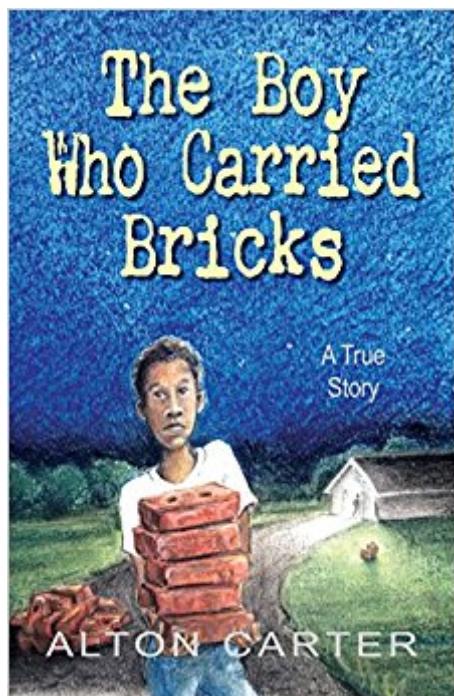


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The Boy Who Carried Bricks -- A True Story Of Survival



Synopsis

Abandoned by his father, neglected by his mother, shuttled between foster homes and a boys ranch, a young African-American man refuses to succumb to the fate that the world says should be his. Told by the man who lived it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Carter's simple language and honest, matter-of-fact tone create a narrative that is not only accessible and appealing, but also an authentic account of what poverty, abuse, and child welfare look like through the eyes of the young. . . . This coming-of-age autobiography gives voice to an underrepresented population rarely found in literature and would do well in a classroom unit on poverty or the social conditions within the foster care system. --Jewel Davis, VOYA

magazineAlthough his memoir contains violence and mature themes -- abuse, foster care, poverty, crime -- Alton Carter tells the story of his rough childhood in a style that both enlightens and inspires. Older children will see themselves and their classmates in Carter's portrayal of foster families, teachers who stereotype, and peers who drag others into trouble. . . . at times heartbreaking, but always hopeful. --ForeWord Reviews magazine2016 Oklahoma Book Award Winner The monsters of Alton Carter's weren't imaginary ones lurking beneath his bed at night. Very real, they erupted any time of day. They were his family and foster caregivers. . . . This personal story is both unflinching and hopeful. --Holly McCray, CONTACT newspaper

Abandoned by his father, neglected by his mother, shuttled between foster homes and a boys ranch

for most of his formative years, a young man refuses to succumb to the fate that the world says should be his. Born the second of five children to a woman who not once had a name to write in the blank space left for father on her children's birth certificates, Alton Carter does not mince words as he describes a childhood full of violence and hunger and isolation. Early on, Alton decides he wants a "normal life" even if that means standing up to abusive relatives and being teased by his siblings and cousins. Along the way, he keeps an eye out for those who might help lighten the load, never losing hope that such people exist.

This story is such a difficult one to read. To view Alton's account of his life and how He and his family suffered because of broken relationships, abuse and dreadfully inadequate resources is painful. Also to know there are many others like him all around us who have not found a way out of these cruel circumstances is a wake up call to our society to invest more time and loving action on behalf of these kids. Yet Alton shares his story honestly and is such an inspiring example of overcoming all these huge obstacles to go on to become a wonderful ,positive contributing blessing to others. This is a great motivational story no matter what our life work is everyone can benefit from reading this book.

This author told his story so well. You can't help but to read this book in one sitting. If you have ever wondered what it is like to be a child in the "system" and have asked the question "How did that child get there" this is the book you need to read! His 2nd book, Aging Out, is another must read if you want to know the story of these kids! His story is one of many!

It was a very good book to read and learn how blessed we are and understand why these kids grow up and think the way they do. It is very sad to know they grow up in these conditions and think it is the way of life. I am sharing this book with my grandkids so they will see how fortunate and blessed they are and maybe some day, with God's help, they can give one of these kids an ounce of hope and love to keep on going like Alton. May we all have that opportunity!

Every parent, teacher and student needs to read this book as soon as they are able to understand the unbelievable message that Alton Carter is telling kids today. A must in EVERY school library.

The Boy Who Carried Bricks is a must read for anyone. I plan on having both my teenage daughters read it. This book should be required reading for all children in junior high and high school. Alton is

an amazing man, who I had the pleasure of having as my gymnastics and cheer coach when I was younger. The person he was never gave any hints to the horrendous childhood he had experienced. Thank you Alton for writing this book. It reminds a lot of us that we need to be more thankful for the lives we have.

Not an easy read but certainly a story that needs to be told. A sad story with a happy ending that could make a difference in lives of others.

I live in Oklahoma. To hear a story of abuse and family neglect is hard to take. I have always been very fortunate and try not to take for granted everything that life has to offer. Knowing as a teacher, it touches my heart to have read such a beautiful and sad story. I will read it to my 6th graders and hope they are touched in some way, as I was.

Very pleased with our purchase.

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