2002

Day of Ahmed's Secret

Seth Dixon

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Reviewer: Seth Dixon  
Reading level: Intermediate  
Rating: Outstanding  
Genre: Fiction; Picture book  
Subject: Cairo (Egypt)--Juvenile fiction; Work--Juvenile fiction; Literacy--Juvenile fiction

The Day of Ahmed's Secret really puts the reader in the life of a child in the Middle East. The story follows Ahmed though the city of Cairo as he works to help support his family. His secret, being excited to show his family that he can write his name, is a part of childhood that transcends culture. At the same time, his name is written in Arabic, showing regional differences throughout world cultures.

Great geographic content (importance of the Nile and Desert, activity of Cairo) is also embedded in this book.