

It's early in the twentieth century. Santo is a boy living in a tiny Italian town when his desperate father leaves home to find work in America. Santo promises to keep his family safe.

After a few hard years, the family finally gets word that they can join Papa. In the confusion of Ellis Island, Santo is separated from his mother, sister, and brother and is cast adrift in New York City—the Empire City—with its millions of people.

There, with almost no knowledge of English and no place to go, Santo tries to fend for himself until a bully corrals him into a group of boys who steal to survive.

Narrowly escaping the police, only to be caught up in more trouble, Santo wonders if he will ever reunite with his family. When he does start to find them, it will take all of his wits, strength, and courage to bring them together—and become American.

AVI is the award-winning author of more than eighty-two books for young readers, ranging from animal fantasy to gripping historical fiction, picture books to young adult novels. *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* won the Newbery Medal, and *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* and *Nothing but the Truth* were awarded Newbery Honors. Two *Boston Globe-Horn Book* Awards are among his many other prizes. Avi lives in Clark, Colorado. Visit him online at avi-writer.com.

Read by Mark Sanderlin

 Harper Audio

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