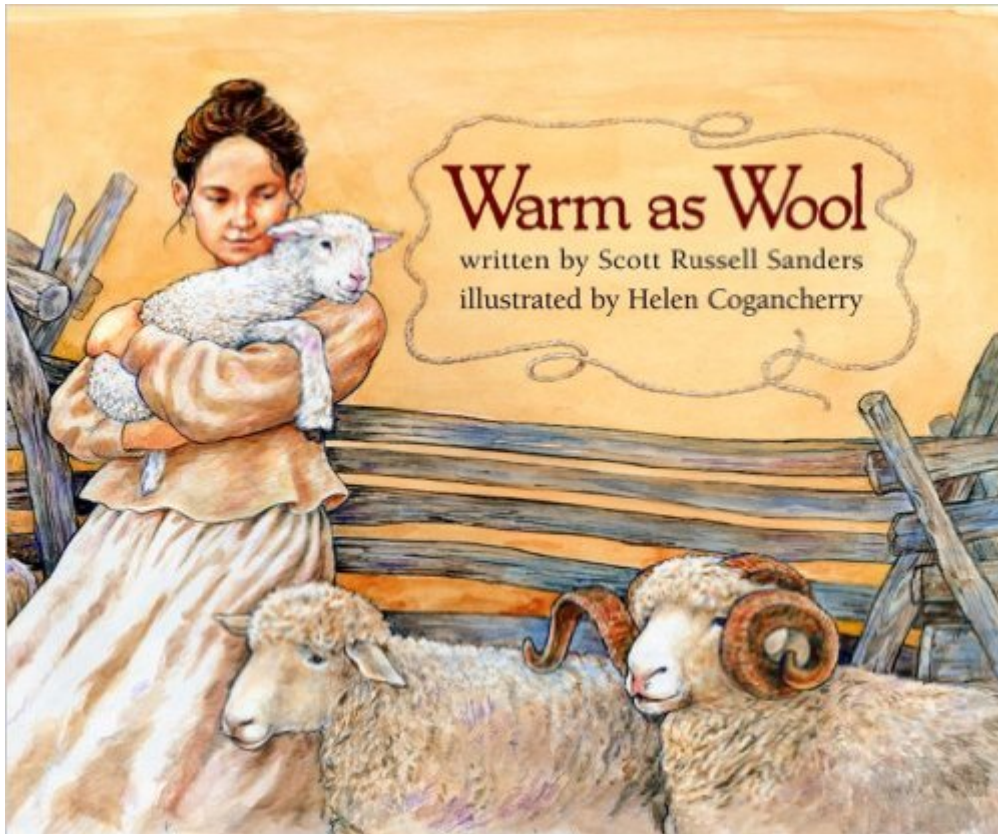


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# Warm As Wool



## Synopsis

Scott Russell Sanders encourages us to understand history as he does, by imagining past lives. He was fascinated by a fragment of information that he found in a nineteenth-century record book, about the first pioneer to own sheep in Randolph Township, Portage County, Ohio. The pioneer was a woman, Betsy Ward. Her story has inspired this one, and Helen Cogancherry has illustrated it with deeply affectionate, richly textured scenes that show the promise of opportunity, the hardships that seem to keep coming, and the strength of a mother's love. Offering a vivid picture of life on the frontier, *Warm as Wool* is intimate and emotionally involving. Superb storytelling and artwork bring us the past afresh while inspiring our appreciation for the vital and largely unsung role women have played in our nation's growth.

## Book Information

Library Binding: 32 pages

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Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #257,437 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #166 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s](#) #219 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Women](#) #503 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Farm Animals](#)

## Customer Reviews

This story shares a tale of many living through hard winters in log cabins packed with mud. It shares the values of life and death, protection, and especially a mother's love. My children ask to read it over and over.

We loved this book! Even though we don't home school we had fun doing a unit study with this book over the winter. If your looking for a unit study and recourses for this book go to:

[homeschoolshare.com](http://homeschoolshare.com) For all ages.

This book tells the story of a pioneer family that settles in Ohio. The family is thrifty, cold, and has

very little clothing (their patches have patches. The mother brought along a loom to weave wool, and saved up enough coins to purchase sheep, but there were no sheep around to purchase and so the family must put up with insufficient clothing. Eventually she finds someone to sell her sheep, and she makes wool for the family through hard work, even though she still faces hardships just keeping the sheep alive. This story would be an excellent supplement to the wonderful Little House on the Prairie books, because it tells of a simpler time when your concerns were about staying warm, having food in your belly, and having your family around to enjoy. It suddenly makes your troubles melt away, because at least you're not sleeping with the sheep and freezing all day long. In addition to it being a great story, the author also sprinkles in beautiful language. "No matter how much clay William and Sarah patted between the logs, no matter how many leaves Joshua raked against the walls outside, wind kept slicing through the gaps." Children will enjoy the visual and sound effects of words like tattered, whistled, pantaloons, bedraggled, raggamuffin, mulled about, woolly, lush, clacked. These words can sound pretentious when used by an unskilled author, but here among the earthy illustrations and sweet story, they're just so much fun!

I love to spin wool and knit. I purchased this for my grand daughter (age 5) so help her understand how important spinning has been through the ages. This is a delightful book featuring a Frontier family and how cold they are the first winter. The mother makes a smart purchase of some ewes the following spring and in realistic form (wolves strike, etc.) she is able to provide warmth for her family for future winters. The drawings are wonderful and story not too difficult for younger children. This came highly recommended by a friend and I highly agree!

(Truly, the editor's synopsis of this book on is wretched. Here's my own brief synopsis (I hate writing these things). Based on a historical account of a pioneer family who moves in 1803 by covered wagon from Connecticut to the dark woods of Ohio. Arriving in the bitter cold of December, the family (Mama, Papa, and three children, 8, 6 and 3) live in a lean-to while they build a drafty cabin. They are nearly frozen that first winter (words and illustrations convey the depth) and Betsy continues to dream of buying sheep to make warm wool -- see, she has brought a sack of her own coins from Connecticut to buy sheep and sheep alone, her loom and her wheel. She miraculously finds sheep to buy that summer and this is the story of a mother living in the prairie and the hardships that it was. An uplifting story without being sappy and showing great perseverance. The fact that it's based on a journal entry, is all the better. Endearing and worth the money.

What a cute book. Beautiful illustrations, and a good "real life" story that addresses hardships and perseverance.

Love it. My children love it. Great service in getting this product. I recommend it to all who are thinking about getting it

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