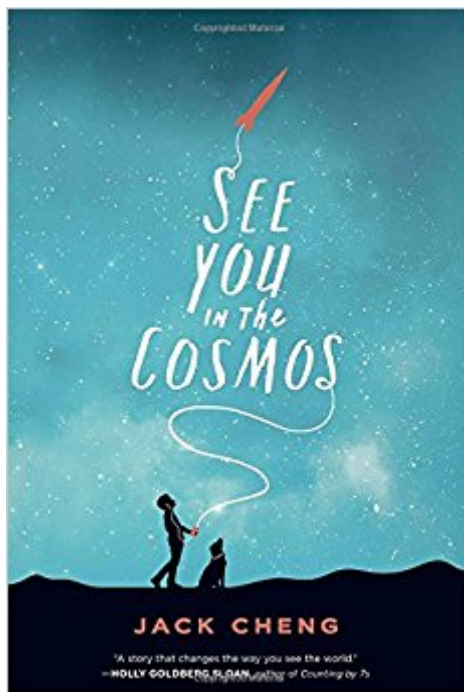


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See You In The Cosmos



Synopsis

“I haven’t read anything that has moved me this much since *Wonder*.” —Jennifer Niven, author of *All the Bright Places* A space-obsessed boy and his dog, Carl Sagan, take a journey toward family, love, hope, and awe in this funny and moving novel for fans of *Counting by 7s*, *Walk Two Moons*, and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. 11-year-old Alex Petroski loves space and rockets, his mom, his brother, and his dog Carl Sagan — named for his hero, the real-life astronomer. All he wants is to launch his golden iPod into space the way Carl Sagan (the man, not the dog) launched his Golden Record on the Voyager spacecraft in 1977. From Colorado to New Mexico, Las Vegas to L.A., Alex records a journey on his iPod to show other lifeforms what life on earth, his earth, is like. But his destination keeps changing. And the funny, lost, remarkable people he meets along the way can only partially prepare him for the secrets he’ll uncover — from the truth about his long-dead dad to the fact that, for a kid with a troubled mom and a mostly not-around brother, he has way more family than he ever knew. Jack Cheng’s debut is full of joy, optimism, determination, and unbelievable heart. To read the first page is to fall in love with Alex and his view of our big, beautiful, complicated world. To read the last is to know he and his story will stay with you a long, long time. —*Stellar*. “Entertainment Weekly” “Life-embracing.” “The Wall Street Journal” “Irresistible.” “The Chicago Tribune” “The best I’ve read in a long, long time.” —Holly Goldberg Sloan, author of *Counting by 7s* “Riveting, inspiring, and sometimes hilarious.” —Kirkus, starred review “A propulsive stream-of-consciousness dive.” —Publishers Weekly, starred review “A gift” “a miracle.” —Paul Griffin, author of *When Friendship Followed Me Home* “Exuberant.” —Booklist “Full of the real kind of magic.” —Ally Condie, author of *Matched* “Incredible.” —BookRiot “Full of innocence and unwavering optimism.” —SLC “Inspiring.” —Time for Kids “Powerfully affirms our human capacity for grace and love and understanding.” —Gary D. Schmidt, author of *Okay for Now*

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

A Top 10 IndieNext Pick
I love this book
the characters, the story, but most of all, the voice that writer Jack Cheng has created.
See You in the Cosmos is the best I've read in a long, long, long time. It's a story that changes the way you see the world.
Holly Goldberg Sloan, author of Counting by 7s
Works beautifully thanks to the charm, directness and subtle emotion of Alex's voice. . . Cheng has created an endearing and believable character, a sweet spirit . . . Alex's voice stayed with me.
The New York Times Book Review
Stellar.
Entertainment Weekly
I haven't read anything that has moved me this much since Wonder . . . The very best books are rare and powerful magic.
See You in the Cosmos is one of these. I wanted to stay forever in this funny, wise, beautiful world.
Jennifer Niven, author of All the Bright Places
Poignant and funny . . . propulsive . . . Alex's strong voice drives this compelling personal journey with resonant themes of family, friendship, and resilience.
Publishers Weekly, starred review
Compelling . . . What makes this novel irresistible is Alex himself, a boy who's at once brilliant, clueless and alive with wonder.
The Chicago Tribune
A sweet, soulful debut novel with a brilliant, refreshing structure . . . Taking inspiration from the Voyager Golden Record released to space in 1977, Alex . . . records all the important moments of a journey that takes him from a family of two to a family of plenty. Riveting, inspiring, and sometimes hilarious.
Kirkus, starred review
[A] life-embracing, stream-of-consciousness tale of family lost and found.
The Wall Street Journal
This novel is a gift
a miracle. Alex fights with all of his magnificent, compassionate heart to remind us that we humans are first, last, and always creatures of hope. Jack Cheng is as brilliant as his debut, and more than that, he is wise. His novel made me want to be a better person.
Paul Griffin, author When Friendship Followed Me Home
Beauty . . . hilarity . . . poignancy . . . this unique novel's journey [is] one totally worth taking.
The Christian Science Monitor
[An] absorbing, irresistible road trip story. . . [Alex's] stubborn optimism

is irresistible and inspiring." "Common Sense Media" "Exuberant and utterly believable." "Booklist" "I was absolutely mesmerized by this book! . . . Mr. Cheng's incredible storytelling reaffirmed my belief that creativity is still very much alive . . . A wonderful read for middle grade-aged readers and beyond!" "BookRiot" "It is not always that we read a novel that so powerfully affirms our human capacity for grace and love and understanding; we need this book for the ways in which it gives us more to be human beings with. And it gives us Alex, whose face is turned to the stars." "Gary D. Schmidt, author of Okay for Now" "Alex Petroski has a big mind, big dreams, and a big heart. His story is full of the real kind of magic" "friends well-met, surprising journeys, and heartbreak and hope. This is a beautiful book." "Ally Condie, author of Matched" "Full of innocence and unwavering optimism, leaving the reader incapable of not rooting for Alex. . . . This book skillfully explores the many emotions of an eleven-year-old boy and shows how young and old alike can bond over a love of science." "SLC" "Inspiring." "Time for Kids" "[A] poignant, memorable debut . . . entirely and deeply human." "The Guardian" "[See You in the Cosmos] reminded me a little of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon . . . [Cheng's is] a very touching book." "GeekDad.com"

Jack Cheng was born in Shanghai, raised in Michigan, and lived in Brooklyn for a decade before settling in Detroit. See You in the Cosmos is his first novel for kids.

I've got a space-obsessed nine-year-old who dug into this based on its connection to Cosmos. He's seen both the reboot, and parts of the original Sagan series. His review was that he liked it but there were "weird parts." Which I think is 4th-grade-boy for "emotional." I also read it and found it much deeper than most stories aimed at this age range. It takes the popular, thanks to the Wimpy Kid series, conceit of diary entries, in this case the main character, Alex's, recorded messages he intends to send into space to communicate with extraterrestrial life, and layers on several extra elements, including a mother suffering from debilitating depression, and how that affects her sons, including Alex's older brother, Ronnie, who has forced into position as the family breadwinner. When Alex's dreams come true and he gets to attend a festival focused on space and rockets, he finds that even when he's living out his wildest fantasies his family issues still follow him. A poignant middle grade novel that reads more like YA in its content. It did prompt some interesting, and fairly insightful, conversations with my son, who got more out of it than I originally thought.

My daughter loved this book and couldn't put it down.

Wonderful book. My son age 12 loved it and I decided to read it myself. Thoughtful and able to represent the personalities of a multitude of characters so well

This was by far my fav book I have ever read, I love the characters they has such a deep background and they went through some Amazing events. I would love to see a sequel!!

Flew through this book. It was fast-paced and the characters were three-dimensional and felt vibrantly real, unlike most YA books.

For the price of this book - you are getting a hard cover book for the price of a paperback. Was here in 2 days!!!! Book has protective book sleeve too! Wonderful!

This was a gift for one of my students. He seemed intrigued. I hope he likes it. I leveled it at a fourth grade reading level.

8 year old son loved the book

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