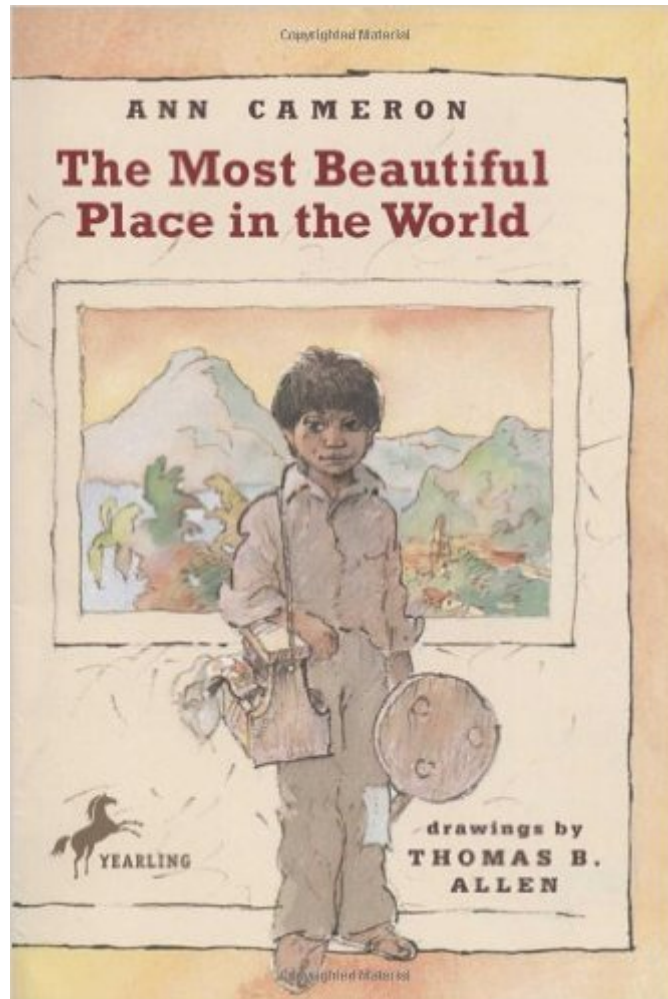


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# The Most Beautiful Place In The World



## Synopsis

"Seven-year-old Juan lives in Guatemala, a place of stunning beauty and grim economic reality. Abandoned by his mother, Juan lives with his grandmother and shines shoes. He passionately wants to attend school, but fears Grandmother will say no. Finally gathering his courage, he is surprised when she not only agrees to send him to school but also chides him about the importance of standing up for himself. Juan tells this bittersweet story, which reads smoothly and powerfully on several levels, with warmth and dignity."--Booklist.Â Â

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 830L (What's this?)

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: Yearling; Reprint edition (May 25, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394804244

ISBN-13: 978-0394804248

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #121,453 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America #127 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #200 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Orphans & Foster Homes

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

This is a delightful children's book about a boy living in San Pablo, a small town on the shores of Lake Atitlán, in Guatemala - truly one of the most beautiful places in the world. The story is a heartwarming, but authentic depiction of the trials and joys of a boy's life in rural Guatemala. The drawings are also accurate portraits of village life. The themes of responsibility, love, and quest for knowledge are timeless. Not only will children enjoy this charming tale, but adults will enjoy reading it to them.

I teach 3rd grade, and I read this book aloud to my students each year. Ann Cameron gives a realistic picture of a child abandoned by his mother, and taken in by his grandmother. She gives a wonderful message about the importance of education and asking for what is really important to you. Although this book is written in easy to read language and great illustrations, the author's messages are best discussed with young ones. I thank Ann Cameron every time I read this book.

I have read this book aloud to my first and second grade students for years. It is an excellent story, well told, with all the realities of a different culture in a different situation than USA children. However, it is painted with the strokes of deepest, realistic love that a family can have. This is a great story to teach and talk about the struggles of families everywhere, the world and its differences, and the importance of character "no matter what". It is the book my second graders yearn to read on their own and therefore is a super motivator. It is rich in geography.

The story that I read was really snappy and cool. It's called *The Most Beautiful Place in the World* By Ann Cameron. There was a boy named Juan and his grandmother. There was also Juan's mom. It takes place in San Pablo, Guatemala. The problem is she leaves him for ever and his mom doesn't let him visit her. He really loves his mom after his dad left them. Some one would want to read this book because its really sad and who ever loves tragedy or not it's a really good book. I recommend this book to people of any age.

Eventhough the book speaks of hard work and drive, I am sad my second grader read it. It speaks of a child who had a father who left he and his mother and a mother who meets a new man and leaves the child behind. The mother tells the 7 year old boy that the man didn't want him (basically, fend for yourself son, I'm looking after me). Later his mother and new man come and take the boy's bed for themselves and leaves him to sleep on a rug. The plot very clearly depicts how insensitive and selfish people who are supposed to be protecting children can be. Do any of us really want our children to worry that if their single parent meets a spouse that they would be discarded like this? This is not something an unsuspecting second grader should read. Buyer beware!

As a traveler who has been to the "Most Beautiful Place in the World" and agrees that it is, I highly recommend this book to teachers and lovers of children's lit everywhere. I use this story of poverty and the importance of education in my 5th grade classroom as a shared text from which we write literary essays. It is the story of a young boy, whose mom abandons him for her new husband who

does not want kids. His grandma takes care of him, but somehow forgets to enroll him in school. It is a heartbreaking tale, and one which I can barely read aloud without sobbing. It evokes compassion in my students every year, and provides great discussion fodder. It can easily be read by an on level 2nd grader, and any adult could find lessons to take away from it.

I read this to a student at school and he didn't think that he would like it but it turned out to be one of the BEST books that he has ever read. Love the book and the price. It was delivered right on time.

Is a beautiful book, as always Ann Cameron doesn't disappoint you. It can give a child the idea of how is Guatemala; and of the life conditions of the poor people of Guatemala; and also of their philosophy and dreams for their future. The illustrations without being colorful are still beautiful. I love the book and recomended.

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