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Skylark (Sequel To "Sarah, Plain And Tall") Harper Trophy



Synopsis

The second book in the series that began with the Newbery Medal-winning *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan. My mother, Sarah, doesn't love the prairie. She tries, but she can't help remembering what she knew first. Sarah came to the prairie from Maine to marry Papa. But that summer, a drought turned the land dry and brown. Fires swept across the fields and coyotes came to the well in search of water. So Sarah took Anna and Caleb back east, where they would be safe. Papa stayed behind. He would not leave his land. Maine was beautiful, but Anna missed home, and Papa. And as the weeks went by, she began to wonder what would happen if the rains never came. Would she and Caleb and Sarah and Papa ever be a family again?

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 470L (What's this?)

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Harper Trophy; 1st edition (August 3, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064406229

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.2 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 73 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #84,768 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Stepfamilies](#) #103 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Farm Life](#) #107 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1800s](#)

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

Gr. 4-6. This successful sequel to *Sarah Plain and Tall* (1985), which was recently televised, has enough dramatic tension and character development to satisfy devoted fans of the first book. Mail-order bride Sarah goes back east with children Anna and Caleb, leaving husband Jacob, whose name is "written in the land," to deal with their drought-ridden farm. Sarah's home in Maine makes a favorable impression on the children, but they miss their father and fear they will never return to the prairie. Finally, Jacob comes to fetch them home: "Papa looked at Sarah. 'It rained,' he

said. 'I never thought you'd come,' whispered Sarah. 'It rained,' said Papa again, his voice so soft it could have been the wind I heard." MacLachlan packs a lot into this spare tale and never diverges from the child's point of view, even when showing adult behavior. The happy result is emotional impact without cloying sentimentality. Janice Del Negro --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The eagerly awaited sequel to Sarah, Plain and Tall, which has already appeared on TV with a script by MacLachlan. Papa and Sarah are now married, but a drought intrudes on the family's new happiness. They struggle to haul water, watch their discouraged neighbors depart, then lose their barn to a prairie fire. Determined to hang on, Papa stays behind to rebuild while Sarah (pregnant, downhearted, and longing for her birthplace) takes the children back to Maine to visit. The coast's different beauty fascinates the children, but they're homesick--and so is Sarah; but in time the rains return out west, and Papa comes to bring them home. As sequel and companion to the film, this does well enough; MacLachlan's prose is dependably graceful and evocative. Still, it's a disappointment: she has little that's new to say about these beloved characters, and for once she's written a book that isn't particularly innovative or insightful; like other film-first fiction, it consists of dialogue, visual descriptions, and scenes echoing their earlier incarnation, while logic is elided for the drama of the moment (How could Papa rebuild the barn alone? What did he do about water for the stock, once the creek was dry?). Not outstanding, but amiable; fans will rejoice, and there'll be no trouble selling the first printing of 50,000. (Fiction. 8-12) -- Copyright ©1994, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Great series. I'm reading it as adult along with one of my children and it has been a very enjoyable experience.

Patricia MacLachlan is an incredibly gifted author. Her books will enchant young and old.

I bought it for a struggling reader in 5th grade and the student really enjoyed it. It gave her a lot of motivation to read.

Skylark is an excellent follow up to Sarah, Plain & Tall. My students were hooked from the first chapter. They loved it as a read aloud, & ended up requesting to read the entire series aloud

throughout the year. Excellent purchase!

The 'Sarah Plain and Tall' series is among our family favorites. Skylark just gets a 4 out of 5 because while we'd like to give it a 4.5, that isn't permitted. The tender tale of Sarah, Jacob, Anna and Caleb continues. You can feel the arid conditions of the Kansas drought, the fear that grips the community as wells go dry, the loneliness and fear of families being separated so that at least some of them can travel to where water is not a constant need. A book that gives a picture to youngsters of Dust Bowl conditions; it will keep the attention of older readers as well. A happy ending completes part 2 of the Sarah stories (as we call them). [Our lack of a '5' star rating was largely because of a brief, unnecessary encounter with a skinny dipping old maiden aunt.]

saw this when came on tv years ago. very good movies. Glenn Close is wonderful

very nice and interesting seems like a great family
places Sarah Caleb Papa Anna =love

Nice sequel to "Sarah, Plain and Tall."

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