A bright, science-minded boy goes to the beach equipped to collect and examine flotsam—anything floating that has been washed ashore. Bottles, lost toys, small objects of every description are among his usual finds. But there's no way he could have prepared for one particular discovery: a barnacle-encrusted underwater camera, with its own secrets to share . . . and to keep.

In each of his amazing picture books, David Wiesner has revealed the magical possibilities of some ordinary thing or happening—a frog on a lily pad, a trip to the Empire State Building, a well-known nursery tale. This time, a day at the beach is the springboard into a wildly imaginative exploration of the mysteries of the deep, and of the qualities that enable us to witness these wonders and delight in them.

My Personal Review:
I'm a little stumped for ways to convey how good this book is. I bought it for a 3-year-old to read (there isn't a word in it, as you know) to his 9-year-old sister—something they could totally share and dig together. I knew about it but hadn't read it and curled up with it myself before I wrapped it up for them.

I could barely stand to give it away and, simultaneously, I could barely wait for them to have it. The drawings are wonderful and the story is...magic. Its the only word I can use. I don't want to tell you a thing about it—just let it unfold, page by page.

That said, there are two things it might help you to know: 1) The kids and grown-ups who will love it most are those who have been to the beach and seen the ocean, even once. Not essential, but an enrichment. 2) Wordless or not, the story had to be read to the 3-year-old by his sister the first time, not vice versa. For an all-pictures book, its more nuanced than you'd think.

Order a copy for every family you know.

And one for yourself.

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:
Flotsam (Caldecott Medal Book) - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!