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Goldie Takes A Stand: Golda Meir's First Crusade (Kar-Ben Favorites)



Synopsis

Even at the age of nine, little Golda Meir was known for being a leader. As the president of the American Young Sisters Society, she organizes her friends to raise money to buy textbooks for immigrant classmates. A glimpse at the early life of Israel's first female prime minister, who was born in Russia and grew up in Milwaukee, this story is based on a true episode in the early life of Golda Meir.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

Goldie Mabowehz was a nine-year-old girl who was the president of the "American Young Sisters Society." Of course being self-appointed worked very well for Goldie. Very well indeed and all the other girls clustered around her would probably agree, including her little sister Clara and her best friend Regina. There were problems to be solved and Goldie was just the girl to get things done. The problem was textbooks. "The kids in our school didn't have enough money to buy them," she explained to the Sisters. Many of the kids like Hymie had tattered ones and that annoying Jennie leaned over her desk to peek at Frieda's. Goldie figured out the math and if all the members could bring in a whole "three cents a week," that would do it. Now that was enough to buy either a loaf of bread or a quart of milk so that was a lot! Goldie was going to work in Mama's store to get her share and would charge everyone a little extra. Mrs. Garfinkel was none

to happy when Goldie asked extra for those eggs. Stomp, stomp! Out the door she went. Not a penny more from her. Things weren't looking up for the American Young Sisters Society because no one managed to raise that three cents. Goldie put her pointer finger to her chin and began to think. "We'll hold a public meeting, a fundraising gala," she told the girls, "and collect from everyone at one time." They began to make posters, Frieda was going to do the invitations, and Lillian would create a list of important people. Sarah was wondering just where the big event could be held. Goldie was a big thinker, but could she think big enough to get those textbooks? This is a charming story about Goldie that will delight young readers. Of course Goldie Mabowehz is none other than Golda Meir.

Notable heads of state oftentimes exhibit signs of extraordinary leadership skills at a young age. In the picture book, *Goldie Takes a Stand: Golda Meir's First Crusade*, Barbara Krasner, focuses on a little known fact about Golda Meir's youth. Golda Meir (1898-1978), Israel's 4th Prime Minister (1969-1974) was born in Kiev. She spent her early years as an Eastern European Jewish immigrant in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Barbara shines a light on one aspect of Golda's American childhood. Golda appointed herself as president of the American Young Sisters Society and organized a fundraiser to raise money for children's textbooks. This picture book highlights how she was able to successfully accomplish her goal. Barbara Krasner takes primary readers back in time to the early part of the 20th century. This brief visit illustrates the cost of living and how immigrant children worked side-by-side with their parents. Kelsey Garrity-Riley's muted drawings add texture to the story by subtly including artifacts and apparel from that era. These special touches can lead to conversations that compare and contrast today's life with life back then. Immigrant children residing in lower socio-economic communities might possibly relate with Golda's immigrant experience. Young readers will be inspired by Golda's determination to take civic action. Golda demonstrates how children can make a difference in the lives of people who are less fortunate. Barbara skillfully brought life to this situation by writing a historical based narrative that includes creative dialogue. The characters' conversations support the 20th century immigrant experience and the importance of education. Simultaneously, they maintain the pace of the story.

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