

Monologue Mania!

“Blood Moon? Boring!” from *Ups and Downs*

By Rebecca Wright

Scenario: Your parents make a big deal out of everything.

* * *

KID:

My parents make the biggest deal over the littlest things. Okay, maybe a comet that only comes once every hundred years isn't a little thing, but it's not an exciting thing either. Neither is a total lunar eclipse. Not even when they call it a "blood moon," which may sound really exciting, but isn't. The moon just looks like it turns red or coppery colored during the eclipse. Why would anyone waste time on that? It's just a shadow going over the moon. Is it really worth sitting outside for hours watching it? Can you say *boring*? What isn't boring, though, is my dad. He really gets into all that stuff and has stories for everything. He loves telling stories about comets and how people thought that they were signs of either bad luck to come or the rise or fall of a leader and stuff like that. The story he told us the other night about the blood moon and Christopher Columbus was actually pretty cool. You see, according to Columbus's son, Columbus told the natives of an island—I guess it was Jamaica—that the gods were mad at them for no longer feeding the people on his ship. He said that they would know the gods were angry when the moon turned bloody three nights later. I guess Columbus had an almanac or something so he knew about the eclipse coming. Anyway, when the eclipse happened, the natives were terrified and brought tons of food and supplies to Columbus's ships. They kept the sailors well fed until they headed back to Spain. So, if I have to sit and watch these things, at least my dad helps make them interesting!