



World At Her Fingertips: The Story Of Helen Keller

By Joan Dash

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Helen Keller has always been a shining example of courage in the face of unbelievable adversity. This lively biography goes beyond Helen's youth and learning process and includes many fascinating details of her later life, including her college years and involvement with politics.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 5-8-In a smooth, readable narrative, the drama of Keller's life unfolds. Annie Sullivan's remarkable teaching efforts that allowed Helen to communicate with the world are riveting to read. Keller's later life is perhaps less well known to children familiar with the "Miracle Worker" story. Her struggles through high school and her acceptance to and graduation from Radcliffe, her social and political activism, her adult relationship with Annie and Annie's husband, John Macy, and the "love affair" with her secretary Peter Fagan are carefully described using passages from Keller's autobiographies. The use of primary-source material (although not footnoted) brings the subject's vibrant personality, intelligence, and sensitivity to life in a way no narrative alone could. It is amazing to read about the woman's travels, and her influence in changing world opinion about the treatment of the blind. Black-and-white photographs show different periods of her long lifetime, and enhance the drama of the text. A fine addition to any collection.-Jennifer Ralston, Harford County Public Library, Belcamp, MD

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 4-7. Dash begins her account of Helen Keller's life with the fever that left the child blind and deaf at the age of 19 months. Keller's story would be extraordinary in any telling, but Dash's straightforward account seems closer to reality than the more idealized stories sometimes offered to children. Keller emerges here not as a symbol or an inspiration, but as a determined, sometimes obstinate woman who was extraordinarily dependent on others in some ways, despite her personal drive toward independence. For example, financial need led her to accept Andrew Carnegie's offer of a pension for life, which Keller had initially refused because of her socialist principles. Illustrated with photographs, this well-researched biography will find a place in many libraries. *Carolyn Phelan*

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Users Review

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