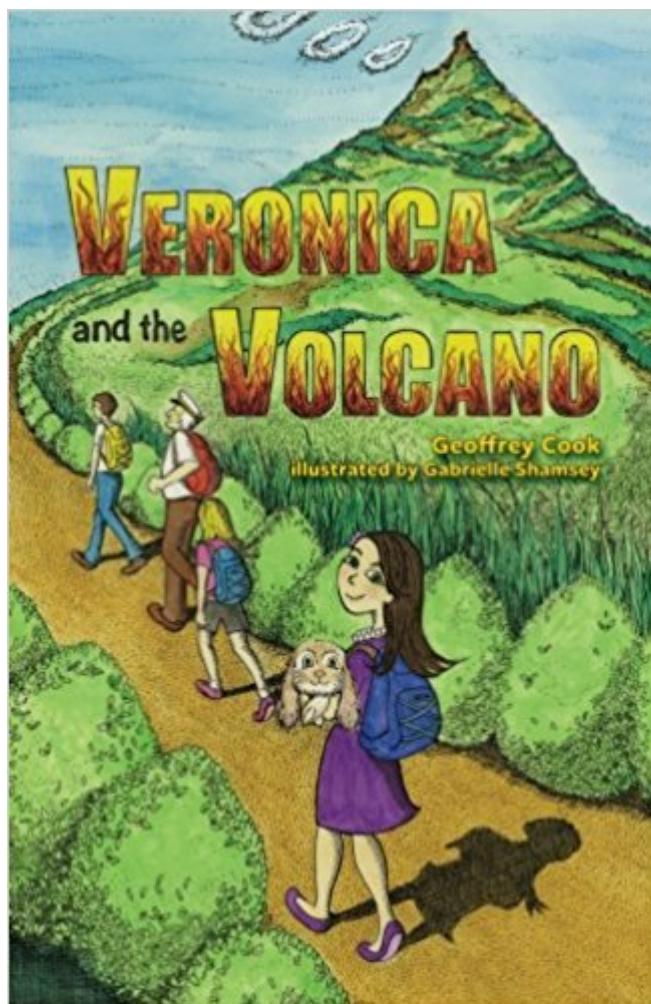


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Veronica And The Volcano



Synopsis

VOLCANO BOOK FOR KIDS! A VOLCANIC ADVENTURE! "An exciting adventure with an appealingly game young heroine." - Kirkus Reviews "An inventive, unusual story filled with twists and turns." - Reader's Favorite, Starred Review *Veronica and the Volcano* by Geoffrey Cook is an exciting adventure story for grades 4-6, with educational elements. It is designed to stir young readers' interest in science while entertaining them. Ten-year-old Veronica lives in a high-tech, gadget-filled house on the slope of an active volcano. Eruptions are a part of life, as she watches from the protective shields of her home or from her family's well-equipped Lava Car. When she leaves on a quest to find rare white volcanic pearls on the far side of Mount Mystery, she leads her father, her best friend Maddy, and her friend's dad, the blustering Captain John, into a series of incredible adventures. But the dire words of a mysterious blind old jeweler warn her of the dangerous Man in White--and before Veronica knows it, her whole world falls into darkness. Veronica is a spunky, relatable heroine who courageously faces every challenge thrown in her direction. Pirates, pyroclastic flows, a crazed mob, and a hike through a monkey-filled jungle are just some of the many fantastical adventures Veronica encounters. Veronica's strong relationship with her parents, especially her father, stresses the importance of adults in kids' lives, while also exploring the limits of those relationships. Kids will root for this brave little girl every step of the way and while they are cheering her on, they'll learn as well! The book combines earth science with incredible action, complementing STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) curriculum by introducing girls to the excitement of scientific discovery and captivating their natural wonder to inspire them to delve deeper. A glossary in the back provides an at-a-glance list of the facts in the book. Artist Gabrielle Shamsey lavishly illustrated the book with many dozens of wonder-filled and vivid images of volcanoes, caves, eruptions, and more. *Veronica and the Volcano* is perfect for volcano lovers of all ages and especially girls ages 8 to 12.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"An exciting, well-paced adventure tale with an appealingly game young heroine. The scenes of danger and escape are taut and well-handled, with Cook providing lots of cool tech (ice tires!). Shamsey's beautiful, dynamic full-color illustrations do a great job helping to tell the story."

- Kirkus Reviews I loved "Veronica and the Volcano" very much. They had so many exciting adventures. I recommend this book to kids my age. I think that girls will really love this story, but anyone that loves volcanoes will also enjoy it. "Veronica and the Volcano" is a story full of everything - family, friendship, courage, and exciting adventures. And the illustrations are great! Paola Belloso (age 9) for Reader Views "Veronica and the Volcano" by Geoffrey Cook is an excellent story that Paola could not stop reading. Her imagination was always active. I found the glossary on scientific terms very informative, and I personally loved the fact that the author wrote it based on the stories he told his girls on their 25 minute ride to school. Paola Belloso's Mom for Reader Views "Volcanoes and tsunamis and pirates, oh my!" - Clara, age 11 "A wonder-full story." - Elena, age 10 --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

How did you become an author? My ten-year-old daughter Madeline inspired me to write the book. When she was in the first grade, I began reading to her at bedtime almost every night. We read the first 3 books of Harry Potter, the Princess Bride, and soon I began to read middle-grade books for pleasure myself, like The Wizard of Oz, Mary Poppins, most books by Roald Dahl, and A Wrinkle in Time. Around this time, my wife began telling Madeline bedtime stories about a little girl who lived on a volcano. She named her Veronica after her mother's middle name. Veronica's adventures were Maddy's adventures: a lost tooth, a win at softball, a skinned knee. Maddy loved Veronica. I would tell her a new story on the twenty-five-minute ride to school each morning. Over time, the stories got more involved. I imagined Veronica's volcanic world and even drew a map. Eventually I began to write

the stories down. Â How do you describe the experience of reading and storytelling? Â The poet Rumi said it best: "When a man makes up a story for his child, he becomes a father and a child together, listening." Story transforms the storyteller. You must be the child to experience the sense of awe and wonder, and you must be the adult to write it down. I love the act of reading stories to my children, especially stories I can get into myself. Â What are you trying to achieve through your works? Â If I had to condense the message of Â VeronicaÂ I'd say it is this: the adults are not always good, but that's not an excuse to be bad. Innocence may not be able to survive trauma but a fundamental sense of goodness can, and this sense of goodness is inherently linked to the mystery, beauty, and power of nature. Â In today's troubled times, I think Veronica's story is resonant. Evil doesn't always come dressed in black and carrying a gun, sometimes it comes dressed in white and asking for a vote. Â Veronica starts off sweet, innocent and trusting, cocooned in her family's love and in a larger community of townspeople who might as well be her uncles and aunts. By the end, some of the innocence is gone but her sense of wonder and inherent goodness is intact. Â Â Â What are your favorite types of books/authors to read personally? Â Lately, I've been reading a lot about volcanoes :) I've recently read multiple accounts of the 1902 eruption of St. Pierre, which killed 30,000 people. I tend to have varied interests from classic fiction to non-fiction to poetry. Â While writing Veronica, I read more poetry than I had ever read in my life up until that point. I was hoping some of it might rub off on my prose and some of the themes might work themselves into my characters. I read a lot of Rilke, Rumi, Mary Oliver, Wendell Berry, etc. Many of the poets I discovered on the podcast Â On Being Â by Krista Tippett. Â Â Â Do you have other work or other live experience you bring to your writing? Â I began an editing business in 1997 from a Harvard dorm room, grew it to 300 people, and sold it to a division of The Thomson Corporation in 2002. For the last 12 years I've been running mobile social apps, and I am the CEO of The Meet Group (NASDAQ: MEET). Â Â Â To write Veronica, I drew on my experience as a father of two girls, aged 10 and 7, and a son, aged 2. Lake George, where my family spends time each summer, was another major influence as were our summertime neighbors there. Family trips to Crater Lake National Park, Oregon, the site of a volcano 100x larger than Mount Saint Helens and to Muir Woods inspired some of the work. The book Krakatoa by Simon Winchester was another major influence.

I am REALLY loving this BOOK so far! The Disney stuff gets old after a while and since I have 2 girls it's magical to read about adventures with them! My 5 year old daughter recently learnt about

volcanoes and she loves pearls so perfect TIMING!

My daughter is loving the adventures of Veronica! This is one of the few books she is excited to read every night!

We are just getting into this wonderful adventure. So far, so great. It is wonderful feed for the young imagination.

My daughter is loving this book! Such a different kind of story that is keeping her engaged. She comes down every night to tell me what new and exciting chapter she has read.

Shared Veronica with our great niece. She is loving the adventure!

My ten-year-old daughter was very happy to get this as a birthday present. It's a fun adventure!

Terrific story with illustrations that go along with the storyline perfectly and beautifully!

Lots of adventure!

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