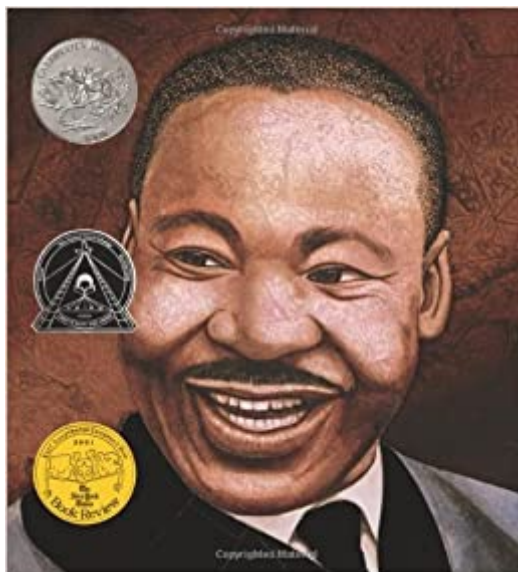


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# Martin's Big Words: The Life Of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



## Synopsis

This picture-book biography is an excellent and accessible introduction for young readers to learn about one of the world's most influential leaders, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Doreen Rappaport weaves the immortal words of Dr. King into a captivating narrative to tell the story of his life. With stunning art by acclaimed illustrator Bryan Collier, *Martin's Big Words* is an unforgettable portrait of a man whose dream changed America-and the world-forever.

## Book Information

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Lexile Measure: 610 (What's this?)

Series: Big Words

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Hyperion Book CH; Reprint edition (December 18, 2007)

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Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 128 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #26,359 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Religious #4 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Multiculturalism #13 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > United States

## Customer Reviews

In this elegant pictorial biography of Martin Luther King Jr., author Doreen Rappaport combines her spare, lyrical text with King's own words for an effective, age-appropriate portrayal of one of the world's greatest civil rights leaders. From King's youth, when he looked up to his preacher father and vowed one day to "get big words, too," to his death at a garbage workers' strike ("On his second day there, he was shot. He died."), Rappaport imbues the story with reverence. Acclaimed artist Bryan Collier depicts his subject with stunning watercolor and collage illustrations, balancing glorious recreations of stained glass windows with some of the more somber images of peace marchers and the famous bus that pitched Rosa Parks into the civil rights movement. A brief chronology and bibliography provide additional resources for readers. Here is an exquisite tribute to

a world hero. (Ages 4 and older) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This picture-book biography provides an ideal introduction to this leader and his works. Juxtaposing original text with quotes from King's writing and speeches, Rappaport's (Escape from Slavery) narrative offers a pastiche of scenes from King's life, beginning with his childhood experience of seeing "White Only" signs sprinkled throughout his hometown. He questions his mother about their meaning, and she assures him, "You are as good as anyone." Listening to his father preach, the boy asserts that "When I grow up, I'm going to get big words, too." Rappaport also touches upon King's role in the Montgomery bus strike that followed Rosa Park's 1955 arrest for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger and his subsequent efforts as a civil rights crusader. After briefly describing the circumstances of his death, the story concludes, quite abruptly, with the statement, "His big words are alive for us today." The author relies on her subject's own words, and his power, passion and pacifism shine through. Collier's (Uptown) striking watercolor and cut paper collage art feature closely focused, lifelike images of King and other individuals against an inventive montage of patterns and textures. The portraits of King exude his spiritual strength and peaceful visage. In the background of some scenes are intricate recreations of stained glass windows, which, Collier explains in an introductory note, he interprets as a metaphor for King's life. An elegant, understated pictorial biography. Ages 5-9. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Wonderful book! We bought a ton of copies and gave them away at our annual MLK celebration to families that came with children. The books were a huge hit and we ran out in 15 minutes! We plan to do the same thing next year. The great thing about this book is that it works for a large age range. Kids who are 4 years old can grasp the concepts as someone reads to them and it can hold the attention of a 12 year old as well. On top of that, the artwork is incredible and possibly my favorite part of the book. This is not a detailed account of the life of MLK, but it does provide the highlights and captures them in a way that portrays his message very well. Buy it! You will not regret it.

This book was recommended as part of a unit on MLK so I borrowed it from the library to use with my students. It was amazing to watch their reactions as we talked about his life and what happened in the world during that time period. I had students that were in tears at the end of this unit! It is an amazing book that give a great snapshot of his entire life and the importance of what he did. I had to

buy it!

Book: Martins Big WordsThe Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, JrBy: Doreen RampartIllustrated by: Bryan CollierDecember 19 2013 Martins Big Words; The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by Doreen Rampart and Illustrated by Bryan Collier. "Martins Big Words-The Life of Dr.Martins Luther King,Jr." by Doreen Rappaport and Illustrated by: Bryan Collier, discusses some of the important things that took place during his life up to his death. A wonderfully illustrated picture book nestled with facts of Martin Luther King Jr's early life and to his early demise with quotations taken from different parts of his life to back up each small statement. When Martin was young he remembered seeing signs that said "White only" but he then would Remember what his mother told him " you are a good as as anyone", which is was more than true cause he would grow up to play a great part in history and a part in the Civil rights movement. The quote made Martin happy, but so did listening to his father at church preach which had a profound influence over him. He said " when I grow up I'm going to get big words, too", and he did.Martin Luther King Jr. was a man fighting for peace and non-violence amongst demonstrations during the civil rights movement. He had faith that prejudice would be erased and the "white only" signs would come down an "sooner or later, all the people in the world will have to discover a way to live together.".Black Americans protested for equal rights but white politician's administers ordered them to stop and when they refused they were arrested. Over three hundred years fighting for equality and the end of prejudice was going to take longer and for being murdered for the skin color that wasn't excepted by the white community. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. reminded the world that "Love is the key to the problems of the world.". Eventually more Americans were listening and actually understanding, and then his words were heard all around the world and listened to his dream that all people around the world will one day treat each other as brothers and sisters no matter what color of their skin. It was a great day for him to win the noble peace prize in 1964 teaching people to fight with words and not with weapons, unfortunately not everyone felt that way in 1968 he was shot and died.The author and illustrator weave together a story to help children understand what took place in a trying time during struggle for civil rights. The beautiful collage style imagery draws you in and helps strengthens the message of story. A great way to introduce a young one to a historical figure and a powerful time in history, with a message that speaks volumes.

Martin's Big Words: The Life Of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is a picture book and so much more than that. The illustrations in the book are extravagant and story telling all in themselves. Illustrator Bryan

Collier, really captures the feelings and emotions in every person's eyes. You can feel the pain and heart in all the pictures of Dr. King and even in the children. The stained glass murals are breathtaking and capture the reader's mind. This book could have gone without having any words in it and I would still use it as an informational and inspirational book for a classroom. However, author Doreen Rappaport added a tale that set this book above the standards and won it an award. Rappaport sets the mood correctly and tells the story of the legend we know; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This book is informative in all the right ways. Although Rappaport used simple and to the point sentences, all her words are expressed perfectly in such a way that you can really learn about the impact Dr. King had on our country and Civil Rights. With such beautiful illustrations and outstanding terminology, the duo made a picture book that will be read for years and years. It is important to educate people on their country's history and this book does just the right amount of teaching for beginning learners.

I rarely see biographies of leaders that are such children oriented. The book begins with Martin Luther King Jr. as a young boy that grows into an inspiring man. This allows young readers to relate to MLK, and picture themselves growing up to be just as empowering as he was. I enjoyed the theme of stained glass windows that featured throughout the illustrations. It reminded me of religion, loving everyone for what color they are, and hope for the future. Martin's Big Words is a good way to introduce the serious topic of segregation. The text is simple allows readers of any age to enjoy the historical information this book offers. I love that the author used juxtaposition to include actual pieces of Martin Luther King Jr.'s speeches. I also think it was important that the font size and color was changed on that portion of the page, to allow the most important words stand out. The one thing that I disliked about this book, was the lack of female characters in the march drawing. At the beginning I did not even notice that this was an all-male scene, my younger sister did when I read it to her. If there were females in this seen it would allow young girls to connect more to the text. Overall it was a very good read that could be used for many cross-curricular activities.

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