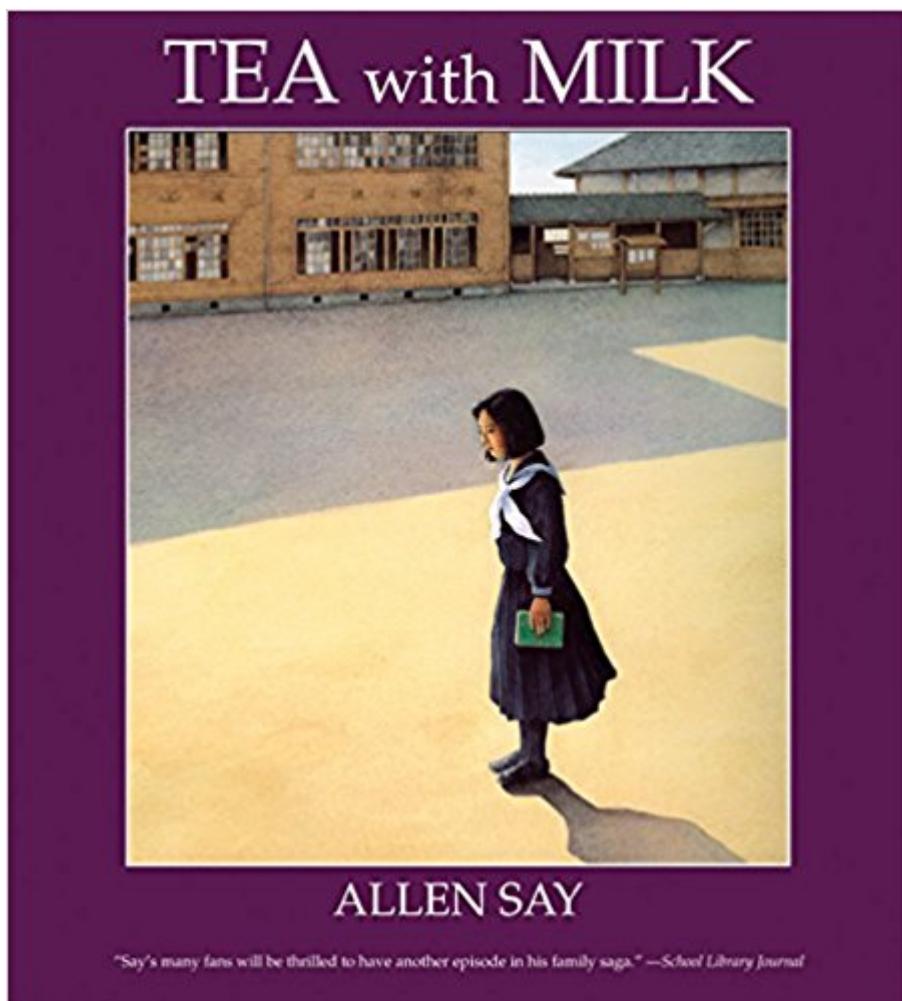


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# Tea With Milk (Rise And Shine)



## **Synopsis**

At home in San Francisco, May speaks Japanese and the family eats rice and miso soup and drinks green tea. When she visits her friends' homes, she eats fried chicken and spaghetti. May plans someday to go to college and live in an apartment of her own. But when her family moves back to Japan, she soon feels lost and homesick for America. In Japan everyone calls her by her Japanese name, Masako. She has to wear kimonos and sit on the floor. Poor May is sure that she will never feel at home in this country. Eventually May is expected to marry and a matchmaker is hired. Outraged at the thought, May sets out to find her own way in the big city of Osaka. With elegant watercolors reminiscent of Grandfather's Journey, Allen Say has created a moving tribute to his parents and their path to discovering where home really is. The accompanying story of his mother and her journey as a young woman is heartfelt. Vividly portraying the graceful formality of Japan, Tea with Milk effectively captures the

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: AD450L (What's this?)

Series: Rise and Shine

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (May 4, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547237472

ISBN-13: 978-0547237473

Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 0.1 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #129,997 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life #129 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia #152 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Say's masterfully executed watercolors tell as much of this story about a young woman's challenging transition from America to Japan as his eloquent, economical prose. Raised near San

Francisco, Masako (her American friends called her May) is uprooted after high school when her parents return to their Japanese homeland. In addition to repeating high school to learn Japanese, she must learn the arts of a "proper Japanese lady" Aflower arranging, calligraphy and the tea ceremony Aand is expected to marry well. Declaring "I'd rather have a turtle than a husband," the independent-minded Masako heads for the city of Osaka and gets a job in a department store. With his characteristic subtlety, Say sets off his cultural metaphor from the very start, contrasting the green tea Masako has for breakfast in her home, with the "tea with milk and sugar" she drinks at her friends' houses in America. Later, when she meets a young Japanese businessman who also prefers tea with milk and sugar to green tea, readers will know that she's met her match. Say reveals on the final page that the couple are his parents. Whether the subject is food ("no more pancakes or omelets, fried chicken or spaghetti" in Japan) or the deeper issues of ostracism (her fellow students call Masako "gaijin" Aforeigner) and gender expectations, Say provides gentle insights into human nature as well as East-West cultural differences. His exquisite, spare portraits convey emotions that lie close to the surface and flow easily from page to reader: with views of Masako's slumping posture and mask-like face as she dons her first kimono, or alone in the schoolyard, it's easy to sense her dejection. Through choice words and scrupulously choreographed paintings, Say's story communicates both the heart's yearning for individuality and freedom and how love and friendship can bridge cultural chasms. Ages 4-8. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Kindergarten-Grade 6-Continuing the story he started in Grandfather's Journey (Houghton, 1993), Say explores familiar themes of cultural connection and disconnection. He focuses on his mother Masako, or May, as she prefers to be called, who, after graduating from high school in California, unwillingly moves with her parents to their native Japan. She is homesick for her native country and misses American food. She rebels against her parents, who force her to repeat high school so that she can learn "her own language

I used this as a read-aloud with my second graders in conjunction with Grandfather's Journey--was accompaniment to a social studies unit as well as just a wonderful read-aloud. My students really liked it, and one student in particular went back to re-read it many times.

My 8 year granddaughter wanted have this book she loved the story.

Like the author's other memoir-like stories, this beautifully written and illustrated book will appeal to all ages, and has great messages about culture, love, and where 'home' is. I am collecting all of Allen Say's works for my future grandchildren; his artwork is exquisite and his prose touching and wise.

This book should follow Grandfather's Journey. Great Story --I loved it. I will not give this away.

Great Book!

Thank you

Beautiful illustrations!

The book is charmingly illustrated, equal with the story. The overall comment I observe from those that have read it is: " what a nice story"!

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