



Out of the Dust

By Karen Hesse

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This gripping story, written in sparse first-person, free-verse poems, is the compelling tale of Billie Jo's struggle to survive during the dust bowl years of the Depression. With stoic courage, she learns to cope with the loss of her mother and her grieving father's slow deterioration. There is hope at the end when Billie Jo's badly burned hands are healed, and she is able to play her beloved piano again. The 1998 Newbery Medal winner.

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Out of the Dust By Karen Hesse Bibliography

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- Brand: Brand: Listening Library
- Published on: 1998
- Formats: Unabridged, Audiobook
- Original language: English
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- Binding: Audio Cassette

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Like the Oklahoma dust bowl from which she came, 14-year-old narrator Billie Jo writes in sparse, free-floating verse. In this compelling, immediate journal, Billie Jo reveals the grim domestic realities of living during the years of constant dust storms: That hopes--like the crops--blow away in the night like skittering tumbleweeds. That trucks, tractors, even Billie Jo's beloved piano, can suddenly be buried beneath drifts of dust. Perhaps swallowing all that grit is what gives Billie Jo--our strong, endearing, rough-cut heroine--the stoic courage to face the death of her mother after a hideous accident that also leaves her piano-playing hands in pain and permanently scarred.

Meanwhile, Billie Jo's silent, windblown father is literally decaying with grief and skin cancer before her very eyes. When she decides to flee the lingering ghosts and dust of her homestead and jump a train west, she discovers a simple but profound truth about herself and her plight. There are no tight, sentimental endings here--just a steady ember of hope that brightens Karen Hesse's exquisitely written and mournful tale. Hesse won the 1998 Newbery Award for this elegantly crafted, gut-wrenching novel, and her fans won't want to miss *The Music of Dolphins* or *Letters from Rifka*. (Ages 9 and older) --*Gail Hudson*

From Publishers Weekly

In a starred review of the 1998 Newbery Medal winner, set during the Depression, PW said, "This intimate novel, written in stanza form, poetically conveys the heat, dust and wind of Oklahoma. With each meticulously arranged entry Hesse paints a vivid picture of her heroine's emotions." Ages 11-13. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From School Library Journal

Grade 5 Up. After facing loss after loss during the Oklahoma Dust Bowl, Billie Jo begins to reconstruct her life. A triumphant story, eloquently told through prose-poetry. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ruth McGrath:

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make all of them survives, being in the middle of often the crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a reserve your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand up than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this Out of the Dust book as nice and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Kelly Blow:

The actual book Out of the Dust will bring that you the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book to study, this book very ideal to

you. The book Out of the Dust is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

Constance Music:

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Nikki Kirkland:

What is your hobby? Have you heard which question when you got pupils? We believe that that problem was given by teacher with their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everyone has different hobby. And you know that little person like reading or as looking at become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important and book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your current teacher or lecturer. You find good news or update with regards to something by book. Different categories of books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them is this Out of the Dust.

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