

LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

Author

Gardner, Michael and Ava

Illustrator

Illustrated by Nadia Fisher

Reviewer

Blake, Pam

Pages

Unpaged

Price

\$18.99

ISBN

978-1-6659-2195-4

Publisher & Date

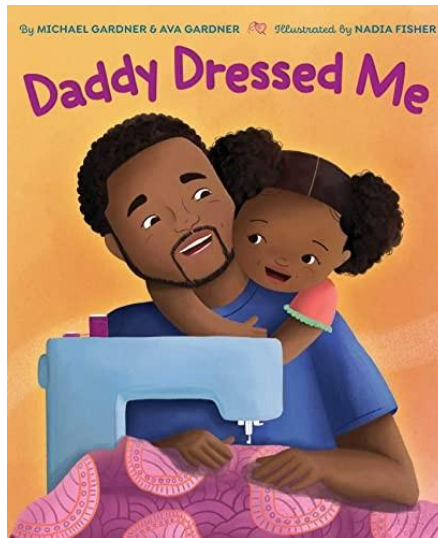
Aladdin, 2023

Classification

Fiction

Grade Level

K-3



Book Review: DADDY DRESSED ME

Ava's class is having a celebration called Move Up Day when the students move from kindergarten into first grade. Ava is invited by her teacher to memorize and share a few lines of a poem at the celebration, and Ava is worried that she cannot remember the words.

When she tells her daddy, he encourages her and promises he will help her practice. Her father is good at doing many things, such as cooking, building, painting, and decorating. He even sews clothes for Ava on special occasions and suggests he make something for this event. He allows Ava to choose the fabric and to draw her dream dress, but Daddy is worried he can't make something so complicated. While Daddy works, he helps Ava remember the words to her poem. At the same time, Ava helps Daddy as he makes mistakes and has to rip out some of his sewing several times.

The dress is completed—a dress made with patience, determination, and love—and Ava feels proud and self-assured as she recites her poem at school. The words emphasized in the poem are “positive,” “kind,” “amazing,” and “smart,” words that help both Ava and Daddy accomplish



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what they set out to do.

This book is based on the real-life experiences of the author and his daughter, Ava. There is a story behind the story at the end of the book with photographs of Michael and Ava Gardner. The illustrations are colorful. Children may especially enjoy looking at the pictures of fabric as Ava decides what she wants and can choose their favorite as well.

This is a wonderful reminder of what people can accomplish if they put their minds to it. It also shows the close relationship between a father and daughter and can help children see beyond some of the stereotypes of what a man is supposed to do.

