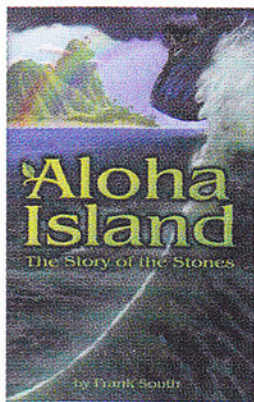


CHILDREN



Aloha Island

The Story of the Stones

BY FRANK SOUTH

Deep South Publishing; \$9.95

Nine-year-old Eddie Akamai feels self-conscious and less-than-confident. He has a learning disability that makes it hard for him to read. But his Uncle Aka, Auntie Pono, and the other residents of Aloha Island need Eddie, his sister Emma, and friend Kim to save their magical homeland. How can Eddie be their hero when he can't even read?

With the help of a motley crew of fauna and alphabet-bearing flora, Eddie and the gang outsmart the enemies—ignorance, apathy, and fear—and save Aloha Island, in this original, engaging, magical adventure. They learn about loyalty, self-confidence, and the importance of asking for help along the way.

Aloha Island: The Story of the Stones is a great read-aloud for kids in second or third grade, and a fun solo read for older kids or more accomplished readers. Children struggling with learning disabilities will recognize themselves in Eddie, and grow in confidence as he does. Typical learners will gain a new understanding of what it feels like to struggle to read, as they're caught up in this imaginative adventure.

Aloha Island is written by Frank South, a former resident of Hawaii and a contributor to *ADDitude* magazine. South knows firsthand how it feels to have ADHD and learning disabilities. Multi-media educational games and reading lesson plans are being developed. You'll find them soon at thealohaislandinc.com.

Reviewed by KAY MARNER, a contributor to *ADDitude*.