



The Way to Start a Day

Byrd Baylor , Peter Parnall (Illustrator)

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Beautiful paintings highlight a text depicting the ways various peoples from around the world welcome the sun and the start of a new day.

Text first appeared in McCall Magazine, February, 1977.

The Way to Start a Day Details

Date : Published May 31st 1986 by Aladdin (first published 1978)

ISBN : 9780689710544

Author : Byrd Baylor , Peter Parnall (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Way to Start a Day for online ebook

Kelley says

Cute and educational!

Eileen says

Each day should be a celebration. I love the illustrations by Peter Parnall in Byrd Baylor's books.

Brenda Ayala says

A good kid's book with little tidbits about different religions and cultures without ever actually mentioning them. Just their reflections on the sun.

Victoria Y. says

This historical non-fiction picture book explains different cultures and how they celebrate the sun rising. This book features many abstract illustrations that really help the reader think about the meaning and traditions of other cultures. This book can help students understand the difference in cultures and accept that everyone is different and thinks differently.

Diana Thomsen says

With a nice 70's feel, I would have been okay with this if it was about one culture or person greeting the sun each day. Instead, it felt almost like a religious text, which I didn't care for. It was almost a book about sun-worship, a theme which I do not prefer.

Linda Robinson says

We all can greet the day, praise the sun, and support the living earth. "A morning needs to be sung to. A new day needs to be honored."

Gorgeously depicted, brilliantly told, This 1979 Caldecott winner awakens the spirit of renewal and reminds me that a new day is a one-time event. Celebrate it!

Maria Rowe says

• 1979 Caldecott Honor Book •

I had that song, "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing" stuck in my head when I started reading this book. It just screams 1970s! I love it. The message is really lovely, and the art isn't to my taste, but it's really unique and different and goes well with the text.

Materials used: unlisted

Typeface used: unlisted

Linda says

Another beautiful and beautifully illustrated book. This Caldecott-honor book is another gem. Read this with your children and, together, discover YOUR way to start a day!

Jenny says

While probably not entirely historically accurate, I did like the idea that despite our differences in time, place and culture, there are things that tie us together...for instance greeting a new day with a song, blessing or prayer. I also liked the reminder that greeting a new day is something to celebrate, to appreciate and give thanks for. I do wish there were an author's note that contained more information about various cultures' practices and an included bibliography. The artwork is simple but beautiful.

Michelle Caird says

Anything by Byrd Baylor is great to read to kids or adults!

Rebecca Zadick says

"The Way to Start a Day" received the Caldecott Honor, and I have chosen to give it 4 out of 5 stars because of the positive message portrayed in the story as well as the beautiful illustrations. The story line is unique, as it focuses on the sun and the various ways in which people from all over the world start a new day each day. The differences between cultures are celebrated, which makes this book unique and very applicable to real life. The illustrations are simple, yet vibrant and eye-catching. The front cover features a white background with the beginning stages of a colorful sunrise. With each page that is turned, the sunrise becomes bigger, brighter, and displays many different colors than were previously shown. Some of the pages feature people from different cultures as they showcase their morning rituals and how they welcome the sun each day. The story describes these practices in ways that children would be able to comprehend. The medium for the illustrations is mixed, including both pen and ink, as well as watercolor. The style of illustrations is best described as Folk or Native art, because they are somewhat realistic but the colors are

exaggerated. On each page, the text is short and simple. Some of the illustrations run across the gutter, taking up nearly the entire page. I thought this book was very interesting and would be a great resource in a classroom.

Seema Rao says

Poetry is paired with super sparse illustrations that remind me of the illustrations dentists used to have in their office.

Maudie says

Genre: Historical Fiction

Grade:3-5

This book tells of different ways to greet the Sun. I liked the illustrations in this book they are filled with radiant colors that the sun has when it rises and sets. Its extremely beautiful and lifelike. The book is a cool way to look at the culture of others and how they greet the sun. It takes a look at the past and talks about the Aztecs and Egyptians. This is a really cool book.

Rachel says

Peter Parnall collaborated with Byrd Baylor on eight more books, two more of which he won Caldecott honors for, in addition to this one in 1979. I have been in love with his artwork for awhile, and owned another of his books as a kid, called "Apricot ABC." For his complete bibliography of illustrated books, see this website: <http://www.parnall.pagebooks.net/>. The author grew up in the Southwest and lives near the Arizona-Mexico border.

This book, written in free-verse poetry, is about sunrises and how many cultures all over the world worship and praise the sun. Cultures such as the cavemen, Ancient Egyptians, Native Americans, Peruvians and Africans are featured. It is about thanking the sun for bringing forth a new day by greeting it every morning. I found these lesson plans on the book (<http://www.uniqueteachingresources.co...>). As Seth D. Webb commented in this blogpost (<http://radicalmontessori.blogspot.com...>), "In the push for digital literacy we cannot forget and forgo the importance of children feeling the world around them. It is not enough to show; we must provide experiences for them to do: to touch, to smell, to listen, to taste, to be still and to know." And this book does just that. Highly recommended for ages 4-9, 5 stars.

Paul says

Nice title, very '70s drawings, but this volume works best for those who are comfortable in or exploring the native or traditional or earth religions from around the world. While the Bible celebrates the beginning of a new day with the rising of the sun, the sun itself, rather than an object of worship or communion, joins in the worship of its Creator.

