

Britta Johanna





#### FriesenPress

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1. JUVENILE FICTION, DIVERSITY & MULTICULTURAL

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For my daughters, Jourdan and Sheldyn, who teach and inspire me with open hearts. My mom once said, to my surprise, Out there in the world, someone has my eyes. She looks just like me, from her head to her toes.

con this be true.



I wonder what her dreams are and what she hopes to BE.

## Could she be a stargazer? Does she think of ME?

Maybe she lives in Sweden and plays marbles in the SAND,

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#### Perhaps she's a ballerina who twirls in a distant LAND.

She could sit in mud puddles on a quiet Spanish STREET,

### Or braid necklaces from dandelions in the comforting Brazilian HEAT.

## She likely visits her grandpa every Sunday in JUNE,

And counts the floating jellyfish beneath the Italian MOON.





l bet she wears dresses patterned with FLOWERS,

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# Or has holes in her jeans in a city with tall TOWERS.

### Maybe she sells fruit in a Japanese TOWN,

#### And recites her nightly prayers in a soft satin GOWN.

What would it be like if we met FACE-TO-FACE?

Would we just stare, or talk, or perhaps EMBRACE?



#### Would it be like looking straight into a MIRROR?

Or glancing at a photograph that isn't quite CLEAR?

Does she have a sister, or a brother like ME?

### Does she have a playhouse, or a fort up in a TREE?

## l think each night she wishes upon a STAR,

#### Or finds pictures in billowy clouds from AFAR.

Just imagine what all this could BE...

#### She sees the same brilliant ■ moon that I SEE.

#### And I will always wonder as time goes BY...

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### We both exist under this great big SKY,

Whether in China, France, or some other PLACE,

#### Who this person is who shares my FACE.

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## beneath my KNEE,

My mom still reminds me THAT THERE'S ONLY ONE OF ME.





IN THIS RHYMING, MELODIC STORY, a mother tells her little girl that somewhere in the world lives another little girl who looks just like her. This propels her daughter into a journey of the imagination, where she visits locales from Spain to Japan, visualizing this other person in her familiar surroundings. From page to page, the little girl explores the possibilities in her head:

#### I think each night she wishes upon a star, Or finds pictures in billowy clouds from afar.

At the end of the story, readers are reminded that for all our similarities, each one is unique. And for all our differences, we share the same sky.

Children will return to this delightful story over and over again as they learn a beautiful lesson about unity and diversity.



Britta Johanna is an American author and illustrator who holds degrees in Art, Education, as well as a Master's degree in Museums and Galleries. She served as a children's educator for more than ten years and has also shown her artwork on the West and East Coasts of the United States. Her hand-crafted collages serve to bring beautiful imagery to her stories, engaging her readers to feel the same love and passion that she puts into each work of art. Britta consistently draws inspiration from her growing family and is passionate about travelling in order to discover new landscapes and interesting people. Her curiosity and desire to learn about the world motivate her personally and professionally.

Britta spends her time between Seattle, Washington, U.S. and Montréal, Québec, Canada.

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