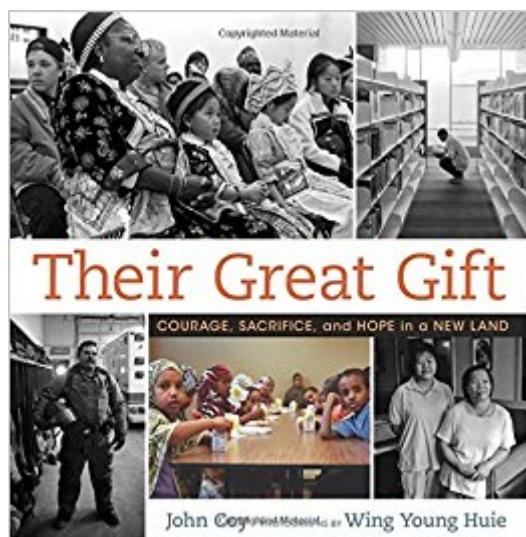


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# Their Great Gift: Courage, Sacrifice, And Hope In A New Land (Carolrhoda Picture Books)



## **Synopsis**

With lyrical text and thought-provoking photography, Their Great Gift explores the experiences of immigrants in the twenty-first century, focusing on the lives of children. Images of families who came to the United States from many different parts of the world celebrate the diversity of our country and contain a vision of hope for the future.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 610 (What's this?)

Library Binding: 32 pages

Publisher: Lerner Publishing Group (March 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1467780545

ISBN-13: 978-1467780544

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.5 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #399,247 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Emigrants & Immigrants #1284 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States #1452 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

K-Gr 4-5 •An attractive and inspiring look at immigration to the United States, sure to spark discussions at home or in the classroom. Coy takes a simple approach with the text, employing only a few words per page, while Huie uses his mostly black-and-white photographs to illuminate the experience of coming to a new country, working hard, making mistakes, and building a new home. The images carry this volume, featuring people of various ages, occupations, and cultural backgrounds. Lacking captions or explanations, the visuals will lead readers to wonder about cultural differences and notice similarities. Coy and Huie describe their ancestors' paths to America in appended notes, and both explain the process of creating this book. Comparable in format to titles such as Global Babies (2007), Maya Ajmera's Our Grandparents: A Global Album (2010, both Charlesbridge), and Rosemary McCarney's The Way to School (Second Story, 2015), this offering

puts a human face on a serious issue. VERDICT An ideal jumping-off place for teachers and parents interested in starting a conversation about a timely topic. -- Jennifer Wolf, Beaverton City Library, OR

"Cleareyed photography . . . joins the intimate, individual family stories to the universal immigration experience with a love for freedom and the responsibility that it requires. . . . A heartfelt reminder of a significant American ideal." --starred, Kirkus Reviews "Coy (Hoop Genius) and photographer Huie (Looking for Asian America) . . . deliver a visual smorgasbord that informs young readers and reminds older ones how the United States was and continues to be made." --starred, Publishers Weekly "An attractive and inspiring look at immigration to the United States, sure to spark discussions at home or in the classroom. . . . [T]his offering puts a human face on a serious issue. . . . An ideal jumping-off place for teachers and parents interested in starting a conversation about a timely topic." --starred, School Library Journal

**Summary:** Each page has 3-6 photographs of 21st-century immigrants. The brief text explains how people have come to the United States from many countries. They may not speak English, they may make embarrassing mistakes, but they work hard and often do the jobs that no one else wants for long hours. They push their children to also work hard and to never give up, with the hope that those children will have opportunities they never knew. The final page asks, "What will we do with their great gift?" Back matter includes photos of the author and illustrator and their ancestors and their stories of how their families came to America, as well as a description of how they came to work together on this book. 32 pages; grades 1-5. **Pros:** Although the text is brief, almost like a poem, the photographs are captivating and will make readers want to spend a lot of time with this book, imagining what life is like for the subjects of those photos. This would be a perfect introduction to a unit on immigration, demonstrating that seeking a new life in the United States has been, and continues to be, an ongoing theme in American history. **Cons:** I wanted to know more about almost every single photograph.

A mother held her two little girls close, thoughtfully bowing her head in prayer. Perhaps they remembered very well where they came from, but wondered what the future held for them. Two Hispanic men lovingly hold up photographs of their families, families that yet have to arrive in America. How long would it be until they see them again? Yet another family gathers around their

table for a traditional Chinese meal. An American flag is tucked behind the wall telephone. They came from faraway lands in search of a better life, a life that wouldn't be easy at first. Smiles and determination light up faces of those who step on our shores. "Their journey was long and difficult / and when they arrived, / they didn't know the language / or how to do certain things." There would be hard work ahead, but it would be worth it. A woman pores over a test book, plugging those answers into a notebook. Ah, that tongue sticking out makes it that much easier! Some people are cruel and have little patience for those who make mistakes. "Others didn't understand how much they'd sacrificed." There was much work to be done. No one shies away from hard work, even those jobs no one seems to want. "They worked long, hard hours at difficult jobs. / They got up early, stayed late / and took the extra shift." So many people needed to send money to those left behind, perhaps so they too could one day come to America. So much to learn, so much to do ... the language is different, the culture so alien, but they were going to make it. Do you know someone who came from another faraway land? Have you welcomed them to our shores? This is a poignant, photographic look at a very diverse group of people arriving in America. I loved the journey through this book, a privileged look inside the world of those who say, "Never give up." Of course we are a land of immigrants and it's a joyous look at the arrival of new ones coming. Young readers will discover that the journey is not an easy one. This book could also serve as a stepping stone to research into one's own past or the history of our nation. In the back of the book we are able to read about the "arrival stories" of both John Coy and Wing Young Huie, each one accompanied by a family photograph. There's also a brief overview of how this book came to be. A marvelous look about the amazing journey of yet a new wave of immigrants. Reading Level: Grade 2 Interest Grade Level: K - 3 Ages: 5 to 9 This book courtesy of the publisher.

This is a much needed picture book about immigrants and what they overcame to get to our great country. Using photographs of old and some new, this rich book showcases their struggles and tenacity to make a life for themselves. Poignant book and a mustread. Written by John Coy, photographs by Wing Young Huie and published by Carolrhoda Books. #PB #NG #courage #immigration #sacrifice

A great picture book that is not just for little kids. It is a close up look at immigrants and their

families. Outstanding photographs by Wing Young Huie! The message is so clear with the words and images telling the story of what it is to be an immigrant in the United States. The hardships, the work and the love of family.

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