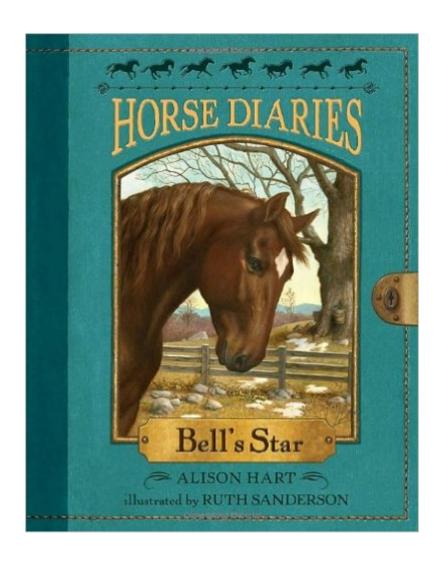
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Horse Diaries #2: Bell's Star





Synopsis

Vermont, 1850sBellâ ™s Star is a brown Morgan colt with a white star and two white stockings. He was bred for hard work, yet he longs to run free with his human friend, Katie, on his back. But when Star helps rescue a runaway slave girl, his ideas about freedom may change forever. Here is Starâ ™s story . . . in his own words. With exciting and knowledgeable text and lovely black-and-white art throughoutâ "both by real horse ownersâ "Horse Diaries are the perfect fit for all lovers of horses and history!

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 530L (What's this?)

Series: Horse Diaries (Book 2)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (March 24, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375852042

ISBN-13: 978-0375852046

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.4 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (63 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #41,284 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #77 in Books > Children's Books >

Animals > Horses #219 in Books > Deals in Books #445 in Books > Children's Books >

Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

As a teacher my third grade students who were horse lovers really enjoyed these books. Many said they were similar to American Girl series but with horses. The are quick easy reads. I purchased these for my second grade niece for Christmas and the books arrived quickly and were not damaged at all. The price was great! My niece enjoyed the books so much that she read three books in two weeks and her family had to purchase more of the series!

Bell's Star, or Star as the family he works for calls him, is born in the spring of 1850 on a Vermont farm where a mother and father live with their young daughter, Katie. From the start, young Katie

loves Star, and has a strong bond with the horse. Star likes Katie and her family, but he hates work and wishes he could just run free, a longing that Katie often shares as she must do many chores around the farm to help her family. Three years pass, and it is now the spring of 1853. The Fugitive Slave Law recently became law, and now it is a crime to help runaway slaves escape to freedom in nearby Canada. When Katie is riding Star in the woods, she finds Eliza, a young slave girl who is trying to escape to Canada where she hopes to find the family she was recently separated from. Katie decides she must help Eliza find her mother again, and she needs Star's help to do so. She must keep this a secret not only from slave catchers but her own family, who would not want her involved because it is dangerous to help a runaway slave. Bell's Star is a very sweet and simple read that is sure to be enjoyed by the target audience of young readers, particularly girls, who enjoy horse stories or historical fiction. The story is fast-paced and teaches history painlessly, and I love the illustrations, they are completely adorable. If you know a young reader who loves history or horses this would be a great book to recommend or to give as a gift.

I ordered this set for my 12 year old daughter and she loves them! So do I, because they are well-written and include some lovely drawings to illustrate the stories. The stories include historical information as well, which was one of the reasons I chose them. So many of the horse books and movies written for girls have a heavy emphasis on drama and trauma and are daddy-daughter-dead-mother books, that my daughter and I roll our eyes and joke about the fact (and don't buy them). After ordering the first book, I bought the entire set - and the dog series too. My daughter can read one of these in a little over an hour, and loves them!

Horse Diaries is a series I am truly enjoying! I just finished #2, Bell's Star. When you read these stories, they are written from the horse's perspective. Very insightful and well written! I highly recommend them to all adult and children horse lovers like myself!

My daughter is 10 and has to read 25 books for school. We began reading this book together at night and it was hard to put down at bedtime! Great historical story and we loved how it was from the horse's perspective. We are reading the entire series!

My daughter loves this series of books! She is crazy about horses and particularly likes the fact that these books are told from the horse's perspective! It is sometimes very difficult getting kids to read - I have found books that utilize animals as characters are very engaging for young readers. My daughter also loves that each book has a different author because she feels it gives the reader more variety with the characters especially since each story is told by a horse. Happy reading!

This book was amazing! I love horses and I love learning about slavery...so this was a really good book for me. The only thing is, I would have been nice if the book was longer. I am 10 years old and I read really really fast. I was able to read this in less than an hour. But I will not stop reading horse diaries because it is one of my favorite series. But over all it was a fantastic book!

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