



Sosu's Call

By Meshack Asare



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Sosu's Call By Meshack Asare Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Ghanian author Asare (*Cat in Search of a Friend*) touches on weighty themes of prejudice and courage as he introduces Sosu, a disabled African boy whose bravery eclipses his physical limitations. Incapable of walking, Sosu is shunned: "It is bad luck to have the likes of him in our village.... You must keep him in your house," two fishermen tell Sosu's father. While children will empathize with the unfairness of Sosu's situation, the story moves sluggishly. Lengthy blocks of text unhurriedly relate both the poignant and exciting moments. It is mainly through slow, third-person-omniscient narration that readers learn of Sosu's feelings, as in Sosu's jealousy of his active dog or his interest in watching the chickens, "perhaps because there was nothing to envy about them!" When storm waters rage one day, Sosu drags himself to the drum shed, where he beats out a rhythm to call the men back from their work, to help save the others. Drab hues dominate the watercolors in the climactic scenes and elsewhere, possibly echoing Sosu's feelings of deficiency and loneliness but issuing little welcome to readers. And while rainbow colors grace the final spread when Sosu receives a wheelchair for his heroic deed the ending is a bit of an abrupt turnaround. Children may celebrate the message of Sosu's triumph, if not the way in which it is delivered. Ages 4-8. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

From School Library Journal

Grade 1-4-Sosu lives in a small village "Somewhere on a narrow strip of land between the sea and the lagoon." Unable to walk and considered "bad luck" by the villagers, he is forced to stay at home with only a dog for company while his brother and sister attend school and his parents go to work. But when a storm causes the sea to overflow, threatening the lives of the young and the old, Sosu conquers his fear and, led by his dog, crawls through the "howling wind" and "churning water" to the drum in the chief's house. His drumming brings help, and in gratitude for the lives saved, the villagers provide Sosu with a wheelchair. African designs grace the endpapers, and Asare's pastel-hued, impressionistic watercolors aptly depict life in an African fishing village: the blue sea, swaying palms, thatched huts, and villagers going about their daily chores. When Sosu is thought to be a spirit, accusing neighbors loom over him in black gray shadows in a particularly eerie spread. The lengthy text contains some lyrical descriptions and evidence of the author's love of the land. While there is never any doubt that Sosu will save the day, and some of the dog's actions stretch credibility, this story of overcoming a serious physical challenge and achieving acceptance may offer hope and inspiration to young readers.

Marianne Saccardi, Norwalk Community College, CT

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Review

"Genuine and moving with an endearing, exciting story children will love, *Sosu's Call* offers a glimpse into the lagoon-side world of a little boy named Sosu. His legs don't work quite as well as the other children's, and Sosu's life is defined by his disability - or is it?" --- Nashville Parent

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lauren Cook:

This book untitled *Sosu's Call* to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, honestly, that is

because when you read this publication you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retail store or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quicker to read this book, as you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason for you to past this guide from your list.

Essie Ryan:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray anyone, why because this Sosu's Call guide written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who also read the book. Written throughout good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and creating skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still question Sosu's Call as good book not only by the cover but also by the content. This is one e-book that can break don't determine book by its include, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick that!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

Amelia Page:

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