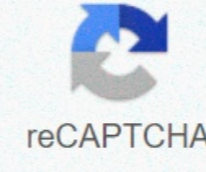




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Elijah of buxton reading level

Portrait of life in a free Canadian settlement of escaped and liberated enslaved people just before the beginning of the American Civil War. The author shows the degradation, fear and suffering caused by slavery in the US, and lifestyles, gender roles and superstitions that existed in North America at the time. The author's afterword explains that Buxton was a real place (now a historical place) and tells what details in the novel are true and not fictional. First recommendation... use the listening version. It allows you to understand the dialect, and it builds tension and understanding by allowing you to read the book at a slower pace. My 13-year-old daughter and I had great discussions about this fabulous book while we were studying slavery in US history. This was an eye-awakening first exposure to slavery - like the boy, Elijah, (read by a man, what makes it a good book for older children, too) the first born free black baby in Buxton, Canada, discovered with you how slavery exists in the county called America. Educational ValuePositive MessagesPositive Role Models Positive Role Models Report This Review Interest LevelReading LevelReading A-ZATOSWord CountGrades 4 - 8Grades 6 - 12X5.477916Newbery Medalist and CSK Award Winner Christopher Paul Curtis debuts Middle Class / Young YA novel for Scholastic features its trademark humor, compelling storytelling and unique narrative voice. Eleven-year-old Elijah is the first child born in the Canadian city of Buxton, a settlement of escaped slaves just across the Detroit border. He is best known for making a memorable impression on Frederick Douglass, but that changes when a former slave steals money from Elijah's friend, who saved to buy his family from captivity in the South. Elijah embarks on a perilous journey to America in search of the thief and discovers first-hand the unimaginable horrors of the life from which his parents fled - a life from which he will always be free when he finds the courage to return home. Hardcover, 395 pagesPublished on April 1, 2008 by Thorndike PressISBN-10: 141040580XISBN-13: 9781410405807 I really enjoyed it! The plot is original and the character's journey is one that would be hard to guess; something I really appreciate. The character development is also exceptional. You really feel for the characters, torment ingessiating with them in their guilt, stupidity, pain and growth. It is a story that will stay with you because the lessons are poignant. I would definitely recommend this to be read aloud by a more mature reader or as a family so you can discuss the topics / live I really enjoyed this! The plot is original and the character's journey is one that would be hard to guess; something I really appreciate. The character development is also exceptional. You really come to feel for the characters, tormented with them in their guilt, stupidity, Growth. It is a story that will stay with you because the lessons are poignant. I would definitely recommend reading this from a more mature reader or as a family so that you can discuss the topics/life lessons presented in the book. They are worth the time. Age: 13+Cleanliness:Children's Bad WordsMild Obscenities & Substitutions - 44 incidents: doggone, doggone-it-all, blang it all, doggone humbug, I'll be blanged, egads, shucks, dern, blasted, darn shoot, stupid, d'mn (misspelled)Name Calling - 14 Incidents: jackleg man of the Lord, scallywags, rapscaillon, babbling, fool, brat, yellow-belly dog of a blamed thief (this is mentioned as swearing), pickaninnies, N*gg-- Scatological Terms - 3 Incidents: Bl**dy (as in a lot of blood)Religious profanity - 15 incidents: Lord has mercy, God bless us all, What on God's Earth is Now False?. Sweet Child of Jesus, My Word!, My Goodness, Lord Knows, Praise Jesus, Praise God, God-Knowing-Where, Lord Almighty/Religious & Supernatural - 2 Incidents: 2 Incidents: Stories Circulated That Maybe one man slit two boys' throats , cut them into piles and threw them into a lake. A thief is tortured (deprived of his clothes) and killed. You... Busted his teeth and split his tongue into two. Romance Related - 5 Incidents: Two boys mistakenly think they will learn about the birds and bees at school. They will actually learn about familiarity racial contempt. You see the word race, interpret it wrongly and then the other words. A boy takes off all his clothes to go swimming. A dwarf takes off his trousers in front of a crowd and has no drawers. Several slaves are completely naked, I also saw that she did not have clothes that picked up a rag that hung over one of her shoulders. A thief is tortured (deprived of his clothes) and killed. You... Busted his teeth and split his tongue into two. Attitudes/Disobedience - 7 Incidents: A boy talks to his mother. A boy walks in an area where his father warned him not to leave. A boy swears, knowing full well that it is a swear word, but he does not believe that it is no longer much siny (compared to learning about birds and bees). A boy lies and says a sermon is good. A boy complains when he is not allowed to go to a city meeting. Then he does not obey and still sneaks into the session. A boy tells a few lies (he is somehow kidnapped, although he wants to go with the man to correct an injustice. He lies to his mother and neighbor about where he is going. A boy lies about his mother wanting a little girl so that the slave mother can tell him baby so that the baby grows up freely. Topics for discussion - 18 incidents: One man calls himself the right-wing pastor Deacon Dr. Zephariah Connerly the Third. Everyone calls him a preacher only he has no church. (The man lies substantially, manipulates a little boy several times, almost kidnaps a boy and then shoots a man to get his gold). I learned from Ma that people who are slaves love any kind of story means exaggeration and lies. This is the whole book (though not with the main characters). A boy has good fishing skills and a man says that he has a look, conjure over it. (Summoning is often used throughout the book). The man says that he must think about it to see if it is the work of the devil (or Jesus). You know that being left-handed is one of the sure signs of being in Satan's clutches, isn't it? Possible blasphemy: A man metaphorically says: You have turned stones into fish! It may be more impressive and practical to turn water into wine, but what they have done is not an easy task either. Mentions ghosts, evil spirits, and hares throughout the book. (It's the thought that the boy jumps to when there's a scary noise or when he sees a shadowy figure (they're people).) Watch your Sabbath teacher be taken over by Satan and begin to twist the jukes that tell the children's ears. This is probably the first step the devil takes if he wants to tear the soul away from you! A man persuades a boy to sneak out of the house one night to go to a carnival/freak show with him. He tells the boy that he has found a way to use his God-given abilities to help people. Mentioned at the carnival are hypnotists, a mesmerist (whom the boy sees how the tricks are done), players and all sorts of horrible things that are going on there. The man talks to the owner of the freak show and tries to strike a deal with him about the boy's uncanny ability to aim and shoot targets. The owner offers to buy the boy and a slight internal struggle is shown, but the man decides that he cannot sell the boy. Smoking a cigar is mentioned a few times. The word Negro is used several times throughout the book. Mentioned tabacky (tobacco). A slave says she will fight her daughter's neck if she does not fulfill the next opportunity to escape to freedom. (It is serious, and that is the conclusion of a long rumour). It mentions drinking and carousing and gambling a few times. A man says he's going to shoot the thief who stole his money, and I look him in the eye and make sure he dies a terrible death. Mentions men who play dice for money. A boy promises a dying man that he will get the money back from the thief and if the thief that he will shoot him. A slave asks for a gun and how many bullets she has so that she can shoot her baby, the other slaves and herself to end her ordeal. (It is not discussed whether they commit suicide or use the weapon to kill their kidnappers - although the second is more likely. Parent Parent are a few times where the main character does something wrong; he almost always feels remorseful and gets into trouble. This book probably has a few more conversational themes than others, but overall it's a good, entertaining book. You might want to read and discuss what happens at the carnival/freak show and about the character named Preacher (both listed in this report).**Do my reviews like me? Then you should follow me! Because I have hundreds more like this. With each review, I provide a cleanliness report in which I mention all the offensive content I come across so that parents and/or conscientious readers (like me) can determine in advance whether they want to read a book or not. Content surprises are super annoying, especially if you're 100+ pages in, so here's my attempt to help you avoid that! So follow or make friends here on GoodReads! You will see my updates while I read and know which books I like and what I don't and why. You can also use my library to search for titles, to see if the book you want to read next has offensive content or not. From swear words to romance to bad attitudes (in children's books), I'm going to beat everything! ... more The Buxton Chronicles Discussion Guide Use this guide to teach Common Core State Standards with Christopher Paul Curtis' novels Elijah of Buxton, The Madman of Piney Woods and The Journey of Little Charlie. Elijah of Buxton Extension Activity Curriculum connections include activities in social sciences, writing, art, drama, music and performance for Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis Curtis

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