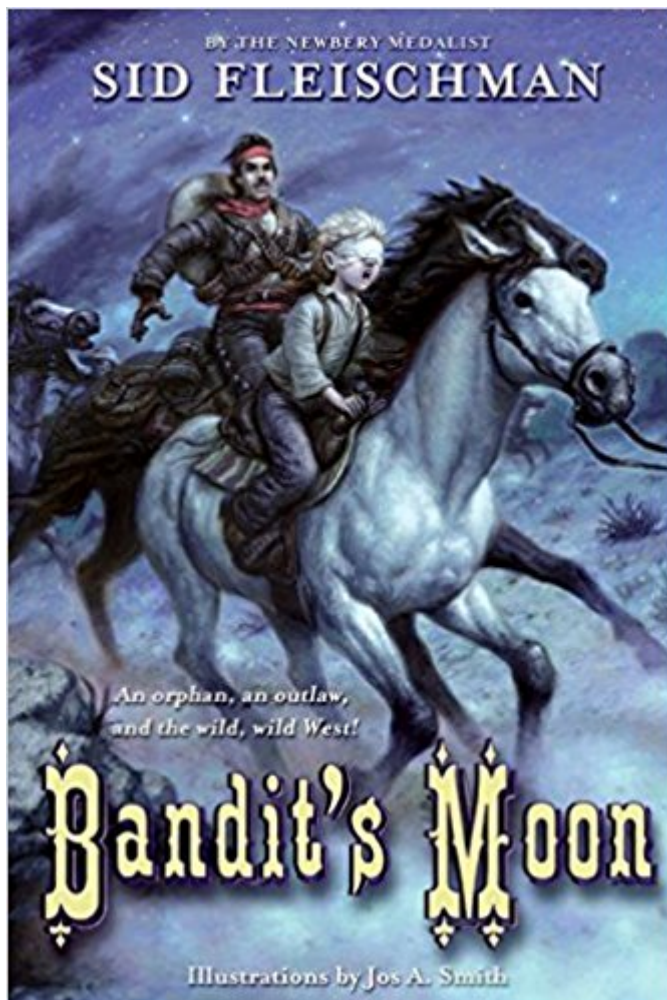




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Bandit's Moon



Synopsis

Annyrose Smith is a true child of calamity, but she is determined to overcome it. So what if she's an orphan? So what if she's stuck with the vilest landlady in California, while her brother's off trying to strike gold? So what if Joaquín Murieta and his band of notorious outlaws swoop in and take her away? The fearsome bandit thinks Annyrose can help him in his quest for justice, and she thinks he can help her search for her long-lost brother. She's not about to let anything stop her, not the mistaken identities, the daring robberies, the wild chases, or her unlikely friendship with the Mexican Robin Hood.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 690 (What's this?)

Paperback: 192 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #79,037 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > Westerns](#) #115 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1800s](#) #2941 in [Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Seasoned author Fleischman (*The 13th Floor*) returns with a spirited novel set against the California Gold Rush. Plucking a character out of history? Joaquín Murieta, an infamous 1850s Mexican outlaw? he expertly crafts a fictionalized tale that takes a clear-eyed look at bigotry and racism, while steering away from the twin pitfalls of pedantry and sermonizing. Told from the point of view of Annyrose Smith, an orphan in search of her brother Lank, the story starts with a bang (she's swept off with the banditos) and never lets up its fierce pace. All the trademarks of one of Fleischman's rollicking yarns are here, from treachery aplenty and multiple cases of mistaken identity, to colorful

rascals?all delivered with a double helping of humor (as when Annyrose attempts to teach the outlaw to read and he remarks, "They tell me my name starts with a J. Yes, I have seen that shape on wanted posters"). Fueled by brisk dialogue and lively descriptions ("my heart sounded like woodpeckers in my ears"), the story moves as swiftly as a whitewater stream, carrying readers along for an exhilarating ride. It's not all thundering hooves and gunfire, however. Fleischman also tucks in weightier issues, as Annyrose ruminates on such concepts as revenge, villainy and friendship while riding with the outlaw?who, as it turns out, is hardly the bloodthirsty figure he's been painted to be. Food for thought packaged inside a most enticing adventure. Illustrations not seen by PW. Ages 8-up. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Grade 3-6-An exciting novel set in the days of the California Gold Rush. After young Annyrose breaks her ankle, she is left with the evil O. O. Mary by her brother, who continues on to make his fortune in the mines. She is saved from this horrible fate by the Mexican bandit Joaquin Murieta, who has come for revenge against the people who murdered his family and stole his land. Thinking that Annyrose is a boy, Joaquin takes her along with his gang so that she can teach him to read. During her travels with the band, Annyrose gains an understanding of the injustices the ruthless bandits are avenging and becomes friends with Joaquin and the others despite her fears and objections. She alternately helps and hinders their endeavors and is ultimately reunited with her brother. Written in the style of an old Western, the book is full of lore and legend of the Old West. It is fun, fast, and wild, but there is a serious side to the story. In an author's note, readers learn that a Mexican bandit, Joaquin Murieta, became a legend as both a cutthroat and a Robin Hood-type figure. Fleischman makes Joaquin a sympathetic central character as he shows the injustices suffered by minorities during this time of greed and lawlessness. This is classic Sid Fleischman: a quick read, with lots of twists, wonderful phrasing, historical integrity, and a bit of the tall tale thrown in. Marlene Gawron, Orange County Library, Orlando, FL Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

If this isn't a classic already, then it definitely should be. *Bandit's Moon* is by far my favorite childhood book, and still remains one of my favorites even today. Although aimed at middle school aged children, it is a fantastic tale of a young girl who ends up on a crazy adventure with Mexican bandits. Though less detailed than a novel aimed at an older audience would be, I still feel like *Bandit's Moon* captures the culture of the time period. Based off a true--though little known--person,

there is plenty of leeway for wild adventures without going far from what truly happened to the real Joaquin. The dialogue between characters is written to show the accents of the Mexican bandits, as well as the many other characters. Each character has his own story to tell, with each melding together to push the plot along. *Bandit's Moon* is a fantastic tale of adventure that will take young readers right along with the Mexican Bandits and their young tag-along. Full of action, fun dialogue, and colorful characters, it's a book worth reading by any age group. I bought this book, and therefore was not required nor asked to write a review, nor a positive one at that. I was not compensated for this review.

I remembered this book from school and I had to buy it again. It was like reading it again for the first time and I loved this little story just the same. Fast read but has good character development. You will fall in love with all the bandits.

It was a great switch for my 4th grader who did NOT want to read Patty Reed's doll after overhearing it read aloud when her sister was in 4th grade (CA history). I picked it, because my older daughter loved *By the Great Horned Spoon*, by the same author, and it is still in the same vein of CA history. Also if you need lesson plans for it there is a great one for this book on teachers pay teachers and scholastic has a free one for writing in response to literature about themes.

As stated. Excellent service.

Very good book!

Love the book.

Joshua Price mod 1 The Bandit 11-14-07 *Bandit's moon* is a great book full of adventure. It is when a girl goes on an adventure with this group of bandits in Mexico and in California. They go to the gold mine to reclaim something of theirs. The Bandit is named Joaquin. His right hand man is named 3-fingered Jack who kills a person in a passing carriage. The girl thinks it's her brother who was looking for her. When she gets to a town named Bed Bug, with the Bandits she rats them out. But they trick the sheriff and go south to a gold to get back what's rightfully Joaquin's. I read many books in my life and I like this book very much. I really think that people should read this book since it is full of adventure. Also parts of the book can relate to real life. The head Bandit also thinks that

girl is a guy so its really exciting. When I read this book I learned a lesson. I can't tell you the lesson; you have to read the book to find it out by yourself.

This book is about Annyrose Smith and her unusual friend Joaquin Murieta. Annyrose starts off living with a woman by the name of O. O. Mary who treats her worse than an animal. One day, O.O. Mary hears that Joaquin Murieta is coming and he's looking for her. O. O. Mary sets Annyrose loose to fend for herself, and O.O. Mary escapes from town. Joaquin happens upon Annyrose and mistaking her for a boy he takes her off on his bandit's adventures throughout California during the Gold Rush Period. Annyrose is a proper, young girl who was raised to do the appropriate things. In the beginning of the novel, Joaquin and Annyrose understand very little about each other. It's interesting to watch their relationship grow throughout the story. All the girls (average age, 10) liked the story tremendously; however, they all felt that it had a slow beginning. I do believe that the character of Annyrose was a wonderful main character and girls can find a lot of strength in this character.

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