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**Sharon Creech**

**Walk Two Moons**



Title: Walk Two Moons

Author: Sharon Creech

Format: Audio CD

Language: English

Pages: 5

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0061719099

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 8.9 MB

Download: allowed

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## Description

"How about a story? Spin us a yarn."

Instantly, Phoebe Winterbottom came to mind.

"I could tell you an extensively strange story," I warned. "Oh, good!" Gram said. "Delicious!"

And that is how I happened to tell them about Phoebe, her disappearing mother, and the lunatic.

In her own award-winning style, Sharon Creech intricately weaves together two tales, one funny, one bittersweet, to create a heartwarming, compelling, and utterly moving story of love, loss, and the complexity of human emotion.

## Insightful reviews

Lisa: *Walk Two Moons* was recommended by my librarian and is our YA book club read. It is a good little story about a girl whose mother leaves her and her father. They find out where she is and the girl and her grandparents take a road trip across the country to see her. There is also a second story within the book of the girl's new home and her best friend whose mother has also left.

There are some great quotes and learning lessons for teens/preteens to read. They are used as examples so children can understand what they mean. Here are a few:

"Don't judge a man until you have walked two moons in his moccasins."

"What I have since realized is that if people expect you to be brave, sometimes you pretend that you are, even when you are frightened down to your very bones. "

"In a course of a lifetime, what does it matter?"

"You never know the worth of water until the well is dry."

Chris: I read *Walk Two Moons* as part of the "literature circle" for my 6th grade son's class. I went into the read cold, knowing only what was written on the back of the book and the fact that it was a Newberry winner.

The basic idea of the story is a teenage girl (Sal) is traveling cross country with her grandparents to try and find her mother. Along the trip they have a few mini-adventures and Sal spends most of the drive-time telling about recent events of her own life as related to a "crazy" friend she had named Phoebe. The title of the book comes from a supposed Indian saying

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"never judge a man until you've walked two moons in his moccasins." Once that phrase is put out there, it becomes more apparent what the author is doing in this book.

The story is very multi-layered. There's the historical story that Sal is telling about her recent past and her interactions with her friends and neighbors, but particularly with her father and the fact that her mom left them to go out west. That narrative thread in itself has multiple layers...the story of Phoebe and her crazy life and the story of Sal and her family and loss. Sal narrates each of these stories and seems unaware of just how parallel her story is to Phoebe's story. Meanwhile, Sal is traveling across the country with her grandparents and many of their interactions along the road area also very insightful into Sal's life story.

By having multiple story threads running concurrently, the story arc was able to twist and turn over itself in ways that were obvious while also being thoughtful and not feeling blatant or silly. Still, some of the plot points felt a little heavy handed at times, but generally ok.

I found myself going back and forth in terms of my level of enjoyment of this book. There were numerous scenes that pulled at either sad or happy emotions but a lot of the story was a confused sense of exploration. Sal was a fun and funny narrator and made the storytelling compelling but I had a hard time really liking her as a character. I think that was somewhat intentional as she is emotionally a little hardened and withdrawn as a result of recent events. This makes it hard to approach and relate to her, especially since I don't have directly relatable experience. At the same time, I could appreciate and sympathize with her plight and her desire to come to grips with her life.

I really liked the way this book played with self exploration through storytelling and narrative. Sal spent the entire book telling stories but what I enjoyed was the fact that she seemed to be learning about herself and uncovering bits of her subconscious without even realizing what she was doing. It wasn't until nearly the end of the book that she seems to come to a sense of awakening to her own emotions and the catharsis that comes in coming face to face with one's self.

This is a good, well written read and I definitely feel it deserved the Newberry (granted, I haven't read its competition). The narrative is smooth and flowing and really felt like a good portrayal of a 13 year old girl going through emotional upheaval. In spite of the various predictable elements, there are a number of surprises that can catch you off guard. Add to that the funny anecdotes and witty narrative and you have a good solid book.

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3.5 out of 5 stars

Danielle: This book is the perfect example of how a book can be written for a younger audience, but still hold entertainment and meaning for adult readers. I really, thoroughly enjoyed this book. It was suspenseful without being (too) contrived or corny. The characters were interesting and unique, yet believable, and the story was truly touching. I thought the author did an excellent job portraying the mindset of middle school-age children, especially in that they didn't all think and act the same, or have the same maturity level.

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Also, I don't know if other older readers found the ending predictable, but I was genuinely surprised, and even got a little choked up. Overall, a great read for any age.

Reese: stroll Moons What wouldn't it be prefer to persist with on your moms foot steps? In stroll Moons, by means of Sharon Creech, Salamonca Tree Hiddle lives together with her dad in Bybanks, Kentucky. quickly they movement to Euclid, Ohio simply because her dads female friend provided him a task there, and there domestic reminded them to a lot of Sal's mother who left them a short while back. quickly after, Sal's grandparents take her on a highway journey to all of the locations her mom has despatched postcards from for the reason that she left. through the journey Sal tells her grandparents stories, approximately her family and friends again home. in spite of everything she makes a stunning discovery. In stroll Moons, forgiveness is a difficult and lengthy process, simply because Sal has to head on a highway journey along with her grandparents, she has to get with her dads girlfriend, and she or he has to confess her mother is long gone for real. Forgiveness for Sal all started with the line journey to the entire areas her mother wrote her from. on the Grand Canyon you'll see that she wasn't prepared but incidentally she felt approximately pregnant people, simply because whilst she used to be little her mother had a miscarriage. while her grandma used to be bit by way of a water mocassin it opened her eyes to how brief existence may well be, simply because presently after her grandmother handed away, and whilst she came upon the deserted bus her mom died on within the wooded area she discovered there has been nobody left during this international to be mad at anymore, as the in basic terms individual she was once mad at used to be her mother and Margaret, and her dads new female friend who used to be along with her mother at the bus whilst it crashed. It's not easy for Sal to make up along with her dads female friend simply because she doesn't want her to switch her mom. She nonetheless notion that her mother didn't go away them for real, and wasn't long past from the world. Forgiveness is tough for Sal simply because she has to renounce the truth that her mother is gone. many of the ebook she's dwelling in a delusion global the place her mother continues to be alive. She turns out to imagine that her dads female friend gets changed any day whilst her mother returns for them.

Brittany (The Book Addict's Guide): preliminary Impressions (re-read) 5/17/14: OMG official grotesque cried on the end. That was once so precise to re-read. i cannot bear in mind at what age I initially learn this however it was once sooo impressive to learn whatever I learn as an 11 yr outdated or twelve yr outdated and also have it resonate lots at 27. even though even perhaps extra so simply because I had a formative years connection to it. yet so amazing. evidently nonetheless one in all my all time favorites. complete assessment initially published at the publication Addict's Guide: Re-reads do not continually pass well, specially whilst i am hand-selecting books that gave me the feels even again while i used to be a pre-teen, so while I selected to re-read stroll MOONS after 10+ years, after all i used to be a bit nervous. This was once one ebook I learn as a child and instantly fell in love with. it is anything that I stored recommending whilst an adult, yet evidently tastes switch through the years and that i questioned if this ebook nonetheless held its weight and importance in my lifestyles at the same time an grownup so while the temper struck me sooner or later to ultimately begin my re-read, I knew it was once time. Thankfully, I had not anything to fear. i have really in simple terms learn another ebook from Sharon Creech considering my preliminary learn of stroll MOONS again within the day and it was once appealing yet no longer exceptional so i used to be a piece scared to re-read, pondering if the booklet may have misplaced its magic. The minute i began

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reading, i used to be reliving a bit of my childhood. The publication introduced me correct again to the place I had was hoping it would. Once again, I fell in love with Sal's story. i feel I attached with it in a complete diverse way, larger figuring out why her mom left and the way the issues in her existence particularly affected her psychological state. it is much more heartbreaking examining all of it yet again -- not just simply because I already knew the outcome, yet simply because I simply used to be larger in a position to understand precisely how complex Sal's mother's lifestyles was once and the way you do not particularly comprehend such things as that to their fullest quantity if you are merely twelve. Sal knew that whatever was once occurring along with her mother, however it used to be not easy for her to work out precisely how deep that ran, in particular while her mom and dad have been attempting to safeguard her and conceal it from her. The writing and tale telling nonetheless felt as magical as whilst I first learn it. i must admit, i used to be rather like Sal with my trends to rush and rush simply because i used to be so excited to accomplish the re-read. I had truly forgotten the large plot issues which are printed after all so it used to be fascinating that the e-book was once nonetheless new to me in that method as well. I cried grotesque tears on the very finish of this book. I knew the way it ended and that i needed to organize myself for it however it was once an entire different ballgame while I stumbled on an incident I had forgotten approximately and that i used to be SO stunned by way of it. I actually needed to move upstairs and pull myself together. i'm wondering if it simply introduced such a lot of emotions again from my formative years as well, and that is why I felt every little thing during this booklet so strongly! Re-read or not, i do know that i will be able to suggest this e-book to somebody now and believe convinced that my emotions are nonetheless as they as soon as were. i am nonetheless in love with this e-book and it was once so superb to reconnect with that time in my formative years again! It relatively used to be like coming home.

Shane Prevosto: stroll moons Author: Sharon Creech Publisher: HarperCollins Copyright: 1994 Pages: 288 Chapter Book Age: Elementary Themes: Loss, family, traveling, nature Synopsis: 13 12 months outdated Salamanca is touring around the state to Idaho along with her grandparents at the similar journey her mom took (time period). alongside the way in which she tells tales approximately how her father made her flow from her domestic in Bybanks, Kentucky to Ohio. own Response: i used to be very happy after analyzing stroll Moons. whereas interpreting i couldn't placed the booklet down, it really is unpredictable and engaging and leaves the reader desirous to discover more. the most character, Salamanca on my own is an engaging personality that's unique, however the reader may also relate to her. My favourite a part of the tale was once her grandparents' reviews alongside their journey, whereas Salamanca used to be telling them her story. such a lot in their reviews have been strange and funny, yet i used to be considering whatever similar. Salamanca's grandparents additionally made me reflect on my very own grandparents. a few of the issues they did and stated i may listen my grandparents say. For example, whenever they stopped to sleep Salamanca's grandfather could say, "This isn't our married bed, however it will do," my grandfather may say "this isn't our home, yet at the least we're together." in addition they enjoyed to shuttle and to forestall at vacationer spots. one other half i actually cherished was once the half whilst Salamanca eventually reached her mother. Up till the bankruptcy earlier than this i didn't notice that her mom used to be truly dead, and he or she used to be going to her grave. i thought that her mom was once depressed approximately wasting the newborn and was once at her cousins' house. This half used to be very emotional, in particular on the grounds that her

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grandmother additionally died. I felt Salamanca's desperation to deliver her mom home, and whilst I spotted she couldn't I used to be devastated.

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