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# Reach For The Moon



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Poems and Stories by Samantha Abeel Watercolors by Charles R. Murphy



## Synopsis

Samantha Abeel is learning disabled and gifted. She does not understand mathematical concepts, but she is an extremely talented writer. Samantha was on the edge of despair when a caring English teacher who recognized her hidden talents intervened, offering Samantha an opportunity to interpret in words the hauntingly beautiful paintings of artist Charles R. Murphy. The result is a visual and verbal masterpiece, a gift of inspiration for parents, teachers, and children. Samantha brings affirmation and hope to everyone who has ever struggled with a disability.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 1 pages

Publisher: Pfeifer-Hamilton Pubs (September 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1570250138

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Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 9.3 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #251,821 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Poetry](#) #1139 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry](#)

Age Range: 6 and up

Grade Level: 1 and up

## Customer Reviews

This poetry book by a thirteen year old learning disabled child opens the doors for all of us as writers and readers. It allows both children and adults to recognize their own "personal disability", maybe something no one sees, and realize that all are conquerable! The prologue and epilogue include Samantha speaking, her parents, and her english teacher...these three points of view bring an in depth view of the "gift within us all" just waiting to be recognized and nurtured. This is a must read for anyone who touches the lives of children!

I have been looking for a poetry book to include in my graduate studies project for a children's literature course. I've spent many hours trying to find the right book with the right message for the right audience. This book fits right in with the theme: perseverance. I am astounded by the

giftedness of this writer and the beauty of the watercolors from a remarkable illustrator. I think all my students will be able to relate in some way and find consolation in realizing that success is a matter of tapping into one's gifts. I am pleased on discovering the thoughtful and enlightening personal entries from Samantha, her mother and teacher at the end. What a wonderful story to share!!!

This book was written by a girl with a learning disability. I was told about it the year it was published and bought it. She writes beautifully and it's illustrated nicely also. But the real reason I have bought numerous copies of this book is because my children all had a learning disability of some kind. I would buy this book and give it to their teachers as a Christmas gift. The introduction was written by the author. Then in the back there are 2 other sections one written by the teacher that encouraged her and also her mother. I would highlight 2 different sections one the author wrote in the intro and one the teacher wrote. I love this book!!

This book combines beautiful images with exceptional writing by a young adult. Anyone who is learning disabled or who works with children of any age should read this book.

Though this book is recommended for kids, its greatest value is for anyone, adult or child, who is learning disabled. The author, a teenager at the time of writing, was learning to deal with her severe learning disability-dyscalculia- a total inability to deal with numbers. It is evident from reading her poems that what she lacks in arithmetic abilities is more than compensated for by her exceptional way with words and images. The fact that she was only 15 or so when she wrote the poems is even more astounding. a must for anyone who has a learning disability or knows someone who has one. This is one book that should be catalogued under learning disabilities and education!

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