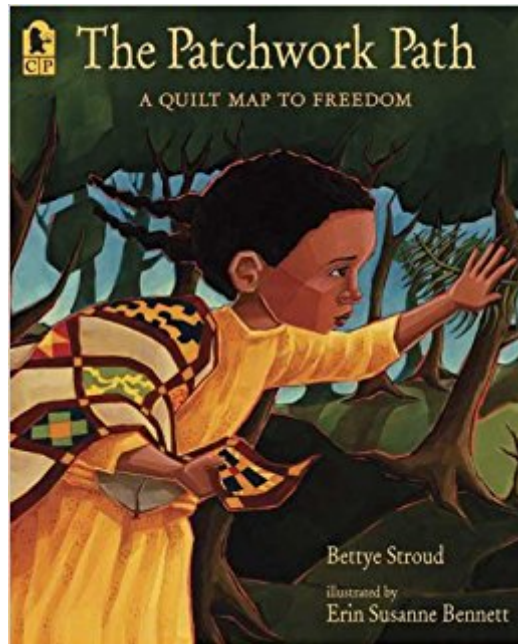




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The Patchwork Path: A Quilt Map To Freedom



Synopsis

"An exciting story about a girl and her father who escape slavery. . . . Works well as a story and also as a lesson in African-American history." — SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL
Now that Hannah's papa has decided to make the run for freedom, her patchwork quilt is not just a precious memento of Mama — it's a series of hidden clues that will guide them along the Underground Railroad to Canada. A fictionalized account of a fascinating oral history, THE PATCHWORK PATH tells the story of a two of the thousands who escaped a life of slavery and made the dangerous journey to freedom — a story of courage, determination, and hope. — A Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights Outstanding Book, Honorable Mention— An Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold Award Winner

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Reprint edition (August 28, 2007)

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Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1800s #221

in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

Grade 1-4 - An exciting story about a girl and her father who escape slavery with help from the coded symbols on a quilt. Shortly after Hannah's sister is sold to another plantation, Mama dies, but not before teaching Hannah how to sew, whispering, "this quilt will show you everything you need to know to run to freedom." Their journey leads them along the Underground Railroad, from their Georgia plantation to a hiding place beneath a church, through pirate tunnels, and eventually to the home of a Quaker family. Finally, they cross Lake Erie into Canada, and the narrative ends on a

hopeful note as Hannah makes a new quilt with an empty square for her sister, praying that someday they'll be together again, and free. The first-person narrative flows smoothly and lends immediacy to the dramatic events. The vivid oil paintings are skillfully done, with the characters' expressive faces reflecting their fear and courage, and angular lines echoing the quilt squares. An afterword gives some historical background. Overall, this works well as a story and also as a lesson in African-American history. - Lauralyn Persson, Wilmette Public Library, IL Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

K-Gr. 3. A child tells of escaping to Canada on the Underground Railroad, accompanied by her father, and of following secret signs sewn into quilt patterns. The exciting escape story makes the history immediate, and the fascinating quilt-code messages will have children revisiting the page that shows each symbol and its secret directions. Bennett's bright oil paintings make dramatic use of collage to show the quilt code and the brave fugitives. Helped by Quakers and other rescuers, Hannah and Papa make it to the border, but the sadness of her sister still in slavery and her Mama's death is with them as they cross. A fascinating afterword reveals how much of the story was based on history. Hazel Rochman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Excellent writing and I will read future writings of the artist. Very easy reading and it expressed honest experiences of history untold.

nice story Children enjoyed it

I have used another book similar to this one to teach about the Underground Railroad and influential Americans who helped people travel on the Underground Railroad in my 5th and 6th grade classrooms. Students create their own freedom quilt using four quilt blocks (all out of paper). I am really excited about this book because not only is it a good story to hook the kid's attention, but it describes the patterns and their meanings within the book itself.

Used as a resource to help teach 2nd graders about The Underground Railway during Black History month. Very helpful teaching aid and children loved the story and beautiful illustrations.

Straightforward story with believable characters shows how slaves planned carefully to run to freedom in Canada, getting colder every step of the way. While the "code" may be somewhat fiction, it does show how staying on the northbound path, evading slave catchers and their dogs, and finally reaching the shores of freedom were real clues then memories kept in handcrafts like quilts. This is beautifully illustrated.

Used this for a quilt project at school. The 7th graders had to read books, analyze them, and make a baby quilt to be donated. Love doing this unit.

This book was wonderful! My students were amazed at the bravery of these families.

Any children's books dealing with quilting, slavery and the Civil War are ones that I collect. Grandchildren love looking at them, and they learn considerable happenings from our American history.

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