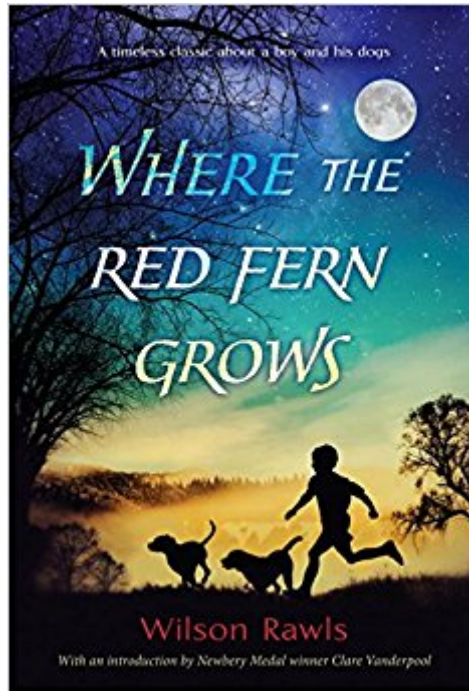




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# Where The Red Fern Grows



## Synopsis

For fans of *Old Yeller* and *Shiloh*, *Where the Red Fern Grows* is a beloved classic that captures the powerful bond between man and man's best friend. This edition also includes a special note to readers from Newbery Medal winner and Printz Honor winner Clare Vanderpool.

Billy has long dreamt of owning not one, but two, dogs. So when he's finally able to save up enough money for two pups to call his own—Old Dan and Little Ann—he's ecstatic. It doesn't matter that times are tough; together they'll roam the hills of the Ozarks. Soon Billy and his hounds become the finest hunting team in the valley. Stories of their great achievements spread throughout the region, and the combination of Old Dan's brawn, Little Ann's brains, and Billy's sheer will seems unbeatable. But tragedy awaits these determined hunters—now friends—and Billy learns that hope can grow out of despair, and that the seeds of the future can come from the scars of the past.

**Praise for *Where the Red Fern Grows***

- A Top 100 Children's Novel, School Library Journal's Fuse #8 Production
- A Must-Read for Kids 9 to 14, NPR
- Winner of Multiple State Awards
- Over 7 million copies in print!

**"A rewarding book . . . [with] careful, precise observation, all of it rightly phrased."** —The New York Times Book Review

**"One of the great classics of children's literature . . . Any child who doesn't get to read this beloved and powerfully emotional book has missed out on an important piece of childhood for the last 40-plus years."** —Common Sense Media

**"An exciting tale of love and adventure you'll never forget."** —School Library Journal

**"A book of unadorned naturalness."** —Kirkus Reviews

**"Written with so much feeling and sentiment that adults as well as children are drawn [in] with a passion."** —Arizona Daily Star

**"It's a story about a young boy and his two hunting dogs and . . . I can't even go on without getting a little misty."** —The Huffington Post

**"A brilliant literary work."** —TeenInk.com

**"We tear up just thinking about it."** —Time on the film adaptation

From the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 700L (What's this?)

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Yearling; third edition (September 1, 1996)

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 3,094 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #365 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs](#) #13 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Author Wilson Rawls spent his boyhood much like the character of this book, Billy Colman, roaming the Ozarks of northeastern Oklahoma with his bluetick hound. A straightforward, shoot-from-the-hip storyteller with a searingly honest voice, Rawls is well-loved for this powerful 1961 classic and the award-winning novel *Summer of the Monkeys*. In *Where the Red Fern Grows*, Billy and his precious coonhound pups romp relentlessly through the Ozarks, trying to "tree" the elusive raccoon. In time, the inseparable trio wins the coveted gold cup in the annual coon-hunt contest, captures the wily ghost coon, and bravely fights with a mountain lion. When the victory over the mountain lion turns to tragedy, Billy grieves, but learns the beautiful old Native American legend of the sacred red fern that grows over the graves of his dogs. This unforgettable classic belongs on every child's bookshelf.

(Ages 9 and up) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Praise for *Where the Red Fern Grows* [A Top 100 Children's Novel](#), [School Library Journal](#) A Must-Read for Kids 9 to 14, [NPR](#) Winner of 4 State Awards Over 7 million copies in print! ["A rewarding book . . . \[with\] careful, precise observation, all of it rightly phrased."](#) [The New York Times Book Review](#) ["One of the great classics of children's literature . . . Any child who doesn't get to read this beloved and powerfully emotional book has missed out on an important piece of childhood for the last 40-plus years."](#) [Common Sense Media](#) ["An exciting tale of love and adventure you'll never forget."](#) [School Library Journal](#) ["A book of unadorned naturalness."](#) [Kirkus Reviews](#) ["Written with so much feeling and sentiment that adults as well as children are drawn \[in\] with a passion."](#)

Arizona Daily Star "It's a story about a young boy and his two hunting dogs and . . . I can't even go on without getting a little misty." The Huffington Post "A brilliant literary work." TeenInk.com "We tear up just thinking about it." Time on the film adaptation From the Paperback edition.

Very good story, especially for those who had dogs when growing up or at any time. This is a good read for young or old.

Wilson Rawls's classic, timeless story of a young boy's coming-of-age is heartbreaking, sentimental, and utterly charming. An ode to love, family and the beauty of nature. Set in the Ozarks, northeastern Oklahoma, Billy wants nothing more than to have a puppy, or to be more specific, two puppies. He wants to train them for hunting, although his mother has forbidden him to use or own a gun until he is 21 or older. For two years he waits, collecting enough money doing whatever jobs he can, he finally raises enough for two puppies who are delivered via train to the town closest to where he lives. "I knelt down and gathered them into my arms. I buried my face between their wiggling bodies and cried. The stationmaster, sensing something more than two dogs and a boy, waited in silence." My Dad didn't grow up in the Ozarks, but he trapped animals as a young boy to raise money for a dog. Selling skins to Sears Roebuck & Co. was enough then to fulfill that dream and then later to get him enough money to fly enough hours to be conscripted (after being declared 4F) to train pilots at Americus, Georgia. When he was able to return to being a civilian pilot, the first thing he did with the money he saved was to buy another dog. On multiple levels, I felt this story to be so close to my father's, both coming from rural, impoverished areas. "Men, said Mr. Kyle, 'people have been trying to understand dogs ever since the beginning of time. One never knows what they'll do. You can read every day where a dog saved the life of a drowning child, or lay down his life for his master. Some people call this loyalty. I don't. I may be wrong, but I call it love the deepest kind of love.' This is such a wonderful story; I highly recommend you read it. Re-read it, if you read it as a child.

My kids and I really loved this book. It taught about honesty, hard work and character. Some of the quotes are amazing truth nuggets to keep and chew on. Beware for parents though, it does say the

B word when referring to female dogs. Don't let that catch you by surprise like it did me.

Must read, great family story. My boys loved it, reference it in conversation, unlike the cheap star wars fiction books I'd been reading them. Full of good life lessons for all ages with an engaging story line.

My 9 year old grand-daughter 4th grad class was reading the book in school, and she wanted to see the movie before the class finished the book. She liked it a lot. I have to admit it was a good story.

My absolutely favorite book of all time! I was so glued to reading it the first time I read it years ago. Now I'm buying it again, as the first read was for school and wasn't my book. I worked very very hard for what I have in life, patients is a powerful thing that can take you places, and this book demonstratives this. When you work very hard for something, even if it takes two years, and you finally get what you where aiming for, it is extremely satisfying to achieve this and the pride is a wonderful feeling. I know all too well about this, and it's likely that this book is the reason I have been shaped to be like this. I just wish more people in today's society would be like this boy, too many people today always want now now now, and that is where many issues come about, especially unnecessary debt. Anyhow, this is a book I completely treasure!! will say, I remember reading this the first time and many many times through out reading the book I couldn't figure out where the title came from, but I'm not going to spoil where the title comes from for those whom have not read it yet, but it's a brilliant idea of how it became the title...

Fantastic read-to-kids novel. You'll all be sobbing at the end. Kids who are read to end up to be readers. Move on from this one to the Narnia books, Warriors, then the Lord of the Rings series. Your kids will be fascinated with the worlds they can be whisked off to just by sitting next to you on the couch.

A truly heart warming and joyful book about the relationship between a young man and man's best friend. Focuses greatly on family as well. Great lessons to be learned here. Extremely well written. This is a book for old and young alike. Be ready for smiles, laughter & a few tears. For us older folk, prepare to be transported back to your younger days and a simpler way of life. 5 stars isn't enough to rate this book. Do yourself a great favor and read this book. Chris S.

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