

A Summer Life (Laurel-Leaf Books)

By Gary Soto

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Gary Soto writes that when he was five "what I knew best was at ground level." In this lively collection of short essays, Soto takes his reader to a ground-level perspective, resreating in vivid detail the sights, sounds, smells, and textures he knew growing up in his Fresno, California, neighborhood. The "things" of his boyhood tie it all together: his Buddha "splotched with gold," the taps of his shoes and the "engines of sparks that lived beneath my soles," his worn tennies smelling of "summer grass, asphalt, the moist sock breathing the defeat of basesall." The child's world is made up of small things--small, very important things.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
About this collection of 39 sensitive essays and short stories, PW said, "Soto the realist does not neglect his boyhood mischief, and his sly sense of humor is exercised throughout." Ages 12-up.
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Review
“Deceptively simplistic and quietly powerful sketches from a gifted poet and storyteller.”—*Booklist*

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