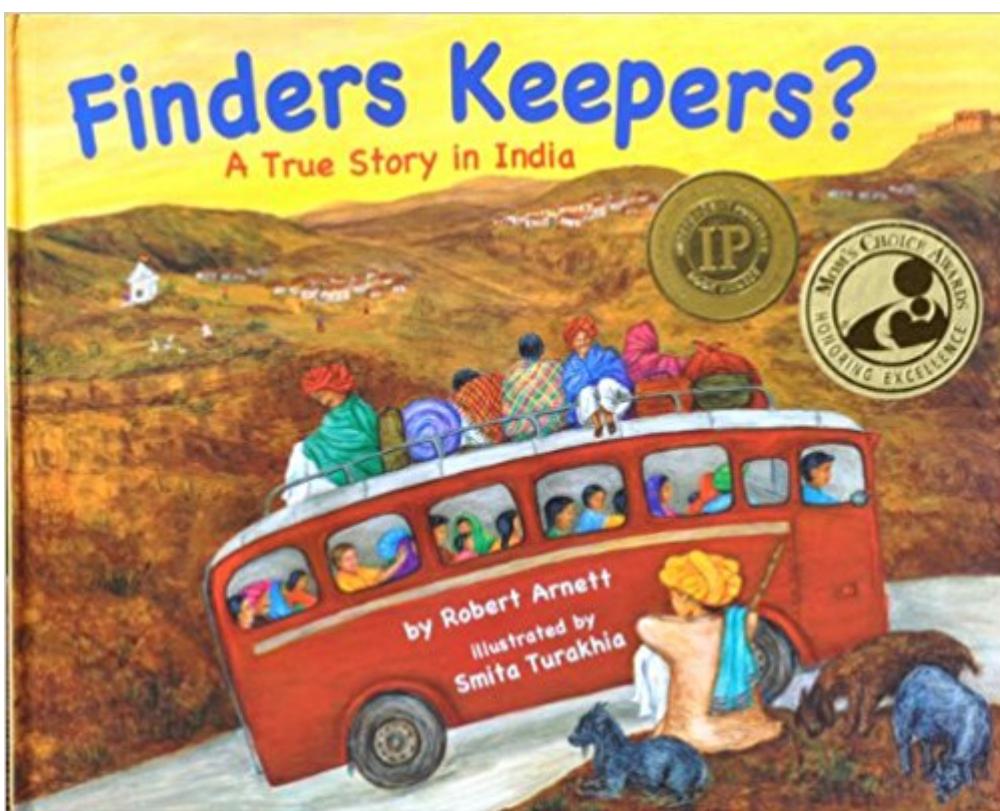


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Finders Keepers? A True Story In India (Mom's Choice Awards Recipient) (India Unveiled Childrens Series)



Synopsis

The honored recipient of many distinguished awards, *Finders Keepers?* is a charming true story with vivid illustrations set in India. The book shares the traditions, customs, and values of the people of India through simple experiences the author had with them. The delightful, jewel-toned illustrations take children on a picturesque, fun-filled journey through the exotic land. The book emphasize timeless and universal values of honesty, respect, and doing the right thing. This wonderful book teaches multicultural respect, character education skills, self-esteem, tolerance, and cultural awareness. Includes glossary, pronunciations of Indian words, engaging character-building questions, India craft activity and facts on India. With such beautiful illustrations and story, *Finders Keepers?* is an excellent picture book for parents and educators seeking to introduce children to lands beyond their borders. A great character education and a multicultural book. *Finders Keepers?* is also available in Spanish under the title *¿Es mío?*

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD930L (What's this?)

Series: India Unveiled Childrens Series

Hardcover: 34 pages

Publisher: Atman Press; Second edition (January 20, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0965290085

ISBN-13: 978-0965290081

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 11.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #559,897 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Tolerance #126 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #392 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Travel

Customer Reviews

Featuring Smita Turakhia's striking, stylized color artwork throughout, *Finders Keepers? A True Story in India* is a picturebook filled cover to cover with scenes from daily life in India. *Finders Keepers?* enriches its educational value with a glossary, pronunciations of Indian words, facts about India, and a step-by-step craft activity to make a paper toran (meant to be hung over a doorway in

order welcome guests). One anecdote in particular stands out as a strong indication of a virtuous cultural tenet: "I offered the boy a reward for returning my wallet, but he would not accept it... A man passing by stopped to watch us. I asked him if he could speak English and if he could help me... the man turned to me and said, 'This boy does not understand why you should give him any money for returning to you what is yours. The idea of accepting a reward for doing the right thing makes no sense to him.' Finders keepers? No way!" *Finders Keepers?* is highly recommended as a wonderful addition to children's multicultural picturebook shelves, whether as a personal gift or part of a public library collection. --Midwest Book Review --Midwest Book Review *Finders Keepers?* is a recipient of the prestigious Mom's Choice Award. The Mom's Choice Awards honors excellence in family-friendly media, products and services. An esteemed panel of judges includes education, media and other experts as well as parents, children, librarians, performing artists, producers, medical and business professionals, authors, scientists and others. A sampling of the panel members includes: Dr. Twila C. Liggett, Ten-time Emmy-winner, professor and founder of Reading Rainbow; Julie Aigner-Clark, Creator of Baby Einstein and The Safe Side Project; Jodee Blanco, New York Times Best-Selling Author; LeAnn Thieman, Motivational speaker and coauthor of seven *Chicken Soup For The Soul* books; Tara Paterson, Certified Parent Coach, and founder of the Mom's Choice Awards. Parents and educators look for the Mom's Choice Awards seal in selecting quality materials and products for children and families. This book has been honored by this distinguished award. --Mom's Choice Awards --Mom's Choice Awards --Mom's Choice Awards *Gorgeous illustrations and global message...a wonderful book...teaches multicultural respect, character education skills, self-esteem, tolerance, and cultural awareness.* --Learning Magazine Teacher Evaluators

Robert Arnett, a native of Columbus, Georgia, has had an avid interest in India for over 45 years. From 1988 to the present, he has made six trips to India spending almost two years there studying art, culture, and religion while living with Indian families. Arnett has a Master's Degree in History from Indiana University. Undergraduate studies were at Tulane University, University of Georgia, and the London School of Economics in England. Robert Arnett is the author and photographer of the internationally acclaimed book *India Unveiled* that has won 4 national book awards. He is also the author of a children's book set in India, *Finders Keepers?*, that has won 5 national book awards. *Finders Keepers?* is also available in Spanish under the title *¿Es mío?*.

This is a wonderful book for children. It has a powerful message and the illustrations of colors is

beautiful! Every child should have it read to them.

Finders Keepers? A True Story in India is a refreshing change from the bulk of children's books that fail to present a moral or even a solid point as a take-away. By contrast, Robert Arnett has presented an interesting, educational story that delivers an important, character-building message about honesty and doing what's right. The narrative opens with the author riding on a crowded bus over a bumpy road to Mt. Abu, located near the northwest coast of India. Men, boys, and luggage are piled on top of the bus, because it's filled to capacity with families. Inside, the passengers are so friendly--even sharing food and passing around babies to strangers--that they quickly become like one big, traveling family. The author is surprised to see that when a man takes off his turban, on top of his head sets a bag lunch. From a walled fort to roosting bats in trees, the journey is interesting, indeed. The main plot point occurs when an Indian boy taps on Arnett's elbow to get his attention, then holds out the wallet he lost while shopping. As many Americans would do, Arnett opens his wallet, withdraws some cash, and offers it to the boy as a reward for his honesty. This is when the boy delivers his second surprise: he refuses the reward. Thinking the boy must not understand his intentions, Arnett finds someone to translate. But the result is that the lad simply doesn't understand why he should be rewarded for honesty--for doing the right thing--and again, he declines the money. This presents an opportunity for parents, educators, and other adults to have a meaningful discussion with children on what makes good character. At the end of the book is a short section called, "Food For Thought," which presents good conversation starters. In addition, there are facts about India. I appreciate that the author provides the definition and pronunciation to each Indian word used, right within the text. I equally appreciate the maps drawn by the illustrator. Author Robert Arnett is an internationally acclaimed author. Finders Keepers? is the winner of multiple book awards, including Mom's Choice Best Educational Picture Book, and it was one of the Independent Publisher Outstanding Books of the Year. Illustrator Smita Turakhia has enhanced the book with beautiful paintings for each page. Her attention to authentic detail and use of brilliant color adds to the educational value and interest. Each page is a visual delight. Personally, I would love to see the author have fun with interesting action verbs. For example, instead of "going up" the path, maybe he climbed or trudged or wandered. I also couldn't help but notice the excessive number of helping verbs that could have been eliminated to tighten up the writing. Nevertheless, this does not hinder the value of the story. Finders Keepers? is also available in Spanish. Because of the international theme of the book, the Spanish edition would make a good gift for those in Spanish-speaking countries as well as the United States. Young children will enjoy having this book read to them, while

older ones will like reading it for themselves. Even though it is a picture book, adults may find it enjoyable as well.

This a very beautiful book. All in one superb work of art. It is informative, educational and entertaining. The art is wonderful and captivating. You can see all the love and dedication that Robert (story) and Smita (art) put in these beautiful pages. Everyone will learn and enjoy to experience a "different" culture and a "different" point of view. In some way you might even feel that you are cruising with the characters. There is also a Spanish version of this book (Es mÃ±o?) and the translation is excellent.

Bought this four years ago. Today I found my child reading it on his own because he likes the story. Colorful illustrations, friendly faces and a story you won't forget.

Such a beautiful book with a great lesson. Every child should be given this book, a modern day classic.

Living in a multi-cultural society requires understanding of other people and cultures by children so that they can grow up without prejudice. This is the story of a young boy who finds a wallet and refuses to take payment when returning it to the owner because the child doesn't understand receiving a reward for being honest. Parents trying to teach their children proper values will delight in this story which shows that people all over the world are trying to do the right thing and live in the right way. The story can be understood by young children and the colorful and engaging pictures will delight readers of all ages. A glossary, pronunciation guide, and questions with "food for thought" make this a wonderful educational tool.

Finders Keepers is a touching story that truly warms your heart. The beautiful illustrations alongside this true story is a great introduction about Indian culture for children as well as adults. This simple book embodies the universal message taught in all religions to follow our consciousness and inner truth. The book provides a great message for our children to build strong character and emphasize the lessons we want to teach them on a daily basis. I highly recommend this book for all ages and hope you enjoy reading it multiple times just as I do!

I read and shared this book with a class of 32 First Graders in an elementary school in San

Clemente, Ca. and was amazed to see how the children were just fascinated with the story and the lovely illustrations in it. They asked lot of questions about India and created a feeling of goodwill towards the children in the book! I would recommend this book to all the elementary schools and local libraries.

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