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Little Sid: The Tiny Prince Who Became Buddha

Taylor Harris

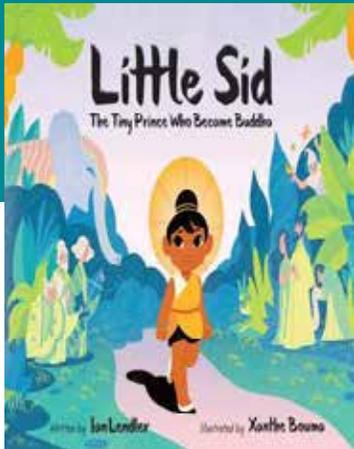
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Book Review

Little Sid: The Tiny Prince Who Became Buddha

Author

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Illustrator

Reviewer

Taylor Harris

Rating

Outstanding

Level

Preschool, Primary

Pages

40

Year

2018

Publisher

First Second

ISBN

9781626726369

Little Prince Sid is sick and tired of being spoiled and given things, things, things. All he wants is his parents to be with him, but they are always needed elsewhere. Fed up, Little Sid leaves the castle in search of happiness. He searches the village, then continues through the forest in search of wise people who can help. It isn't until he is hanging off a cliff, about to die, when he eats a strawberry as his last meal and is then rescued, that he realizes he has found happiness. He returns to the castle enlightened and begins changing things - giving his things away, making others happy, and finally at the end of the day getting his parents to just be with him.

With beautiful illustrations, a great format, and fun story, this book is simply delightful! Though the historical accuracy falters due to changes made to fit in with the story, it does portray some truth about the life of Siddhartha Gautama and Buddhism and includes a short note at the end, explaining some of the facts. The artwork is clean and modern, with lots of color and adorable portrayals of the characters. The text is written in narrative snippets, accompanied by thought and speech bubbles from the characters. This simplifies the text and makes it more accessible for beginning readers. This layout also serves to make the book more engaging and aesthetically pleasing. Besides being a fun way to introduce Siddhartha Gautama, it also teaches readers that happiness is not found in things, or wealth, or power. Rather, it is found in being with those you love and enjoying the moment.