



2003

Shining Moment

Sarah Ratliff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Ratliff, Sarah (2003) "Shining Moment," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 24 : Iss. 4 , Article 32.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol24/iss4/32>

This Play Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

Miller, Kathryn Schultz. *The Shining Moment*. Anchorage Press, 1989. ISBN 0876022867. \$35.00. 39 pp.

Reviewer: Sarah Ratliff

Reading Level: All

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Contemporary realistic play; Plays; Historical fiction;

Subject: Death--Juvenile drama; Family--Juvenile drama; Drama--Reviews;

Theme: Life is full of shining moments.

Production Requirements: The set consists of a front porch of a house with a suggestion of a roof, railing, steps and a makeshift ramp. There must be a workable screen door and window, as well as a working record player. Porch furniture is also needed.

Acts: 1

Run Time: 45 minutes

Characters: 4

Cast: Adults only or adults and children

Time Period: 1986

William Henry goes to visit his grandfather Edsel, his Aunt Ida, and his cousin Ally on their farm. His grandfather is 89 and in a wheelchair due to failing health. Ally is obsessed with baseball and shares her love of the game with William Henry. While he is visiting, William Henry dreams of his grandfather playing baseball the night of Halley's Comet, only to discover in the morning that Edsel has passed away.

This play takes a nice look at families, love, and death. The play uses songs to capture the mood as well as to help with transitions. The characters could use a little more development, especially the grandfather; however, they still work as useful tools for telling the story. The plot is somewhat lacking, but the overall story is successful and would be enjoyed by younger audiences. It provides a great opportunity to discuss death, especially death of grandparents or older relatives.