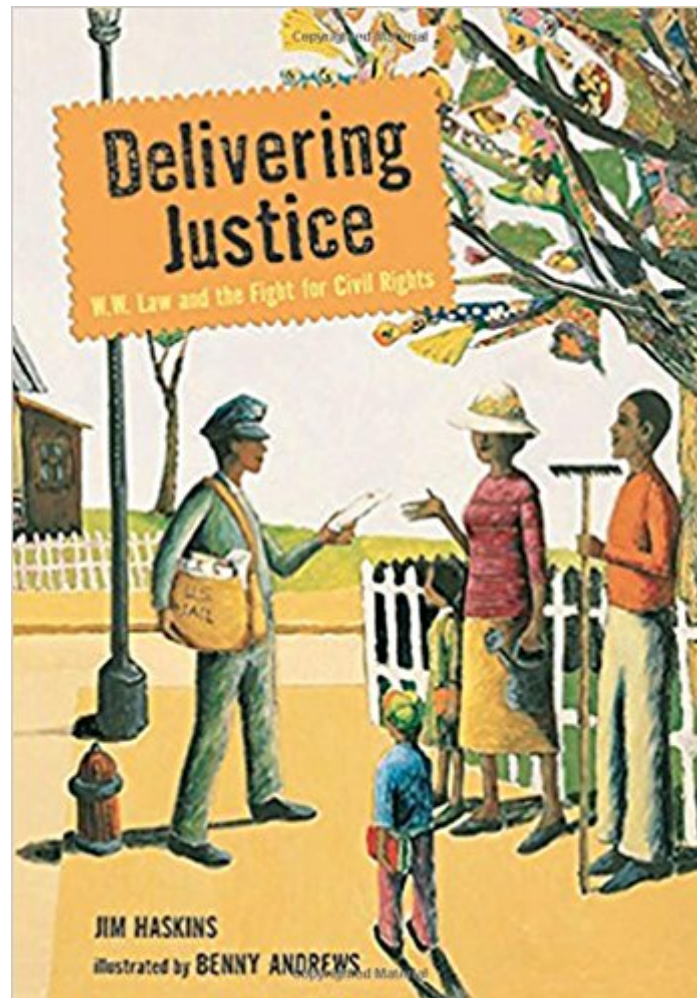




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# Delivering Justice: W.W. Law And The Fight For Civil Rights



## Synopsis

A respected biographer teams up with an acclaimed artist to tell the story of the mail carrier who orchestrated the Great Savannah Boycott and was instrumental in bringing equality to his community. "Grow up and be somebody," Westley Wallace Law's grandmother encouraged him as a young boy living in poverty in segregated Savannah, Georgia. Determined to make a difference in his community, W.W. Law assisted blacks in registering to vote, joined the NAACP and trained protestors in the use of nonviolent civil disobedience, and, in 1961, led the Great Savannah Boycott. In that famous protest, blacks refused to shop in downtown Savannah. When city leaders finally agreed to declare all of its citizens equal, Savannah became the first city in the south to end racial discrimination. A lifelong mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, W.W. Law saw fostering communication between blacks and whites as a fundamental part of his job. As this affecting, strikingly illustrated biography makes clear, this "unsung hero" delivered far more than the mail to the citizens of the city he loved.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 850L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Reprint edition (September 23, 2008)

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Product Dimensions: 8.1 x 0.2 x 11.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #94,315 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Law > Administrative Law > Civil Law #36 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Government #38 in Books > Law > Constitutional Law > Civil Rights

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

Gr. 2-4. With handsome, full-page illustrations in oil and collage, this picture-book biography tells the stirring story of a quiet hero, Westley (W. W.) Law, a mail carrier who played a leading role in the civil rights movement. It begins with scenes of Law's growing up poor in segregated Savannah, sad

to be separated from his mother, who must work in someone else's home, and angry that his people are insulted in the local department store. In 1942, Law joins the Youth Council of the NAACP and helps people register to vote. After college and the army, he is denied work as a teacher, so he becomes a mail carrier--a job he loves. A combination of realism and folk art, the dramatic illustrations show the beloved mailman leading students in nonviolent protests in Savannah in the 1960s and in his neighborhood. Haskins doesn't provide sources--not even for Law's thoughts and feelings--but the telling is strong, and a final full-page biography fills in the history. Pair this with Nikki Giovanni's *Rosa* (2005). Hazel Rochman

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"Grow up and be somebody," Westley Wallace Law's grandmother encouraged him as a young boy living in poverty in segregated Savannah, Georgia. Determined to make a difference in his community, W. W. Law assisted blacks in registering to vote, joined the NAACP and trained protestors in the use of nonviolent civil disobedience, and, in 1961, led the Great Savannah Boycott. In that famous protest, blacks refused to shop in downtown Savannah. When city leaders finally agreed to declare all of its citizens equal, Savannah became the first city in the south to end racial discrimination. A respected biographer teams up with an acclaimed artist to tell the story of the mail carrier who orchestrated the Great Savannah Boycott;and was instrumental in bringing equality to his community --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

This book really helped me with how to give my children understanding of who WW Law was. A hero to my city , Savannah Ga.

This book was much enjoyed by one of my third grade classes. It gave them the information they needed to help them understand segregation and desegregation in our country's history.

-----"Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights"Written by Jim HaskinsIllustrated by Benny Andrews(Candlewick Press, 2005)-----This is an excellent biographical picturebook presenting the story of Georgia-born Westley Wallace Law, a postal worker who helpedorganize the nonviolent civil rights movement that desegregated the city of Savannah, Georgia in the early 1960s. As the book points out, Savannah's desegregation campaign was far less violent than in other Southern cities, in part because of the work that Law and his allies did to

foster dialog between black and white citizens, gaining white support for a citywide boycott that lasted nearly two years, from 1960-61. The author does a good job presenting the kinds of injustices and prejudice that African-Americans faced in the 1940s and '50s, as seen through the eyes of the young W. W. Law, first as a child and then as a young man - the artwork by Benny Andrews is nicely textured, colorful and appealing. This book, which concentrates on a less well-known Southern battle, is an excellent resource for broadening young reader's knowledge of the American Civil Rights movement. Recommended! (DJ Joe Sixpack, ReadThatAgain children's book reviews)

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Westley Wallace Law grew up in Savannah, Georgia, at a time when segregation laws dictated that he drink at separate water fountains and attend a separate school. Westley grew angry that his mom and grandma experienced discriminatory treatment at work and in local stores. He vowed that some day he would become a leader in the black community and also support his mother so she no longer had to work as a domestic in someone else's house.As a young man, Westley took on leadership positions in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He helped African Americans pass tests that were required for voter registration, and he started training local students in non-violent protest methods that were put to the test during the Great Savannah Boycott in 1960. Westley's job as mail carrier proved instrumental in establishing dialogues with people in the white community and cultivating an understanding of the need to end racial

segregation. Delivering Justice tells the important story of an unsung hero during the civil rights movement who fought for racial equality and social justice for African Americans. Carefully intertwined in this biographical account are some powerful lessons in economics related to discrimination by race and jobs in the public sector. This excellent book gets high marks for putting the spotlight on an inspiring leader and making his contributions accessible to younger readers.

This award-winning book is one of the best books I've seen for children, about Civil Rights. I recommend it. Wonderful!

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