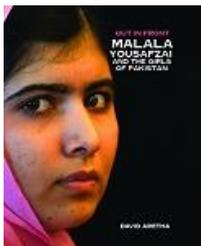


Out In Front



Midwest Book Review - May, 2014

Out in Front: Malala Yousafzai and the Girls of Pakistan

David Aretha

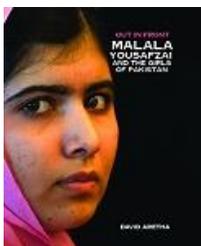
Morgan Reynolds Inc.

620 S. Elm St., Suite 223

Greensboro, NC 27406

9781599354545 \$27.45 www.morganreynolds.com

Illustrated with full-color photography throughout, *Out in Front: Malala Yousafzai and the Girls of Pakistan* is a biography of this courageous teenager, written especially for young adults. *Out in Front* does not downplay the seriousness of the social injustice that Malala took a stand against, or the price she paid for it. She dared to call for the education of women and girls, and speak out against the misogynist policies of the Taliban. Because of her activism, a Taliban gunman stopped the school bus she was riding on and tried to shoot her dead. She miraculously survived, and continues to advocate for the rights of women, girls, and all human beings to this day. *Out in Front* also discusses the cruelties that women in Pakistan face all too often, such as forced marriage, physical abuse, denial of education and jobs, attacks with acid, or outright murder. Malala's courage and determination to make the world a better place is nothing less than inspirational, and *Out in Front* is worthy of the highest recommendation for school and public library children's collections.



VOYA Magazine - May, 2014

Aretha, David.

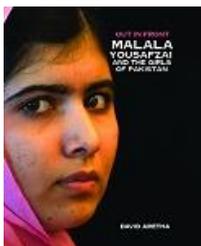
Malala Yousafzai and the Girls of Pakistan.

Morgan Reynolds, 2014. 64p. PLB \$27.45 978-1-59935-454-5.

Index. Photos. Biblio. Source Notes. Chronology.

When Malala Yousafzai was fifteen years old, she was the target of a Taliban assassin and very nearly died. Many do not understand the complicated history that led to this violent act. **Malala Yousafzai and the Girls of Pakistan** does an excellent job of educating the reader on the history, politics, and society swirling around the brave girl who simply wanted an education and became an icon for women's and education rights.

This biography about Malala does an excellent job of putting her young life in the context of a broader reality of life in Pakistan. There are highlighted sections on Benazir Bhutto (Pakistan's first prime minister), "A Hard Life" (detailing some of the hardships some women endure in Pakistan), and "The Taliban" (which describes the history of the group). The reader learns what Malala's life used to be like before the Taliban took over; she went from a girl who loved to go to school and learn to a youngster deprived of the basic right to education because of Taliban dictates. While the book does an excellent job describing the heroic stance of Malala on girls' education and her bravery in recovering from the attempt on her life, the author does indicate that not all in her home country consider her a hero; they would prefer she focus on other issues, such as poverty. This is a very readable and important biography, highly recommended for middle and high school readers and libraries. —*Nancy Pierce*.



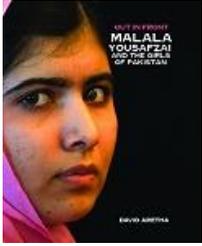
Booklist Issue - April 15, 2014

Malala Yousafzai and the Girls of Pakistan.

Aretha, David (Author)

Apr 2014. 64 p. Morgan Reynolds, library edition, \$27.45. (9781599354545). 371.822095491.

While her name is now known worldwide, Malala was once just a Pakistani girl who wanted to go to school. This well-crafted book begins dramatically, with the October 2012 shooting of teenage Malala Yousafzai, whose passion for education had angered the Taliban. Though she almost died, Malala lived to continue her crusade. The narrative then goes back in time to introduce this teacher's daughter, who, unlike most Pakistani girls, was lucky enough to be born into a family that valued girls' education. Along with telling Malala's story, this does a very good job of explaining the recent history of the region. Generous inserts include profiles of Benazir Bhutto and the Taliban. Another real plus is the text's evenhandedness. Malala's critics also get a voice, one explaining that the teen doesn't see the real problem in Pakistan: poverty. How can families let young people go to school when they need their children's meager incomes to survive? The many color photos, artfully displayed in an attractive design, add interest. Source notes and leads to more information conclude a book that will get kids thinking. —*Ilene Cooper*



School Library Journal - June 2014

Aretha, David.

Malala Yousafzai and the Girls of Pakistan.

64p. (Out in Front). bibliog. chron. index. notes. photos. websites. Morgan Reynolds. 2014. lib. ed. \$27.45. ISBN 9781599354545; ebk. ISBN 9781599354552. LC 2013044510.

GR 7 UP-The story of Malala Yousafzai's life so far is remarkable in how much she has accomplished in such a short time. By the time she was 11, she was blogging under a pseudonym about education for the BBC Urdu website. She wrote candidly about the Taliban and their efforts to block girls' access to schools. Two years later, she was nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize but less than a year after that she was shot in the face by a Taliban assassin, an attempt on her life that she had feared as the Taliban threats on her life grew. Yousafzai's eventual recovery and continued activism is a demonstration of bravery and conviction and perhaps the most impressive and inspiring aspect of Aretha's biography. However, the author takes care to describe the role of Ziauddin Yousafzai, Malala's father, in the teenager's activism. An outspoken educator and believer in girls' education, Ziauddin Yousafzai often appeared and spoke with his daughter. To give additional context, Aretha includes inserted spreads on Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's first female prime minister; the Taliban; and facts about being a woman in Pakistan. The extensive use of colorful photos will help readers visualize this teenager's world. Although the tone is somewhat dry and journalistic, readers will find well-sourced information that will be a good starting place for research. — *Joy Piedmont, LREI, New York City*