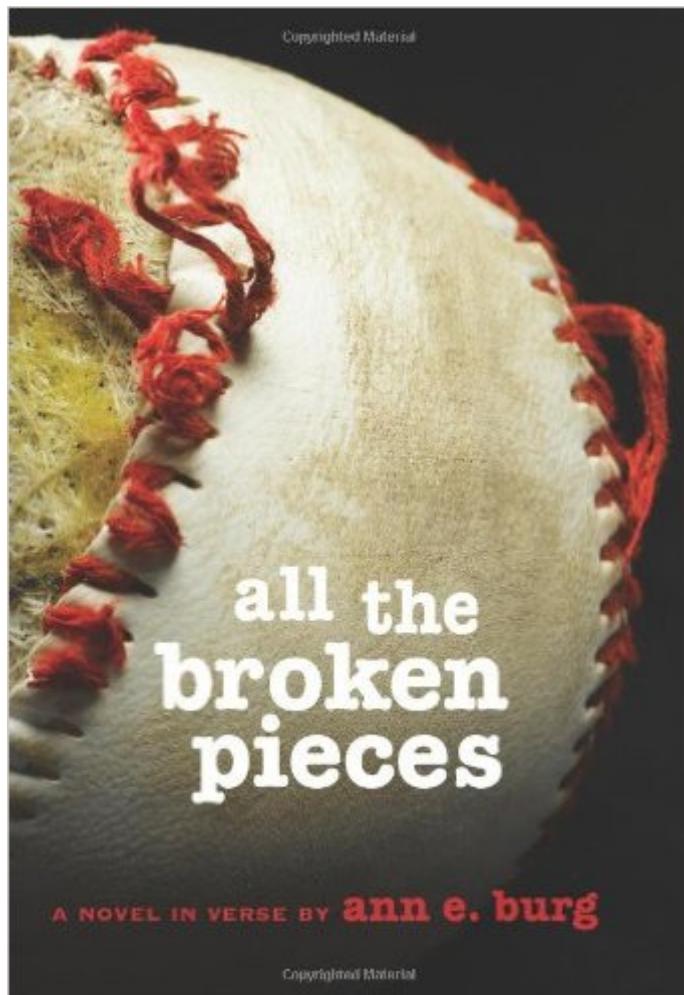


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# All The Broken Pieces



## **Synopsis**

A remarkable literary debut by a stunning new voice in children's fiction. Two years after being airlifted out of war-torn Vietnam, Matt Pin is haunted: by bombs that fell like dead crows, by the family -- and the terrible secret -- he left behind. Now, inside a caring adoptive home in the United States, a series of profound events force him to choose between silence and candor, blame and forgiveness, fear and freedom. By turns harrowing, dreamlike, sad, and triumphant, this searing debut novel, written in lucid verse, reveals an unforgettable perspective on the lasting impact of war and the healing power of love.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (25 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #365,041 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #169 inÂ  Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > United States > 20th Century #179 inÂ  Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military #1521 inÂ  Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family

## **Customer Reviews**

As an American combat soldier, who served in Vietnam, it was clearly evident to me, during my first 11 months of service, who were the real victims of that warÂ  |my fellow soldiers who served heroically. Then I visited an orphanage in Saigon during my last month in Vietnam. I never once thought of children suffering in that war but it was clear to me after the orphanage visit that the REAL victims of that war were the children. As soldiers, we expected trauma. As children growing up in Vietnam, during that war (and the preceding French version), children experienced horror that is indescribable. Parents and siblings killed, orphans left homeless, sometimes limbless, sometimes tragically fried by our indiscriminant use of napalm but all left with emotional scars that probably never healed. One thing we had in common with the children was our own inability to recover emotionally from the scars deeply entrenched by that war. Unpacking those emotions took decades for many of us with many more never recovering from not only the trauma associated with Vietnam

but the blame implemented by our careless peers upon our return home. All the Broken Pieces is an extraordinary piece of literature that puts the emotional pain clearly in view then slowly establishes healing. It was the story of Mattâ™s inner trauma that plagued his life until a baseball coach and Vietnam veteranâ™s mentorship began to set the stage for Mattâ™s healing. This book should be read by everybody who served in Vietnam and to everyone who would like to understand the complex emotional issues that tormented both children and soldiers of that war. My heartfelt thanks to Ann E. Burg who wrote this healing masterpiece that aloud me to repair my inability to cry after so many years.

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