballet that features a black Juliet. This inspires Grace to go home and learn those lines as best as she can so that she will be the best one in the class. When it is time to try out, Grace is by far the best Peter Pan and the class votes to let her fill this role. This is where the shattering of stereotypes comes into play. Past the social issues, *Amazing Grace* also fulfills the requirements that the Temple textbook states are good children's literature. First, children's literature must speak to the child. Children, especially that would read *Amazing Grace*, are extremely egocentric.

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