



The Flower Man

Mark Ludy

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This beautiful, wordless story told visually from beginning to end features a small, meek man who transforms a small town through simple moral principles. The characters' stories are woven together to create a tale that spans borders and nationalities and will refresh the human spirit with principles of compassion, honesty, integrity, and generosity. Children will also delight in searching for Squeakers the mouse, hidden somewhere on every page.

The Flower Man Details

Date : Published August 1st 2005 by Scribble Sons

ISBN : 9780966427646

Author : Mark Ludy

Format : Hardcover 24 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books

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From Reader Review The Flower Man for online ebook

Catey Steele says

I really enjoyed The Flower Man by Mark Ludy. This was a wordless picture book that had a beautiful message and story. It set such a great example as to how one person can change and make your life that much brighter. As a wordless picture book, the illustrations need to be extremely detailed and able to show just how the story is told if it were to have words. The illustrations in this book are so incredibly detailed I just did not know where to look at first.

With this type of book, I think the students need to look at it personally to give themselves the opportunity to see every detail to each page. At the end, it really takes time to notice the small details that really conclude the story. I would definitely recommend this book to all ages. It is not set for a specific age, but could tell a story that children from kindergarten to fifth grade would enjoy to look at.

Maria says

Have you been by a house and wondered who lived there and what they were like? What made them happy, sad, amused, or angry? I have at times, but of course I would never go up to the house and peek in the window to get a better idea. We have laws against that type of thing. In this wordless picture book though, we can legally indulge our curiosity a little. We also see how a little kindness can speak volumes. We see the Flower Man enter a neighborhood that is clearly depressed and gray. As he interacts with his neighbors he injects a little happiness and color into the neighborhood, until the entire neighborhood is alive, vibrant, and cheerful. Then time to move on to the next neighborhood. A beautifully illustrated story that is a cross between the wildly entertaining "Where's Waldo" and "I Spy" Books, and the random acts of kindness movement; this book is surely one that would be a favorite for both children and adults.

Linda says

I know that this is a book for every age. Into a gray village world of people and animals peeking out of their windows, high and low, but they appear angry or unhappy in some way. I believe one could look at each double-page spread for a long, long time. The detail amazes, and then the magic begins. The Flower Man arrives and moved into a house with a "for sale" sign. The first flower appears, and the first color, along with a young girl given a flower and she moves along the sidewalk, IN COLOR! That Flower Man cares about life, his garden, and the neighbors. It's quite an amazing book.

Crystal Marcos says

Oh my, we love this virtually wordless book! The only words are the opening sentence. First thing I am doing after writing this review is seeking out other works by Mark Ludy.

I read this first by myself and then again twice more with my two year old daughter, with each read finding something charming and new. This book is fabulous! I suspect I could read it 10 times and find something I didn't see before. A beautiful tale of a sweet little old man bringing joy to a colorless town through flowers.

We should all be The Flower Man and bring color and inspiration to those around us!

[illegible]

Reading these reviews, I realize I need to take another trip thru this beautiful book to find the mouse...Squeakers is on every page. Individual stories of characters in the background grow and change as the characters come under the spell of the Flower Man and his love of life.

How can anyone **not** like this book? This uplifting tale shows how one person can make a big difference in

lots of lives without spending a lot of money. By the end of the story, Ludy has also exemplified what it means to 'pay-it-forward.'

Obviously, the art carries the story, and the story deepens when more time is spent studying each page. I wonder if the artist shown in one of the windows is Ludy's self-portrait.

A definite keeper.

Meghan Hunt says

This is a great book for kids to read to adults because they can guess what is happening by looking at the pictures in the book. The story begins with a picture of a grey, drab town. Everything in the picture is dreary except for an old man carrying a suitcase. He is in color. He moves into a house and his house turns to color and a tree pops up and the color spreads and gives flowers that grow in his garden away. As he gives more flowers, the color spreads throughout the town until it is bright and cheery.

I wouldn't use this in a storytime, but I would recommend this book to mothers who want an interactive story experience with their child, because it allows them to "read" to their mothers and to figure out what is going on in the story.

Randie D. Camp, M.S. says

The Flower Man demonstrates how strong of an impact one person can make. The Flower Man moves to a dark and gloomy community and soon his good character begins to spread throughout the neighborhood. And then he is off to do the same in another dark and gloomy community.

Ludy's illustrations are brilliant. I loved the side stories that are told through the windows of the Flower Man's neighbors. I also appreciate the strategic usage of color in the illustrations.

Paige Arcuri says

1. Awards: N/A
2. Appropriate Grade Levels: Preschool- 3rd Grade
3. Summary: A colorful, old man enters a black and white town to fix up an old house. Everything and everyone the man interacts with slowly turns to color. As his gift of kindness and happiness has changed the whole town to color, it is time for him to leave and share his generosity with another group of people.
4. Review: This book encourages a child's imagination all while spreading the important message of kindness. The simple image of color spreading across the page, highlights the moral of the story and allows the child to focus on the specific act occurring. I found myself flipping through the book multiple times, noticing something new when I looked back at the pictures.
5. Use:

- a) With older children you can have them work on a creative piece of writing where they choose a character, one originally in black and white, and explain their life before and after they met the Flower Man.
- b) For younger children, you can use the book to discuss what acts of kindness they have done. You can write down the examples your students gave and display them around the room as a daily reminder of how to treat people.
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Angelina Justice says

I'm not usually a big fan of wordless books, but this one is amazing. There are, in fact, a few words at the very beginning of the book..."My grandpa always said, 'Everyone's got a story....you jus' gotta find out what it is.'"

Although the story's primary protagonist is the flower man, there are multiple stories in this wordless picture book. The central message of the story is how we touch one another's lives, but there are many lives, so there are many stories.

Meghan Molloy says

Awards the book has received (if any): N/A

Appropriate grade level(s): Preschool-3rd Grade

Original 3-line summary: A man that is colorful moves into a town that is black and white. He gives a flower to a girl that starts a chain reaction of kind acts. With every interaction, the pages become more colorful.

Original 3-line review: This is a worthwhile 'read' for people of all ages. It teaches the importance of kind acts and the impact people can have on the lives of others. Through beautifully illustrated images, the stories of many characters are told.

2-3 possible in-class uses: For children in lower elementary grade; after the book is shown, the teacher can ask the students to write small acts of kindness they have done or that people have done for them. Since the man in the story gave the girl a flower, the acts of kindness can be written on flowers. The flowers can be turned into a display in the classroom. This can serve as a reminder to always be kind and mindful of the way children interact with others. For children in upper elementary grades; Students can choose one character in the book and write a story about their life. This writing prompt allows students to integrate their imagination and creativity into their writing.

Lisa Vegan says

5 5 5 5 5 full stars! This is now one of my favorite virtually wordless picture books. Do not rush through this one! It's worth it to view everything very meticulously and that takes quite a bit of time with this book. Color is used brilliantly to help tell this story. It's a lovely and special story that can be appreciated on so many levels. One person can make a difference, the potential for a community to grow and change for the better,

oh so much. And the illustrations are just wonderful as pictures. I love this book!!!

Theresa says

The Flower Man (Hardcover)
by Mark Ludy

Wordless picture book, an old man comes into a bland town. He brings light, he brings color, and he gives it away. After he comes the neighborhood not only is more colorful but more connected by the act of giving. This is a great book to show anticipation, to show beauty and show genuine act of change by bringing your self and showing it two the world.
