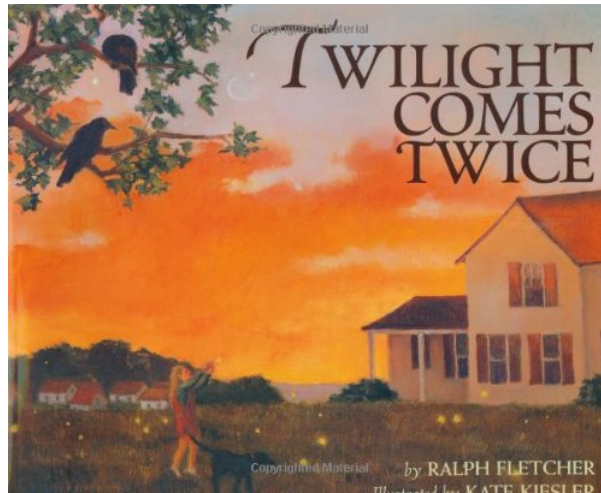
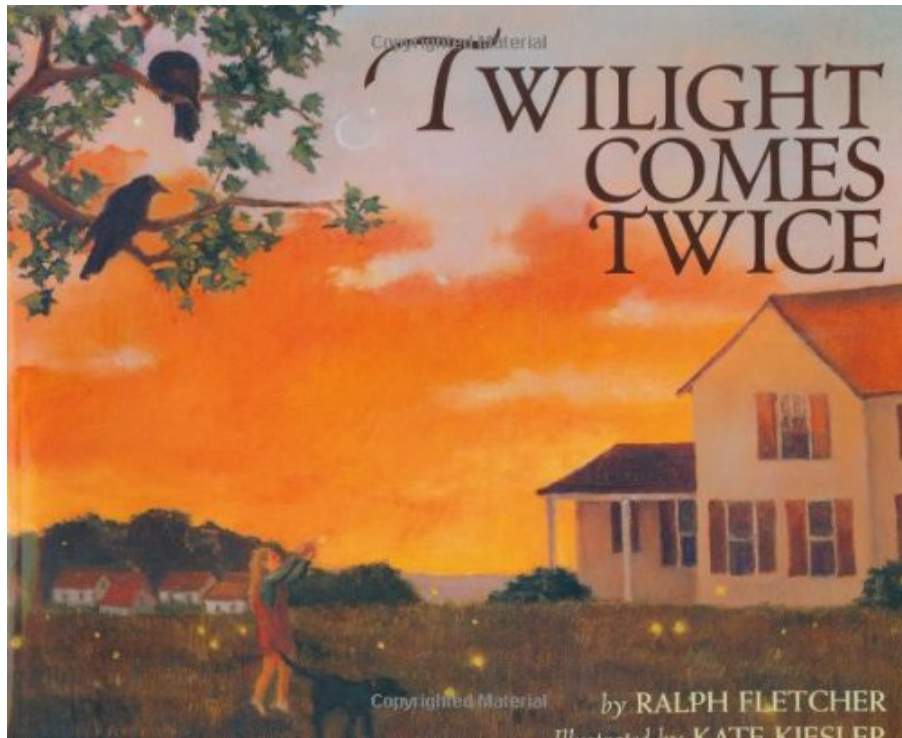


TWILIGHT COMES TWICE BY RALPH FLETCHER



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From School Library Journal

PreSchool-Grade 2. In spare, poetic prose, Fletcher describes the twilight of mornings and evenings, those two brief times of day that often seem to have magical qualities. He personifies dawn and dusk and uses images and metaphors to evoke their special qualities and events. The full- and double-paged oil paintings depict a suburban community. A young girl and her dog wander through the scenes, adding interest even though they are never mentioned in the text. Various shades of green, orange, and brown are used effectively to show how the colors of things are transformed by twilight. The personification of dawn and dusk seems strained, and the metaphors are sometimes more distracting than illuminating, e.g., dusk "pours/the syrup of darkness/into the forest" and "hisses on the sprinklers." The pictures speak more clearly than the words. Charlotte Zolotow's *When the Wind Stops* (HarperCollins, 1995) and Jonathan London's *I See the Moon and the Moon Sees Me* (Viking, 1996) successfully use art and text to convey a sense of the wonder of the natural world. Virginia Golodetz, St. Michael's College, Winooski, VT
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Free-verse text describes the transition from day to night and from night to day, revealing the magic in these everyday moments.

- Sales Rank: #43364 in Books
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- Published on: 1997-10-20
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- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .42" w x 10.50" l, .89 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 32 pages

Features

- Great product!

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Most helpful customer reviews

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful.

Great teaching tool

By K.A. Carman

I am a middle school teacher and found this book to be a great tool for teaching my sixth graders. We have been studying personification and this book has great examples in it. The pictures are beautiful and the text is serene. This is a very wonderful book.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

I Highly Recommend this Book!

By TeacherMom

Sunsets and sunrises have always been special to me especially when they involve bodies of water. In college, I was fortunate enough to live in a dorm next to the Elizabeth River where I was able to enjoy daily sunsets. The beauty of the sun reflecting on the water is very peaceful to me. Every night it seemed as though the sun was gliding into the river for a swim. *Twilight Comes Twice* is a beautiful book both illustratively and written about darkness and dawn. It approaches twilight from a poetic perspective using sensory language, imagery, and personification to illustrate in words what takes place when the sun rises and sets. The serene and muted illustrations in shades of orange and yellow capture the ambience of the sun's movement. The author, Ralph Fletcher, uses images and language that children can relate to.

Fletcher begins with the sentence "Twice each day a crack opens between night and day" which allows the reader to view sunset and sunrise differently. He then proceeds to personify night and day by having them "stand whispering secrets before they go their separate ways." Since night and day have to have time to talk, daylight is not instantaneous which would help children understand the sun rising slowly. His descriptive writing includes alliteration which is a primary reading skill that draws children into the story. Such phrases as "Dusk deepens," "millions of mosquitoes," and "dawn drinks up...darkness" stick with children and are easily repeated. Children can make connections to his imagery, too. For example, "Slowly dusk pours the syrup of darkness into the forest." Most children are familiar with syrup, so they can? conjure up the image of syrup being poured over trees and sky. On the other hand, dawn is also being compared to a seed since it "will grow into daylight" which helps children understand why it takes time for the sun to rise just like a seed forms into a plant. Then dawn is personified as "dawn erases the stars from the blackboard of night" again making a connection to something children are familiar with and comparing dawn to it.

Parents and children will enjoy this book for years to come.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

That favorite time of day

By Susan Demos

That favorite time of day. That magical moment of contentment. That precious hour when "twilight slips through the crack between night and day" and drops in for a brief holiday. In *Twilight Comes Twice*, Ralph Fletcher flawlessly captures the day's dusk along with its eventual dawn. Twice daily, twilight visits a young girl and her black lab, together becoming three dependable companions on a journey through the New England countryside.

Through Fletcher's vivid, personified imagery, dusk and dawn's personalities emerge. We get to know each

guest through the “crows...last minute gossip” and the “fireflies swimming through the air writing bright messages in secret code” and in the morning spiders’ “dew-spangled webs.” Dusk and dawn both “set the table” – dusk with Venus and a crescent moon and dawn “with light that ushers in a brand new day.”

We sense dusk’s personality even more through Kate Kiesler’s muted, orangy-purplish-gray scenes of departure. We feel dawn’s rousing eagerness in Kiesler’s canvassed pages hued in golden-green newness. On each page, she emulates twilight’s angled light tinging the side of the saltbox, the girl’s cheekbone, and the blades of summer grass -- each canvass perfectly paralleling Fletcher’s words.

Every line, every image in this lovely, simple book evokes memories of summer, of childhood, of the simplicity and harmony of a moment. We are reminded to pause, reflect and appreciate twilight’s brief visit and await to relish its happy return.

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