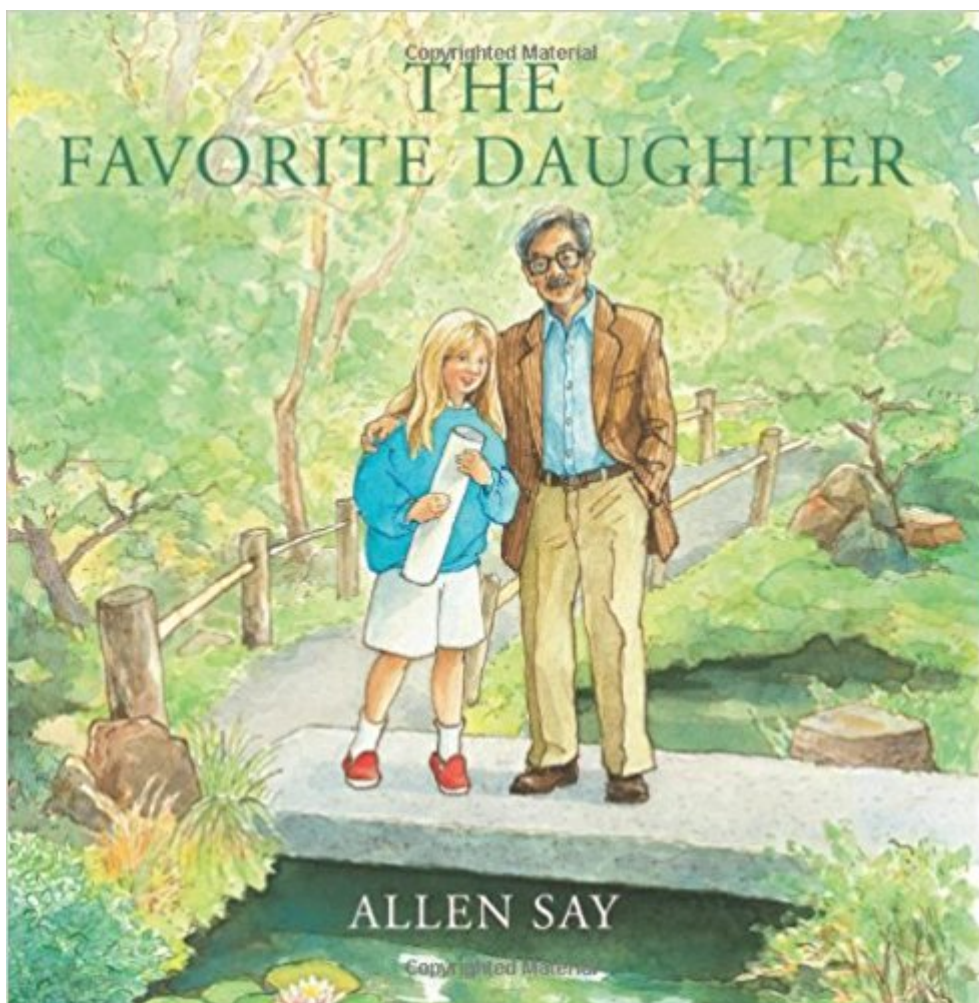


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# The Favorite Daughter



## Synopsis

Yuriko hates her name when the children make fun of it and call her "Eureka!" Though she is half Japanese, the teasing makes her want to hide, to retreat even from the art projects she used to love. Fortunately she has a patient, kind father who finds gentle ways of drawing her out and reminding Yuriko of the traditions they share that have always brought her joy: walks in lovely Golden Gate Park, lunch at their favorite sushi restaurant, watching the fog blow in off the bay. It's enough... it's more than enough to face down her challenges with confidence. From the incomparable Allen Say comes another moving story taken from his personal experience and translated to the universal. This tale, dedicated with love to Say's daughter, is one for all parents who want their children to feel pride in their heritage, and to know their own greatest sources of strength and inspiration. THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER will be a favorite for years to come.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 300L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Arthur A. Levine Books (May 28, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 054517662X

ISBN-13: 978-0545176620

Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 0.4 x 10.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #177,397 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Asian & Asian American #584 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents #750 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2-Whereas Drawing from Memory (Scholastic, 2011) revealed a slice of Say's youth, this title is seen through the lens of fatherhood, although the narrator is omniscient. As the story opens, "Yuriko came to stay with her father on Thursday that week." Readers follow the flaxen-haired child

through homework assignments that involve bringing a baby picture to school and, later, creating a model of the Golden Gate Bridge. A photograph of Yuriko clad in a red, flowered kimono becomes a source of confusion for her classmates, who associate Japanese appearance with dark hair. When the art teacher mispronounces her name, and the students follow suit, her day goes from bad to worse; miserable, she seeks a new identity upon arriving home. Father and daughter visit a familiar sushi restaurant, Golden Gate Park, and the bridge (shrouded in fog), all of which help the troubled girl process her feelings and inspire a unique response to the art project. Their banter pits paternal teasing mixed with loving support against childlike swings between melodrama and earnestness. Say's command of watercolor, ink, and pencil develops the visual narrative through a combination of uncluttered interiors; peaceful, restorative gardens; and emotionally complex portraits. The concluding photograph of Yuriko as a young woman in Japan (also wearing a kimono) conveys an acceptance and pride regarding her heritage and adds impact to the message. A sensitive addition to the canon of picture books about children coming to terms with being "different."-Wendy Lukehart, District of Columbia Public Library (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Yuriko, who is staying with her father for the weekend, comes home upset after the kids in art class make fun of her name. She decides she wants to be called Michelle from now on, which her father humors with judicious stoicism. Over the next couple of days he takes her to her favorite restaurant for sushi, through the Japanese Garden in Golden Gate Park, and to an ink-painting demonstration, but things turn sour again when they visit the Golden Gate Bridge "which is supposed to be the subject of a class art project" and find it shrouded in fog. One stroke of ingenuity on Yuriko's part later, however, and things are set right again. Say's artwork, rendered in pen and ink and watercolors, is as classy as ever. Although the little girl stars in every illustration, this clearly autobiographical book is very much from the father's point of view. Still, the genuine warmth and nontrivializing look at childhood troubles should endear this to a young audience. And the emphasis on celebrating one's culture while finding common ground with others is universally handy.

Grades 1-3. --Ian Chipman

This book moved me to tears. I have a similar background to Yuriko, and Mr. Say captured things perfectly. The illustrations are beautiful. There is just enough text. Highly recommended for families with mixed cultural backgrounds and for other parents who want their children to have empathy for friends or peers with different cultural backgrounds. I also recommend "My Name is Yoon".

this text is even stronger than some of his other books as he applies meaningful, personal insights into the upbringing of his daughter. I enjoy all of his books and this one struck a true chord as being a wonderful, universal feeling of working hard to do the best thing for your daughter. I always look forward to more illustrations and text from Allen Say

This was a cute story about a biracial child and her feelings of inadequacy because she didn't fit in. The illustrations were lovely and it had a nice feel-good end. I was so pleased to see a story that I could relate to. I would recommend this book for parents and child care workers who work with multi-racial students. There aren't enough stories pertaining to this subject and I'm sure many children can relate to the young girl in this book.

Good condition

good book

"The Favorite Daughter" is such a poignant and beautiful story that will tug at readers' heartstrings. The book is dedicated to the author-illustrator's daughter Yuriko and centers on an event during Yuriko's childhood. One a visit to her father's home, Yuriko asks if her father has any pictures of her as a child and takes one to school. Unfortunately, things do not go well as Yuriko returns home upset because the children at school had teased her about her golden hair and her kimono (which they pronounce 'kimona'). As a child of mixed parentage, Yuriko feels 'different' and begins to resent her name when a teacher at school mispronounces and causes Yuriko more pain. Yuriko tells her father she wants a more American name like "Michelle". The rest of the story sees how Yuriko sorts things out and comes to appreciate her uniqueness, with lots of help from dad of course. Beautifully illustrated, this story of a father's love for his daughter and how he helps her find her way is inspiring and uplifting, and is perfect for sharing between fathers and daughters.

I am surprised that there are so few reviews for any book by Allen Say, let alone this beautiful tale of a father's wisdom and love riding out his interracial daughter's confusion about her identity and her art. The text is sparing, letting the reader see between the lines as Mariko finds her way with her father's support and astute questioning as well as her own spirit and creativity. Yes, this is nominally told from a dad's point of view, but children will understand the Mariko's questioning as well as the

love that is so clearly present between the two. I would recommend this to older children, probably 8 and up, and their parents, who will love it as well. The illustrations are lovely, both of the people and the scenery of San Francisco. A very satisfying book.

**The Favorite Daughter** By: Allen Say  
The Favorite Daughter by Allen Say is about a little girl named Yuriko and one day at school a girl called her Eureka and every one in her class laughed at her. Yuriko came home that day very sad the father said "What's wrong Yuriko?" "Everyone at school was making fun of my name." So that night Yuriko and her dad went to a sushi bar and her dad decided to have her skip school the next day to go to a park. So that morning Yuriko and her father drove to a Japanese park and walked around enjoying the beautiful flowers and buildings. After they were done walking around they went to a little shop where they saw a man painting. The man asked "what is your name little girl?" "Yuriko" she replied. "The child of the lily" the man said. So the man drew a pink lily for Yuriko and Yuriko realized that her name is very special and she can't get mad over someone laughing at it. This was a very good book I really liked the drawings in this book but some of the words were hard to pronounce. I would recommend this book because you will learn don't let people's opinions bring you down. I would give this book a 8/10 rating. But overall this was a very good book!

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