

The Great Migration: Journey to the North

By Eloise Greenfield

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The Great Migration: Journey to the North By Eloise Greenfield

We were one family among the many thousands. Mama and Daddy leaving home, coming to the city, with their hopes and their courage, their dreams and their children, to make a better life.

When Eloise Greenfield was four months old, her family moved from their home in Parmele, North Carolina, to Washington, D.C. Before Jan Spivey Gilchrist was born, her mother moved from Arkansas and her father moved from Mississippi. Both settled in Chicago, Illinois. Though none of them knew it at the time, they had all become part of the Great Migration.

In this collection of poems and collage artwork, award winners Eloise Greenfield and Jan Spivey Gilchrist gracefully depict the experiences of families like their own, who found the courage to leave their homes behind during The Great Migration and make new lives for themselves elsewhere. *The Great Migration* concludes with a bibliography.

Supports the Common Core State Standards

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The Great Migration: Journey to the North By Eloise Greenfield Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #619498 in Books
- Brand: Amistad
- Published on: 2010-12-21
- Released on: 2010-12-21
- Ingredients: Example Ingredients
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.00" h x .25" w x 9.00" l, .92 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 32 pages

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Between 1915 and 1930, more than a million African Americans left their homes in the South and moved to the North, says Greenfield in an introduction to this stirring collection of poems that honors those who took part in the Great Migration, including the poet herself. Each spread looks at a different stage in the journey, beginning with the uprooting: "Saying goodbye to the land / puts a pain on my heart," says a farmer. The beat in Greenfield's free-verse poetry amplifies the feeling of momentum, from the way news travels "They thought about it, talked about it, / spread the word" to the rhythm of the train that is felt even in the northbound passengers' questions, "Will I make a good life / for my family, / for myself? / The wheels are singing, / Yes, you will, / you will, you will! / I hope they're right. / I think they're right. / I know they're right." Greatly enhancing the impact of the words, Gilchrist's moving mixed-media collages layer drawings, maps, and color-washed archival images that have the slightly distorted look of photocopies, giving some of the figures an almost ghostly, translucent appearance. Together, the immediate words, striking images, and Greenfield's personal story create a powerful, haunting view of a pivotal moment in U.S. history even as they show the universal challenges of leaving home behind and starting a new life. A bibliography concludes. Grades 2-4. --Gillian Engberg

Review

Praise for *Brothers & Sisters*: "Timeless...clear and universal. Everyone can relate to the poems' affection, frustration, laughter, jealousy, and family pride, as well as the love that always shines through." (ALA Booklist)

Praise for *Brothers & Sisters*: "These are the sweetest poems for kids and families of all kinds." (Charlotte Observer)

Praise for *Brothers & Sisters*: "Together their picture book celebrates how brothers get along with brothers, sisters with sisters, and various other combinations." (Horn Book Magazine)

Praise for *Brothers & Sisters*: "A feel-good collection, equally suited to reading alone or aloud." (Kirkus Reviews)

Praise for *Brothers & Sisters*: "Greenfield's poetic observations and commentaries succinctly capture siblings at various ages and stages. The illustrator is equally as skillful. This book needs to be shared in classrooms, in storytimes, and especially within families." (School Library Journal)

Praise for *The Friendly Four*: "Fun for reading aloud." (ALA Booklist)

Praise for *The Friendly Four*: "Idealistic and nostalgic...perfect for classroom readers' theater or as a way for a young child to share reading with an older sibling or parent." (The Horn Book)

Praise for *The Friendly Four*: "A lively tribute to children's imagination as well as an inviting introduction to free verse." (Kirkus Reviews)

Praise for *The Friendly Four*: "Has an open accessibility, with its big print and visually inviting pages, and an upbeat warmth." (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books)

Praise for *In the Land of Words*: “[a] joy-filled, right-on tribute to wordsmithing in all its forms.” (Kirkus Reviews)

Praise for *For the Love of the Game*: “This book will set children soaring.” (ALA Booklist)

Praise for *For the Love of the Game*: “A powerful blending of words and pictures that delivers a message that needs to be heard by children.” (School Library Journal)

Praise for *Honey, I Love and Other Love Poems*: “Abounds with that special tenderness surrounding the everyday experiences in a child’s life. These poems beg to be read aloud.” (Boston Globe)

From the Back Cover

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mary Redus:

The book *The Great Migration: Journey to the North* can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Exactly why must we leave a very important thing like a book *The Great Migration: Journey to the North*? A number of you have a different opinion about reserve. But one aim that book can give many details for us. It is absolutely proper. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or facts that you take for that, it is possible to give for each other; you can share all of these. Book *The Great Migration: Journey to the North* has simple shape but the truth is know: it has great and big function for you. You can seem the enormous world by wide open and read a book. So it is very wonderful.

Timothy Rocha:

Book is to be different for every grade. Book for children till adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important normally. The book *The Great Migration: Journey to the North* had been making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages

for you. The publication *The Great Migration: Journey to the North* is not only giving you considerably more new information but also for being your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your book. Try to make relationship using the book *The Great Migration: Journey to the North*. You never truly feel lose out for everything if you read some books.

Gerald Rountree:

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Alexander Goodman:

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