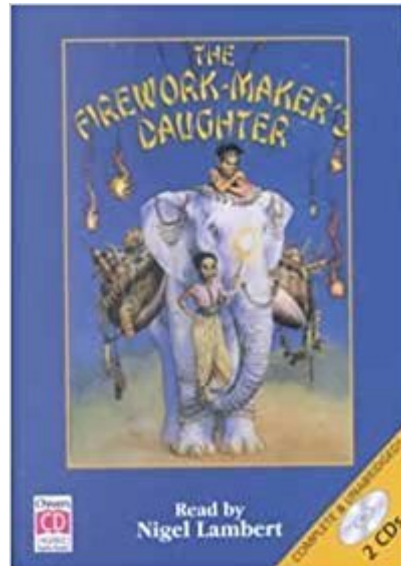




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# The Firework-Maker's Daughter



## Synopsis

A thousand miles ago, in a country east of the jungle and south of the mountains, there lived a firework-maker named Lalchand and his daughter, Lila. Lila's learned from her father almost all there is to know about making fireworks. But he's held back the final secret, the most dangerous one, saying Lila's not ready to know. Not to be deterred, the headstrong girl enlists the help of her friend Chulak, and discovers that anyone who wants to be a true Firework-Maker must face down the Fire-Fiend of Mount Merapi, and bring back some of the Royal Sulphur. So Lila sets off fearlessly, ready to face pirates and demons and anything else that gets in her way. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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[Authors, A-Z > \( P \) > Pullman, Philip](#) #4004 in [Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction >](#)

[General](#) #16043 in [Books > Books on CD > General](#)

## Customer Reviews

"A thousand miles ago, in a country east of the jungle and south of the mountains, there lived a firework-maker called Lalchand and his daughter, Lila." Lila, the heroine of Philip Pullman's charming fable, was, as a baby, "a cross little thing, always crying and refusing her food, but Lalchand built a cradle for her in the corner of the workshop, where she could see the sparks play and listen to the fizz and crackle of the gunpowder." Once out of her cradle, she showed a marked talent for pyrotechnics, even inventing her own fireworks with names like Tumbling Demons and Shimmering Coins. Nevertheless, when Lila tells her father she'd like to become a master firework-maker, he's shocked. Firework-making is no job for a girl, he tells her; besides, with her burned fingers and singed eyebrows, he's afraid he'll never be able to find a husband for her. If Lalchand is horrified by Lila's ambitions, his daughter is equally appalled by the prospect of a

husband. Instead, she decides to run away to Mount Merapi, where every firework-maker must go to claim some of the royal sulphur from Razvani the Fire-Fiend. Lila's adventures on the road to Merapi alternate with those of her best friend, Chulak, and his talking white elephant, Hamlet, who set out after her when they learn something that could mean life or death for Lila. Along the way, they meet pirates, wild animals, and supernatural beings of every stripe until, at last, Lila must face the scariest obstacle of all: her own fear. Pullman invests *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* with wit, wonder, and more than a few goose bumps. The charm of the prose is reflected in the black and white illustrations by S. Saelig Gallagher that punctuate this slim novel. Though not as sophisticated as Pullman's remarkable fantasy novels *The Golden Compass* and *The Subtle Knife*, this engaging story does share a courageous heroine, an exciting adventure, and a singular philosophy that ties everything together in a deeply satisfying denouement. (Ages 9 to 12) --Alix Wilber --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"This comical adventure about a girl who longs to follow in her father's footsteps crackles with Pullman's usual flair," said PW. Ages 8-12. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a wonderful story. Fantasy, fable, strong female character. captivating. Wonderful elephant.

Wonderful amazing story set somewhere in Asia (Thailand? China?) where a young girl has to buck expectations to follow her dream of becoming a firework maker. My eight year old loved it, and i was never bored reading it to her. Ugly cover for a gorgeous story.

i think i would have liked this short, simple book a lot more if i were younger. having read other phillip pullman books, i suppose i was expecting something a little more substantial, but nevertheless, i did enjoy the simplicity and quick read. and since the book was only a buck fifty, i'd certainly say i got more than my money's worth. but if you're an adult like me (i am, despite the fact that i never use caps) you may just want to borrow it from the library

A good kids story

It was a great book to go along with a firework lesson plan I did with my students

This is a great story for all ages.

Great writer

I read and review books for a friend who is a teacher. We are trying to find book that are fast paced and short to encourage children with reading difficulties find joy in reading books. Getting the books as cheaply as possible is also a prerequisite.

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