



RUTH AND THE GREEN BOOK

Description

The picture book inspiration for the Academy Award-winning film *The Green Book*

Ruth was so excited to take a trip in her family's new car! In the early 1950s, few African Americans could afford to buy cars, so this would be an adventure. But she soon found out that black travelers weren't treated very well in some towns. Many hotels and gas stations refused service to black people. Daddy was upset about something called Jim Crow laws . . .

Finally, a friendly attendant at a gas station showed Ruth's family *The Green Book*. It listed all of the places that would welcome black travelers. With this guidebook—and the kindness of strangers—Ruth could finally make a safe journey from Chicago to her grandma's house in Alabama.

Ruth's story is fiction, but *The Green Book* and its role in helping a generation of African American travelers avoid some of the indignities of Jim Crow are historical fact.

Critical Acclaim

- Sequoyah Book Award Nominee, Nominated, 2012
- Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List, Long-listed, 2011
- ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year Bronze Award, Commended, 2011
- Skipping Stones Book Award, Winner, 2011
- Jane Addams Children's Book Award Honor Book, Commended, 2011
- Jefferson Cup Award Honor Book, Runner-up, 2011
- Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) Choices, Winner, 2011
- SSLI Book Award Best Book, Winner, 2011
- Whitney and Scott Cardozo Award for Children's Literature Finalist, Commended, 2011
- Bluestem Award Nominee, Nominated, 2011
- Capitol Choices: Noteworthy Books for Children, Winner, 2010
- ALA Notable Children's Books, Winner, 2010
- Children's Book Committee at Bank Street College Best Children's Book of the Year, Winner, 2010

“Ramsey fashions a well-told historical narrative, supported by Cooper's expressive paintings.” — *The Horn Book Guide*

“Cooper's soft, stippled illustrations capture both the pathos of the bigotry and the warmth of the support the family encounters, and a substantial closing note on the *Green Book* itself invites the audience to explore it further online. This will be a fascinating addition to any civil

Interest Level: Grades 2-5

Reading Level: Grade 3

Lexile: 700

GRL: R

On Sale Date: Aug 1, 2010

Available Formats:

Hardcover

978-0-7613-5255-6 \$18.99

Multi-user eBook

978-1-4677-6745-3 \$31.99

Audisee®—Fluent

978-1-7284-4610-3 \$46.65

rights picture-book collection.” — ***The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books***

“Cooper’s glowing, unframed, sepia-toned artwork delivers a strong sense of the period from a child’s viewpoint. . . . [T]his is a compelling addition to U.S. history offerings.” — ***Booklist***

“The realistic illustrations are done in oil wash on board, a self-described ‘subtractive process.’ The picture is painted, then erased to ‘paint’ the final product. Overall, there is a sepialike quality to the art, giving the impression of gazing at old color photos. This is an important addition to picture book collections, useful as a discussion-starter on Civil Rights or as a stand-alone story.” — **starred, *School Library Journal***

“Cooper masterfully captures the emotions of the characters, filling his pages with three-dimensional individuals. This story touches on a little-known moment in American history with elegance, compassion and humanity.” — ***Kirkus Reviews***

“A sense of resiliency courses through Cooper’s (Back of the Bus) filmy illustrations—beatific portraits of the Esso worker who sells the family their Green Book and the owner of a ‘tourist home’ where the family spends the night radiate strength, kindness, and hope for a better future.” — ***Publishers Weekly***

“The manner in which Cooper evokes emotion in the faces of the people in the book is amazing. The readers can feel the joy watching the family sing in the car in spite of rejection. Ruth’s face mirrors her feelings of hurt, and the most priceless expression is that of the little boy receiving Ruth’s stuffed animal. It’s beautiful. I strongly recommend this book for every classroom from third through sixth grade. It’s an easy read for the higher grades, but it effectively demonstrates the hurt and sadness of discrimination.” —
Examiner.com

“It’s a wonderful take on the classic “to grandmother’s house we go” tale, but with the hardships of the Jim Crow South thrown into the mix—and the Green Book as the “magic talisman” that helps a young girl and her family safely reach their destination.” —
Smithsonian.com

“It’s an important story that’s told, through words and evocative sepia-toned images, with grace and power.” — **The Brown Bookshelf**