



Colour of Home

By Mary Hoffman

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Hassan feels out of place in a new cold, grey country. At school, he paints a picture showing his colourful Somali home, covered with the harsh colours of war from which his family has fled. He tells his teacher about their voyage from Mogadishu to Mombassa, the refugee camp and on to England. But gradually things change. When Hassan's parents put up his next picture on the wall, Hassan notices the maroon prayer mat, a bright green cushion and his sister Naima's pink dress - the new colours of home.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 2-Hassan, a recent immigrant from Somalia, is homesick on his first day of school in America. Though the teacher is nice and the children are friendly, adjusting to a new culture, especially a different language, is a struggle. When the teacher distributes art supplies, Hassan discovers a way to communicate. He paints two pictures-one to share the story of his life in Somalia, and another that depicts his hope for a bright future in his new home. Readers gain a realistic child's perspective on what it is like to be forced to emigrate from a war-torn country. The sensitively told story also demonstrates the value of art therapy in helping children to make the transition to a new environment. Littlewood's impressionistic watercolor illustrations, many of them spreads, beautifully convey Hassan's sadness, fear, and ultimate happiness. A title that will spark classroom discussion.

Ajokei T. I. Kokodoko, *Oakland Public Library, CA*

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From [Booklist](#)

PreS-Gr. 3. The author of the popular picture book *Amazing Grace* (1991) tells another moving story here of an immigrant kid in the classroom. Hassan's Muslim family was driven from their home in Somalia by the violent civil war. On his first day of school in America, everything looks gray and strange and he can't speak English. Then in art class he paints a picture of the happy home he remembers before the soldiers came to his village. When he paints a second picture of the nightmares that haunt him--the flames and bullets that killed his uncle and drove his family out--his teacher brings a Somali interpreter to translate for him, and he tells her his refugee story. Littlewood's beautiful impressionistic watercolor paintings reveal the child's memories of his African village: the warmth and light and then the terror. After that there's the flight, and the pictures do a great job of expressing Hassan's sense of dislocation in a gray, unfamiliar place, until, finally, he sees the bright colors of his school and his new home. *Hazel Rochman*

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Review

Hasaan feels out of place in a new cold, grey country. At school, he paints a picture showing his colourful Somalian home, covered with the harsh colours of the war he and his family have fled. Hoffman's intelligent book tackles a highly topical and controversial theme in a sensitive, non-patronising way.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Salvador Perez:

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Phyllis Spencer:

The book Colour of Home gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable a lot more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make reading a book Colour of Home to get your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your own personal capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You can know everything if you like wide open and read a book Colour of Home. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about this reserve?

Carlos Mendoza:

The experience that you get from Colour of Home is the more deep you excavating the information that hide inside words the more you get interested in reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to be aware of but Colour of Home giving you buzz feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by means of anyone who read it because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We highly recommend you for having that Colour of Home instantly.

Justin Mireles:

A lot of people said that they feel fed up when they reading a reserve. They are directly felt the idea when they get a half parts of the book. You can choose the actual book Colour of Home to make your own reading is interesting. Your current skill of reading proficiency is developing when you just like reading. Try to choose basic book to make you enjoy to see it and mingle the feeling about book and examining especially. It is to be 1st opinion for you to like to open a book and study it. Beside that the book Colour of Home can to be your brand-new friend when you're truly feel alone and confuse using what must you're doing of this time.

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