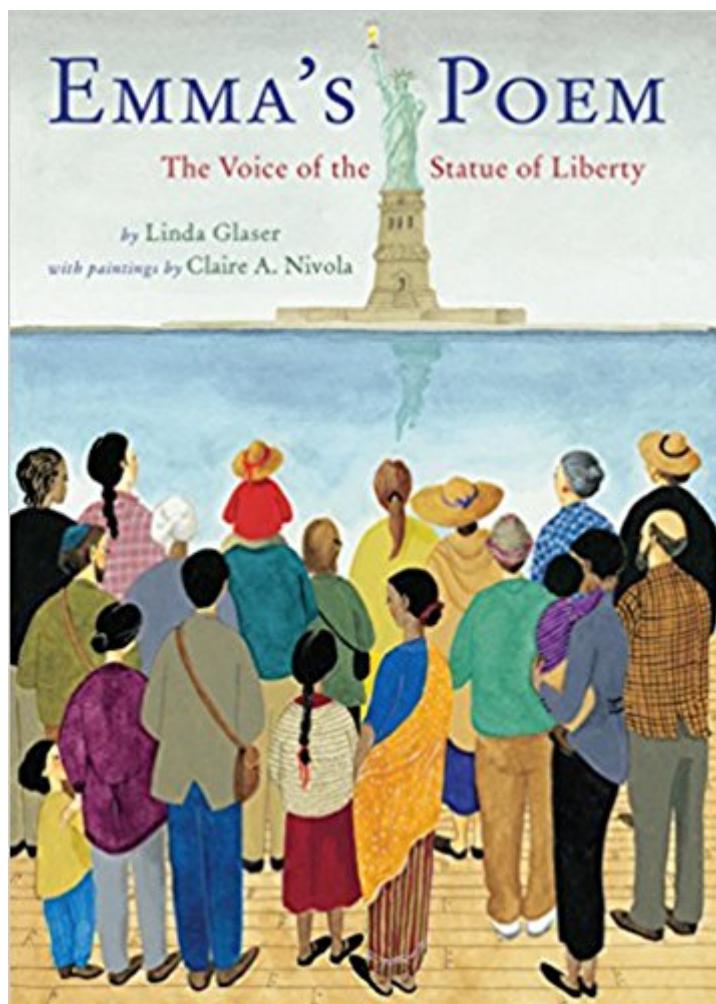


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# Emma's Poem: The Voice Of The Statue Of Liberty (Jane Addams Award Book (Awards))



## Synopsis

Give me your tired, your poor  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free...Who wrote these words?  
And why? In 1883, Emma Lazarus, deeply moved by an influx of immigrants from Eastern Europe, wrote a sonnet that was to give voice to the Statue of Liberty. Originally a gift from France to celebrate our shared national struggles for liberty, the Statue, thanks to Emma's poem, slowly came to shape our hearts, defining us as a nation that welcomes and gives refuge to those who come to our shores. This title has been selected as a Common Core Text Exemplar (Grades 4-5, Poetry)

## Book Information

## Lexile Measure: 790L (What's this?)

## Series: Jane Addams Award Book (Awards)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (April 5, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547171846

ISBN-13: 978-0547171845

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

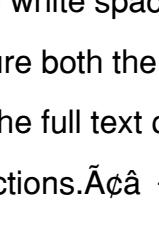
Best Sellers Rank: #536,591 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > Sociology #60 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Emigrants & Immigrants #71 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Judaism

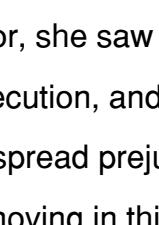
Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Grade 2-4 •A gentle tribute to Emma Lazarus, very much in the style of Barbara Cooney's *Eleanor* (Viking, 1996). Glaser describes the poet as a child of privilege who was moved by the plight of immigrants in the 1880s. On a visit to Ward's Island, "her heart hurt to see them." She began helping them to learn English and get jobs, and she increased awareness of their plight through her poetry and other writings. Asked, along with other writers of the time such as Mark Twain and Walt Whitman, to write a poem to raise money for a pedestal for the Statue of Liberty,

she composed one that became part of the fabric of America. Nivola's delicately composed watercolor and gouache paintings appear in frames on each page, with a few lines of potent text in clean white space either underneath or to the side. The pictures, with their slight folk-art feel, capture both the time and action of the story, while the text illuminates the woman. An author's note and the full text of the poem complete the book. A worthwhile addition for most collections.  Grace Oliff, Ann Blanche Smith School, Hillsdale, NJ Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Growing up in a wealthy Jewish American family in the late nineteenth century, Emma Lazarus  "only knew people / who had plenty of everything." But in New York's harbor, she saw impoverished new immigrants, tired and hungry, sad and sick, many having fled persecution, and she defied both the prevailing view that women should keep quiet and the widespread prejudice that immigrants would "ruin the country." The art and words are moving in this picture book, which pairs free verse with detailed, full-page paintings in watercolor, ink, and gouache to tell the history behind Lazarus' famous inscription on the Statue of Liberty. Lazarus' complete poem, "The New Colossus," from which the statue's lines are drawn, appears at the book's end, along with a picture of the statue today. Sepia-tone family photos on the back flap show the writer and artist's own immigrant roots, which will echo with contemporary kids. Pair this with the feature "Core Collection: The New Immigrant Story," which appeared in the August 2005 issue of Booklist. Grades K-3. --Hazel Rochman

great story

Nice read with lots of interesting historical facts. My children enjoyed not just the story but the colorful artwork as well!

Wonderful book!

Gives you the story behind the poem and is a great for close reading and writing in the classroom. So much to pick apart and talk about with immigration at the time.

Nicely written.

Good

This book was advertised as a hardcover. It came in as soft bound. Although the book was in good condition, I would have liked getting the version I paid for. It would hold up better in the classroom. Very disappointing.

Emma Lazarus was a young woman full of passion, integrity and had a very strong message to be told. She was a writer, a Jew, and most importantly a woman who wanted her voice to be heard. She lived in New York City during the late 1880's in a family full of fortune and wealth. One day she visited the New York Harbor where she saw many impoverished immigrants, Jews and non-Jews who had traveled from afar for freedom in America. She began to help these people, which then inspired her to write one of the most powerful poems. This poem, The New Colossus, gave the Statue of Liberty a voice to welcome all new immigrants to the United States. In Emma's Poem, author Linda Glaser, writes about Emma Lazarus as a little girl and then a grown woman who creates a beautiful sonnet that is now inscribed on the Statue of Liberty. Claire Nivola, the Illustrator creates elegant full-page illustrations done in watercolors and Gouache. The magical pictures are painting like in that they make the story come to life with intricate details. The pictures along with the words tell a beautiful story that is part of our American history and one that should never be forgotten. This book is recommended for children ages 4-8 and highly recommended for all libraries. Linda Glaser is a fabulous author that has written many other wonderful picture books including: Mrs. Greenberg's Messy Hanukkah, The Borrowed Hanukkah Latkes, Our Big Home: An Earth Poem, Bridge to America and many others. Emma's Poem includes an author's note at the back of the book along with the full text of the poem, The New Colossus. Most important, this story teaches children how Emma's poem and the Statue of Liberty came together and are an important part of our history and life.

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