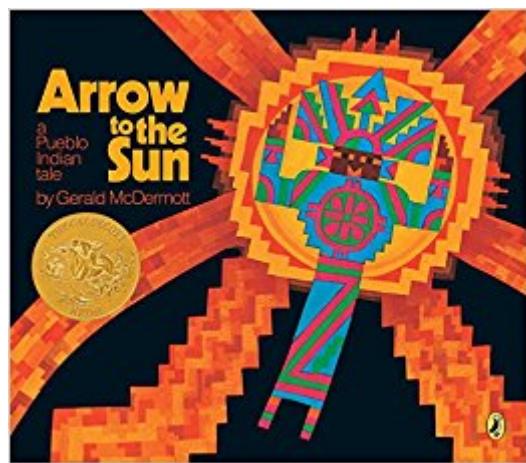


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# Arrow To The Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale



## **Synopsis**

With vibrant colors and bold geometric forms, Gerald McDermott brilliantly captures the stylized look of Pueblo Indian art in this Caldecott Award-winning retelling of an ancient legend. A young boy searches for his father, but before he can claim his heritage he must first prove his worthiness by passing through the four ceremonial chambers: the kiva of lions, the kiva of snakes, the kiva of bees, and the kiva of lightning. Striking in its simplicity and grace, Arrow to the Sun vividly evokes the Native American reverence for the source of all lifeâ "the Solar Fire.â Winner of the Caldecott

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 480L (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (February 24, 1977)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140502114

ISBN-13: 978-0140502114

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 48 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #81,300 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 inâ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > United States #63 inâ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans #71 inâ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Anthologies

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## **Customer Reviews**

Gerald McDermott was an award-winning author, illustrator, and filmmaker who is rememberedâ for his unique style of vibrant, visual storytelling.â His picture books featureâ folktalesâ andâ culturesâ from all around the world.

This book listed as a book to be read for a unit study I picked up for free in our homeschooling group's Mom's Night Out, from another homeschool parent. The unit study was on four books, which we checked out of the library at first; then later ordered for our home library. We used some of the unit study with our daughter for the Kindergarten year, but not the entire unit study. It was on

American Indian culture. She fell in love with this book at age 5, and still lists it as one of her favorites at age 7. I think this is partially because of the meaning in the book for her. She says she likes the way the people in it are depicted, and the colorful pictures. She says its meaning is that love can be a challenge. I would likely never have picked this book off the shelf in the library myself. Although I like native American stories, I tend to go for the pretty pictures (Legend of the Blue Bonnet) in a children's book, not the bold colored, angular art. The boy feels estranged from his community because he does not know who his father is, then finds out that the sun is his father, through going through trials. The trials involve Kivas, or the ritual rooms found in Pueblo structures. In the end he is a part of his community. It IS a nice story.

Still one of my all time favorite picture books. I feel in love with it as a child and it still captures the attention of my students in the library. Colorful illustrations and a good story. A strong Caldecott Medal winner.

My mother read this book to me when I was a child, and I remember loving it, but hadn't seen it in probably 15 years until I bought it for my nephew. It is as good as I remember. I can attest to the fact that the high contrast, brightly colored drawings are mesmerizing for a small child. The best part of the book is when the boy must complete four tasks for the sun god to prove himself. The tasks are not narrated, you get to see how the tasks are completed from how the drawings change. It's so cool! I felt very smart as a little kid being able to discover what he did and figure it out for myself. On a cultural note, the narrative is similar to the Christ story. Mother gives birth to the boy (a virgin birth) after the sun god sends a ray of energy to her. The boy grows up and wants to know who his father is, and goes on a quest to find him and prove that he is indeed the son of the sun god. (That's why he becomes an arrow to the sun!) I think it's good for a child to be exposed to this story to begin to understand the universal elements of religion and that all cultures have a lot in common. Even those that seem strange are not so different from our own.

I just recently found this again as an adult to share to my son. I remember the teachers back when I was about eight or a little younger showing us a movie version of this book. I found it mesmerizing. While it doesn't portray the culture that the book is based on absolutely correctly, it is a child's book and being so, sometimes things are changed to make it easier for them to understand. Also it is the writers interpretation of the myth. That being said, the book teaches children how to be heroic in their own respect and that sometimes the needs of the one, is outweighed by the needs of

many. The storybook itself has amazing art work and helps keep a child engaged as the journey goes on. I love this book and I hope you will too. Buy this for a good read to your littlest ones.

Beautifully illustrated book. My daughter just loves the pictures and gets giddy when we read together.

My grandson loves these "trickster-type books.

I was so happy to see this book. This was the first book I read all by myself 30 years ago as a child. Great illustration and great insight to a different folklore than my own. I got this book for my son (3y) and enjoy making this connection to the past and the book is about a son meeting his father ~ full circl.

Nice little tale for my seven year old.

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