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Pieces Of Another World

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By Mara Rockliff
Illustrated by Salina Alikhan

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This touching story of a father and child’s nighttime excursion to watch a meteor shower is told through the eyes of a child in awe of the night world. Rockliff’s vivid descriptions make listeners feel as though they, too, are watching the tiny bits of other, distant worlds blazing into our own. The “For Creative Minds” education section includes teaching trivia about meteors, meteor showers, comets, and asteroids as well as a "Meteors Math" game, a "Five Steps to a Fantastic Meteor Watching Party" checklist, and a recipe for comet cookies.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

My daughter has owned this book for two days and we’ve already read it at least a dozen times. I don’t mind having to read it over and over because the words and pictures are so lovely. It perfectly captures the strangeness and excitement of a nighttime childhood adventure. My daughter is now much more interested in the solar system, and the scientific information at the back helps me answer questions. This will be my top choice for Christmas for my young relatives.

This book is a wonderful way to introduce the night sky to children. The initial suspense draws them in, and skilled storytelling keeps them interested the whole way through until, before they know it, they’ve learned something. I can tell this one will be pulled off the shelf again and again!

Rockliff has crafted a beautiful story of nighttime adventure, discovery, and family. The illustrations highlight the prose, adding to the delight of the story. Children will immediately be drawn in by the mystery of the surprise young Jody’s father wants to share. It’s a perfect bedtime readaloud story for
parents to share with their children. Teachers will definitely want to add this to their shelves to supplement their space science curriculum. It’s perfect for everyone!

It was pleasure to read to my children, and brought out their own questions about and interest in both the characters and shooting stars. They have picked it up to look at or re-read on their own, which is about as high a recommendation as I can think of.

It is the middle of the night; a little girl is snug in her bed, sleeping soundly when she hears. "Wake up, Jody-bird." It’s her father telling her to get dressed; they are going on an adventure. As they drive in their old blue pickup, Jody’s dad tells her they are going to see some pieces of another world. Jody knows instinctively that this is a night she will always remember. She cranks the window down and lets the breeze lift her hair, the streets are empty and the town is quiet. Making this a truly fun evening, her dad buys her an ice cream cone before continuing on their adventure. As they drive out of town they see a deer in the road, the deserted swimming hole, a lonely red fox, and an owl high up in a tree. Jody has never seen this dark and mysterious world before. But these things are not the pieces of another world her father was talking about. Stopping the truck, her father gets out, drops the tailgate and boosts Jody up to the truck bed where they snuggle up in soft, fuzzy blankets. Pointing skyward, Jody’s dad tells her to watch. Suddenly, a streak of white cuts through the sky, followed by another and then another. Those are meteors, her dad explains, tiny pieces of some distant world. As each white streak cuts across the sky Jody whispers, "Pieces of another world." This beautifully illustrated book is more than a story about a little girl and her dad; it is also a learning tool. Several pages in the back of the book contain a "Creative Mind" and "Meteor Math" section, answering questions a child might ask after hearing the story. This is a perfect time for the parent and child to interact. There are instructions to help you organize the perfect meteor watching party as well as a recipe for comet cookies.

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