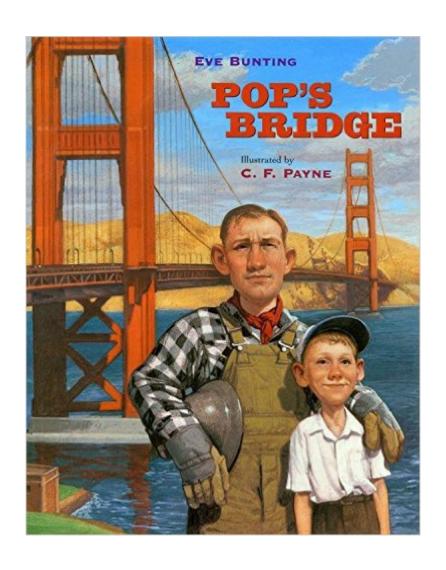
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Pop's Bridge





Synopsis

The Golden Gate Bridge. The impossible bridge, some call it. They say it can't be built. But Robert's father is building it. He's a skywalker--a brave, high-climbing ironworker. Robert is convinced his pop has the most important job on the crew . . . until a frightening event makes him see that it takes an entire team to accomplish the impossible. When it was completed in 1937, San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge was hailed as an international marvel. Eve Bunting's riveting story salutes the ingenuity and courage of every person who helped raise this majestic American icon. Includes an author's note about the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 630L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (May 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152047735

ISBN-13: 978-0152047733

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.3 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #50,905 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #87 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1900s #93 in Books > Children's Books

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Cultures > Explore the World > United States

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

This must be one of prolific writer Eve Bunting's best works, personalizing the fantastic story of the Golden Gate Bridge through the eyes of a construction worker's son. "There's a crew of more than a thousand men working on that bridge, Robert, including [your friend] Charlie's dad," says mom. "I know that, but I just shrug. To me, it's Pop's bridge." Robert's dad is a "high iron man, "balancing on the catwalks, spinning and bending the cables....When the fog rollss in, he disappears completely." Charlie's dad is a painter, painting the bridge the now famous shade of "International Orange" before it's even finished. However, Robert's a bit of a snob when it comes to bridge building. In his

hierarchy, iron men are --literally and figuratively--much higher than mere painters. One day,, however, there's an accident at the bridge, and the boys watch in horror as "scaffolding crashes down into the safety net. The net tears loose, and men go with it into the swirling tide." (This scene is based on an actual event.) Through RObert's binoculars, they see that both of their dads are ok.Later, in a somber, reflective mood, Robert realizes that there is equal work and risk for all the workers, no matter what their job. The book concludes on a celebratory note; however, as Robert and Charlie traverse the bridge on opening day, and share a meal of sarsaparilla. stewed chicken. a Chinese noodle dish made by Charlie's dad, and a snickerdoodle pie. Robert shares a surprise intended for his dad alone with both his and Charlie's dad: The last piece of a jigsaw puzzle of the bridge that both men put in together. The narrative is superb, combining historical facts (there's an excellent afterward with more information) with a story of friendship and maturity.

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