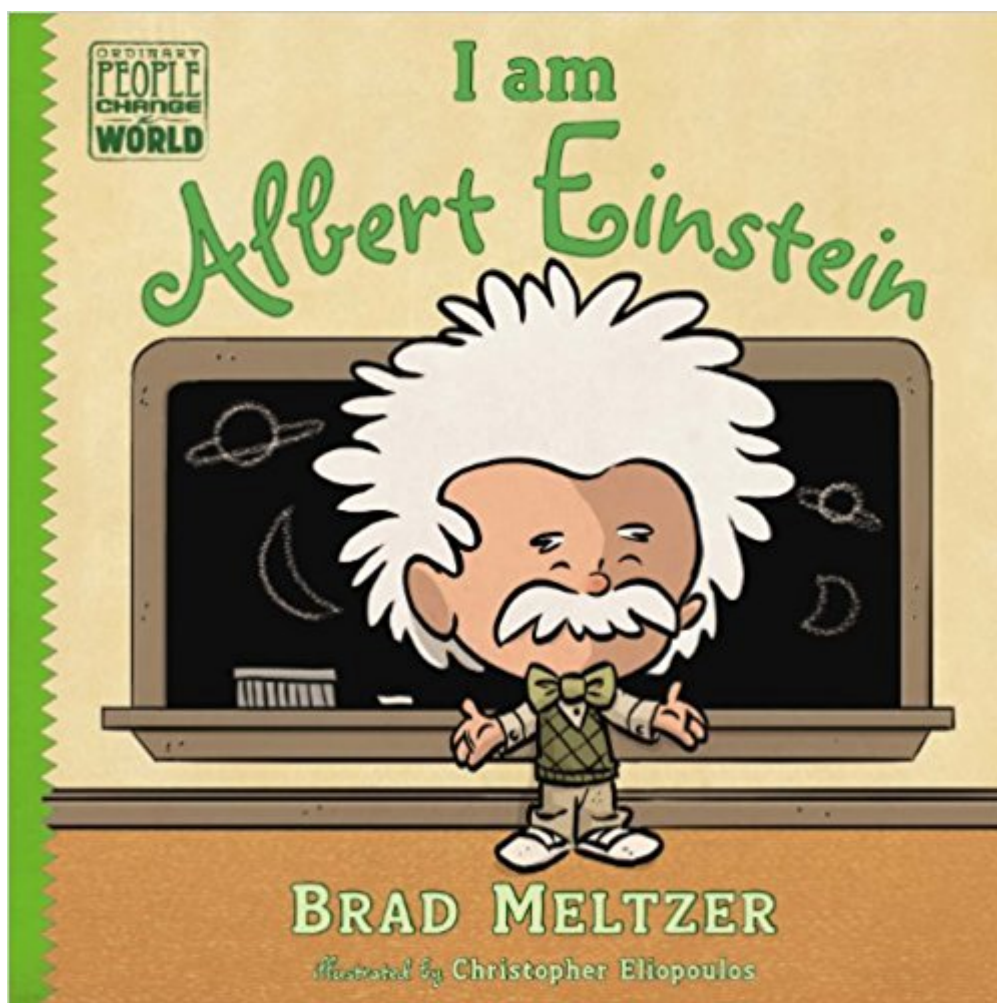


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# I Am Albert Einstein (Ordinary People Change The World)



## Synopsis

We can all be heroes. That's the inspiring message of this New York Times Bestselling picture book biography series from historian and author Brad Meltzer. Even when he was a kid, Albert Einstein did things his own way. He thought in pictures instead of words, and his special way of thinking helped him understand big ideas like the structure of music and why a compass always points north. Those ideas made him want to keep figuring out the secrets of the universe. Other people thought he was just a dreamer, but because of his curiosity, Einstein grew up to be one of the greatest scientists the world has ever known. What makes a hero? This lively, fun biography series by best-selling author Brad Meltzer answers the question, one great role model at a time.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD410L (What's this?)

Series: Ordinary People Change the World

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Dial Books (September 16, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803740840

ISBN-13: 978-0803740846

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 0.4 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 127 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #72,315 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Physics #88 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology #158 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 3 In this simplistic, "feel good" book about Albert Einstein, the scientist relates the story of his life in first-person narration. Meltzer emphasizes the theme of curiosity in a heavy-handed way, reminiscent of the old "Valuetales" series (Value Communications). Children will enjoy the comic-book-like illustrations that always depict Einstein as a small figure with an oversize head, tiny body, and mustache and mop of white hair—even as a child (meanwhile,

grown-up Einstein is dwarfed by other adult characters). However, because of the lack of explanatory information and background material, the book fails to live up to expectations for biographical nonfiction. Readers will come away without a firm grounding in who Einstein was or what he accomplished. Helpful supplements such as an author's note, time line, resources, or recommended reading are also missing. Though this title may have some entertainment value, adults should be on hand to explain how much is fictionalized. For a picture-book biography of Einstein that truly succeeds, try Jennifer Berne's *On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein* (Chronicle, 2013), a superbly written work that features dreamy watercolors and emphasizes the scientist's creativity and wonder. For those seeking a more traditional biography, Dana Meachen Rau's easy reader *Albert Einstein* (Compass Point, 2003) is a better alternative to Meltzer's effort.

—Ann W. Moore, Schenectady County Public Library, NY

In this brief biography for young children, Meltzer traces the life of one of the greatest of all scientists. Stressing both curiosity and independence, Albert says I did things my own way. From an early age he liked playing alone and thinking, and he began to question why the universe behaves as it does. Expressing a love for the logical structure of math and physics, he builds a 14-story high house of cards, balances an incredible construction out of blocks, and soon quickly surpasses his contemporaries and teachers in intellect. Readers will be interested to learn despite being a supersmart genius, Albert didn't always get good grades. In later life he is shown receiving the Nobel Prize in Physics for his theory of relativity. Cartoon illustrations depict Albert's iconic mop of awesome hair starting with a baby tuft but morphing into a full head of fluff even as a toddler and on into old age. The drawings are always comical and the text is both humorous and informative. At the conclusion, actual photographs of Einstein flesh out the cartoons. Grades 1-3.

--Lolly Gepson

I buy books for my nephew, who turned 1 on Christmas Day. This is definitely for an older reader to read independently, however my brother and sister-in-law read to him every day. I buy all ranges of books to add variety for them (the adults). This is a beautiful book and a wonderful series overall. They are wonderfully written and illustrated. I learned something new when I read them before wrapping them as a gift. I love that they are multi-gendered and multi-racial. Even more, I just love the tagline: Ordinary People Change the World. I was unaware of this series until I heard the author talking about it on a podcast. I am so glad I found out about them. I will definitely be adding the entire series to my nephew's library.

I really, really like this book and have recommended it to many friends. First, I love the I Am... historical biography series. We own all of them and I think the series is excellent and I wish there were more. I loved the focus in this book on the importance of curiosity and inquisitiveness in Einstein's life, and how the series highlighted how certain influences, like exposure to a medical student who was staying at his home, proved important factors. My only possible complaint -- while I love how the book makes Einstein accessible and interesting, it takes some liberties. Now, whenever we encountered Einstein, my son yells, "that's the guy who screams 'I LOVE MY HAIR!!!!'" which, while funny, perhaps made too much of an impression.

I have loved all of this series I have read so far. This one in, MHO, is geared to older readers than others in the series.

I love introducing my children to nonfiction characters! Thank you for the series, keep them coming!!

Both my boys (4/6) love this book and find parts of the dialogue really funny. It has been especially wonderful for my oldest son who is very advanced academically but sometimes takes an odd approach to things. We often refer to this book and how Einstein did things differently than other people; and although those people thought he was weird because of it, he was actually a genius who did remarkable things in life. Now all we have to do is work on is my son's humility because he now goes around telling people that he's just really smart, like Einstein....

As soon as I saw that this book was being released I had to buy it for my 6 year old son. Personally I think it's important to have kids learn about real people who did amazing things and this book does it in such a fun and kid friendly way. My son has the craziest imagination and is always thinking about creating and inventing new things so this was right up his alley. One of the things my son really got a kick out of from this book was the fun and colorful pictures and Einstein's mustache! He thought it was hilarious that even as a baby Einstein had a mustache! But overall we love this book and I plan on buying more books from Brad Meltzer, if his other children's books are as educational and fun as this one then we can't go wrong. I definitely recommend this for younger children because it encourages them to think, dream, and know that they can change the world.

We love this series and especially this one on the great scientist. great for beginning readers, and

story time for the younger ones.

YESSSSSSSSSS! We love these books especially this one. All kids should read these books

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