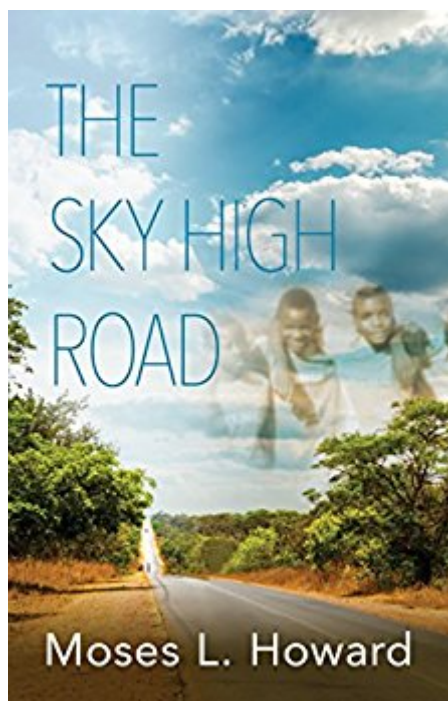


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# The Sky High Road



## Synopsis

A footballer faces crushing odds - against the Lord's Liberation Army! How to keep hope kindled for a brighter future? Jason, a teenage soccer player in a Ugandan village, is worried about his O-levels and grieving his father's death from AIDS. His grandmother sends Jason and his sister Katura on a journey to her home village. That unwanted chore turns to catastrophe when they are enslaved as child-soldiers in the Lord's Liberation Army. Jason and Katura battle their insane captors, who inflict hideous harm on the children they kidnap. Escaping, Jason and Katura encounter both helpers and new dangers on the journey home. Can they bring home more than a solar lantern for their grandmother, carrying new light for their future in Uganda? The Sky High Road is a coming-of-age story for readers in grades 7-12, young adults, and all readers interested in the coming-of-age challenges for educated adolescents in 21st century African villages.

## Book Information

File Size: 947 KB

Print Length: 199 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1939423309

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Jugum Press (May 23, 2015)

Publication Date: May 23, 2015

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00Y6104EG

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #1,167,133 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #29

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Africa #45 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Africa #106 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Africa

## Customer Reviews

A 21st Century Taste of Honey per Sweet Birds of Youth In an era in which there's a paradoxical

countrywide police extension of Jim Crowism, despite the election of America's first black president, it's a riveting, a completely engrossing and compelling experience to read an African American male writer who captures so wholesomely the sheer heart-rending and yet sanguine humanity of black youth coming of age. Such a writer is Moses Leon Howard. Howard's chapters are like the scenes of a well-written screenplay, perhaps a television screenplay. I would say he's a past master of tension resolution and that his narrative structure is all about emotion. The co-protagonist Jason and his sister Katura suffer emotional shock after emotional shock on their extraordinarily suspenseful journey to their Grandpa at Nanansi, Uganda to fetch a special solar lamp for their Grandma, who has travelled to Ruizi Town, Uganda to take care of their mother who is dying of AIDS. They had already lost their father to AIDS. I expect Howard's readers will react to the emotional shocks exactly as he would wish them to where and when in the narrative. Each chapter is a story in miniature and possesses its own activity and change. Howard's rhythm and tempo as related to variation in chapter length is modern and very likely to keep a teenage reader's attention. "The Sky High Road" is allegorical particularly in the sense that the story can be interpreted to reveal hidden cultural meanings, which are moral and/or political. Jason passed the test for being a good young man by refusing the tempting opportunity to engage in sex with Selina, Katura's friend, and irresponsibly running the risk of contacting AIDS. "You need to know that everything in science is connected to everything else."

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