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Sarah Bishop



Book Information

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Mass Market Paperback: 240 pages

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

I had a feeling this book would be somewhat good. But I also had a hunch that some parts would be very, very dull. But was VERY wrong! This is one of my favorite books by Scott O'Dell, a long with Zia. Some of his other books, that I have read, drove me out of my mind with boredom, but this was far from it. Sarah Bishop is a 15 year old girl, living with her Father, and her older brother Chad. They had moved to Long Island, New York Colony, from England, and her Mother had died. Her Father keeps a picture of King George on the wall and this upsets many of the patriots around the area, because that shows that they are loyalists. Her brother, Chad, with his friend David join the Patriot army, against his Father's wishes. One night, some patriots come and burn down the Bishop farm. Her Father is tarred and feathered, and later dies. She is very angry, but sets out for New York City to find her brother Chad. After the battle at Brooklyn Heights, she prays he had not been ! killed by the cruel Hessians, but had been taken prisoner instead. She gets a job at a tavern for awhile, until she has enough money to make the journey. In New York she discovers that her brother has died in the prison camp and she is very upset. Then she is blamed of starting a fire in New York City. A crime she did not commit. She flees into the wilderness of Westchester county, and hides from the Brittish there. She lives in a cave and does her daily tasks (which are put in such away you

just have to read on) and she is even accused of being a witch by the people in the local town. A GREAT book! Read it!

I recently read the book, *Sarah Bishop*, which was written by the famous and well known author Scott O'Dell. The story took place in England where Sarah was left without her mother and in care of her father, and brother Chad Bishop shortly before the American Revolution. Citizens in the small town located close to Long Island quickly became divided between the Revolution and King George. The Bishop family who were against the norm where in favor of King George and remained against the idea of the Revolution, but Chad while Mr. Bishop still lived, ended up enlisting in the militia, fighting against the King, and against his father. Mr. Bishop did his best to stand firm for his beliefs even as he was fighting his own blood, but later he no longer stood after he was tarred and finally killed. Later, while Sarah remained without a father and brother who was a soldier, she worked at a local tavern, The Lion and Lamb which provided a place to eat and sleep. As things seemed to get better, the search for Chad continued until she found that he no longer lived, and that he had been on a prison ship, but later died. Without any family, close friends or much of a home, Sarah was next said to have assisted in the burning of the anti King George militia building(s). Sarah moved to Long Pond, after a notice was put up for her capture where she lived by herself and maintained a life of adventure despite the loneliness. She had frequent visitors (The Longknives) and took care of herself even though there were a few trials (ex. The snake bite). Later, she came back into Ridgeford for food, and the necessities, but never without her gun for fear of the militia seeing her. On one of her visits which stood out from the rest she was invited to a Quaker meeting by Isaak Morton who was around the same age as her. As she attended the meeting she was quickly assumed of being a witch, questioned, and threatened with her life because of the notices and cursing of the burnings and how she lived. Issak Morton came to her rescue and quoted these words from the Bible to the God fearing people, " `Judge not that ye be not judged. For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.' " (pg. 221) The story, *Sarah Bishop*, to me was great and I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys reading about the history of our great nation in a heartbeat!

What would you do if you were an orphan and you had to live by yourself? Well, that is what Sarah had to do. Sarah Bishop is a fifteen year old girl whose family was killed by British Soldiers and this is her story on her wondrous adventure to survive. In this adventure, British patriots killed Sarah's father by pouring tar on him so that he would suffocate. Sarah's brother Chad went to fight in the

war and soon got captured and also gets killed. She too was captured but managed to escape. With Sarah's family gone, she struggles to survive. On the run, Sarah finds a cave in the forest and she makes it her home. While in the cave, Sarah is faced with many dangers such as bears, wildlife, Indians, hunters, and much more. Will Sarah ever find peace in her life, or will she end up like the rest of her family? I thought that this book was pretty good. It was kind of slow at the beginning but then it got better when it got to the climax of the story. What made the book so good was that there was a lot of unexpected things that happened in each chapter and that is what made this book so great to read. If you enjoy reading historical fiction and reading about the war for independence then this would be the book for you.

This is a wonderful book! I have been learning about this point in time in History at school. In History books, the story is told from the American's point-of-view. This story is told from the view of a 15 year old girl whose father is a loyalist. It tells of the hardships and persecution she faced during her life. These included the property of her family being burned, her father and brother being killed, being blamed for a crime she didn't commit, being accused of witchcraft, and more. I must admit it was a bit boring at first, but once I got into it, I couldn't put it down. I recommend this book for older readers (grades 5-6+) because of the length, reading and vocabulary level. If you liked *Island Of the Blue Dolphins* and *Zia*, you'll love this.

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