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A Grain Of Rice



Synopsis

When a humble farmer named Pong Lo asks for the hand of the Emperor's beautiful daughter, the Emperor is enraged. Who ever heard of a peasant marrying a princess? But Pong Lo is wiser than the Emperor knows. And when he concocts a potion that saves the Princess's life, the Emperor gladly offers him any reward he chooses--except the Princess. Pong Lo makes a surprising request. He asks for a single grain of rice, doubled every day for one hundred days. The baffled Emperor obliges--only to discover that if you're as clever as Pong Lo, you can turn a single grain of rice into all the wealth and happiness in the world! Praise for *A Grain of Rice*: "Clever and quietly told in simple, yet evocative language."-Kirkus Reviews "Pittman invites readers into her story through her choice of concrete objects, sensory images, and universal messages. She borrows from the motifs of oral literature, and also weaves in information about arithmetical progression and 15th-Century Chinese people, patterns, and traditions. Pittman's well executed pencil drawings ooze with emotion, and there is a fusion of text and illustrations...[A] book that is wise and humorous, and one to be perused and savored."-School Library Journal "Gracefully illustrated with finely shaded drawings, this picture book tells of Pong Lo, a poor Chinese peasant who wins the hand of the emperor's daughter through his knowledge of mathematical principles."-Booklist

Book Information

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Paperback: 80 pages

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

In 15th-century China, a humble farmer outwits the Emperor--and wins his daughter's hand--with an ingenious request. Ages 7-11. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 3-8 An original story set on the grounds and in the palace of the Emperor of China during the 15th Century. Pong Lo, the son of a farmer, kneels in the Emperor's court to ask for his majesty's daughter's hand in marriage. Employed as a storeroom worker, Pong Lo sets about to prove that he is "wise and quick and more than a little clever, and would make. . .as fine a prince as China has ever seen." Pittman invites readers into her story through her choice of concrete objects (e.g., the Imperial Storeroom), sensory images, and universal messages. She borrows from the motifs of oral literature, and also weaves in information about arithmetical progression and 15th-Century Chinese people, patterns, and traditions. Pittman's well executed pencil drawings ooze with emotion, and there is a fusion of text and illustrations. A picture book that is wise and humorous, and one to be perused and savored. Shelley G. McNamara, University of Maine, Farmington Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Really enjoyed the book. Thought it was going to take a few to read at bedtime...finished the first night :)

This was one option for our first grade summer reading assignment and we were able to read it in one sitting. My almost seven year old didn't quite understand the whole story, BUT the story itself was a great one, about getting ahead by working hard and using one's wits. I would recommend for probably third grade and up. Part of the story hinges on the doubling of numbers, so also great for applying math skills. Overall a fun little story.

I bought this book to read to my daughter when she was just four, we read it many times. Now, at age 9 she reads this book on her own. She loves that it is not a cheesy Disney princess story and loves how clever and focused the main character is.

The story is great, quite enjoyable to read with our son. I am disappointed with the binding, it's basically a paperback book with hard covers. Not good quality paper for the text block at all, not sure it's worth it buying the hardcover if the inside pages will yellow and turn brittle over time like

paperbacks do.

Great!

My son read this book as part of a book club. He enjoyed it thoroughly. It gave us an opportunity to talk about a different culture. Some of the text describing the behaviors and actions of the characters were a great place to ask text comprehension questions. I enjoyed reading it along side with my son.

My kids at the day care will love this book. We are traveling around the world and we are visiting Japan and China. What a great add the their library.

Amazing tale

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