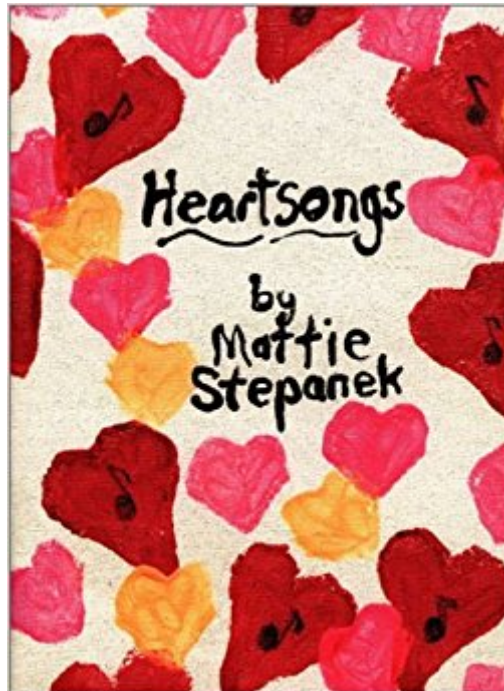




The book was found

Heartsongs



Synopsis

Matthew Joseph Thaddeus Stepanek, known to his friends as "Mattie," began writing poetry and short stories at the age of three. Some of his works explore the uncensored reality of living with a rare form of Muscular dystrophy and with the grief associated with the loss of his three siblings to the same life-threatening condition. But most of his work proclaims the innocent hope, profound wisdom and delightful humor of childhood. *Heartsongs* is a collection of earlier poems and artwork of this gifted, courageous, award-winning poet.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 133 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,934,062 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #96 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Poetry](#) #1772 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Ancient, Classical & Medieval](#) #28007 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature](#)

Customer Reviews

Matthew J. T. Stepanek, best known as "Mattie," has been writing poetry and short stories since age three. His first three books of poetry are titled *Heartsongs*, *Journey Through Heartsongs*, and *Hope Through Heartsongs*. Mattie is a frequent public speaker who has appeared on Oprah, Good Morning America, and Larry King and has had his poetry published in newspapers and magazines nationwide. In 2002, Mattie was awarded the Children's Hope Medal of Honor, the Verizon Courage Award, and the Humanitarian Award from the Pediatric Nursing Society of America. Mattie serves as the Maryland State Goodwill Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and was the National Goodwill Ambassador in 2002. He lives in Maryland with his mother, Jeni, where he is homeschooled. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Touches your heart. I bought used and they look brand new !!!

ABSOLUTELY LOVE THE POEMS AND HIS STORY.

I read this book first before sending it on to my second cousin for his 12th birthday. He has "butterfly skin" and has been interviewed on the "The Doctors". Mattie and John Hudson Dilgen have much in common. Both diseases are fatal, but, then, aren't we all, although not with this degree of suffering. Both boys have wisdom and perseverance. I was moved by Mattie's insight.

I have collected all of Mattie Stepanek books and recommend all of them. Also, Messenger, written by Jeni Stepanek, his mother. She takes you through his battle with a rare disorder called dysautonomic mitochondrial myopathy. His mother also has it. He lost the fight at the age of 14, but his journey is so uplifting and inspiring. After reading her book, you will want to read all of his poetry. He made friends with many influential people. Jimmy Carter, Oprah, Maya Angelo and more. What a teacher he was and continues with his books.

this is a wonderful book--all too often you find the most dire circumstances create such wonderful thoughts--kids are so perceptive

Sweet. Inspiring. Amazing. Graceful. Hopeful. My boys and I are so glad to be reading Mattie's writing. And to have been able to find a terrific copy of the 3 book set. His legacy continues. I also recommend reading Mattie's mom's personal story: "Messenger...". Extraordinary family altogether.

Beautifully packaging for even more beautiful poems by a remarkable boy. Mattie's insights thru poetry are mature far beyond his years and make me smile and cry, but most of all stay with me. I recommend it to poets young and old -- and thoughtful readers anywhere. That he wrote his poetry before his death at age 14 is remarkable. J Lindy

It was cute - a good introduction to poetry by kids for kids. It got so much hype, I expected a lot more from the book.

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