



## Nelson Mandela

*By Kadir Nelson*

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One day when Nelson Mandela was nine years old, his father died and he was sent from his village to a school far away from home, to another part of South Africa. In Johannesburg, the country's capital, Mandela saw fellow Africans who were poor and powerless. He decided then that he would work to protect them. When the government began to keep people apart based on the color of their skin, Mandela spoke out against the law and vowed to fight hard in order to make his country a place that belonged to all South Africans.

Kadir Nelson tells the story of Mandela, a global icon, in poignant verse and glorious illustrations. It is the story of a young boy's determination to change South Africa and of the struggles of a man who eventually became the president of his country by believing in equality for people of all colors. Readers will be inspired by Mandela's triumph and his lifelong quest to create a more just world.

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## **Nelson Mandela By Kadir Nelson Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Gr 1-5-This picture-book biography matches Mandela's outsize achievements with large, powerful images, resulting in a presentation that will seize and hold readers' attention. The front cover features a portrait of Mandela that fills the space. His pleasant but determined expression immediately projects a sense of strength. The title and author move to the back cover so as not to compete with the opening image. A stark graphic design incorporating black, green, yellow, and red, colors from the South African flag, on the title page helps set the stage for the narrative. Nelson's paintings range from poignant, when Mandela's mother tells him good-bye as he leaves home for more education at the age of nine, to exuberant, when Mandela and 100 men arrested for protesting apartheid respond by dancing and singing, to inspiring, when people organize rallies demanding his release. When freedom finally comes, "a colorful sea of people" celebrate. Mandela's heroic struggle might be new to many children today, and Nelson's dynamic treatment provides enough detail to give a sense of the man and to acknowledge his important place in history. -Lucinda Snyder Whitehurst, St. Christopher's School, Richmond, VA (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

Starting with the full-page cover portrait, this glowing picture-book biography offers a celebratory introduction to Nelson Mandela's life for young readers. Clear free verse and handsome, unframed paintings follow the iconic leader from his tribal childhood and his work as a young city lawyer through his political leadership against the brutality of apartheid, his long imprisonment, and then the triumph of his election as president of his country. The story doesn't mention conflicts both political (the splits in the anti-apartheid movement) and personal (the bitter rift with his daughters), as well as the continuing inequality South Africans face. Still, words and images bring close the cruel apartheid segregation in daily life, including one double-page spread of Cape Town's glorious beaches with the sign that reads White Area. Then there is the view of prisoners on Robben Island hammering rocks into dust. In contrast, the final pages show today's nonsegregated beaches and people of all races standing together free at last. A long final note fills in more. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** With an internationally beloved leader as its subject and a multi-award-winning artist as its creator, this title is sure to be on every library's must-purchase list. Preschool-Grade 3. -- Hazel Rochman

Review

"A beautifully designed book that will resonate with children and the adults who wisely share it with them." (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

"An extremely powerful picture-book biography of South Africa's first black president. It's a solid biography in its own right, but thanks to Nelson's characteristically stunning paintings, it soars." (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

"A dramatic encounter indeed." (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books)

"This picture-book biography matches Mandela's outsize achievements with large, powerful images, resulting in a presentation that will seize and hold readers' attention." (School Library Journal)

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Joan Myers:**

Book is actually written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can learn everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading skill was fluently. A book Nelson Mandela will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think which open or reading the book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you seeking best book or ideal book with you?

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