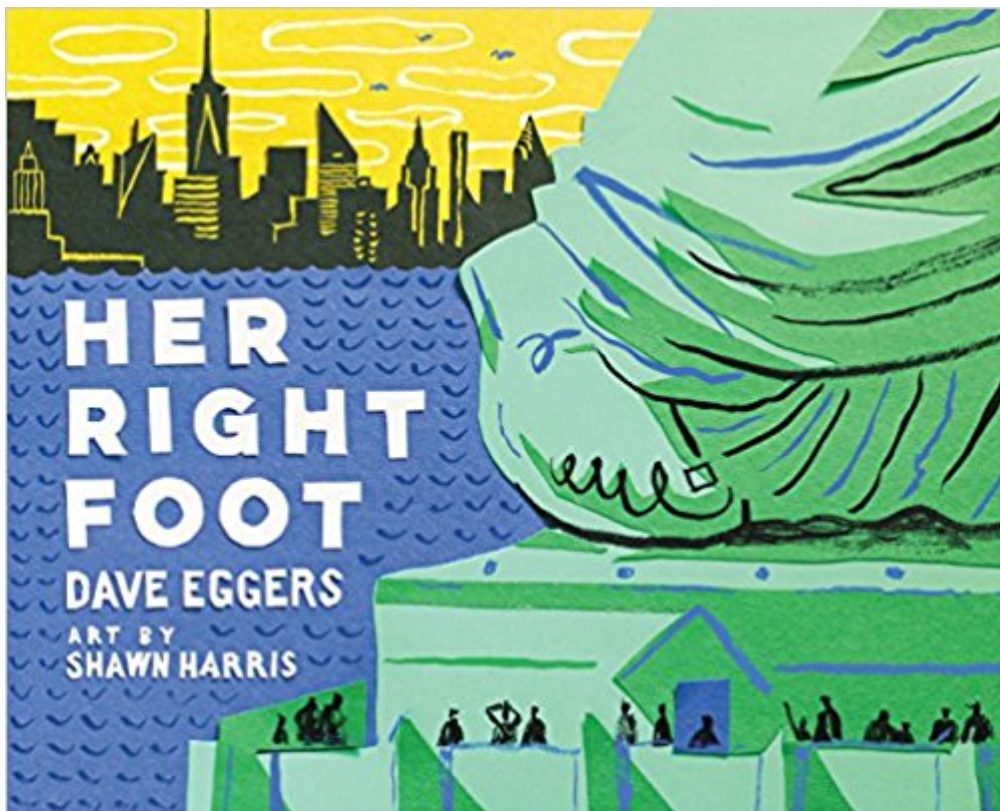


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Her Right Foot



Synopsis

"I want to hold this book in one hand and a torch in the other and stand on an island someplace so everyone can see." —Lemony Snicket
If you had to name a statue, any statue, odds are good you'd mention the Statue of Liberty. Have you seen her? She's in New York. She's holding a torch. And she's in mid-stride, moving forward. But why? In this fascinating, fun take on nonfiction, Dave Eggers and Shawn Harris investigate a seemingly small trait of America's most emblematic statue. What they find is about more than history, more than art. What they find in the Statue of Liberty's right foot is the powerful message of acceptance that is essential to an entire country's creation. A Junior Library Guild selection

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 800 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 104 pages

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Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.8 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #13,222 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Emigrants & Immigrants](#) #9 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s](#) #9 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Government](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

Lemony Snicket: "I want to hold this book in one hand and a torch in the other and stand on an island someplace so everyone can see." [View larger](#)

Early Praise for Her Right Foot

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Inaugural National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, Jon Scieszka says:

"Beautiful, powerful, funny, moving. Eggers and Harris in perfect thoughtful harmony."

Jon Klassen, Caldecott Medal Winner says: "This book makes me happy as a person and jealous as an illustrator." Adam Rex, author of *Nothing Rhymes with Orange* says: "It may be trite to call a book a love letter to America, but you read *Her Right Foot* and tell me Eggers and Harris aren't in love with their country, tell me your heart doesn't swell."

[View larger](#) A letter from the author: Dear Reader, I lived in New York for a few years in the 1990s, but never managed to make it to Liberty Island. Finally, in 2015, my family and I visited NYC, and we took the ferry from Battery Park. For some reason we did this in January. It was raining and cold and the water was gray and choppy. Everyone on the ferry was cold and soaked, and the ferry was crowded and smelled of wet human, but somehow everyone was in a good mood. We were the huddled masses that day, and because there were dozens of languages being spoken, it felt in some distant way like being aboard one of those old ships bringing new Americans in from the sea. When we got to the Statue of Liberty, I noticed something I never had before, and that was that the Statue of Liberty was in mid-stride. It was a thunderclap moment. I had seen probably 10,000 images of the Statue over the years, and never once did any of them show her walking or at least emphasize this seemingly significant aspect of this essential symbol of immigration and welcome. The lady was on the move. So I started mulling that, what that might mean, and thought it might make a good subject for a picture book, especially given that around that time, the election was nearing and anti-immigrant sentiment was becoming louder and more pervasive. It's a baffling aspect of the American species that we periodically forget that almost all of us are immigrants. The symbol of this country is the Statue of Liberty, and the Statue of Liberty is not a symbol of xenophobia, fear, or isolationism. The symbol of America is a symbol of welcome. It's a woman in a robe walking out to sea, to light the way for those coming to our shores. I think it's important that we talk about it. It's especially important that we talk about it with our kids. The news these days is volatile and unsettling, and our kids are scared. We need to show them how to be brave. We need to learn from their tolerance and curiosity and open minds. We need to teach them what this country is supposed to stand for. And that's why I wrote this book for them. So that's what *Her Right Foot* is about. It has been beautifully illustrated by a man named Shawn Harris, and I hope you like it. - Dave Eggers

"One part stand-up routine, one part ode to the values that we as a nation have long held dear.

Funny, smart, timely, and true."--Leonard S. Marcus, - historian, critic, and author of *Randolph Caldecott: The Man Who Could Not Stop Drawing*"You may know that Dave Eggers is a successful writer for adults. And you may know that he has a way with words. But you may not know that he has written a book about the Statue of Liberty and what's more you may be completely unaware that the book is timely and poignant and deeply meaningful and patriotic in the best sense of the word. It is absolutely the best thing I've seen in a long time."--Betsy Bird, School Library Journal's Fuse #8 blog and co-author of *Wild Things: Acts of Mischief in Children's Literature*"This book makes me happy as a person and jealous as an illustrator." -Jon Klassen, Caldecott Medal Winner"Beautiful, powerful, funny, moving. Eggers and Harris are in perfect thoughtful harmony."-Inaugural National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, Jon Scieszka (who also said, in his email, "I really love this book.")"I want to hold this book in one hand and a torch in the other and stand on an island someplace so everyone can see." -Lemony Snicket"Heartfelt throughout and indisputably timely."-Kirkus Reviews, starred review

Dave Eggers is the author of many books, including *This Bridge Will Not Be Gray*, *The Circle*, and *A Hologram for the King*. He is the cofounder of: *Voice of Witness*, an oral-history series focused on human-rights crises; 826 National, a network of writing and tutoring centers; and ScholarMatch, which connects donors and under-resourced students to make college possible. Shawn Harris is an artist and musician who lives and works in Morongo Valley, California. This is his first book.

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