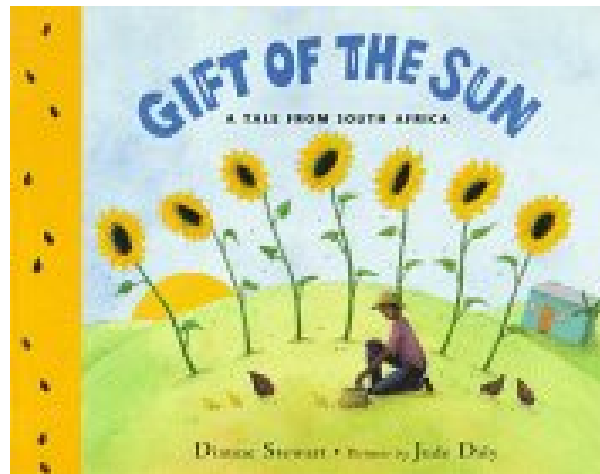
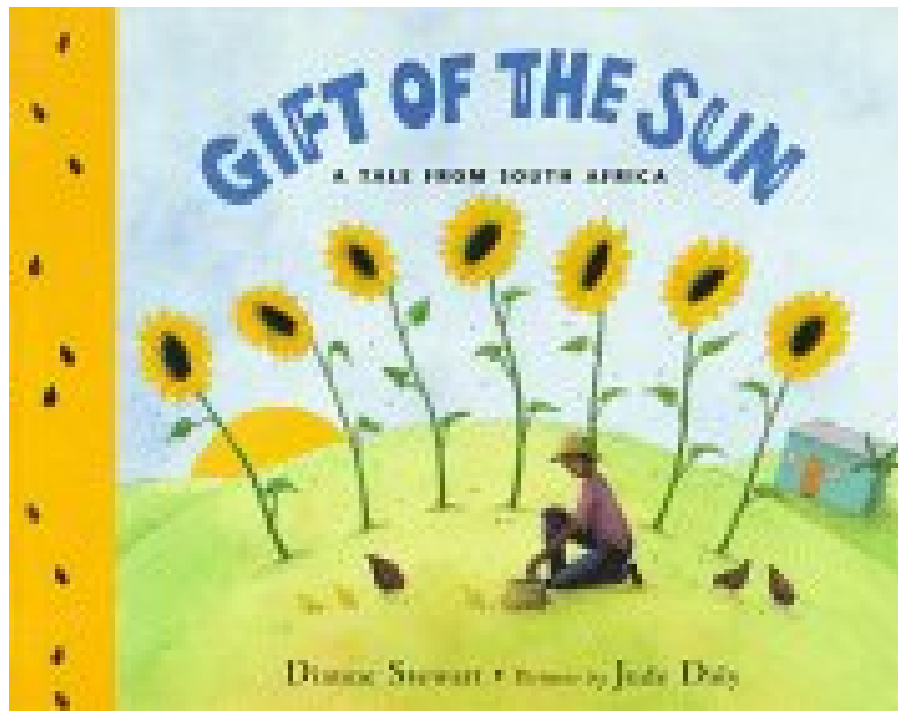


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From Publishers Weekly

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From School Library Journal

Grade 1-3?Thulani loves to spend his days sitting in the sun and hates to have his leisure interrupted by chores. Tired of milking the cow, he trades her in for a goat. When the goat gets into the corn seed, he exchanges it for a sheep. When shearing it is too much trouble, he buys some geese. With each trade, his hard-working wife becomes more and more exasperated. Thinking to please her, the man exchanges the geese for a bag of seeds. But when they sprout, Dora is more upset than ever. It seems that he won't ever make her happy. However, when Thulani feeds the sunflower seeds to the chickens, the hens begin to lay more eggs, and, in the end, the story has come full circle. Dora is delighted, and Thulani is now busy trading animals. His favorite time of day is milking time?when he can finally sit down and have a quiet think. Daly's paintings add to the charm of this story. Bright gold end papers scattered with seeds introduce the good-humored mood. The color scheme of soft greens and golds emphasizes the warm pastoral setting. This is a fresh, funny variation on the "Lazy Jack" theme, with illustrations done in a folkart style and filled with little details of South African rural life.?Barbara Kiefer, Teachers College, Columbia University, NY

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sheep, but shearing the sheep tires him out, and so on, until Dora sends him off to buy seed for corn. But the seeds grow into sunflowers, and things seem hopeless until the seeds feed the hens, which lay lots of eggs Thulani can sell to buy a cow. The telling is simple and rhythmic, and Daly's delicate folk-art pictures show wonderfully detailed domestic scenes on the curve of the rolling earth. The pictures extend the connections that are the heart of this funny story. Hazel Rochman

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Thulani wants to spend more time in the sun and less time doing chores around the farm, so he makes a series of lopsided exchanges in an attempt to simplify his life, until all he has left is pocketful of sunflower seeds that, once sown, prove surprisingly useful.

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South Africa Lesson Plan

By alj

I purchased this book because I wanted the children to hear a story about another culture. We are learning about South Africa now and coincidentally had just planted sunflower seeds in our garden. The children thought it was funny when Thulani wanted to bask in the sun all day and his wife, Dora, kept coming up with more for him to do.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Good lesson

By Jackie

Really nice story and wonderful lesson - my 3 year old loves it.

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An amusing tale from South Africa about a man who ...

By Traci Bold

An amusing tale from South Africa about a man who does everything to please his wife but with each try comes something unforeseen until he mistakenly buys sunflower seeds instead of corn seeds and then his luck changes.

Written by Dianne Stewart, illustrated by Jude Daly and published by Farrar, Straus, Giroux.

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