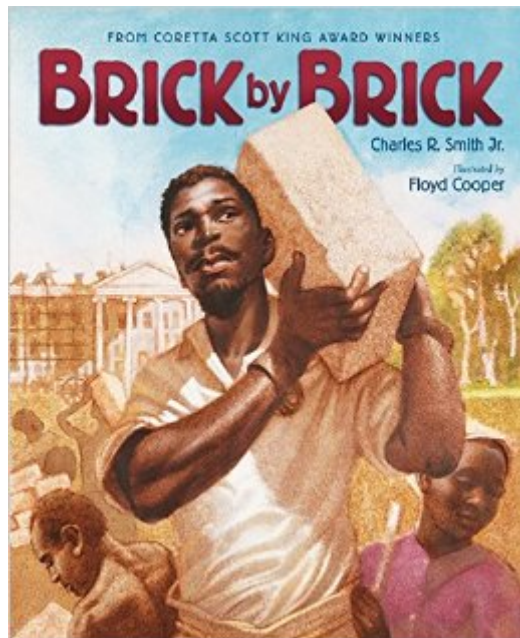


The book was found

Brick By Brick



Synopsis

Coretta Scott King Award-winners Charles R. Smith Jr. and Floyd Cooper deliver the compelling story behind the building of the White House, a powerful part of history rarely taught. The home of our president was built by many hands, several of them slaves, who undertook this amazing achievement long before there were machines to do those same jobs. With an insightful author's note and a list of selected resources, this book supports the Common Core State Standards. Stirring and emotional, Cooper's stunning illustrations bring to life the faces of those who endured hard, brutal work when the profit of their labor was paid to the master, not the slave. The fact that many were able to purchase their freedom after earning money from learning a trade speaks to the strength of those individuals. They created this iconic emblem of America, brick by brick.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Amistad; Reprint edition (January 6, 2015)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #381,990 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Civil War Era #119 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > U. S. Presidents & First Ladies #550 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Sometimes I feel like the older I get the more interesting history becomes. Not that history, real history, wasn't always fascinating. It's just that when I was a kid you couldn't have named a subject duller. And why not? Insofar as I knew, the history taught in my schools gave me the distinct impression that America was a country forged by white people and that folks of any other race would crop up occasionally in the textbooks to be slaves or to appear in internment camps or to

suffer Jim Crow. If anything came up about post-Revolutionary War America it was a pretty dry recitation of more white people doing whatever it was that they did. So for me the recent bumper crop of children's books seeking to undo some of this damage is positively heady. Whether it's works of historical fiction based in fact like "Chains" by Laurie Halse Anderson and "Jefferson's Sons" by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, or fascinating works of nonfiction like "Master George's People" by Marfe Ferguson Delano, we live in an era where kids can get a fuller, if not entirely complete, look at what has typically been a whitewashed era in their history books. For the younger sorts we have, "Brick by Brick", a book that shines a light on something that I'm not even sure my own second grade teacher even knew, back in the day. Doesn't hurt matters any that it's gorgeous to boot. "Under a hazy, / hot summer sun, / many hands work / together as one." The time has come for the President of the United States of America to have a home to live in. So it is that white workers and free black workers are joined by slave labor to get the job done. In highlighting their work, poet and author Charles R. Smith Jr. focuses squarely on the hands of the laborers.

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