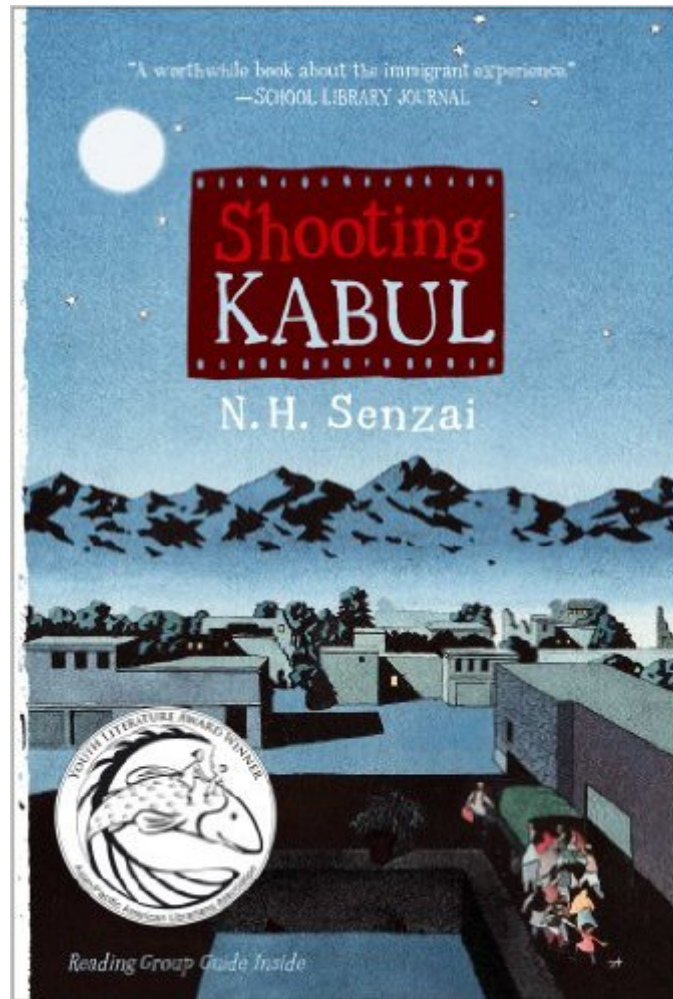


The book was found

Shooting Kabul (The Kabul Chronicles)



Synopsis

In the summer of 2001, twelve year old Fadi's parents make the difficult decision to illegally leave Afghanistan and move the family to the United States. When their underground transport arrives at the rendezvous point, chaos ensues, and Fadi is left dragging his younger sister Mariam through the crush of people. But Mariam accidentally lets go of his hand and becomes lost in the crowd, just as Fadi is snatched up into the truck. With Taliban soldiers closing in, the truck speeds away, leaving Mariam behind. Adjusting to life in the United States isn't easy for Fadi's family and as the events of September 11th unfold the prospects of locating Mariam in a war torn Afghanistan seem slim. When a photography competition with a grand prize trip to India is announced, Fadi sees his chance to return to Afghanistan and find his sister. But can one photo really bring Mariam home? Based in part on the Ms. Senzai's husband's own experience fleeing his home in Soviet controlled Afghanistan in the 1970s, Shooting Kabul is a powerful story of hope, love, and perseverance.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 800 (What's this?)

Series: The Kabul Chronicles

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books; Reprint edition (July 12, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442401958

ISBN-13: 978-1442401952

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.9 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (68 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,105 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Children's Books >

Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #15 in Books > Children's Books >

Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Asian & Asian American #17 in Books >

Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I am often very kind in my assessment of particular books because of their purpose. Such is the

case with "Shooting Kabul" by newcomer to writing, N. H. Senzai, who grew up in San Francisco and Saudi Arabia. She tells the reader it is a story that had to be told, one that continued to niggle at the back of her head. "Shooting Kabul" is loosely based on her husband as a child and his family leaving Afghanistan because of the Taliban. It involves degrees in agriculture earned in the United States and a return to Afghanistan to improve farming techniques. After the Taliban's return to primitivism and total control of government and culture, the family's efforts (and efforts of many other families) were no longer wanted. It became unsafe to stay, thus a dark-of-night escape to asylum in the United States. But that's not why I gave this book five stars. The writing, plotting, characters, plot conflicts--all would rate four stars. Ends are too conveniently tied and plot events are manipulated. But guess what? I don't care. What makes this book stand out and why it gets five stars requires a list. Here's why "Shooting Kabul" is a five-star book for children 9-12 and any older audience who wants to know more about Afghan culture. 1. The novel provides an up-close look at a typical Afghan family, actually, a Pukhtun family. The Pukhtuns make up the largest ethnic group of the Afghan peoples, comprising 42 percent of the population. The reader learns a little about religion, language, food, daily habits, family life. A "little" means just enough to weave into the story without overdoing it. The glossary of unfamiliar names and Afghan facts is included in the back of the book, as well as a further reading list.

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