

Digging Deeper

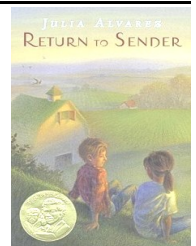
Into Young Adult Literature

Return to Sender

Author: Julia Alvarez

ISBN-13: 9780375851230

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-9



Book Summary:

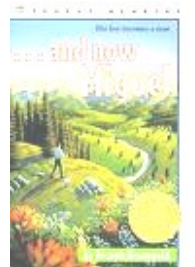
In just the last 6 months, Tyler's grandfather has died, his father has been injured in a farm machinery accident, and his brother goes off to College (UVM--Go Catamounts). Who is going to help run the dairy? What about migrant labor? This story takes a look at the issue and it becomes personal for Tyler.

...and now, Miguel

Author: Joseph Krumgold

ISBN-13: 9780064401432

Approximate Reading Level: Age 9-12



Book Summary:

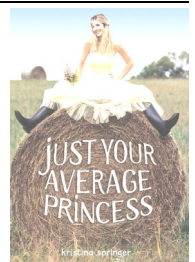
Every summer, the men of the Chavez family go on a long and difficult sheep drive to the mountains. All the men, that is, except for Miguel. All year long, twelve-year-old Miguel tries to prove that he, too, is up to the challenge—that he, too, is ready to take the sheep into his beloved Sangre de Cristo Mountains. When his deeds go unnoticed, he prays to San Ysidro, the saint for farmers everywhere. And his prayer is answered . . . but with devastating consequences. A great novel with vivid imagery of the farming area of New Mexico.

Just Your Average Princess

Author: Kristina Springer

ISBN-13: 9780374361501

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-9



Book Summary:

Trials and tribulations of life in a pumpkin patch, when your parents are the owners, and your cousin from sunny California is new in town! Set in Average, Illinois, this is a great book for junior high or high school girls!



Esperanza Rising

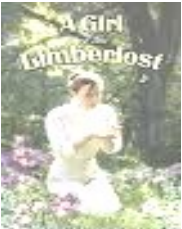
Author: Pam Munzo Ryan

ISBN-13: 9780439120425

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-9

Book Summary:

Listed in the exemplar text for the Common Core Standards, this book takes a look at California harvest during the Great Depression.



A Girl of the Limberlost

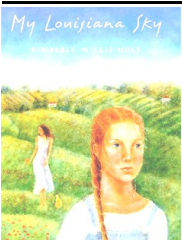
Author: Gene Stratton-Porter

ISBN-13: 9780486457505

Approximate Reading Level: Age 9-12

Book Summary:

Set amid Indiana's vast Limberlost Swamp, this treasured children's classic mixes astute observations on nature with the struggles of growing up in the early 20th century. Harassed by her mother and scorned by her peers, Elnora Comstock finds solace in natural beauty — along with friendship, independence, and romance.



My Louisiana Sky

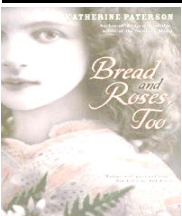
Author: Kimberly Willis Holt

ISBN-13: 9780312660956

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 4-7

Book Summary:

Surviving life in small town Louisiana in the 1950's, including a hurricane. Small town themed foods, jobs and concerns, including Mom and Dad who are mentally slow. Dad and his job at the nursery show the importance of a good work ethic.



Bread and Roses, Too

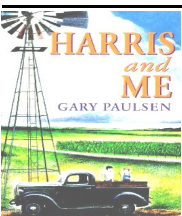
Author: Katherine Paterson

ISBN-13: 9780547076515

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-8

Book Summary:

The historical fiction account of Italian immigrants and the Lawrence Textile Strike of 1912. A look at agricultural processing.



Harris and Me

Author: Gary Paulsen

ISBN-13: 9780152058807

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-8

Book Summary:

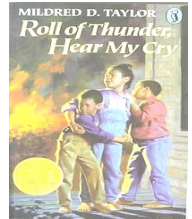
When a young city boy is sent to spend the summer at the farm with his aunt, uncle and cousin, Harris, in a post World War II Minnesota, trouble ensues! PG-13 rating for language and some 'boy' humor.

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

Author: Mildred Taylor

ISBN-13: 9780140384512

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 4-6



Book Summary:

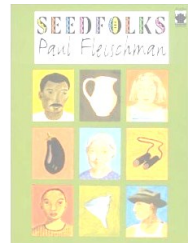
Listed as exemplar text in the Common Core Standards, this is the story of a family's fight to stay together in the deep south in the 1930's.

Seedfolks

Author: Paul Fleischman

ISBN-13: 9780064472074

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 4 & up



Book Summary:

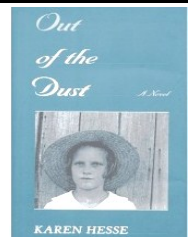
Set in urban Cleveland, Ohio, this story is about a vacant blighted neighborhood that is transformed when one girl plants lima beans.

Out of the Dust

Author: Karen Hesse

ISBN-13: 9780590371254

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 4-9



Book Summary:

This Newberry Award winner focuses on the dust and hard times of the dust bowl era.

The Hunger Games

Author: Suzanne Collins

ISBN-13: 9780439023528

Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-9



Book Summary:

This dystopian novel for young adults features a strong heroine in a fight for survival, in a world where food, and the control of food, is power.

The Year Money Grew on Trees

Author: Aaron Hawkins

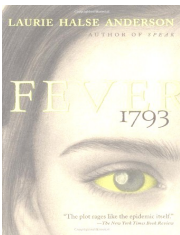
ISBN-13: 9780547577166

Approximate Reading Level: Age 4-8



Book Summary:

1980's look at an apple orchard, and the first real work for a kid living in the country, but not quite a farmer.



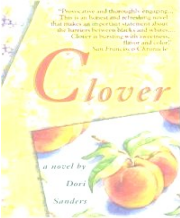
Fever 1793

Author: Laurie Halse Anderson

ISBN-13: 9780689848919
Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-9

Book Summary:

Working in the coffeehouses in the 1790's brings a new idea of what trade means, when the entire city of Philadelphia is struck by Yellow Fever.



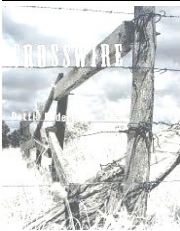
Clover

Author: Dori Sanders

ISBN-13: 9780449906248
Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-9

Book Summary:

Set in South Carolina, is a newly orphaned 10 year old black girl, being raised by her newly minted white step mother, whom she hardly knows, in the midst of peach orchards.



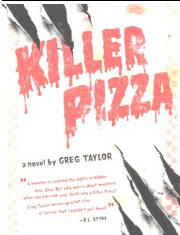
CROSSWIRE

Author: Dotti Enderle

ISBN-13: 9781590787519
Approximate Reading Level: Grades 4-9

Book Summary:

A Calulkins Creek novel, based on Texas cotton farmers at odds with Texas cattlemen. A unique look at the Texas cattle wars and the Texas Rangers.



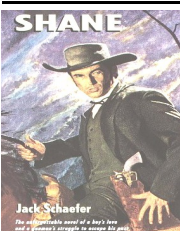
Killer Pizza

Author: Greg Taylor

ISBN-13: 9780312674854
Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-9

Book Summary:

An ordinary kid, Toby, gets an ordinary first job at a pizza place, and some not so ordinary things happen—like hunting monsters. Watch as Toby becomes an action hero at Killer Pizza, a restaurant for a monster hunting organization! Lots of great pizza action!



Shane

Author: Jack Schaefer

ISBN-13: 9780553271102
Approximate Reading Level: Grades 5-8

Book Summary:

The classic western on which many say set the standard for westerns. Shane rides into town, and those around him won't be the same.