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Fortune Cookie Fortunes



Synopsis

Crack, crack, crack! The cookies snap open and the family's fortunes are revealed. Mei Mei wants to know how hers will come true. Jie Jie scoffs—they never come true. But Pacy isn't so sure. As she waits and watches, she notices magical things happening in her family. Could the fortunes really be right? And what about Pacy's fortune: "You will see the world in a new way"? Well, yes, it's true! Pacy has been seeing the world through fortune cookies! This exuberantly illustrated story about every kid's favorite part of a Chinese meal also includes a brief history of the fortune cookie. What will your fortune be? Crack! Open up a cookie and find out.

Book Information

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Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 3 While eating at a Chinese restaurant, a young narrator exclaims, "The best part... is the fortune cookies. Crack! Crack! Crack!" Hers says, "You see the world in a different way." That is indeed true as she views the world in terms of fortune-cookie messages and sees them as coming true. For example, Ma-Ma's garden is bursting with growth ("Attention and care will make great things happen"). Jie-Jie's room is filled with magnificent origami animals ("Your imagination will create many friends"). A yellow car laden with luggage is trailed by a caption that

reads, "Someone will visit you soon." Lin's trademark patterns grace not only clothing, but also sky and walls, and the papers with the typed fortunes are decorated with smiley faces. The child's upbeat view of the world around her is charming. A page of back matter gives the history of fortune cookies. Pair this book with Ina R. Friedman's *How My Parents Learned to Eat* (Houghton, 1984) and Lin's *Dim Sum for Everyone* (Knopf, 2001) for a delicious program on Asian food. The final endpaper shows an opened cookie with the fortune, "You have just read a good book." Children will agree.

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K-Gr. 2. The family from *Dim Sum for Everyone* (2001) returns, dining out again in a Chinese restaurant, where fortune cookies end the meal. Do the messages mean anything? The narrator, the middle sister, isn't so sure. But Ma-ma's fortune reads, "Attention and care will make great things happen," and her garden bursts with fruits and flowers. Sister Jei-Jei's fortune reads, "Your imagination will create many friends," and the narrator spies Jei-Jei surrounded by origami animals. Lin contributes a clever take on a fresh topic, but it's too bad she begins with dad's fortune, "Your moods are contagious." Even when children see the fortune become manifest (dad sleeping in the park with others sleeping around him), they may not understand the term contagious, even in context. What's more, being sleepy isn't exactly a "mood." However, as always, Lin's pen-and-watercolor-artwork is totally engaging. Bright, lively colors and scenes presented from unusual perspectives are hallmarks of Lin's art, and the illustrations here are no exception. An afterword tells the real, rather surprising story of fortune cookies.

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My reading students loved this book. A couple of times they laughed as we found out several things about the fortune cookies. I think the page with ALL the fortunes on it was a bit much for my second and first grade readers and they asked me to read it to them. But this does not reflect on whether the book was good or bad. I think it was still a good and interesting book for my students to enjoy. I liked how the fortunes in the cookies became real in everyday life also. It helped my students see the fortunes in real life.

Great book, but the fortunes at the end of the book are a lot IF you try to read them all... So I don't. I

pick different ones each time. Otherwise I would lose my kindergartener. The pictures are very colorful!

We really love Grace Lin! We have every book she has written, from the youngest to the oldest. They are all amazing!

I've never tried purchasing a book for my kindle. It came loaded with books as a gift to me. I got this book and put it in the cloud. I was able to "read" it with my students to celebrate writing and Chinese New Year. What a gift!

Fabulous children's book. Artwork is superb and Grace Lin never fails to write a good book. She's a superb author with a long list of excellent reading for the young child, middle schooler and adult. Highly recommend this book for your bookshelf.

This is a great book about fortune cookies and their messages. When a Mei Mei's family finished dinner here come the fortune cookies. Everyone reads their fortune and Mei Mei wonders if these fortunes will really do come true. As the story unfolds you get to see each family member and their fortune! I really like Grace Lin's books!

Beautiful book with simple language and clear illustrations. Very informative. It is a beautiful way to learn about the Chinese culture.

Cute story for Chinese new year.

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