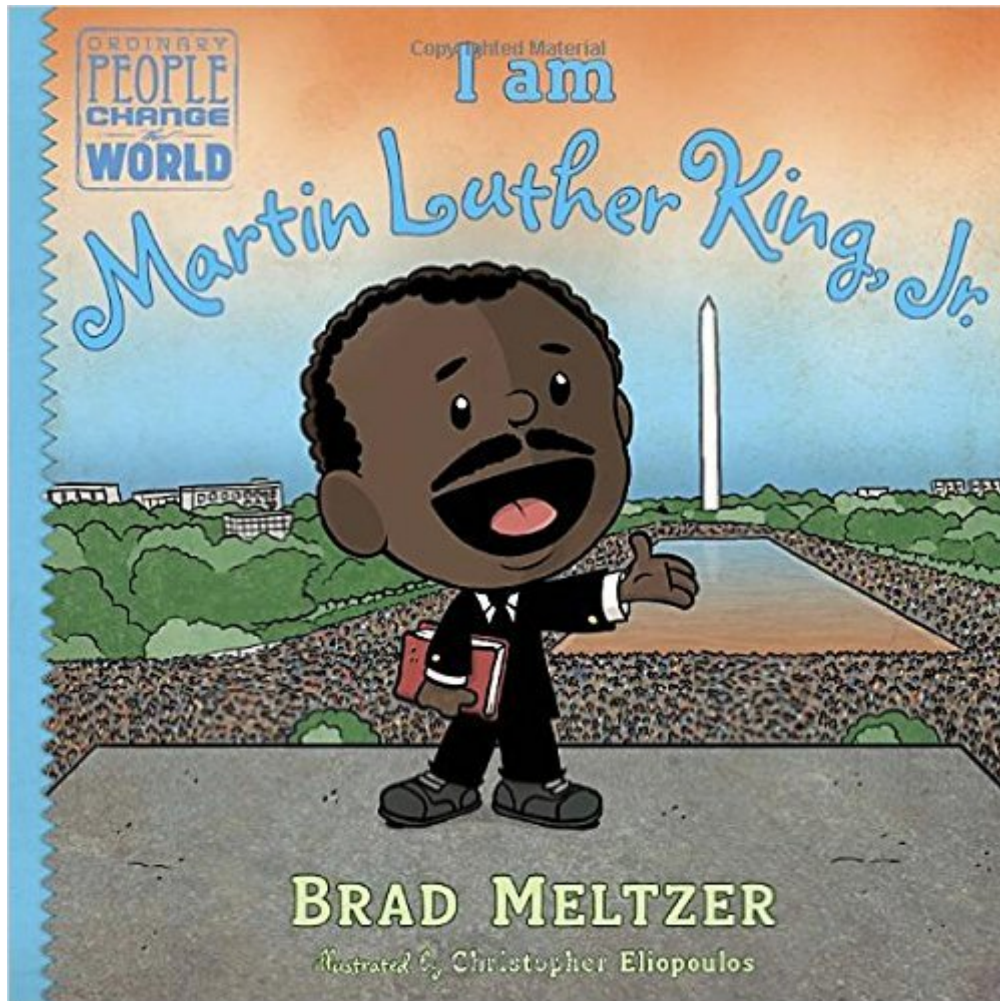


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# I Am Martin Luther King, Jr. (Ordinary People Change The World)



## Synopsis

We can all be heroes. That's the inspiring message of this New York Times Bestselling picture book biography series from historian and author Brad Meltzer. Even as a child, Martin Luther King, Jr. was shocked by the terrible and unfair way African-American people were treated. When he grew up, he decided to do something about it "peacefully, with powerful words. He helped gather people together for nonviolent protests and marches, and he always spoke up about loving other human beings and doing what's right. He spoke about the dream of a kinder future, and bravely led the way toward racial equality in America. This lively, New York Times Bestselling biography series inspires kids to dream big, one great role model at a time. You'll want to collect each book.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0640 (What's this?)

Series: Ordinary People Change the World

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Dial Books; First Edition/First Printing edition (January 5, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525428526

ISBN-13: 978-0525428527

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 0.3 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (50 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #6,298 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Social Activists #7 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s #9 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

My seven year old grandson loves these books! We were waiting for this book and were so happy when it was released in January. We even bought an extra one for his first grade teacher. The stories are easy for a child to understand and the illustrations are great. Hopefully there will be more to come.

Brad is simply amazing. My kids LOVE these books. I order 4-5 at a time and give them away for birthday presents to kids friends. Parents love them because they're not another cheap crappy toy and kids love them because they're awesome.

Words cannot explain how much I love these book! These books made me me tear up they were so inspiring, and my 6 and 4 y/o didn't have a problem understanding and sitting through the whole books. They especially loved the pictures at the end of the real people. The illustrations are great too! I have every book out and pre-ordered the two coming out in September. These are worth every penny and more!

This series is wonderful! My girls, 5 and 2, love these books. We started with I Am Rosa Parks after my kindergartener learned about Civil Rights at school. We've since bought 2 more, including this one. The books do a great job of explaining difficult subject matter in a way that kids can understand and the illustrations really interest them. We read these books over and over and over. I can't recommend them highly enough.

Beautiful pictures and easy to read. My 9 year old, loved reading about him and the pictures of him as a small child. The story was very moving and thought provoking. I bought two of these books and gave one to a church for their children :) I highly recommend this book. My son thought it was sad, how people treat others and vowed to never do that to anyone. Thank you for the speedy delivery too.

I am Martin Luther King, Jr. is the latest offering in the Ordinary People Change the World book series for children by New York Times bestselling author Brad Meltzer and illustrator Christopher Eliopoulos. Each book in the Ordinary People Change the World series features one notable American (with the exception of Albert Einstein who was born in Germany but lived in the United States until his death). The individuals featured in the series are all "famous" and the reason for the notoriety varies. Included in the series are activists (I am Rosa Parks, I am Martin Luther King, Jr., I am Helen Keller), an athlete (e.g., I am Jackie Robinson), an actress (I am Lucille Ball), a scientist (I am Albert Einstein), an American President (I am Abraham Lincoln), and that famous female pilot, I am Amelia Earhart. Each of these individuals has the potential to be a great role model for children, although arguably, from my perspective, they are not all in the same class. I am Martin Luther King, Jr. introduces the reader to a young (mustachioed) Martin who, we learn, was a great lover of

books. We see the world through Martin's eyes at a time in American history when white children were told by their parents to not play with the "black children"; where white children went to the "good school" with beautiful playgrounds and a large library, and the black children went to the small, decrepit school with no desks; where black people wouldn't be served in restaurants; where black people had to give up their seat on the bus to white people; and so on. This was a moving part of the book and very well done with respect to introducing racial discrimination to children. As Martin grows up (amusingly, he is always depicted as a young boy with a mustache in a suit presumably so children can identify with him?), we learn about his peaceful methods of activism including protests, speeches, letters, publications, and more. There are even speech bubbles where lines from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s most famous speech are included: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream that one day ... little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers." Overall, the quality and depth of the information presented and the tone of the book (which could have been very dark given the facts associated with Martin Luther King, Jr.) were appropriate for children (albeit a bit older, 5 to 10). The messages of justice, peace, and love we associate with Martin Luther King, Jr. are what is presented throughout the book. King's assassination (labelled "killed") is only mentioned in the timeline at the end of the book. The illustrations in the book are superb and use a graphic novel-style presentation combining text, cartoon depictions of individuals, and speech bubbles. This seems to be a very kid-friendly format giving children lots to look at as they flip through the pages. The book is half the size of a regular picture book though and it may make it harder to use in a classroom setting or library reading circle where someone is reading the book aloud to a larger audience of children. It would be difficult to read the text in the speech bubbles, for example. I highly recommend this book and the Ordinary People Change the World book series for children ages 5 to 10.\* This book was provided to me by the publisher in exchange for my honest review. All opinions expressed are my own. \*

This is an absolutely fantastic book. At first we borrowed it from the library, but then my child asked me to buy it. It is a graphic picture book that has a little Martin tell his story in hindsight or flashback. It is a wonderful read and a keepsake. My child loved the speech bubbles.

I love, love this book and all the others from Brad Meltzer! I first ordered the one on Amelia Earhart and loved it so much I bought all his others. The stories are cute and funny, factual, informative, and

just long enough. I love the illustrations.

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