



# Ein neues Land

*Shaun Tan*

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## Ein neues Land Shaun Tan

Diese Graphic Novel kommt ohne Worte aus, denn Shaun Tan hat ein außerordentliches Talent in Bildern zu erzählen, und wurde für seinen Animationsfilm "Die Fundsache" mit einem Oskar ausgezeichnet. "Ein neues Land" ist die zeitlose Geschichte einer Ankunft in einer fremden neuen Welt und steht für die kleinen und großen Wanderungen im Leben.

## Ein neues Land Details

Date : Published June 30th 2015 by Carlsen (first published 2006)

ISBN :

Author : Shaun Tan

Format : Paperback 128 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Graphic Novels, Comics, Fantasy, Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction, Young Adult

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## From Reader Review Ein neues Land for online ebook

### Onaiza Khan says

Wow, I just loved this one.

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### Lola says

There were no words in this graphic novel. No dialogs. No written sentences. No words.

But, as I realized throughout my read, they weren't needed. The mesmerizing art was enough.

And what illustrations! Never have I read such a graphic novel before!

It was a fast-read. I don't think I've even spend thirty minutes to get through it. The story was poignant and I loved how realistically it portrayed immigrants and how metaphorically and fantastically the author drew the world-building and settings.

It didn't actually speak to me to an obvious point, as I maybe predicted, since, even though I am an emigrant too (Romania -> Canada), I was very young at that time and we had someone to help us, unlike the main character who had to find help and shelter by himself. Still, I can perfectly understand the main character's – untold – feelings and relate, in a way, to him. I was just probably more excited than he was and not as confused/lost.

Aside for the graphics and settings, what I loved most was the fact that, not only we could see the main character's experience at traveling and changing completely of surrounding, but also the people that he meets in his way and that give him some support. It was breathtakingly captivating.

I do have a complaint though: it was, like I said, too short. Too fast-paced. It could have been longer I believe, because every scene lasted less than two minutes or so. That did give some unrealism to the story – not including the settings which I like to consider well-fitting everything. It would also have been interesting to get to know his wife and child better, with some more scenes including them and maybe a little more to why he decided to leave his country. The blurb does implicitly or explicitly tell us why, depending on your point of view, but actually seeing it would have given some even more intensity to the story and a solid background. Although, I do understand that this is mainly about adaptation, experiences and going forward.

Absolutely recommended! Not only will it appear spectacular and surprising, to lovers of graphic novels or not, but it is also short and easy to get into the story.

## Mischenko says

To see this and other wordless picture book reviews, please visit [www.readrantrockandroll.com](http://www.readrantrockandroll.com)

*The Arrival* by Shaun Tan is a graphic novel and wordless story of illustrations highlighting an immigrant man's journey told through an imaginary world.

I picked this up for my students a few years ago after hearing a special on NPR about it. We enjoyed following along in the story as the illustrations send powerful messages and emotions. It almost feels like a movie as you're turning the pages.

This is a great eye-opening and thought-provoking story that will help children and adults think about immigration including the fears and difficulties that come along with being alone in a strange place.

5\*\*\*\*\*

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## Patrick says

Lovely and amazing.

Re-read this In May 2016 with my little son.

My thoughts?

If I could buy everyone in America a copy of this book, I would.

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## David Schaafsma says

6/19/18: Reading for summer YA GN and Cmiscs class, wordless, a masterpiece everyone should own. Here I borrow from Agne background on how Tan wrote it:

<http://www.shauntan.net/books/the-arr...>

The feel is silent movies, De Sica's (1948) *The Bicycle Thief* and photographs of immigrants on display at Ellis Island. Why is this book constantly timely in this country and in too many countries on the nature of refugees and immigrants. The separation of a parent from his child in this book is wrenching, especially in the light of camps for "tender age" children in this, my country.

Original review, 6/19/16: *The Arrival* is Shaun Tan's masterpiece, a completely silent tale for all ages. A wordless book--except the title--it's about immigration and the wonder and largely dark strangeness and anxiety of that passage. In the U.S. the present conservative outcry about immigration is one that has lasted for at least 150 years here. "Give us your tired, your poor, your hungry . . . ." well, that Statue of Liberty was built in different times, eh? The concerns expressed by residents (and not just here in the U.S., of course) include such sentiments as "what does this have to do with us?" and "it's not my problem." Of course there is

also a lot of generous sentiment for helping out people in need, as is also demonstrated across the world and will have to continue to be demonstrated for a long time.

This book is dedicated to Tan's parents, who were once immigrants themselves.

Steve Earle's Immigrant song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75H8J...>

This book sets aside the politics, mostly, and focuses on the psycho-socio effects of immigrating, the strangeness, the anxiety, the fear, evidenced brilliantly by Tan in sepia-toned and darker shadings, and (especially) the creation of small and large fantastical creatures the immigrants face, symbolic of the newness and strangeness. Are the creatures cute? Are they scary? Depends on your perspective, in part. Maybe both welcoming and frightening.

The focus of the story is on a small family who are separated as father goes ahead to the new country ahead of his wife and daughter. They must leave a place with dragons (and possibly other magical creatures) and come to a place of creatures of another kind. Language, customs, everything is foreign to him, but in time he makes friends, makes connections. Metaphor, allegory, are at the heart of this tale. Monsters are very real as we move to a new place. Maybe they can be conquered; maybe not. A paper bird made by father to make his sad daughter smile transfigures, emerges as something else, and again and again woven throughout. Magical, fantastical, thrilling.

Joan Baez singing Dylan's "I Pity the Poor Immigrant" (which borrows from the Scottish "Tramps And Hawkers"):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gh5Qk...>

P. S. 6/16/17: *The Arrival*, I say again, silent, is used in K-college classrooms, for which I am very pleased and grateful. It has in the way of the best of "all ages" books some basic simplicity kids of all ages can relate to, and levels of increasing complexity as you get older and more experience in the world (and with comics). Yes, every time you read it you see new things, new levels of metaphor, it's always new, as all great art is. The art is amazing, meticulous and strange and wonderful. It's the source of much conversation and written and artistic response around the world. Do you think you might possibly be moved by a silent story with such creatures? I bet you would be. I am.

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## Trudie says

In my ongoing effort to tackle some of my more "pictorial" books I decided to spend a few days absorbing the majestic work of Australian artist / illustrator Shaun Tan. *The Arrival* is surely his Magnum Opus, a four year project resulting in this stunning sepia toned homage to the migrant experience.

The artwork is meticulous in this, the colour palette morphing from warm, rich sepia tones, to greys and blacks, matching the changing tone of the story. The world drawn here is one almost entirely fantastical, yet the historical influences on this story are hard to miss, imagery from Ellis Island, steamships carrying refugees, scenes of war and chaos - are all mixed in with the strange language and animals of this fantasy land. It is brilliantly done, making the "reader" feel as mystified by this new world as the protagonist of the story. These feelings of empathy are something the world desperately needs more of.

A "silent novel" masterpiece.

## **Kelli says**

I'm glad that other people know how to put pictures of the pages of this book into their reviews because if I had that kind of knowledge, I fear my entire review would be page after page of the breathtaking artwork in this wordless graphic novel. That description is so fitting, as this story has no words, yet you read it like you would read a novel. The pencil drawings tell the whole story and a touching, mystical story it is. I believe the author more than achieved what he set out to accomplish when he began the four year(!) process of researching and creating the art and the story. Visually stunning and emotionally affecting, you can **feel** this! 5 stars.

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## **Orsodimondo says**

### **UN GRAZIE SPECIALE AL PAPPAGALLO DIEGO PER AVER ISPIRATO MOLTE DELLE CREATURE PRESENTI IN QUESTO LIBRO**

Autentica meraviglia questi disegni, viene voglia di guardarli e riguardarli, pieni di dettagli da scoprire, di delicatezza, di struggimento, di umanità...

Pieni di bellezza.

Shaun Tan, nato nell'Australia dell'ovest (Perth, proprio da dove veniva Frank Dunne, il personaggio interpretato da Mel Gibson nel film "Gallipoli", se può rendere l'idea), da genitori malesi, disegna in apparenza un film, in realtà 'incide' per immagini la storia eterna della migrazione.

Il mondo vegetale e animale di Shaun Tan resterà nella mia memoria.

E resterà nella mia memoria anche la sua metropoli d'approdo, un po' Gotham, un po' Babele, un po' Oz.

La meraviglia, oltre i disegni, è che manca completamente il testo: una narrazione per silenzio e immagini.

La meraviglia è che il migrante è anche viaggiatore, si stupisce di fronte alla novità, è curioso, è attento, non è solo qualcuno che fugge, ma diventa presto qualcuno che arriva.

Piacerebbe al mio amico algerino che scrive buoni libri e che parla di 'progetto migratorio'.

La meraviglia è che insieme allo strazio della separazione, all'incognita del viaggio, al rischio dell'arrivo, Shaun Tan sceglie di mostrare un lato poco noto, la solidarietà e l'accoglienza.

Certo, il viaggio di Shaun Tan è di quelli che finiscono bene, come si vorrebbe che sempre fosse.

Altre volte, invece, tante volte va in modo diverso, c'è molta più fatica, molto più dolore, molte più difficoltà, e soprattutto, molto meno 'approdo'.

Questo libro è dedicato anche a chi non ce la fa.

## Whitney Atkinson says

Every time I read a graphic with great art I say "THIS IS MY NEW FAVORITE ART STYLE IT'S SO PRETTY" but i'm serious about this one. Probably the most gorgeous book I've ever read.

The Arrival is a story told entirely in pictures about the experience of immigration. It's a surrealistic story, meaning that the world he moves away from and then later into, is very fantastical with sci-fi elements. This was a little bit jarring at first, but once you realize the metaphor that's being established-- the foreignness of it all-- then it's really mindboggling. This book provokes so much empathy and sadness, and just the angles of the pictures and the creativity behind it and all the otherworldly elements were so well thought through, it was amazing.

Even though there were no words, this really tells a story, and I love that about it. Highly recommend this (even though it's really tall and probably won't fit on your bookshelf lol)

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## [Shai] The Bibliophage says

Indisputably, *The Arrival* is a stunning wordless graphic novel that will attract readers because of *how brilliantly it narrated a story through illustrations*. It vividly describes the tale of an immigrant starting in a foreign land: how he struggled with communicating, adjusting to the new culture, the problem on seeking employment, and missing his family.

This fiction depicts the true story of some foreigners who chose to leave their love ones, and trying their luck abroad in order to provide a comfortable life for those they left behind. There are other stories of other characters in this graphic novel that is heart-rending, e.g. the old man who was a war veteran; he lost his other leg and when he return home, he saw that his hometown was destroyed and that there was no survivors. Another tragic story was about the mother who loss her daughter and even though it is not apparent, her daughter might have died because of child labor.

*The Arrival* is a worthy piece of graphic novel to check out because of its compelling story and captivating drawings. One way or another, we are familiar with one or two of the stories in this picture book; possibly that we knew someone with a similar story, or maybe our ancestors used to be immigrants also back then.

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## Melki says

This book is magnificent!

A wordless graphic novel that the tells the familiar tale of an immigrant, and somehow makes the story new and exciting.

A man says goodbye to his wife and daughter, and sets out, taking only a suitcase containing a precious

photograph of his family. He leaves a dark and ominous city for a journey across the sea. Days pass, each depicted by a drawing of the sky. The ship enters the harbor and a strange new world is revealed. The man is examined, cataloged, and labeled. Then he ventures forth into an amazing city. He is bombarded by new sights and sounds. Everywhere he looks, there is something he's never seen before. Even the food here is strange! He doesn't speak the language and must draw pictures of what he needs. He locates a place to stay and discovers an odd little roommate. He finds work and meets other immigrants who tell sad, horrifying stories of fear and oppression.

The monochromatic drawings are beautifully rendered in a style similar to Chris Van Allsburg, though I was reminded just a bit of M.C. Escher as well.

Adults will appreciate the simple story of a stranger in a foreign land, while children will be enraptured by the amazing drawings of fantastical creatures that populate this magical world.

This is just a wonderful book to be looked at again and again, and a powerful reminder that we are all immigrants here.

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## **Jan Philipzig says**

### **Shaun Tan`s Universal Masterpiece**

Shaun Tan's graphic novel *The Arrival* tells the story of the refugee experience, depicting its sense of deprivation, danger, loneliness, discovery, and wonder.

Rooted in the picture-story tradition that predates modern comics, the book's wordless language mirrors the protagonist's inability to communicate though words in his new environment; the surreal images provide the story with universal relevance.

Brilliantly conceived and masterfully realized, *The Arrival* is the rare case of a graphic novel that can be recommended to just about anyone, regardless of age or cultural background.

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## **Algernon says**

*"Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.*

*Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"*

How did we get from a golden door to prison bars?

Shaun Tan doesn't engage in political polemics. He has no need of words at all. His silent surrealist paintings are more eloquent than all the ghostwriters, TV anchors and political commentators that try to convince us that black is actually white. **The Arrival** is more than real, because it is Art with a capital A - it is the distillation of the suffering, the alienation, the loneliness and the struggle of countless refugees into a poem without words, a sequence of sepia prints that borrows from Chaplin's silent movies, from Brueghel's fantastic imagination and from Italian neorealism to become more than the sum of its parts: a new medium for a new world, a historical manuscript, a cry for justice and compassion that is as relevant today as it was at the turn of the twentieth century, when the story is set.

Shaun Tan spent four years working on this album, gathering personal histories from his family, poring over records on Ellis Island, studying faded photographs in museums and interviewing refugee families from all over the world. The resulting album is both familiar and alien, familiar from historical prints that were used as inspiration, and alien in the fantastic elements that are used to capture the confusion and the strangeness of being transplanted into a completely new society.

This is my first contact with the artwork of Shaun Tan, and I find it technically flawless in its use of light, in composition, in the arrangement of panels to describe the passage of time and the sequence of events. Tan uses many techniques from cinematography: tracking shots, wide angle panoramic vistas, fade ins, time-lapse, low angles or bird-eye views, a lot of zooming out from a scene. It's an impressive display of skill that, for me, passed almost unnoticed during the first read through of the album since I was too caught up in the story to pay proper attention. Of course, after I finished I went back to the beginning and went through each panel again at a much slower pace, focusing on details, lighting, facial expressions and so on. I am sure a third or fourth reading will still bring something new to my attention.

The subject, the silent movie treatment and the fantastic artwork are all good reasons to be generous with my star points, but in the case of "The Arrival" there is also a bit of personal history involved that makes me take the extra step and add it to my favorite shelf. It goes all the way back to 1985, I think, when I used to watch two or three movies a day instead of studying for my exams. And every once in a while, I came out of the darkness of the cinemateque, blinking in the harsh daylight and wondering why is everything still the same way it was before, why is everybody going about their business when something momentous just happened inside, a game changer, a new revelation about myself and about the world. Such is the power of art to define ourselves and to inspire us for change, and Shaun Tan reminded me of one of these movies that I haven't seen in thirty years, yet still shines brightly in my memory. I am talking about "America, America" by Elia Kazan, a comparable masterpiece on the subject of immigration and of the American Dream when seen from outside.

## **Annet says**

This is a wondrous and wonderful book. Entirely told in drawings & pictures, not a word at all in the pages, apart from the title on the cover. My first 'graphic novel'. Beautifully designed 'in sepia', a weird and touching story. About a man who leaves his wife and little daughter to emigrate to a new country, to find work and earn a living. But it is no ordinary story, it is full of fantasy images, creatures and weird observations. It seems to be symbolic for people going to another country to live, overcome by weird, scary but also beautiful new experiences. This is translated into a surrealistic, also scifi surrounding with the weirdest animals, shapes and creatures, scary experiences and wonderful encounters. A special book....highly recommended.

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## **Maggie Stiefvater says**

When people recommended *The Arrival* to me, I thought it would be of academic interest. You know, as an artist, I would find it visually appealing, as a YA author, I would find it stylistically interesting, etc. So it took me a long time to pick it up, and I'm so glad that I did.

The Arrival is a graphic novel (told in illustrations, not in comics) telling the story of an immigrant coming to a new land. The metaphor is brilliant: Shaun Tan sensitively illustrates a very human protagonist coming to a country where everything is literally alien: tentacled fruits, many legged animals, bizarre and fascinating architecture, and bewildering methods of transport. The result is an often laugh-out-loud funny study in magical realism.

And my verdict? As someone who makes their living telling their stories with words, I was humbled by just how poignant and humorous and brilliant this book is, without a single word uttered. Highly recommend. And watch out, family, because y'all are getting copies of this for Christmas.

\*\*\*wondering why all my reviews are five stars? Because I'm only reviewing my favorite books -- not every book I read. Consider a novel's presence on my Goodreads bookshelf as a hearty endorsement. I can't believe I just said "hearty." It sounds like a stew.\*\*\*

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## **Mutasim Billah says**

First of all, special thanks to Tukunjil Nayeera for recommending me this wonderful book.

*The Arrival* is a wordless graphic-novel that tells the tale of an immigrant father who leaves his family to work in a foreign land. The story is told in the form of sequential art with the mood being set with varying degrees of sepia-tone colored illustrations in multiple frames and panels.

The story takes place in a strange fantasy realm, where the hero immigrates to a different place to support his family. The struggles of the immigrant is showcased just using art and wordless storytelling. The purpose of

the novel is to generate empathy among readers for the immigrants and refugees who have been frowned-upon in a world ruled by bigotry, by giving the readers a glimpse of the bigger picture.

Shaun Tan sets the mood of each scene with sepia-tone color schemes, ranging from grayscale to bright gold. The illustrations are reminiscent of aged photos(daguerreotypes), and often feature realistic-looking humans in abstract and bizarre environments. The environments resemble a combination of futuristic and old-fashioned aesthetics. Tan's process was one that used real-life models to create a storyboard. He also shot pictures in his garage, using a video camera and empty boxes to create lighting.

Highly recommended for readers of all ages.

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### **Archit Ojha says**

*You do not need words when you have a talent as loud as this.*

Shaun Tan has, in fact, rocked the charts and souls alike with the poignant way of life of an immigrant.

Working hard, toiling under the sun and those sorrowful nights are all acceptable - when you see your family smile.

Believe me, it's that smile on your wife's face when you return home that makes you work harder. Win more.

You might be a CEO or a construction helper, at the end of the day you want to come to a happy family.

With evoking illustrations, isolation and the loneliness are well nourished. It is a novel that holds you by the scruff of the neck and makes you read the mesmerizing pages until the very last.

*And all that - without speaking.*

**Shaun Tan, you genius !**

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### **Carol says**

**Not a single word here.....**just a beautifully illustrated picture story that communicates to the reader the heartbreaking separation of an immigrant family.

In one man's travels across the ocean to an unfamiliar land, the struggles are apparent to connect to an unknown people, to find work, and earn a living so a desperate father can provide for and be reunited with his wife and daughter.

Wonderfully portrayed images induce the reader to envision a difficult life with hope for a better future.

**Touching.....**

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### **Jon(athan) Nakapalau says**

Captures the experience of immigrants in a surreal way that speaks to the wonder and fear of being in a new country - walking the tightrope between opportunity and alienation.

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### **Nat says**

**The Arrival** begins with a heartbreaking parting, a man gives his wife and daughter a last kiss and boards a steamship to cross the ocean.

We follow his struggles being away from home, and entering into a new life where not much is understood or explained. **The Arrival** tells a universal story of immigration.

It was a little hard at first depicting each picture without text, but the more I got into the story, the more I understood.

This book is a wordless story told through capturing images. It is beautiful. Beautifully harrowing, haunting, and compelling.

It managed to capture solitude, wistfulness, and hopefulness in a little over 100 pages, and it was magical.

*\*Note: I'm an Amazon Affiliate. If you're interested in buying **The Arrival**, just click on the image below to go through my link. I'll make a small commission!\**

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