

"Mimi's fictional village is like thousands of real villages in the developing world, where health care, especially among infants and children, is poor or uneven. As a result, every day, 21,000 children under the age of five die, most of them from diseases that could have been prevented with basic health care.

Mimi's Village is ultimately a story of hope and a vision of a better future. It shows how people working together can make changes for the better, and it gives young readers tools to help them improve the health of villages half a world away."

-- Excerpted from the Introduction

When I was growing up, my well-meaning parents often relied on the mantra "Don't you know there are children starving in Africa!" to get me to finish my dinner. But I'm not sure whether that message or my relatively-privileged quality of life ever really registered. All I knew was that I was expected to clean my plate before I'd be allowed to proceed on to my favorite course, dessert.



