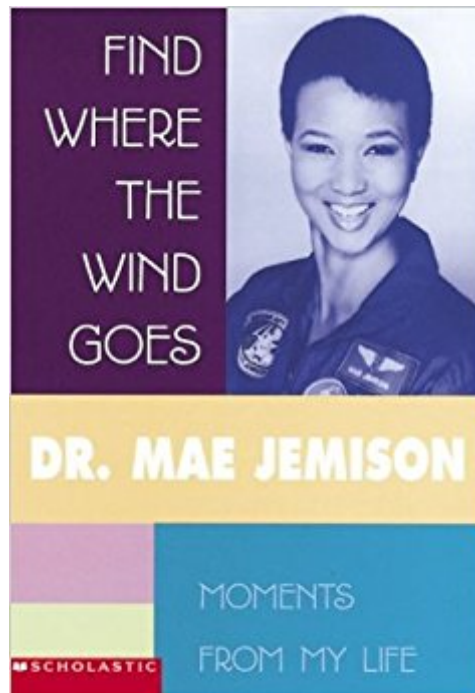




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Find Where The Wind Goes: Moments From My Life



Synopsis

"The writing sings" says PW in this "inspiring autobiography." Dr. Mae Jemison, the first African-American woman in space, is truly a modern hero with a remarkable, inspirational story to tell. Mae Jemison made history as the first African-American woman in space. But she's also taken center stage as an actress, scientist, doctor, and teacher-not to mention all the "top ten" lists she's made, including People's 50 Most Beautiful People AND the 1999 White House Project's list of the 7 women most likely to be elected President. The adventures of her life make for a truly compelling read. And to top it all off, with her charming sense of humor, Mae is a remarkable storyteller. The variety and richness of Mae Jemison's experiences will inspire every reader who picks up this book.

Book Information

Series: Find Where The Wind Goes

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks (January 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439131960

ISBN-13: 978-0439131964

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 5.3 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #651,139 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Science & Technology > Technology > Air & Space Science](#) #55 in [Books > Teens > Biographies > Science & Technology](#) #121 in [Books > Teens > Biographies > Cultural Heritage](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

From majoring in chemical engineering at Stanford University (at the age of 16) to giggling with hairdressers in Nairobi (in Swahili) to orbiting the Earth as the first woman of color to travel in space (conducting experiments in life and material sciences and bone cell research as the mission's science specialist), Mae Jemison has never been one to sit and watch life pass her by. From childhood, Jemison knew she would be an astronaut--the fact that space travelers tended to be white men only meant one more obstacle she would gladly face. Her autobiography, sassy,

confident, and witty, is full of anecdotes designed to empower young readers, even as they chuckle at her foibles and cheer her victories. Whether working as a Peace Corps medical officer, fiercely upholding her feminist stance in a sexist college class, or dancing her "fanny off," Jemison is an inspiration to every child who dreams big. (Ages 10 and older) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In an accessible, conversational tone, first-time children's author Jemison offers insight into her remarkable life, from her announcement in kindergarten, in 1961, that she wanted "to be a scientist" to her realization of her dream as "the first woman of color in the world to travel into space." Jemison observes, "I'm struck by how the flow of life events is like the wind," and, as if sitting on a stoop, she gathers readers in as she recounts the "large, small and medium-sized moments that have carried me aloft to this place, this day." At times, the wind metaphor becomes overblown, and a few digressions lead the narrative astray (e.g., a passage about being hit on the head by a sibling; a brief treatise directed at readers, "Take the high school and college romance, boy/girl stuff, with a huge grain of salt..."). But the writing sings, for example, when Jemison recalls her blossoming interest in science, relating her work on a third grade report about "the evolution of life on planet Earth" and a high school sickle-cell anemia project (students could almost follow the process she outlines here as a blueprint for their own science fair projects). Another standout section is her account of a high school gang's attempt to draft her older brother; her parents' response to the situation, which speaks volumes about their unwavering commitment to their family and education, clearly influenced the author. Some readers may wish for more of the defining moments that made Jemison a hero. (The author glosses over her jump from the Peace Corps to NASA, for instance.) However, this inspiring autobiography is a testimony to the power of setting goals and the strength of character necessary to achieve them. Ages 10-up. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

An amazing biography on an outstanding woman who has been a model of positivity and motivation to my 9 year old daughter. Very much recommended!!!

Dr. Jamison's book is cherished by our daughter. She was 11 years old, and it was the first autobiography by an African-American woman she read. Books such as this allow young Black girls to know what they can accomplish with hard work, education and the support of their family and community.

I read this book with girls ages 11-14 in a mentoring program that I am involved in. We had such a wonderful discussion. The girls could instantly relate to the challenges that Dr. Jemison faced as a young African American girl trying to excel in a non-traditional field of endeavor. I highly recommend this book because Dr. Jemison is so warm, honest and down to earth in her story telling. She also lets you see the ordinary side of her and her family. It gives every little girl the realization that they too (with a little hard work) can achieve their dreams if they remain focused and true to themselves. Dr. Jemison's life is filled with adventure and adversity and she often chooses the "road less traveled". It truly has made all the difference.

great gift for my grand daughter

Found a soulmate and an inspiration in this during the last year of high school. Time to start my own experiments

Find Where the Wind Goes Dr. Mae Jemison Dr. Mae Jemison was a doctor and then she became an astronaut. She worked on the Endeavor Space Lab. I chose this book because it talked about space and the exploration of space. Working on the space lab was a tough job. It was a tough challenge for her like getting a perfect score on the SAT. When she was little she was the only one in her class that wanted to be an astronaut. She had an older brother and sister that marginally supported her dream of being an astronaut. Her family had to move from Alabama to California for her dad's job when she was 13 years old. Her mother and the rest of her family were mad that they had to move because they loved Alabama. When she started high school, it was very rough for Mae, she didn't know anybody. Mae failed her first trimester of science. She really wanted to be an astronaut and this may have stopped her chances. She tried really hard and the rest of the year she did well. Mae graduated from high school with honors. Mae attended college and had a few problems there. She worked hard and graduated with a doctorate in science. Then, she signed up to be a part of NASA. When she turned in her application she didn't get a response for a year. The reason was that the Challenger had exploded in space and the space program was on hold. She didn't think she was good enough for NASA. One year later she received a letter that she had been accepted to the program. She had to train vigorously before her first mission. Her first mission was to set up a space lab. This lab had to be set up with the Endeavor. They spent a week in space experimenting with insects and their environment. When Mae came back to earth they were

hoarded by a bunch of newscasters. She explained what they did in space and how it felt to be in space. Mae learned that change is sometimes good. If it wasn't for her Dad and his job, she wouldn't have been in space then and she wouldn't have been there today. She knew that having a good education was important and necessary for that type of job.

I saw Dr. Jemison on a public access TV program. Her writing in this book is so conversational that I did not even realize that she was actually *reading* from her book! I knew then that the book would be enjoyable to read since the writing would be very accessible. I got the book as soon as I had a chance. It *was* enjoyable because she speaks in a normal conversational tone that makes one feel at home with her. I found her life to be amazing -- and I've never read about someone who is so intelligent, talented and personable. While I think that the intended audience for this book is teen/pre-teen gals, I did also enjoy it for the sake of just learning about this amazing woman. My only criticism is that the book tended to jump around a bit.

When I started reading this book, I expected it to be full of inspiration and advice on how to achieve great things in life as Dr. Jemison did. While I respect her for her wonderful achievements, ambition, and zeal, throughout the book I could not help but think she was conceited and stuck on herself. This book was not inspirational or encouraging to me. Rather, it was just about how wonderful Dr. Jemison is. She told story after story after story about how she was so wonderful, and I felt, above other people. I also found editing errors in it which I felt was unacceptable. I am a sixteen year-old girl who wants to be a doctor when I grow up, so I thought reading this book would be worthwhile. I do admire her for following her dreams and "the wind" (which by the way became an overused metaphor), but I spent my time reading the book frustrated and wondering when she would stop tooting her own horn.

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