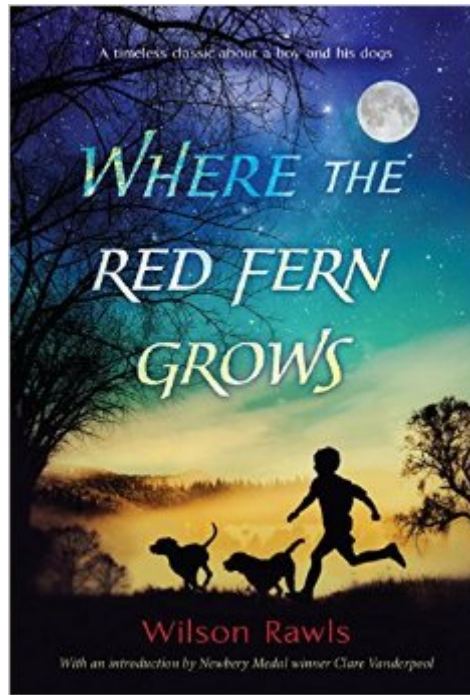


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Where The Red Fern Grows



Synopsis

For fans of *Old Yeller* and *Shiloh*, *Where the Red Fern Grows* is a beloved classic that captures the powerful bond between man and man's best friend. This edition also includes a special note to readers from Newbery Medal winner and Printz Honor winner Clare Vanderpool. Billy has long dreamt of owning not one, but two, dogs. So when he's finally able to save up enough money for two pups to call his own "Old Dan and Little Ann" he's ecstatic. It doesn't matter that times are tough; together they'll roam the hills of the Ozarks. Soon Billy and his hounds become the finest hunting team in the valley. Stories of their great achievements spread throughout the region, and the combination of Old Dan's brawn, Little Ann's brains, and Billy's sheer will seems unbeatable. But tragedy awaits these determined hunters' now friends and Billy learns that hope can grow out of despair, and that the seeds of the future can come from the scars of the past. Praise for *Where the Red Fern Grows*: A Top 100 Children's Novel, *School Library Journal*'s A Fuse #8 Production, A Must-Read for Kids 9 to 14, NPR Winner of Multiple State Awards. Over 7 million copies in print! "A rewarding book . . . [with] careful, precise observation, all of it rightly phrased." • "The New York Times Book Review" • "One of the great classics of children's literature . . . Any child who doesn't get to read this beloved and powerfully emotional book has missed out on an important piece of childhood for the last 40-plus years." • "Common Sense Media" • "An exciting tale of love and adventure you'll never forget." • "School Library Journal" • "A book of unadorned naturalness." • "Kirkus Reviews" • "Written with so much feeling and sentiment that adults as well as children are drawn [in] with a passion." • "Arizona Daily Star" • "It's a story about a young boy and his two hunting dogs and . . . I can't even go on without getting a little misty." • "The Huffington Post" • "A brilliant literary work." • "TeenInk.com" • "We tear up just thinking about it." • "Time on the film adaptation" From the Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviewsÂ (2,805 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Although it has been nearly two weeks since I finished listening to the tape of *Where the Red Fern Grows*, I am fighting to choke back the tears even now. I plan to order several copies for Christmas gifts. Yes it is a wonderful epic adventure story about a boy and his dogs and their heroic devotion to each other. And yes, it is so well read that you live every moment right alongside Billy and Old Dan and Little Ann. But, like most great novels, it is much more. I am a dog lover, a college teacher, and a retired field grade Army officer. I loved the book not only for the captivating story, but also for the slice of Americana that it captures and preserves. It is a time capsule of a way of life, of what made this nation great. The breadth, depth, and magnitude of the love, devotion, responsibility, integrity, courage, and tenacity of the characters is awesome. It was a simpler time, when modest, humble, ordinary people were heroes in their own right, but could not imagine being any other way. If this story doesn't burst your heart with joy and then rip it out with painful agony, you are dead and worse. If you think you're dead, it will awaken and electrify feelings you didn't know you had. If you are looking for answers, you will find them all in this simple little tale of perfectly ordinary and unassuming heroes of epic stature.

I first saw this movie when I was in third grade and it is still one of the most heartwarming movies I have ever seen. About a boy who, during the great depression, skimped and saved to buy a pair of coon hounds. After he finally got them he raised them to become the best pair of coon hunters in the county. What the dogs do for him proves an unconditional friendship to the end. I never fail to cry at the end. If I could give it more than 5 stars, I would.

Billy lives in the Ozarks and wants 2 hunting dogs. He saves for 2 years, then sends away to get 2 puppies. Once the puppies arrive - Old Dan and Little Ann - Billy begins to live his dream, never realizing that more is happening than he is aware of. This is a wonderful story of the love a boy has

for his dogs & the freedoms of childhood. However, Billy has some experiences that take him from childhood into being an adult. Some he is aware of but others are more subtle. Despite the story being about a boy, girls can relate to a lot of the emotions as well. Adults can more fully appreciate the more subtle storylines. I highly recommend this book but suggest that you keep plenty of tissues handy.

I read this book years ago when I was in elementary school, but now, nearly 40, I decided to relax while listening to the audio book. I sat at the kitchen table, assembling a jigsaw puzzle while the narrator once again described a young boy so desperate for hunting hounds that he saved for two years, and by the time he walked the 30 miles to pick up his hard-earned hounds, his feet scratched from picking berries to sell for 10 or 15 cents a batch to raise the incredibly high goal of \$50 for his precious dogs. This story is such a great tale of true grit, determination, hard work and the idea that all things are possible if you set yourself to the task. The things the boy learned and experienced with his hounds and his own sense of loyalty to his family and his dogs are the kind of character building stories that every child, and every 40-year-old should experience. I confess I've always admired dogs ... their loyalty, dedication and wish I could emulate the character that a good dog naturally exhibits. This is one of a group of stories like *Lassie* and *Old Yeller* about dedicated dogs. Buy it for every child that you hope will develop true grit.

A heartfelt film about a boy and his passion for coon hunting. If how well the relationship between people and their pets should decide the value of a movie then this film is solid gold! Set in the 1930's it's realistic atmosphere, period and setting is so stunning, that it holds you to your seat from the start. Excellent acting, especially by James Whitmore and Stewart Peterson. Peterson, particularly, is extremely convincing as Billy. You would have to search long and hard to find as appealing a performance from one so young! In reviewing a film of this nature, you really have to judge the emotional level and how easily you are moved. Some animal movies (*OLD YELLER*, *BORN FREE* and others) move you to tears very easily. This is one of those films. Others seem to be strained to say the least. For more on that, see my review of the sequel to *RED FERN GROWS*. In any case, if you are looking for a film that can realistically take you to another time and place, tells a great story and does so in a very moving way, this film is for you.

A straight transfer to DVD from video but a very good cut. *Where the Red Fern Grows* takes place in the Depression Era Oklahoma. The kid is absolutely dying to own a set of hunting dogs. He works

his put off to earn the [amt] dollars that these 2 red tick hounds, Old Dan and Little Ann and then they become the top coon dogs in that part of the state. While I won't spoil the ending I will say as a dog owner I cry every time I watch with the love that those dogs show for there master and friend. A must have DVD for any dog lover.

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