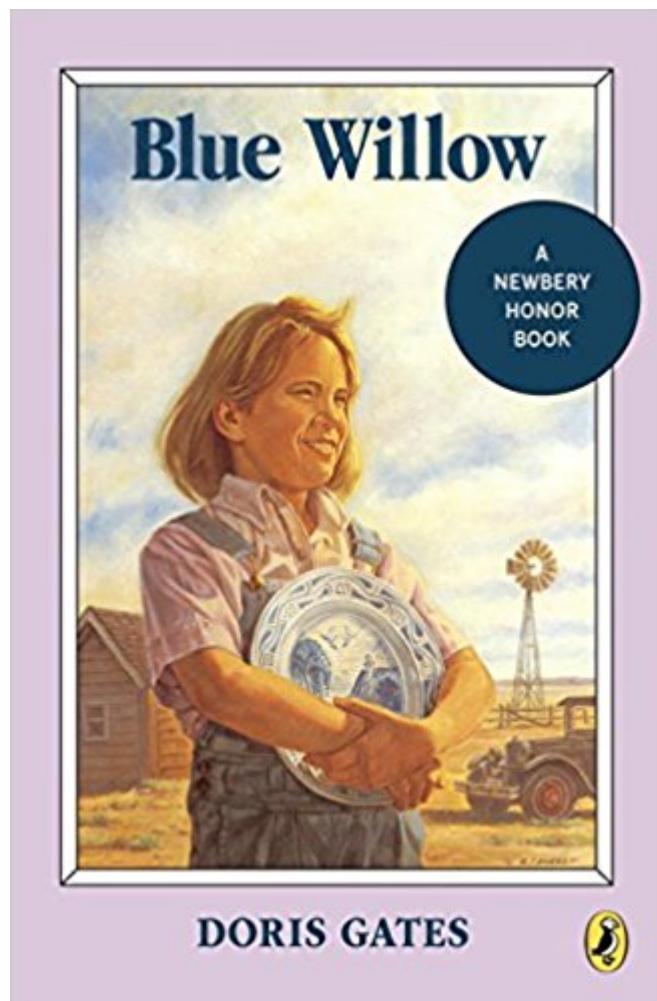


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# Blue Willow



## **Synopsis**

To Janey Larkin, the blue willow plate was the most beautiful thing in her life, a symbol of the home she could only dimly remember. Now that her father was an itinerant worker, Janey didn't have a home she could call her own or any real friends, as her family had to keep moving, following the crops from farm to farm. Someday, Janey promised the willow plate, with its picture of a real house, her family would once again be able to set down roots in a community. Blue Willow is an important fictional account of the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression, and has been called The Grapes of Wrath for children. It won a Newbery Honor and many other awards.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 920L (What's this?)

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books (September 30, 1976)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140309241

ISBN-13: 978-0140309249

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 55 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #38,555 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty #42 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Farm Life #172 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

"This story, told with sensitive beauty, should widen the horizons of those who read it."--The Horn Book

Doris Gates was a librarian and writer of children's fiction. Blue Willow was groundbreaking in its use of realistic storytelling for children. Doris Gates is also known for her collections of Greek mythology, including A Fair Wind for Troy.

I ordered this older story because it was the first full book I read as a child. It is set during the depression, and the story of a young girl with an uncertain future moving around the country with her migrant worker father. If you liked OUT OF THE DUST, this story is great. If you are a young person, as a teacher, I highly recommend it as a book review for English. It is a pleasant and easy read!

This is a very gentle story ... a little multi-cultural, a little dust bowl history ... a little family relationships ...I'm not sure I would agree that it is the "young version of The Grapes of Wrath"... but it is worth a discussion in a classroom.

I ordered this book for my 74-year-old mother who told me about her parents and grandparents reading a story about a blue willow plate to her when she was a little girl. My mother doesn't have Internet or even own a computer. She had no idea that I entered the info & found the novel based on her memories. When she received this copy, she was blown away!! HA!! This was the story she remembered. Thanks for allowing me the privilege of blessing her. SAHWEET.--Dawnene Casey Donikowski

My granddaughter loved the book.

great little book.

I was given this book to read when I was young . I recently gave it as a gift with a willow plate to a young friend. This was an amazing book for it's time as it dealt openly with complex family dynamics. A classic book at a great price. This purchase represents a family tradition of generations encouraging the next to be deliberately literate.

The first time I read this book was a translated version in other country. I was a third grade student, and was deeply touched. I am glad I finally found the original version after a web search. I am also surprised that such a good book which is well-known in other countries but not very popular here in U.S. as children's literature.

Forty years ago, when I was 10 years old I read a book that touched my heart and I never forgot it. Well, except for one important detail, I couldn't for the life of me remember the title of that once

favorite book I read. Over the years I have thought of that book and always wished I could just remember the title. Today, by accident I came across this book after all these years and it brought back so many wonderful memories of how much I loved this book. I'm buying it (of course) for my 10 year old son to read it too. Unfortunately my daughter is much older, but I think even as a older teenager she might still enjoy it. I know I plan to read it again as soon as I receive my copy. My son is homeschooled and this book will fit perfectly with our study of CA history.

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