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Whistle-Stop West (Beyond The Orphan Train Book 2)



Synopsis

Nine-year-old Ethan Cooper has managed to keep his family together for a year in a Pennsylvania orphanage. Now he and his siblings are boarding a train headed west. He can't help but worry: Mr. and Mrs. Rush in Nebraska have agreed to adopt all four Cooper children, but what if they change their minds? In the meantime, Ethan and his siblings encounter their first dust storm, explore train cars, and watch friend after friend leave with new parents. The children dream that soon they will have a new ma and pa too. Based on the story of a real family, this second book in the historical Beyond the Orphan Train series reminds us that God never leaves us, no matter how far we journey to find home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a good story for young and old alike.

I use the books for Sunday School and they really enjoy it, me to. God Bless

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I can hardly wait to download the next two in the series. Arlene Richardson has done a fine job of spinning a yarn based on true events. Read it now!

I had hoped the Orphan Train series would appeal to my 9 year old daughter who is a voracious reader, but her interest just didn't go past the first few pages. So, I read the four books, and I could see why it was difficult to get past the beginning. Ethan's story starts out pretty sadly and seriously. And, for the most part, the book continues to keep the somber theme. The story felt like several small incidents that weren't tied in smoothly. I loved that Ethan was a real boy ÃfÂçÃ â ¬Ã â œ and I loved knowing that these events really happened: like painting the pig, the circus train, and Pancho Villa! ÃfÂçÃ â ¬Ã â œ but the overall flow of the story was a bit choppy. Because Ethan's new family wasn't really loving, in a nurturing and compassionate way, I only felt sorry for him and his siblings, wishing for them the same tender care that his friend Bert received. Eh, but that's life...and history. Like Mrs. Richardson, the orphan trains fascinate me...and I enjoyed hearing a true-to-life, less-than-glamorous tale. Still, the Orphan Train series is worth the read. Just be aware it's a bit more serious than most children's books. Perhaps my daughter ÃfÂçÃ â ¬Ã â œ or son ÃfÂçÃ â ¬Ã â œ will prefer these books when they hit the higher end of the recommended age bracket (8-12). *I received a free copy in exchange for an honest review. No other compensation was given, and all thoughts are 100% mine.*

Beyond the Orphan Train series by Arleta Richardson contains four books in one. Beyond the Orphan Train contains Looking for Home, Whistle-Stop West, West Prairie Homestead, and Across the Border. The books show the life of Ethan Cooper from May 1907 through May 1912. Ethan is eight years old at the beginning of the series and he promised to take care of his younger siblings. The family ÃfÂçÃ â ¬Ã â œs mother passed away and their father took off. The older siblings all have jobs and cannot take care of the younger children. Ethan, Simon, William, and Alice are sent to an orphanage where they eventually get on an orphan train headed west. The orphanage hopes that each child will find a home. The Cooper children want to find a home for all of the together (which is next to impossible). Join Ethan and the other children on an adventure to find forever families. Beyond the Orphan Train is well-written and easy to read (has a good flow). The stories are for children, but I believe that readers of all ages will enjoy these heartwarming stories as well. They are Christian stories that include history (from the areas including Pancho Villa) and talking points at

the end (that you can use with kids especially if reading the book in a class or for homeschooling). I enjoyed these sweet stories. The book emphasized that God is always with you if you believe (have faith). I give Beyond the Orphan Train 5 out of 5 stars. I received a complimentary copy of Beyond the Orphan Train from NetGalley in exchange for an honest evaluation of the novel.

Book 2 of this wonderful series tells how Ethan and his family are placed up for adoption, and take a ride on the Orphan Train all the way to their new home in Nebraska, with many interesting experiences along the way. Written in a straight forward, uncomplicated style, the story of Ethan Cooper and his three young siblings was uplifting, endearing, and inspirational. This collection would be perfect for a family read aloud or homeschool reading list with the discussion questions and suggested activities included at the end of each book. The stories flow well from book to book with a little recap in subsequent books, enough to remind the reader where the story left off. Faith lessons woven into each story illustrate the power of prayer, trusting God in difficult circumstances, knowing each person matters to the Good Shepherd and that He cares about the details of each person's life. I enjoyed reading the history also at the end of each book, which told what really occurred in their lives. Recommend for all ages, especially families looking for good historically based stories with faith elements. Fans of the Grandma's Attic series will enjoy this one as well! (Book series provided by NetGalley and David C Cook Publications in exchange for my honest review.)

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