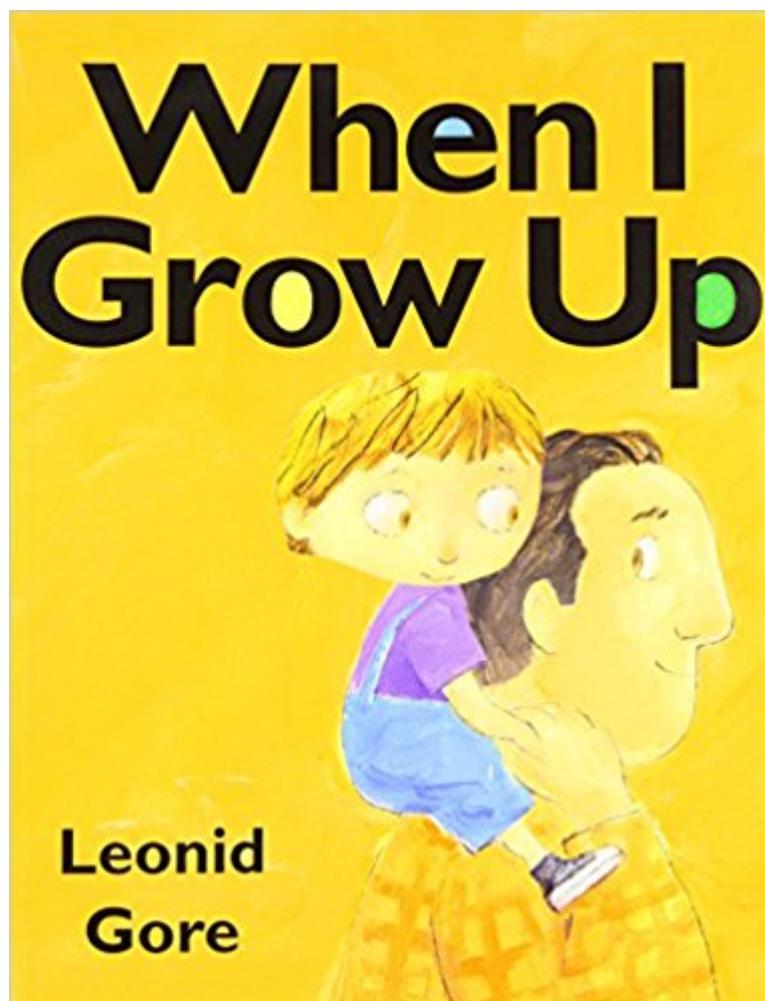


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# When I Grow Up



## **Synopsis**

What will YOU be when you grow up? Leonid Gore's imaginative text and art offer an original response to a universal question. "What will I be when I grow up?" asks a little boy. The world around him supplies inspiring answers: A raindrop grows up to be a fast-running river. A green shoot grows up to be a tall and mighty tree. A shadow grows up to be a gentle night full of dreams. In the end, the boy's greatest inspiration comes from the simplest of sources: his father's love.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 8.6 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #849,292 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 in Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Time #1887 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents #3575 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## **Customer Reviews**

What will you be when you grow? Adults love asking children this repetitive question in particular, knowing fully well that the answers seldom predict what they actually will be. Most kids give amusing answers. As a kid, the author, born in Minsk in the former Soviet Union, wanted to be an airplane (with two propellers). Years later, he immigrated to the United States and became a writer and an illustrator. His story reminds me of a quote I read in a book of prison literature, where an inmate says, "I write because I can't fly." The little boy who asks himself this question looks around for inspiration from nature. And since he's willing to listen, nature is willing to talk. The raindrop says it will grow up to be "the fastest river running through the hills". The green sprout will grow up to be "the tallest tree the world has ever seen". The fuzzy caterpillar will one day become a colorful butterfly, the little chick the loudest rooster, the shadow will turn into the gentlest night. He considers

all these options but decides in the end that he wants to grow up to be just like his father. Little kids can choose to emulate the weirdest things. The world has plenty of role models for kids. Gore, through his wonderful illustrations on unframed double-page spreads, reminds the older reader and lets the younger reader know that even the tiniest, seemingly insignificant things could carry potential for greatness. The book is made even more delightful through cut-out windows on alternate pages that give you a glimpse of what's on the next page only for you to turn it to find something completely different. This technique too, is a metaphor for the transformative power of nature and the promises held by every child that could be realized given the right circumstances.

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