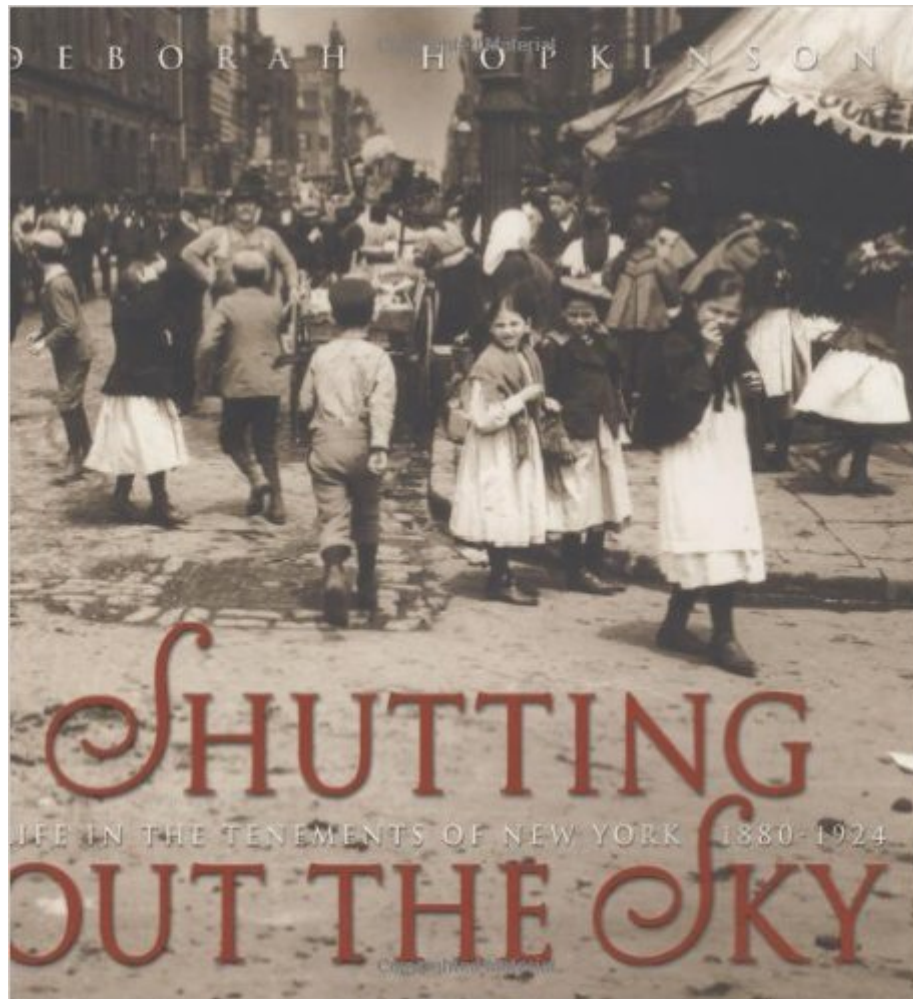


The book was found

Shutting Out The Sky: Life In The Tenements Of New York, 1880-1924 (Jane Addams Honor Book (Awards))



Synopsis

In a stunning nonfiction debut, award-winning author Deborah Hopkinson focuses on five immigrants' stories to reveal the triumphs and hardships of early 1900s immigrant life in New York. Acclaimed author Hopkinson recounts the lives of five immigrants to New York's Lower East Side through oral histories and engaging narrative. We hear Romanian-born Marcus Ravage's disappointment when his aunt pushes him outside to peddle chocolates on the street. And about the pickle cart lady who stored her pickles in a rat-infested basement. We read Rose Cohen's terrifying account of living through the Triangle Shirtwaist fire, and of Pauline Newman's struggles to learn English. But through it all, each one of these kids keeps working, keeps hoping, to achieve their own American dream.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 990L (What's this?)

Series: Jane Addams Honor Book (Awards)

Hardcover: 144 pages

Publisher: Orchard Books; 1st Edition edition (October 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439375908

ISBN-13: 978-0439375900

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 8.2 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #485,860 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #141 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty](#) #312 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s](#) #978 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Urban](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I hope by the time you read this review that you will be able to "take a look inside" this book on this website. Then you could really appreciate how beautifully illustrated and crafted this outstanding book is. For the time being, you'll have to take my (and other reviewers') word for it. There are many books geared toward young readers on the subject of the immigrant/tenement experience in New

York City at the turn of the last century, and many of them are quite good. But Deborah Hopkinson's "Shutting Out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York, 1880-1924" is far and above the best in recent times. The photographs are exquisite and exquisitely moving. The text is engaging, and, unlike other books aimed for this age group, Ms. Hopkinson's book doesn't dumb things down toward her audience. This is an admirable book that I would recommend to parents and teachers! Rocco Dormarunno, author of "The Five Points"

If you've ever heard family stories about grandparents or greatparents who came through Ellis Island, this book is a must. Hopkinson follows the true stories of five young immigrants. She tells the story of life on the Lower East Side at the turn of the 20th century using excerpts from oral histories and memoirs. Somehow the stories of the young Russian Jewish and Italian immigrants tie in seamlessly with information on coming to America, what it was like to live in a tenement, work (including conditions in the sweatshops and the Triangle factory fire), going to school, and what the future held for these young men and women. The historic photos are so evocative and powerful. Highly recommended.

This is a real page-turner, and absolutely fascinating. The author tells the stories of five immigrants to the U.S. and New York City around 1900, but what's amazing is the power of the voices here, plus the photos. The focus is on young people, but my adult book group read this and loved it. Everyone has seen photos of the crowded Lower East Side, but this book makes you think of the individuals and their families who lived there.

My son loves history and when he brought home this book I immediately got hooked on the photos. Then I began reading the stories of the immigrants and I couldn't put it down -- I couldn't wait to find out what happened to the five young people whose stories are recounted here. Somehow the combination of the photos, the quotes and the personal stories all works together to let us into a world gone by. A wonderful book!

I finished this book in a spell. Hopkinson weaves the stories of young immigrants and the story of the growing city into a rich experience for the reader. Her choice of detail, her gift for story telling, and the wonderful and often poignant photographs make this (beautifully designed book) irresistible. In the end you believe-as Hopkinson clearly does-that the past has meaning because of the individuals that lived it, and that their stories must continue to reverberate. It isn't "just" the past; it's

what we're made of.

This product arrived on time and as expected. I really enjoyed it and found the book to be a rather quick read but very entertaining and informative, using gritty, real-world recollections from men and women who experienced these things first hand. Probably not a top choice for those with a lot of knowledge already regarding this time period, but as an introduction I can definitely recommend.

Wonderful book full of photo's and stories... I am going to read parts of it to my 9 year old grandchild who lives in Brooklyn. As a collector of NYC historical stories and photo's, I found this to be well worth the price.

This book tells a story and allows a reader to think about the individuals who lived in New York City from 1880-1924, but the real power of this book is in the photographs. The photographs are powerful, clear, and captivating and make this text a truly engaging book. I've used this text with struggling readers for the photographs alone, and although the narrative story may be lost, the photos open excellent discussion on life and history. Some of the photographs are shocking, although child-appropriate, and so very different from so much of what young children are exposed to with historical narratives. This book is truly a unique gem of a read and is well-written and well-structured for all children.

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