Hewitt Andersons Great Big Life by Jerdine Nolen

Love This Book

Young Hewitt Anderson is his parents pride and joy, and they love him so. Hewitt is sweet, smart, polite -- everything a boy could be -- except Hewitt is small...very small...teeny-weeny, in fact. Descended from a long line of giants, the J. Carver Worthington Andersons take their height very seriously indeed. You see, without exception all of the many J. Carver Worthington Andersons have been giants until now. And poor Hewitt -- hidden in the floorboards, trapped in the flour vat, lost in the bedsheets -- has his struggles being tiny. Oh, his parents worry: How will their son manage to live in a world of big things? Leave it to Hewitt to prove the power of being small. Inspired by the tale of Jack and the Beanstalk, the inimitable Jerdine Nolen tells an original story of bravery and the power of the individual. Kadir Nelsons imaginative and loving illustrations create a world where smallness rules -- a world that children will want to return to again and again.

My Personal Review:
Have you ever felt like a little person amid a group of giants? This was Hewitt Andersons everyday existence in the book HEWITT ANDERSONS GREAT BIG LIFE. His parents, descendents of a long line of giants, have lived their life with the belief that bigger is always better. So when their son was born tiny and didnt seem to grow, they were so concerned that they took him for medical evaluations. Yet, they loved their son unconditionally and did all they could to ensure he could survive as a little person in a great big world. In the process, they all learned to appreciate Hewitts unique talents and abilities.

Loosely inspired by the fairy tale Jack in the Beanstalk, this book was a lot of fun to read. The author has penned a story that implicitly reminds children that it is okay to be different. The warm, inviting illustrations are detailed enough to hold a childs interest and further draw them into this gargantuan story. However, word count and vocabulary may be a little too difficult for very young children to read without assistance. This book is so
much more than a mere retelling of a classic fairy tale with black characters, it is a story destined to be a classic on its own merits.

Reviewed by Stacey Seay
of The RAWSISTAZ™ Reviewers

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