



Rosa (Caldecott Honor Book)

By Nikki Giovanni



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She had not sought this moment but she was ready for it. When the policeman bent down to ask "Auntie, are you going to move?" all the strength of all the people through all those many years joined in her. She said, "No."

An inspiring account of an event that shaped American history

Fifty years after her refusal to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus, Mrs. Rosa Parks is still one of the most important figures in the American civil rights movement. This picture- book tribute to Mrs. Parks is a celebration of her courageous action and the events that followed.

Award-winning poet, writer, and activist Nikki Giovanni's evocative text combines with Bryan Collier's striking cut-paper images to retell the story of this historic event from a wholly unique and original perspective.

Rosa is a 2006 Caldecott Honor Book and the winner of the 2006 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award.



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review



Amazon.com's Significant Seven

Nikki Giovanni graciously agreed to answer the questions we like to ask every author: the Amazon.com Significant Seven.

Q: What book has had the most significant impact on your life?

A: No single book. The poetry of Paul Laurence Dunbar, Langston Hughes, and Gwendolyn Brooks was an impact, however.

Q: You are stranded on a desert island with only one book, one CD, and one DVD--what are they?

A: *Sula* by Toni Morrison, *Great American Spirituals*, and *The Godfather*.

Q: What is the worst lie you've ever told?

A: "You're the best."

Q: Describe the perfect writing environment.

A: A cup of coffee, my rocking chair, the sun just rising through my left window.

Q: If you could write your own epitaph, what would it say?

A: "I tried."

Q: Who is the one person living or dead that you would like to have dinner with?

A: Lorraine Hansberry

Q: If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

A: I would fly.

From School Library Journal

Grade 3-5—Rosa Parks's personal story moves quickly into a summary of the Civil Rights movement in this striking picture book. Parks is introduced in idealized terms. She cares for her ill mother and is married to one of the best barbers in the county. Sewing in an alterations department, Rosa Parks was the best seamstress. Her needle and thread flew through her hands like the gold spinning from Rumpelstiltskin's loom. Soon the story moves to her famous refusal to give up her seat on the bus, but readers lose sight of her as she waits to be arrested. Giovanni turns to explaining the response of the Women's Political Caucus, which led to the bus boycott in Montgomery. A few events of the movement are interjected—the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, the aftermath and reactions to the murder of Emmett Till, the

role of Martin Luther King, Jr., as spokesperson. Collier's watercolor and collage scenes are deeply hued and luminous, incorporating abstract and surreal elements along with the realistic figures. Set on colored pages, these illustrations include an effective double foldout page with the crowd of successful walkers facing a courthouse representing the 1956 Supreme Court verdict against segregation on the buses. Many readers will wonder how it all went for Parks after her arrest, and there are no added notes. Purposeful in its telling, this is a handsome and thought-provoking introduction to these watershed acts of civil disobedience.—*Margaret Bush, Simmons College, Boston*

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Gr. 3-5. Far from the cliché of Rosa Parks as the tired little seamstress, this beautiful picture-book biography shows her as a strong woman, happy at home and at work, and politically aware ("not tired from work, but tired of . . . eating at separate lunch counters and learning at separate schools"). Her refusal to give up her seat on a bus inspires her friend Jo Ann Robinson, president of the Women's Political Council, and the 25 council members to make posters calling for the bus boycott, and they organize a mass meeting where the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. speaks for them. Paired very effectively with Giovanni's passionate, direct words, Collier's large watercolor-and-collage illustrations depict Parks as an inspiring force that radiates golden light, and also as part of a dynamic activist community. In the unforgettable close-up that was used for the cover, Parks sits quietly waiting for the police as a white bus driver demands that she give up her seat. In contrast, the final picture opens out to four pages showing women, men, and children marching for equal rights at the bus boycott and in the years of struggle yet to come. The history comes clear in the astonishing combination of the personal and the political. *Hazel Rochman*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kimberly Dyson:

Book is usually written, printed, or outlined for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a e-book. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important thing to bring us around the world. Adjacent to that you can your reading talent was fluently. A book Rosa (Caldecott Honor Book) will make you to always be smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think which open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or appropriate book with you?

Rod Doughty:

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Chris Robins:

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Robert Maas:

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