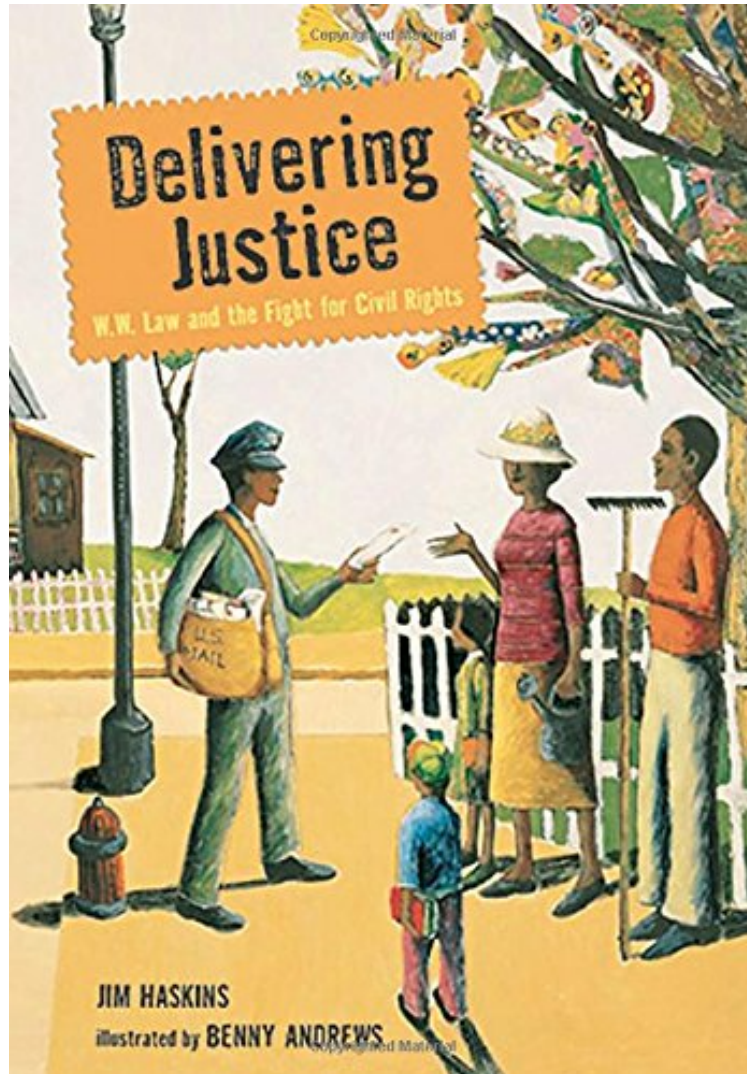


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Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights

Jim Haskins

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Jim Haskins : Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights:

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following review helpful. A less-well known Civil Rights struggle
By DJ Joe Sixpack-----"Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights"
Written by Jim Haskins Illustrated by Benny Andrews (Candlewick Press, 2005)
-----This is an excellent biographical picturebook presenting the story of Georgia-born Westley Wallace Law, a postal worker who helped organize the nonviolent civil rights movement that desegregated the city of Savannah, Georgia in the early 1960s. As the book points out, Savannah's desegregation campaign was far less violent than in other Southern cities, in part because of the work that Law and his allies did to foster dialog between black and white citizens, gaining white support for a citywide boycott that lasted nearly two years, from 1960-61. The author does a good job presenting the kinds of injustices and prejudice that African-Americans faced in the 1940s and '50s, as seen through the eyes of the young W. W. Law, first as a child and then as a young man - the artwork by Benny Andrews is nicely textured, colorful and appealing. This book, which concentrates on a less well-known Southern battle, is an excellent resource for broadening young reader's knowledge of the American Civil Rights movement. Recommended! (DJ Joe Sixpack, ReadThatAgain children's book reviews)

A respected biographer teams up with an acclaimed artist to tell the story of the mail carrier who orchestrated the Great Savannah Boycott and was instrumental in bringing equality to his community. "Grow up and be somebody," Westley Wallace Law's grandmother encouraged him as a young boy living in poverty in segregated Savannah, Georgia. Determined to make a difference in his community, W.W. Law assisted blacks in registering to vote, joined the NAACP and trained protestors in the use of nonviolent civil disobedience, and, in 1961, led the Great Savannah Boycott. In that famous protest, blacks refused to shop in downtown Savannah. When city leaders finally agreed to declare all of its citizens equal, Savannah became the first city in the south to end racial discrimination. A lifelong mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, W.W. Law saw fostering communication between blacks and whites as a fundamental part of his job. As this affecting, strikingly illustrated biography makes clear, this "unsung hero" delivered far more than the mail to the citizens of the city he loved.

From Booklist Gr. 2-4. With handsome, full-page illustrations in oil and collage, this picture-book biography tells the stirring story of a quiet hero, Westley (W. W.) Law, a mail carrier who played a leading role in the civil rights movement. It begins with scenes of Law's growing up poor in segregated Savannah, sad to be separated from his mother, who must work in someone else's home, and angry that his people are insulted in the local department store. In 1942, Law joins the Youth Council of the NAACP and helps people register to vote. After college and the army, he is denied work as a teacher, so he becomes a mail carrier--a job he loves. A combination of realism and folk art, the dramatic illustrations show the beloved mailman leading students in nonviolent protests in Savannah in the 1960s and in his neighborhood. Haskins doesn't provide sources--not even for Law's thoughts and feelings--but the telling is strong, and a final full-page biography fills in the history. Pair this with Nikki Giovanni's *Rosa* (2005). Hazel Rochman
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From the Publisher "Grow up and be somebody," Westley Wallace Law's grandmother encouraged him as a young boy living in poverty in segregated Savannah, Georgia. Determined to make a difference in his community, W. W. Law assisted blacks in registering to vote, joined the NAACP and trained protestors in the use of nonviolent civil disobedience, and, in 1961, led the Great Savannah Boycott. In that famous protest, blacks refused to shop in downtown Savannah. When city leaders finally agreed to declare all of its citizens equal, Savannah became the first city in the south to end racial discrimination. A respected biographer teams up with an acclaimed artist to tell the story of the mail carrier who orchestrated the Great Savannah Boycott and was instrumental in bringing equality to his community
From the Author What the author most admires about W.W. Law, he says, is "his complete dedication to the causes in which he believed - first equal rights and later the preservation of historic sites of importance to black people. He was truly an unsung hero."