



## My Daddy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Martin Luther, III King

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AG Ford is the illustrator of several other books for children, including the *New York Times* bestselling *Barack*. He is the recipient of an NAACP Image Award.

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## My Daddy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. By Martin Luther, III King Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

K-Gr 2—King's remembrance of his father is an intimate introduction to the civil rights leader, revealing happy family moments as well as fear and personal pain amid the turbulence engulfing the nation in the 1960s. Kids will enjoy and perhaps identify with the playful interactions between "Marty" and his dad, who would put his son on top of the refrigerator and then catch him in his arms. Contrasting such warm memories are those of the King children hearing on the radio about their father's arrest and enduring bigotry at their new, integrated school. King's son is frank about the ugly clashes of the Civil Rights Movement, but he writes about them in an age-appropriate manner. The style is simple and conversational, as though the author were chatting with readers, reinforcing the personal spirit of the book. His effort to share some of the legendary leader's life as a private citizen makes his father approachable and real, a nice beginning to the relationship students will have with the influential man in their American history classes. It also provides an important firsthand account of the agony and frustration of prejudice experienced by many African American families. Ford's artwork is laudable, but in some illustrations, the heads of Dr. King and his wife are disproportionately large and oddly rendered. Overall, though, the forthrightness of Ford's palette and technique complement the text.—Alyson Low, Fayetteville Public Library, AR(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

This picture-book biography, written by the second child of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., offers an intimate portrait of his father and some family stories from their unusual household. In the opening scene, his father explains to Marty and his sister that their family won't be going to Funtown because it's for white people only. Later, Marty avoids identifying himself to other kids because he bears his father's controversial name. One Christmas, he and his brother are given toy guns, but in keeping with their family's values, they burn the guns in a bonfire. The story ends on a high note, with King and his sister entering a newly desegregated school. An appended page acknowledges his father's death (when Marty was 10 years old) and appreciates his ongoing legacy. The figures look awkward in some of the paintings, but Ford illustrates many scenes effectively and captures likenesses of individuals. Clearly written, the book has an obviously unique perspective, and it offers insights into the period as well as King's family life. Grades K-3. --Carolyn Phelan

From the Back Cover

*My sister Yolanda, who we called Yoki, and I wanted to go to Funtown more than anything. "Well, kids, you know Daddy is working very hard so that you and all children can go to Funtown, but it's not possible today," Daddy would say. "Maybe next week." But that week never came.*

*"You just don't want to take us!" Yoki wailed. And finally my mother explained. We were not allowed in Funtown. The rides and the roller coasters were for white people only. That's how it was when I was growing up. My dad fought to change that.*

It wasn't always easy being the young son of the famed civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lots of people didn't agree with Dr. King and Martin Luther King III, who was called Marty as a child. Marty faced bullies who picked on him because of his name and skin color. But Marty knew his father wanted to make the world a better place for everyone. And he was also a part of the changing times.

In this poignant picture book memoir, Martin Luther King III and *New York Times* bestselling artist AG Ford

capture the ordinary and extraordinary moments from Martin's brief childhood with his father, the revered civil rights hero.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Ronald Johnson:**

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also get a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want truly feel happy read one with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. Often the My Daddy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is kind of reserve which is giving the reader capricious experience.

#### **Irene Parker:**

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a e-book. The book My Daddy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book features high quality.

#### **David Rutherford:**

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#### **Scot Vines:**

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