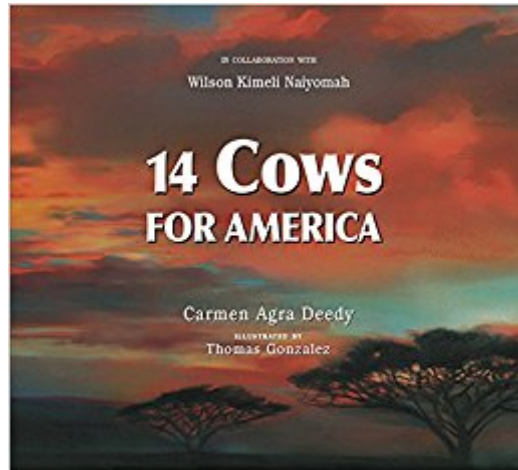




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14 Cows For America



Synopsis

In June of 2002, a very unusual ceremony begins in a far-flung village in western Kenya. An American diplomat is surrounded by hundreds of Maasai people. A gift is about to be bestowed upon the American men, women, and children, and he is there to accept it. The gift is as unexpected as it is extraordinary. A mere nine months have passed since the September 11 attacks, and hearts are raw. Tears flow freely from American and Maasai as these legendary warriors offer their gift to a grieving people half a world away. Word of the gift will travel newswires around the globe. Many will be profoundly touched, but for Americans, this selfless gesture will have deeper meaning still. For a heartsick nation, the gift of fourteen cows emerges from the choking dust and darkness as a soft light of hope and friendship.

Book Information

Paperback: 36 pages

Publisher: Peachtree Publishers; Reprint edition (August 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1561459615

ISBN-13: 978-1561459612

Product Dimensions: 11.4 x 0.2 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 86 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #13,527 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 2000s](#) #10 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa](#) #22 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 2 – 5 • Kimeli Naiyomah returned home to his Maasai village from New York City with news of 9/11 terrorist attacks. His story prompted the villagers to give a heartfelt gift to help America heal. Deedy and Gonzalez bring Naiyomah's story to life with pithy prose and vibrant illustrations. Each block of text consists of a few short, elegant sentences: "A child asks if he has brought any stories. Kimeli nods. He has brought with him one story. It has burned a hole in his heart." The suspenseful pace is especially striking when surrounded by Gonzalez's

exquisite colored pencil and pastel illustrations. The colors of Kenya explode off the page: rich blues, flaming oranges, fire-engine reds, and chocolate browns. Full-page spreads depict the Maasai people and their land so realistically as to be nearly lifelike. Gonzalez manages to break the fourth wall and draw readers in as real-time observers. The book's only flaw is the less-than-concrete ending: "There is no nation so powerful it cannot be wounded, nor a people so small they cannot offer mighty comfort" is an important message, but not a particularly satisfying one for children. Fortunately, their questions will be answered by Naiyomah's endnote, and it provides a fitting conclusion to this breathtaking chronicle.

—Rebecca Dash, New York Public Library Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"...a lovely picture book...beautifully evocative..." ?The New York Times"...moving and dramatically illustrated..." ?The Wall Street Journal"Rarely do books for children address the bridging of cultural difference on a grand scale." ?Newsday"An extraordinary true story of generosity, compassion and hope, 14 Cows for America is rich on multiple levels for young and old alike." ?Books to Borrow, Books to Buy"I dare you to read this special picture book without getting teary every time." ?Library Media Connection, * STARRED REVIEW *"A moving tale of compassion and generosity." ?Publishers Weekly"...elegant sentences...The suspenseful pace is especially striking when surrounded by Gonzalez's exquisite colored pencil and pastel illustrations. The colors of Kenya explode off the page..." ?School Library Journal, * STARRED REVIEW *"...gentle yet piercing present-tense prose...A stirring, heartwarming tale that made headlines when it happened-and is now, thankfully, preserved on the page for children." ?Kirkus Reviews"...the words and the glowing mixed-media illustrations show empathy and connections across communities..." ?Booklist"...an unforgettable book." ?Young Adult (& Kids) Book Central"...it could generate some excellent discussion in classrooms and families." ?The Huffington Post --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

I ordered "14 Cows for America" from Jensen Books. I was very touched by this story and glad to have a way to share it with my students. Jensen Book shipped it carefully, quickly, and the description was accurate for the great condition of the book. I would buy from Jensen Books again anytime

A friend recommended this book. I had never heard of this true story. It is about the gift one small

village gave to their hurting brothers and sisters in the USA after the attack of the twin towers. I intend to read this in church for a children's moment. It is not a religious story, but they offered a gift of life and hope to the hurting US and it is a story of international brotherhood. I hope I can read it without crying.

"Because there is no nation so powerful it cannot be wounded, nor a people so small they cannot offer mighty comfort." This is the best book I've found yet for gently introducing 9/11 to elementary and preschool-aged children. Without the awful specifics (which can wait until the kids are old enough to truly understand), it details the story from the viewpoint of one who was there, and then adds the glorious story of how the Maasai people responded in kindness and generosity. We bought one for ourselves and one for our local elementary school, which the principal read to the students during morning announcements. It's a beautiful, extremely moving true story of the goodness in humanity. Gorgeous illustrations (especially the reflection of the Towers on fire reflected in a child's eye) complete the picture.

Book came within two days - it's for my wife who read this story awhile ago to some 3rd Graders who loved the story and now she loves it as well. Delivered promptly A great buy and a great story

I bought copies of this book from for my grandchildren and our church school to give them a new perspective on 9/11. But my husband enjoyed it as much as the rest of us. We wonder what will happen to the author when he returns to his home country in Africa. There's an old Masai saying, "And how are the children?" We might add, "And how are the cows?"

This book is heartbreaking and uplifting all at once. It teaches such a valuable lesson to children, that no kindness is ever too small. You will absolutely cry while reading it.

Wow! What an inspiring, true story, especially if you have been to Africa and met some Massai people! The language is easy to understand and the illustrations are magnificent. It is a book that could be read in classrooms around the country.

Beautiful story. Glad I found a copy. Should have wider circulation via Scholastic Books.

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