



Grandfather Gandhi

By Arun Gandhi, Bethany Hegedus

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Mahatma Gandhi's grandson tells the story of how his grandfather taught him to turn darkness into light in this uniquely personal and vibrantly illustrated tale that carries a message of peace.

How could he—a Gandhi—be so easy to anger?

One thick, hot day, Arun Gandhi travels with his family to Grandfather Gandhi's village.

Silence fills the air—but peace feels far away for young Arun. When an older boy pushes him on the soccer field, his anger fills him in a way that surely a true Gandhi could never imagine. Can Arun ever live up to the Mahatma? Will he ever make his grandfather proud?

In this remarkable personal story, Arun Gandhi, with Bethany Hegedus, weaves a stunning portrait of the extraordinary man who taught him to live his life as light. Evan Turk brings the text to breathtaking life with his unique three-dimensional collage paintings.

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Grandfather Gandhi By Arun Gandhi, Bethany Hegedus Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 1–3—Mahatma Gandhi, as seen through the eyes of one his grandsons, is depicted in this picture-book biography as a loving grandfather and a revered figure. Twelve-year-old Arun and his family have come to live in his babu's "service village," which is a great honor, but is also hard for young Arun, who must share his grandfather with so many others demanding his time and attention. The boy frets over the difficulty of living up to the expectations that carrying the name Gandhi entails, and when a disagreement during a soccer game sparks his anger, Arun seeks out his wise and loving grandfather for comfort and advice. This is less a biography of a famous leader and more of an ode to a great man by an adoring grandson. While background details are left intentionally vague, i.e., the family's reasons for moving to India, memories of Gandhi himself are sharp and specific, lending an air of intimacy. The accompanying artwork is stunning, the use of mixed media collage is effective and beautiful, with varying perspectives and intriguing materials on display on every page. With so many biographies about Gandhi published recently, this one stands out for its unique point of view and gorgeous art, and makes a fine supplement to any collection.—Jody Kopple, Shady Hill School, Cambridge, MA

From [Booklist](#)

Twelve-year-old Arun Gandhi travels with his family from their home in South Africa to India to be with their grandfather, the Mahatma, in his service village of Sevagram, where they stay for two years. Arun loves his grandfather but resents all of the others who monopolize his time, and he worries about living up to his supreme example. He is a child, and like a child, he erupts in anger, seethes in frustration, and longs for connection. And his grandfather is there to tell him that anger is human and we must work to use it so it cannot use us. Collaborating with first-time picture-book author Hegedus, Arun Gandhi recalls his own childhood experiences, relating the stories in an immediate first-person voice. Working in mixed media, with pieces of fabric clothing and hand-cut, hand-painted figures, Turk mixes carefully detailed renderings with abstracted expressions of emotional struggle, achieving a powerful balance. A personal portrait of a legendary figure. Grades 1-4. --Thom Barthelmess

Review

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— *Thom Barthelmess*
(Booklist)

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expressions of emotional struggle, achieving a powerful balance. A personal portrait of a legendary figure." (Booklist, December 2013)

More than 10 years in the writing, this true story by Gandhi's grandson and Hegedus (*Truth with a Capital T*) gives a personal window inside the peacemaker's teachings. As a 12-year-old, Arun and his family come to live at an ashram where Gandhi resides with followers. Vibrant, mixed-media collages from debut talent Turk depict the boy's first frustrating weeks there. A tangle of black yarn swirls around Arun, the threads creating a proverbial black cloud, as he struggles to learn a new language, share his grandfather with others, and even feel like a Gandhi: "peace and stillness did not come easily to me." When Arun's temper flares, he runs tearfully to Gandhi, who compares anger to electricity: destructive as lightning or a force channeled to power lamps. "Then anger can illuminate. It can turn the darkness into light." Turk's illustrations are stylized, strikingly patterned, and rendered in contrasting purples and golds, blues and creams, blacks and whites, highlighting the tension between anger and peace. Dynamic visuals and storytelling create a rousing family story that speaks to a broad audience. Ages 4–8. Authors' agent: Regina Brooks, Serendipity Literary Agency. (Mar.) (Publishers Weekly)

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* "This first-person account presents Mohandas Gandhi through the eyes of his then-12-year-old grandson.... Turk's complex collages, rich in symbolic meaning and bold, expressive imagery, contribute greatly to the emotional worldbuilding.... Never burdened by its message, this exceptional title works on multiple levels; it is both a striking introduction to a singular icon and a compelling story about the universal experience of a child seeking approval from a revered adult." (Kirkus Reviews, January 2014, *STARRED REVIEW)

Mahatma Gandhi, as seen through the eyes of one his grandsons, is depicted in this picture-book biography as a loving grandfather and a revered figure. Twelve-year-old Arun and his family have come to live in his babu's "service village," which is a great honor, but is also hard for young Arun, who must share his grandfather with so many others demanding his time and attention. The boy frets over the difficulty of living up to the expectations that carrying the name Gandhi entails, and when a disagreement during a soccer game sparks his anger, Arun seeks out his wise and loving grandfather for comfort and advice. This is less a biography of a famous leader and more of an ode to a great man by an adoring grandson. While background details are left intentionally vague, i.e., the family's reasons for moving to India, memories of Gandhi himself are sharp and specific, lending an air of intimacy. The accompanying artwork is stunning, the use of mixed media collage is effective and beautiful, with varying perspectives and intriguing materials on display on every page. With so many biographies about Gandhi published recently, this one stands out for its unique point of view and gorgeous art, and makes a fine supplement to any collection. (School Library Journal)

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"Unusual for its child-centered and intimate portrait of Gandhi (we learn, for example, that he smelled like peanut oil), the graceful narrative is nearly outdone by the vivid mixed-media illustrations, rendered in watercolor, paper collage, cotton fabric, cotton, yarn, gouache, pencil, tea, and tinfoil. The cotton yarn, handspun on an Indian book charkha, gives the pictures such a three-dimensional look that one feels as though it could be plucked right off Gandhi's spinning wheel. But it's more than just an attractive effect—the yarn becomes a visual metaphor for anger channeled into light." (Horn Book Magazine, March/April 2014)

? **Grandfather Gandhi**

by Arun Gandhi and Bethany Hegedus; illus. by Evan Turk

Primary Atheneum 48 pp.

3/14 978-1-4424-2365-7 \$17.99

e-book ed. 978-1-4424-5082-0 \$10.99

A visit to a grandfather's home in another country can have its ups and downs even in an ordinary family. But Arun faces some special challenges because his grandfather is Mahatma Gandhi. It's hard enough to go from his comfortable home in 1945 South Africa, where he enjoys watching John Wayne movies and playing cops and robbers with his friends, to the quiet village of Sevagram, India, where his grandfather lives simply, surrounded by 350 followers who seek to follow the Mahatma's example. Arun, who gets fidgety during prayers and who angers easily while playing soccer with village children, feels he will never live up to the Gandhi name. After he confides this to his grandfather, Gandhi tells Arun that he, too, often feels anger but that he has learned to channel it for good, just as electricity can destroy or give light. Unusual for its child-centered and intimate portrait of Gandhi (we learn, for example, that he smelled like peanut oil), the graceful narrative is nearly outdone by the vivid mixed-media illustrations, rendered in watercolor, paper collage, cotton fabric, cotton, yarn, gouache, pencil, tea, and tinfoil. The cotton yarn, handspun on an Indian book charkha, gives the pictures such a three-dimensional look that one feels as though it could be plucked right off Gandhi's spinning wheel. But it's more than just an attractive effect—the yarn becomes a visual metaphor for anger channeled into light. (The Horn Book)

Gandhi, Arun & Bethany Hegedus

Grandfather Gandhi

Illustrated by Evan Turk. 2014. 32pp. \$17.99 hc. Atheneum (Simon & Schuster). 978-1-4424-2365-7. Grades PreK-5

The grandson of Mahatma Gandhi tells this true tale of how he learned to use his anger to work for him rather than letting it take control of him. Growing up in a small village in the shadow of his famous grandfather, Arun felt the pressure of his family's name. When Arun became angry during a soccer match, he dashed over to his grandfather's hut where he was taught how to choose a path of enlightenment rather than destruction. The spare text in this magical, transformative anecdote is paired with mixed media artwork. Using watercolor, paper collage, cotton fabric, cotton, yarn, gouache, pencil, tea, and tinfoil, Turk successfully tells the details of the story visually. Turk brilliantly uses broader, thicker strokes and darker colors to show anger. By telling the story of Gandhi's approach to civil disobedience in this manner, it becomes a relevant, approachable concept for youngsters today. **Stephanie Bange, Director, Educational Resource Center, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio [Editor's Note: Available in e-book format.]**

Highly Recommended (Library Media Connection August/September 2014)

"The grandson of Mahatma Gandhi tells this true tale of how he learned to use his anger to work for him rather than letting it take control of him. . . . The spare text in this magical, transformative anecdote is paired with mixed media artwork. . . . Turk brilliantly uses broader, thicker strokes and darker colors to show anger. By telling the story of Gandhi's approach to civil disobedience in this manner, it becomes a relevant, approachable concept for youngsters today." (Library Media Connection, August/September 2014, Highly Recommended)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jacqueline Harding:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be change about what going on or info even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era which can be always change and progress. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know what one you should start with. This Grandfather Gandhi is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and want in this era.

Gregory Anderson:

This Grandfather Gandhi is great guide for you because the content and that is full of information for you who have always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it info accurately using great coordinate word or we can state no rambling sentences in it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but challenging core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Grandfather Gandhi in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no publication that offer you world with ten or fifteen tiny right but this reserve already do that. So , it is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt that?

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