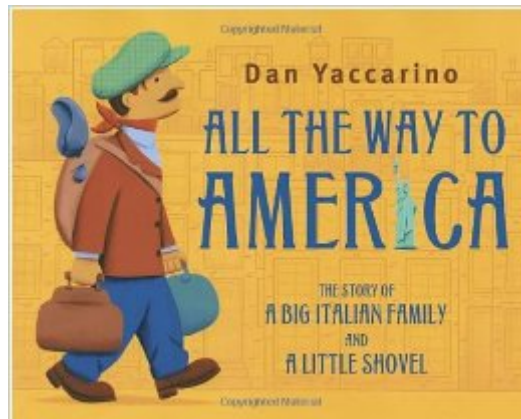


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# All The Way To America: The Story Of A Big Italian Family And A Little Shovel



## Synopsis

“This immigration story is universal.” School Library Journal, Starred — Dan Yaccarino’s great-grandfather arrived at Ellis Island with a small shovel and his parents’ good advice: “Work hard, but remember to enjoy life, and never forget your family.” With simple text and warm, colorful illustrations, Yaccarino recounts how the little shovel was passed down through four generations of this Italian-American family along with the good advice. It’s a story that will have kids asking their parents and grandparents: Where did we come from? How did our family make the journey all the way to America? — “A shovel is just a shovel, but in Dan Yaccarino’s hands it becomes a way to dig deep into the past and honor all those who helped make us who we are.” Eric Rohmann, winner of the Caldecott Medal for *My Friend Rabbit* — “All the Way to America is a charmer. Yaccarino’s heartwarming story rings clearly with truth, good cheer, and love.” Tomie dePaola, winner of a Caldecott Honor Award for *Strega Nona*

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 830L (What’s this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers; First Edition edition (March 8, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375866426

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Product Dimensions: 10.4 x 0.3 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars — See all reviews — (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #133,369 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Children’s Books

> Geography & Cultures > Emigrants & Immigrants #196 in Books > Children’s Books >

Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1900s #278 in Books > Children’s

Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

I purchased this book for my grandson and I am giving it to him for Christmas. I wanted him to see in easy terms how immigrants came over and started a new life in the US. I think he will love it. Being Italian and having great-grandparents who were born in Italy will help him understand how and why

they came over.

As president of the Board of the Central California School of Italian Language and Culture, I highly recommend this book be kept in every Italian family's library. We shared this book with students, families, I etc. Everyone, even the wise old Nonnas, thought it was a very well done book with colorful illustrations which peek children's interests!

Sweet story. I enjoy reading it being a first generation Italian-American, but sadly, my 7 year old is not overly interested in it or intrigued by where her ancestors came from....hope that will change in the future.

Very well done! I loved the way the little shovel ties the generations together and takes us from one family to the next in this author's history. This makes for a fascinating read that would definitely compliment a second grade social studies unit on families and ancestors (great for homeschooling), and just wonderful for a parent or grandparent to read with a child curled up on his/her lap. It will definitely spark curiosity in each child about his/her own story. There's a lot of talk about this book and it's all right on the mark. - Biblio Reads Children's Book Review

This book is an accurate example of the journey that many Italian-Americans took when first arriving in America. I purchased this book to present as a gift to an Italian elementary school as a part of a cultural exchange program. The multi-generational story is one that hit close to home with my own family, as well as countless others that came before us. The illustrations are wonderful too!

The stories that families pass down from generation to generation help build a framework for success for the children."They worked very hard, but they were also very poor." "Work hard, enjoy life, and never forget your family."As prosperity grows, decade after decade, new opportunities open up. This is an interesting immigrant story posing as a biography of an unknown author (sorry.)But what makes it effective is its charming grasp of life's truths: work hard, enjoy life, and never forget your family. Tomorrow will surely come.

Dan Yaccarino tells the story of his family's move from Italy to the United States. Everywhere the family goes, they carry their shovel along, and the shovel always serves a purpose. A small biography for the very young, with that wonderful characteristically Dan Yaccarino-ish simplicity."So

when I grew up, I moved back to the city where my great-grandfather Michele had lived. 'Work hard,' my father told me as he handed me the little shovel. 'But remember to enjoy life.' 'And don't forget to call your family,' said my mother."

I really like Dan Yaccarino's illustrations and books, but wasn't sure that my 3 year old would get into this book. We got it from the library and he's asked to read it nightly, quietly listening and looking for the shovel throughout the book. He loves it. I think we'll get it for Christmas. It's a nice story, well done.

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