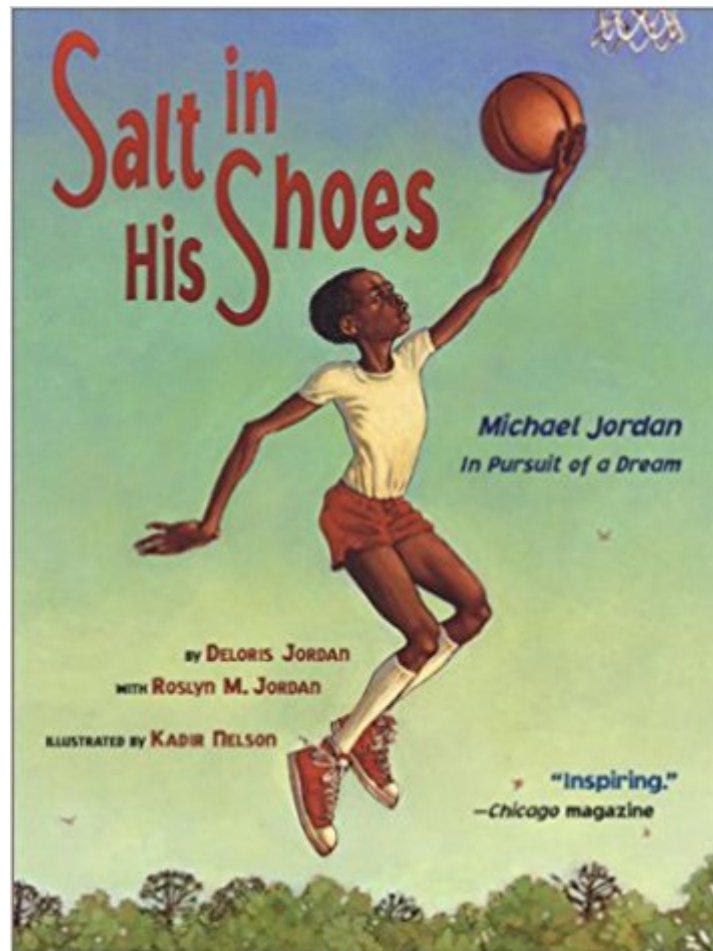




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Salt In His Shoes: Michael Jordan In Pursuit Of A Dream



Synopsis

Michael Jordan. The mere mention of the name conjures up visions of basketball played at its absolute best. But as a child, Michael almost gave up on his hoop dreams, all because he feared he'd never grow tall enough to play the game that would one day make him famous. That's when his mother and father stepped in and shared the invaluable lesson of what really goes into the making of a champion -- patience, determination, and hard work. Deloris Jordan, mother of the basketball phenomenon, teams up with his sister Roslyn to tell this heartwarming and inspirational story that only the members of the Jordan family could tell. It's a tale about faith and hope and how any family working together can help a child make his or her dreams come true.

Book Information

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Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (November 1, 2003)

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 151 customer reviews

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Before basketball star Michael Jordan's name was uttered reverently in households all over the planet, young Michael was just a shrimpy kid trying to play ball with the big boys in the neighborhood. Tired of being teased by the biggest boy on the court, Michael is convinced the only solution is to grow taller. His mama smilingly suggests putting salt in his shoes and saying a prayer every night. His daddy tells young Michael that "Being taller may help you play a little better, but not as much as practice, determination, and giving your best will. Those are the things that make you a real winner." And so they are. At 6-foot-6, Michael may not have grown up to be the tallest player on

the court, but he sure did turn out to be one of the best! As his mother and his sister, Deloris Jordan and Rosalyn Jordan are in a pretty good position to tell us all about what made Michael a star. They create an image of a cozy, loving family life any child would be happy to come home to.

Award-winning illustrator Kadir Nelson's oil pictures of the gangly little Michael with hyperlong arms and oversized hands capture the preteen potential as well as his gawky grace. This warm, uplifting story will encourage young readers to chase their dreams with hard work and faith. (Ages 5 to 9)

--Emilie Coulter --This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

Michael Jordan's mother and sister team up for an inspirational story about this athlete's earliest on-court efforts. Nelson (Big Jabe) is also a strong player here; he contributes animated art, rendered in a cartoon style that is informal yet polished. In the opening scenario, a bully intimidates young Jordan during a basketball game at a neighborhood park, causing him to flub a pass. Michael tells his older brothers, "I am really sorry, guys. If I were taller that wouldn't have happened." When he asks his mother what will make him grow, she advises him to put salt in his shoes and say a prayer every night. Though he obliges and continues to practice shooting baskets at home, his efforts don't immediately pay off. One day, his father convinces him that, rather than being tall, "practice, determination, and giving your best" are the keys to being "a real winner," and Michael runs off to join his brothers in the park, where he makes the game's winning shot. Though the book ends with a rather facile slam-dunk, the authors offer authoritative insight into this six-foot-six-inch-tall hoopster's boyhood spunk as well as reassurance to young athletes impatient for a growth spurt. Nelson handily balances in-your-face on-court action with more reflective portraits of the player's inner growth. All ages. (Nov.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

I love books that peak my 5 year old's interest. He loves basketball. What better way to get him to read than to get him a book about one of the greatest players to ever play the game. The book is very cute and the illustrations are great and perfect for any age kid. My 12 year old loves reading it to him. Perfect!

It was a good book, well written but wished it would've been more of a biography detailing less but covering more. Very well written and excellent illustrations. MJ will always be the favorite player in this house

My students LOVED when I read this book to him! We were working on biographies and this was a great way to see how they're written, along with how the author's perspective can effect the story's impact! I highly recommend this book!

We love this book- of course, we're children of the MJ era, so I love reading about his childhood (however accurate it may be), but the story overall is great for kids - emphasizing hard work and patience for success. Very encouraging, uplifting story that's also a lot of fun. Very appropriate for 3-4 year old level, up through older kids who will understand some of the underlying messages more clearly. Great illustrations, as well.

The story beautifully presents the security of the warm family and the values they passed on of hard work and hope. The art is beautiful, especially the drawings of the mother. The recipient was a 9 year old girl who is passionate about basketball and loved it. She already had one Michael Jordan biography (which is also great) and she liked this one better.

This book was recommended for 10-12 year olds. This age group is reading chapter books which this book certainly was not, it's a cute picture type book with a nice story but way too easy reading for a 10 year old good reader.

GRAND KIDS LIKE THE BOOK

This book fit perfectly into my young tutee's schema for Michael Jackson and the game of basketball. Before this boy came to read that day I had placed a salt shaker on our work table. When he completed his reading he hurriedly untied and removed his shoes and began shaking salt into them! Now, here is the part that can make grown educators cry: he said that he would be sure to shake salt into his shoes on the day of the PARCC test! What has the science of education come to? We all know the answer to that question: "THE SUITS have taken over!" and have made a real mess of things.

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