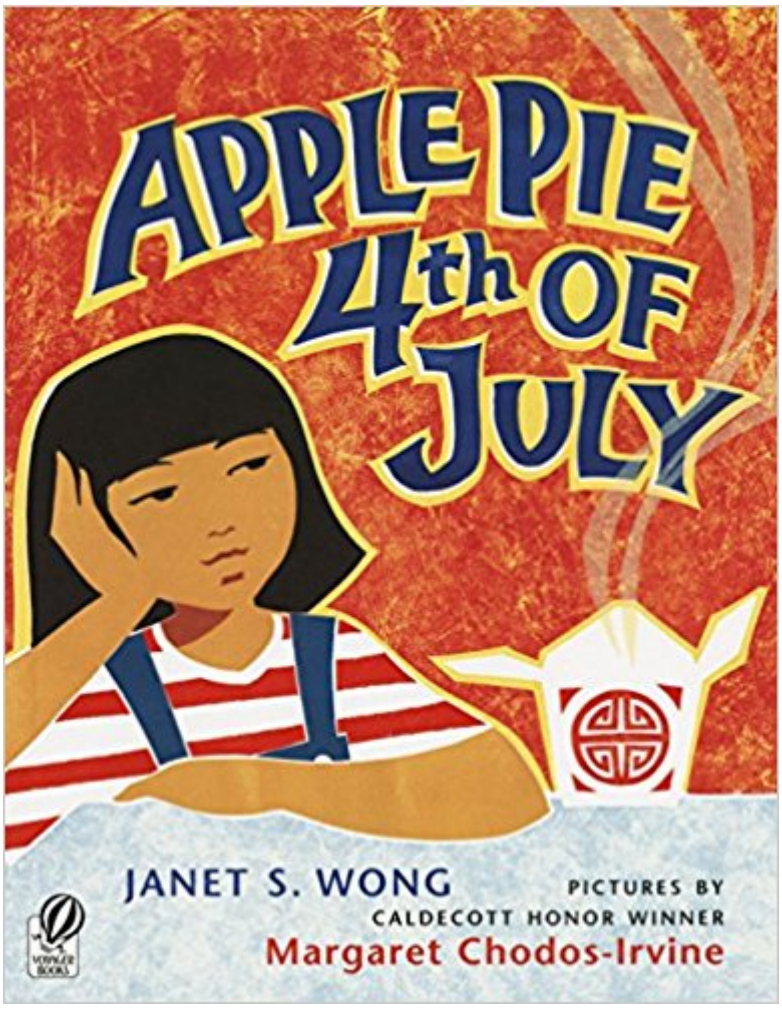
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Apple Pie Fourth Of July



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Synopsis

Shocked that her parents are cooking Chinese food to sell in the family store on an all-American holiday, a feisty Chinese American girl tries to tell her mother and father how things really are. But as the parade passes by and fireworks light the sky, she learns a surprising lesson.

Book Information

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (May 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152057080

ISBN-13: 978-0152057084

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #83,163 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Asian & Asian American #68 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Non-religious #84 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

The author and artist teamed for Buzz return for this carefully honed story about a girl's experience as a first-generation Chinese-American. Readers first encounter the unnamed narrator as she looks unhappily out the glass door of her parents' market, open for business even on the Fourth of July. Hearing the "boom, boom, boom" of the approaching parade, sniffing the apple pie baking in a neighbor's oven, she is distracted by the cooking smells from the store's kitchen, where her parents are preparing chow mein and sweet-and-sour pork. "No one wants Chinese food on the Fourth of July," she tries to explain, and her prediction seems right as the afternoon lengthily unfolds with almost no customers. "My parents do not understand all American things," she reminds herself, "They were not born here." But the evening brings a steady stream of patrons, and the holiday concludes with the family watching fireworks (invented by the Chinese) and eating what else? apple pie. The well-paced text heavily freighted at the beginning and swift by the end reflects the girl's changing emotions and moods. The art resembles cut-paper collage. Chodos-Irvine deploys sharply

defined objects in a range of colors and patterns to construct harmonious, forthright compositions that will likely prove inviting to readers of many backgrounds. Ages 3-7. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Kindergarten-Grade 2-This simply told story explores a child’s fears about cultural differences and fitting in with understanding and affection. A Chinese-American girl helps her parents open their small neighborhood grocery store every day of the year. However, today is the Fourth of July and her parents just don’t understand that customers won’t be ordering chow mein and sweet-and-sour pork on this very American holiday. As she spends the day working in the store and watching the local parade, she can’t shake her anxiety about her parents’ na‹vet‚. When evening arrives along with hungry customers looking "for some Chinese food to go," she is surprised but obviously proud that her parents were right after all: Americans do eat Chinese food on the Fourth of July. Nighttime finds the family atop their roof enjoying fireworks and sharing a neighbor’s apple pie. Done in a "variety of printmaking techniques," Chodos-Irvine’s illustrations are cheerfully bright and crisp, capturing the spirit of the day as well as the changing emotions of the main character. This second successful collaboration by the creators of Buzz (Harcourt, 2000) is one you won’t want to miss.Alicia Eames, New York City Public SchoolsCopyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Great gift for visitor fron Denmark!

I bought this book for our preschool so that we would have something for the 4th of July. The book is good and the kids liked the story and the pictures.

Excellent product & fast shipping

I did like the story. I read it to my 7 yearold son and we thought it was a good story to read. The little girl in the story did not think that her food that her parents prepared and sold would be something Americans ate on their holiday celebration of the 4th of July. How wonderful to be in America and have a place that makes oriental foods right down the street from whereever we live. The little girl is surprised that customers do start coming and her mother and father are quite busy preparing the food. The parents are not surprised, they seem to understand a little better than their daughter about the retaurant business in America. Americans love to eat!

Good

good book

Loved the story. Only one problem story states that there are 364 days in year instead of 365 .

A young Chinese-American girl laments the fact that her family’s combination convenience store and Chinese food restaurant is open every day except for Christmas day. Now it is the fourth of July and the nameless girl can hear the commotion of the parade on the street; yet, her family is cooking Chinese food.Brought up in America, she firmly believes that Chinese food is just not the kind of food one eats on Independence Day. Her family’s focus on tradition is irritating her on this patriotic day and she her desire to escape the store increases with each hour that passes as people come and go, buying things like ice and matches to keep the fun of the holiday going.Apple Pie 4th of July caught my eye when I was searching for children’s picture books related to the holiday. The cover pops and the design made me curious about the contents of this book.With its bit of rhyme, this book is interesting in naming only one character, Laura, the one who makes the apple pie. Janet Wong did not name the main character in the book, which allowed more focus on the story and its message, but I found it interesting that the one character named was never part of the action or pictured.The young girl, as I will continue to call her, believes no one wants Chinese food on this truly American holiday and she grows grumpier when her parents cheerfully produce dish after dish of Chinese-American cuisine. But in the evening when the store starts filling up with people who are in the mood for Chinese food, the girl realizes that being American has a deeper meaning; her understanding grows further when after the store closes, her family breaks from tradition in a small yet significant way.I guess that is really the lesson: that one can marry two worlds and have the best of both (a subtle lesson that I had to think on for a bit after I finished reading).Recommended for children ages seven to eleven who want a fun, quick read about America’s birthday.Google "The Musings of ALMYBNENR" to see this review in its original format and to follow my book review blog for more reviews as well as additional bookish content.Please note: Whatever I rate a book here, please check what the ratings mean on Goodreads, because those are what I go by.

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