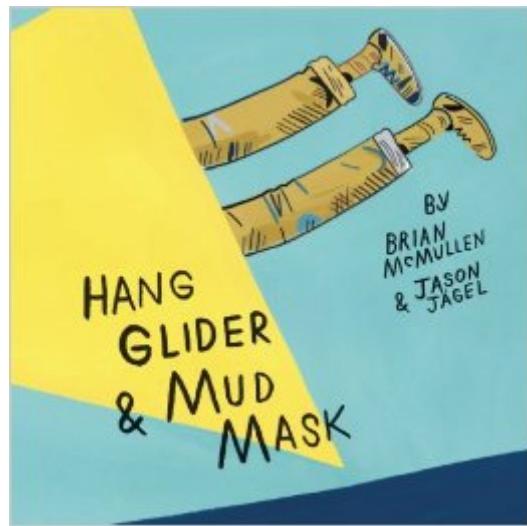


The book was found

Hang Glider And Mud Mask



Synopsis

One lives high in the sky. The other lives deep underground. Follow Hang Glider and Mud Mask as they fly down and climb up to meet each other halfway on the surface of the earth and in the center of the book. *Hang Glider & Mud Mask* is uniquely constructed with two front covers, two spines, and a Z-shaped binding that links the two sides of the story. Will you begin from the Hang Glider side, or flip the book around and start from the Mud Mask side? It's your choice. (And since one half's finale becomes the other half's front cover, it's hard to stop and put the book down.)

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: McSweeney's McMullens (November 15, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1936365839

ISBN-13: 978-1936365838

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 0.5 x 6.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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

Best Sellers Rank: #490,805 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #206 in Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Planes & Aviation #5787 in Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Activity Books #11792 in Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

With half a dozen young children of all ages, my family has very much enjoyed this work for many different reasons. Upon introduction to it, the physical structure of the book is simply captivating; when opening the packaging, enclosed is a book that is surely unlike any other in both appearance and architecture. It unfolds to a z-shape which draws in its audience before a word is even read. Next is a decision: "Do I start at this cover? Or the other one?" Because it is "infinite" in a nature, there is no true beginning or ending. For the outside-the-box thinker, this is quite attractive. You read it one way. Then the other. Then you want to compare/contrast back to the first way, and you find yourself eagerly reading it again. My children and I have had many discussions about the

book's (...or is it books'--you decide...) meaning. With few words, there is so much left to the imagination of the reader. Kids may speculate if it is a dream and discuss connections to that. They may ponder the idea of beginning versus ending. Ultimately they will gravitate to it just because it is unique and therefore "cool" as it can be read in two directions. (My kids have shared this text with their classes at school... the ultimate compliment...) For the adult reader, you are left wondering: Is it about the challenge of finding common ground with others and meeting in the middle? Is it about centering yourself so that you are a grounded individual? Literally? Figuratively? Is there something more?"Hang Glider and Mud Mask" can be enjoyed on so many different levels (which is fittingly metaphorical for this text). :)

Hang Glider and Mud Mask is the perfect gift for young children. What makes this book so unique and praiseworthy is the fact that it has two stories that flow into one another. Children will enjoy reading the story from the two different beginnings time and time again. It is truly a work of both genius and art! I highly recommend ordering a copy of Hang Glider and Mud Mask. The book is certain to entertain and inspire any child's imagination!

I have to strongly disagree with the previous reviewer, who said children probably won't like this title. Just today, my 4 1/2 year old son went to his room for some down time, closed the door and picked out this book to "read" to himself, out of the perhaps 250 books in his room. (Yes, we have a fairly large collection of children's books, considering we have three kids and we are a family of readers.) One aspect I love about Hang Glider & Mud Mask--aside from the obviously cool double spine, which I've never seen before and makes the book totally unique--is the fact that it doesn't give you every detail of the story. You have to use your brain to imagine. You have to pick up clues and put the story together yourself. I do agree with the other reviewer that it is in some ways rather like a piece of abstract art, though I find that children often appreciate abstract art more than adults do, because they know that meaning can be conveyed in color, line, shape, and mood--not only in conventional text or representative imagery. It's fun to try and imagine why a little girl might be wearing a mud mask and cucumbers on her eyes, and why a little boy might choose to soar across the city. If you know a kid who enjoys fun and adventure, he or she will probably love this book. Highly recommended.

In a word, this book is about serendipity. Two different people travel two different paths, finding each other in the nick of time. The colors in the art (orange and teal, and olive green) remind me a little bit

of Dr. Seuss. My sons (5 and 2) both like the Mud Masked character best. "Can she see?" Well, I'm not sure. "Maybe she's more like a bat," I've said, "navigating with some kind of special Mud Mask power." Or maybe the little dots on her eyes are like bees' eyes. Maybe she can see ten times as well as you and me. I'm glad this book exists.

This book is very bizarre. The illustrations are interesting, and the way the covers are constructed is very cool. But the story makes NO sense. Why is the girl wearing a mud mask, with cucumbers on her eyes? No idea. It's not even mentioned. Why is she climbing up to grab the boys legs, and why is he flying down to her arms? It's very abstract, and I honestly don't think many children will get it or find it interesting. It feels like it belongs in an abstract art exhibit--possibly adults could appreciate it (I guess?) but there's not much there to appeal to a child.

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