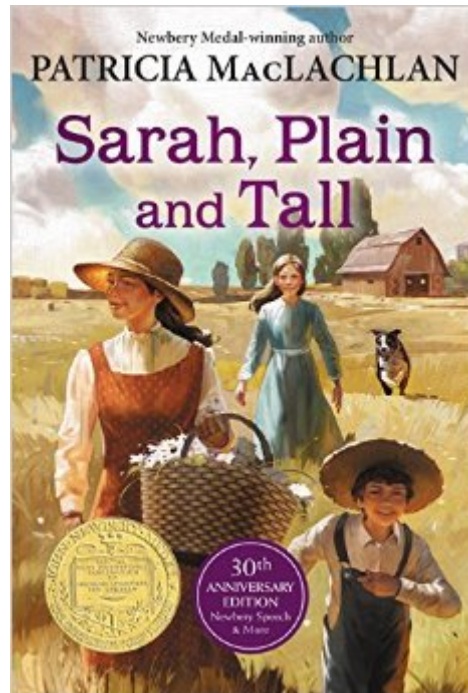




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Sarah, Plain And Tall



Synopsis

This beloved Newbery Medal-winning book is the first of five books in Patricia MacLachlan's chapter book series about the Witting family. Set in the late nineteenth century and told from young Anna's point of view, *Sarah, Plain and Tall* tells the story of how Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton comes from Maine to the prairie to answer Papa's advertisement for a wife and mother. Before Sarah arrives, Anna and her younger brother Caleb wait and wonder. Will Sarah be nice? Will she sing? Will she stay? This children's literature classic is perfect for fans of Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Little House on the Prairie* books, historical fiction, and timeless stories using rich and beautiful language. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* gently explores themes of abandonment, loss and love. This anniversary edition includes author Patricia MacLachlan's Newbery speech, a discussion guide, and a reading list. Read the rest of the Sarah books by Patricia MacLachlan: *Skylark*, *Caleb's Story*, *More Perfect than the Moon*, and *Grandfather's Dance*.

Book Information

Series: *Sarah, Plain and Tall* (Book 1)

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 30 Anv edition (March 3, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062399527

ISBN-13: 978-0062399526

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 444 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,309 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in *Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction* #75 in *Books > Children's Books > Classics*

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 1 - 5

Customer Reviews

MacLachlan, author of *Unclaimed Treasures*, has written an affecting tale for children. In the late 19th century a widowed midwestern farmer with two children--Anna and Caleb--advertises for a wife. When Sarah arrives she is homesick for Maine, especially for the ocean which she misses greatly. The children fear that she will not stay, and when she goes off to town alone, young Caleb--whose mother died during childbirth--is stricken with the fear that she has gone for good. But

she returns with colored pencils to illustrate for them the beauty of Maine, and to explain that, though she misses her home, "the truth of it is I would miss you more." The tale gently explores themes of abandonment, loss and love. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Grade 3-6-Glenn Close narrates Patricia MacLachlan's beautiful novels on this fine audio collection. Sarah, Plain and Tall tells the story of Sarah, who came from Maine to answer Jacob's advertisement for a wife and mother, all from the point of view of young Anna. The classic story continues in Skylark, as Anna and her brother, Caleb, must travel with their new mother, Sarah, to Maine when a terrible drought threatens their home. Caleb picks up the story several years later in Caleb's Story, telling of the return of his grandfather, who had abandoned the family when Caleb's father was a young boy. Close, who played the role of Sarah in the Hallmark Hall of Fame production of the first book, creates distinct voices for each character without ever resorting to theatrics. Anna and Caleb's voices mature as listeners progress through the stories, and Close's carefully unobtrusive narration showcases MacLachlan's simple yet poetic words. An interview with Patricia MacLachlan at the end of the collection gives students more information about the author's life and writing process, and about the real-life inspiration for Sarah. A beautiful collusion of an excellent story with a perfect narrator, and a treat for all listeners. Kathleen Kelly MacMillan, Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Reading this book as an adult made me cry. The unspoken emotions beneath the words are quite moving. Anyone who has dealt with grief, loss, abandonment, and the courage to hope again will relate. The language is beautiful and poetic. Great book to use to teach inferring, if you're reading with kids.

I watched the Hallmark movies adapted from these stories long before I read the books they were inspired from. In fact, it was not until a few years ago I read this series. As an adult, I can tell you how wonderfully moving these stories are and how incredible, and rare, an author Patricia MacLachlan is. Her words are almost magical, and yet, she tells a full, deep story with simple phrases, short sentences, and common words. She paints beautiful pictures and uses prose in a way I have never seen before, nor since. Her words are like music. The story premise is attractive in itself. The characters make the story, though. The movies are also wonderful and family friendly. The books almost act as a script in themselves for the movies as much of the dialogue and scenes

are taken directly from Patricia MacLachlan's words in the stories. Thankfully, she wrote the scripts for the movies and was able to capture the magic in her books on screen. Wonderful stories that are not only enjoyable for children, but for adults, too.

What a wonderful short tale of days gone by, and the relative simplicity of the country life that brings back fond memories.

The "Sarah, Plain and Tall Treasury" should be essential reading for all ages. While written at a grade-school level, the vibrant writing of Patricia MacLachlan draws in readers to the world of Jacob Witting, widower with 2 young children; and Sarah Wheaton, an independent middle aged single woman from Maine. One can smell the sea, taste the dust of a hot, Kansas drought, and feel the cold of a long winter through this trilogy of stories. History (a drought which preceded the dust bowl, World War I, the influenza epidemic) is presented in a natural way, so that young people don't even know they are learning. Warm, pure, growing relationships between grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles and children are demonstrated in a viable way. The characters' strengths and weaknesses are shown; but young people are not polluted by evil as they witness human frailty. Love is a pervasive theme; an honest love that chooses to help one another, despite pain and difficulty. In a world where so many children and teenagers are cut off from their working parents, grandparents are displaced, and friendships are based upon movies and fashions, the reality of true relationships provide a pattern of hope. Our church school received a copy of this book for its library -- children of all ages love the Sarah stories. A friend near 60, not much of a reader, fell in love with these stories...she'll share them with her grandchildren. We scatter the Sarah stories along the path of various friends of all ages; we enjoy them so much.

Brings to light the power of love and the rewards of sacrifice. To make the decision to give of self for the benefit of others without expecting anything in return-this story tells of just such a woman. The hardships our pioneer forefathers endured is shown to bring out Sarah's true inner strength and love for what mattered most, and love overcame the heartbreak and pain of life for many struggling to live in the late 1800's. This beautiful story will make you laugh and cry and renew your faith in mankind's better nature and how we need each other to survive, I was so touched by this story, and it is one you can watch many, many times and not get tired of it, because you can relate it to your own life now as well as then.

I purchased this book for my daughter, because I loved it so as a child. Sarah, Plain and Tall is a beautiful book for younger children.

nice book

Child thought it was fascinating.

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