

LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

Author

Neri, G

Illustrator

Illustrated by Elizabeth Haidle

Reviewer

Blake, Pam

Pages

Unpaged

Price

\$18.99

ISBN

978-1-5362-1661-5

Publisher & Date

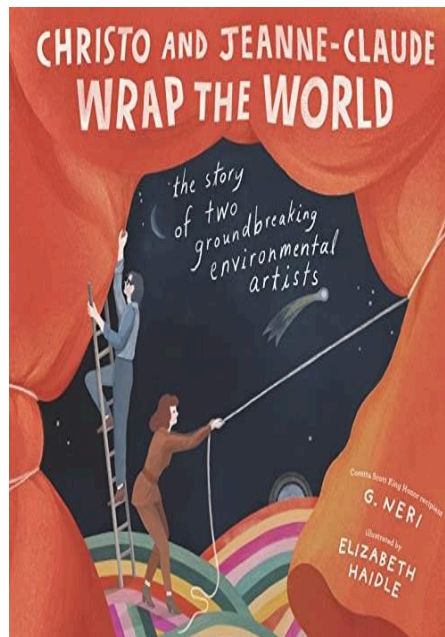
Candlewick, 2023

Classification

Nonfiction (709.22 or biography)

Grade Level

3-5



Book Review: CHRISTO AND JEANNE-CLAUDE WRAP THE WORLD: THE STORY OF TWO GROUNDBREAKING ENVIRONMENTAL ARTISTS

The biography of Christo and Jeanne-Claude is concisely intertwined with their lives and a chronology of their art. This story tells of their meeting, how their love progressed, and how they collaborated on their art. When first married, they had no money for materials, so everything that wasn't nailed down became art.

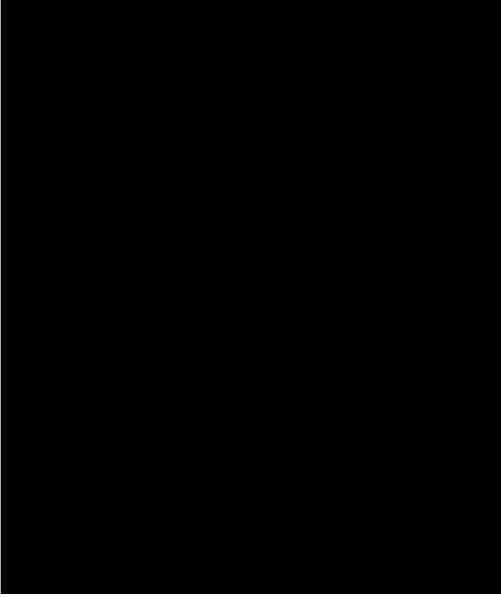
The couple's outdoor collaborations began when they wrapped a real live woman, making her appear no longer human but a sculpture. When Christo and Jeanne-Claude saw how people reacted with either love or hate, they realized this is what they hoped to achieve, that people would look and question what they saw. It also gave them the idea of continuing to place their art outside, making it temporary. This ensured that anyone who chose to enjoy the art would be able to, and by being in place only a short time, it could live in their memories, which would make it special.

Several pieces of their artwork are described and shown by the illustrator in



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the book, including their wrapped coast, an ocean front, and trees. They made a giant curtain across a valley, a running fence of fabric through Northern California, a huge fabric piece that surrounded islands, and piers that floated. In 2005, they made floating gates that changed with nature. The book describes how these changed the people who saw them. The back pages relate more fascinating biographical and art information about Christo and Jeanne-Claude that children can enjoy.

The illustrations give children an opportunity to visualize the magnitude of the artwork of the couple. It can also lead to interesting discussions on art appreciation and the type of art each child enjoys.

