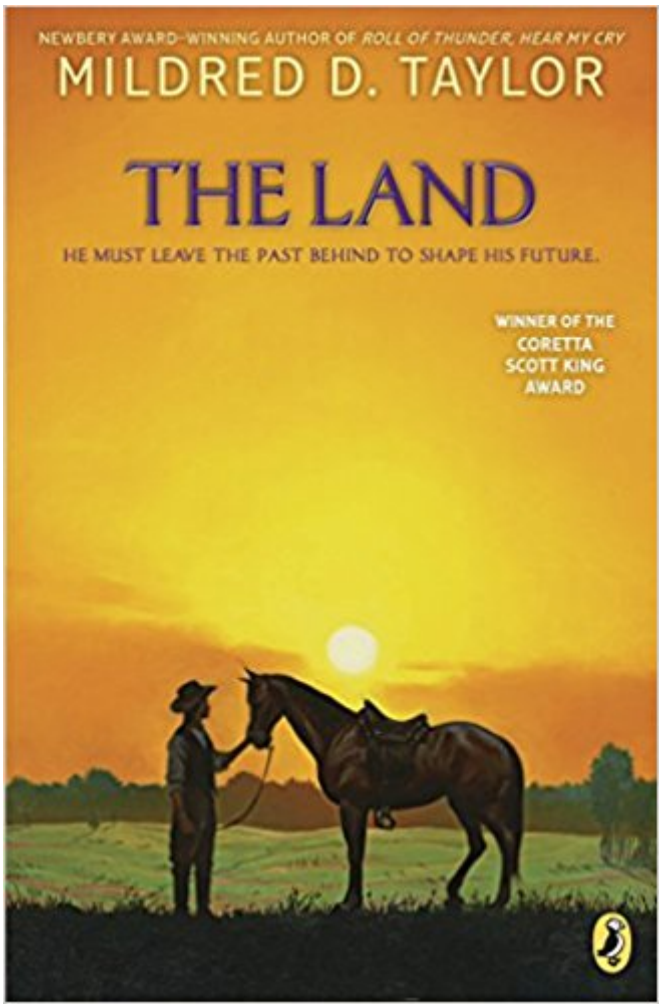
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The Land



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Synopsis

A stunning repackage of a companion to Mildred D. Taylor'sÃ Â Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry,Ã Â with cover art by two-time Caldecott Honor Award winner Kadir Nelson!The son of a prosperous landowner and a former slave, Paul-Edward Logan is unlike any other boy he knows. His white father has acknowledged him and raised him openly-something unusual in post-Civil War Georgia. But as he grows into a man he learns that life for someone like him is not easy. Black people distrust him because he looks white. White people discriminate against him when they learn of his black heritage. Even within his own family he faces betrayal and degradation. So at the age of fourteen, he sets out toward the only dream he has ever had: to find land every bit as good as his father's, and make it his own. Once again inspired by her own history, Ms. Taylor brings truth and power to the newest addition to the award-winning Logan family stories.* "Readers...will grab this and be astonished by its powerful story."Ã¢â ¬â •Booklist, starred review* "Taylor's gift for combining history and storytelling is as evident here as in her other stories about the Logan family."Ã¢â ¬â •Publishers Weekly, starred review

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Customer Reviews

The Land is Mildred D. Taylor's wonderful prequel to her Newbery Medal winner, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry. In the stories Taylor has to tell, life is not fair, hard work doesn't always pay off, and the good guy doesn't always win. That's because this extraordinary author tells the stories of her African American family in the Deep South during and after the Civil War, a time of ugly, painful

racism. Paul-Edward Logan, the son of a white, plantation-owner father and a slave mother, is our narrator, bound and determined to buy his own land and shape his own future at whatever cost. Caught between black and white worlds and not fitting into either one is devastating for him, but his powerful, engaging tales of the love of family, the strength of friendship, and growing up will inspire anyone to dare to persevere despite terrible odds. Taylor's books are not only essential in understanding what led up to the Civil Rights movement in America--they are also breathtaking page-turners, full of suspense, humor, love, and hope. The Land certainly stands alone, but the other award-winning tales of the Logan family--Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry; Let the Circle Be Unbroken; and The Road to Memphis--are excellent as well. Heartily recommended. (Ages 12 and older) --Karin Snelson --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Taylor's gift for combining history and storytelling are as evident here as in her other stories about the Logan family. This prequel to Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry focuses on Cassies's grandfather, Paul-Edward Logan, and explains how the seeds were planted for feuds between the Logans and other families, as well as certain loyalties. Here, the author deftly explores double standards in the South during the years following the Civil War. She lays the groundwork for these issues to be examined through two key relationships in the childhood of Paul-Edward, a boy of mixed race: the strong bond he shares with Robert, his white half-brother, and a tenuous friendship with Mitchell, whose parents were born into slavery and whose father works for Paul-Edward's father. Through them, the hero becomes painfully aware of the indelible line dividing black and white society. Though it is acceptable that his father, plantation-owner Edward, keeps an African-American mistress and helps rear her children, Paul-Edward and his sister, Cassie, are not allowed the same privileges as their half-brothers. An incident of family betrayal and a broken promise prompts Paul-Edward to run away from home and pursue his dream to farm his own piece of land. After arriving in Mississippi and setting his sights on the acreage he wants to buy, he soon discovers that becoming a landowner of color is more complicated and dangerous than expected. Like any good historian, Taylor extracts truth from past events without sugarcoating issues. Although her depiction of the 19th-century South is anything but pretty, her tone is more uplifting than bitter. Rather than dismissing hypocrisies, she digs beneath the surface of Paul-Edward's friends and foes, showing how their values have been shaped by social norms. Here, villains are as much victims as heroes, but only those as courageous as the protagonist challenge the traditions that promote inequality. Even during the book's most wrenching scenes, the determination, wisdom and resiliency-which become the legacy of the Logan family-will be strongly felt. Taylor fans should hasten to read this

latest contribution to the Logan family history, and newcomers will eagerly lap this up and plunge into the author's other titles. Ages 12-up. (Step.) Taylor's gift for combining history and storytelling are as evident here as in her other stories about the Logan family. This prequel to Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry focuses on Cassies's grandfather, Paul-Edward Logan, and explains how the seeds were planted for feuds between the Logans and other families, as well as certain loyalties. Here, the author deftly explores double standards in the South during the years following the Civil War. She lays the groundwork for these issues to be examined through two key relationships in the childhood of Paul-Edward, a boy of mixed race: the strong bond he shares with Robert, his white half-brother, and a tenuous friendship with Mitchell, whose parents were born into slavery and whose father works for Paul-Edward's father. Through them, the hero becomes painfully aware of the indelible line dividing black and white society. Though it is acceptable that his father, plantation-owner Edward, keeps an African-American mistress and helps rear her children, Paul-Edward and his sister, Cassie, are not allowed the same privileges as their half-brothers. An incident of family betrayal and a broken promise prompts Paul-Edward to run away from home and pursue his dream to farm his own piece of land. After arriving in Mississippi and setting his sights on the acreage he wants to buy, he soon discovers that becoming a landowner of color is more complicated and dangerous than expected. Like any good historian, Taylor extracts truth from past events without sugarcoating issues. Although her depiction of the 19th-century South is anything but pretty, her tone is more uplifting than bitter. Rather than dismissing hypocrisies, she digs beneath the surface of Paul-Edward's friends and foes, showing how their values have been shaped by social norms. Here, villains are as much victims as heroes, but only those as courageous as the protagonist challenge the traditions that promote inequality. Even during the book's most wrenching scenes, the determination, wisdom and resiliency-which become the legacy of the Logan family-will be strongly felt. Taylor fans should hasten to read this latest contribution to the Logan family history, and newcomers will eagerly lap this up and plunge into the author's other titles. Ages 12-up. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I first read Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry in middle school and the story stayed with me into my twenties. i reread it this last summer, and discovered that it was the fifth book in a series that followed the Logan family along their journey thorugh post-war Mississippi. It's a beautiful tale of family love and compassion, surprising acts of kindness in the face of random acts of cruelty, and the roots of long-needed and long-coming reconciliation. The story challenges readers to look at the

idea of racial reconciliation as a generations-long process made by one choice at a time, to be patient and honest, that trust takes time, and that freedom and independence are two different concepts, equally important. I really can’t wait to read the next few books in the series!Taylor’s narrative style is personal yet picturesque, appropriate to the times, yet comprehensible to the modern reader. The language and content are acceptable for high school or mature middle schoolers under parental advisement, but the story is layered enough to capture the imagination of adults of all ages.

Ms. Taylor has nailed it again. She’s a brilliant historian and writer for this era in African-American history. Her characters are well-developed and have a depth that provokes thought in her readers. I highly recommend that you grab up any of Ms. Taylor’s "classics"!

A great book that provides a back story to the Logan family and their journey to the current time in the Road to Memphis. I would love to see her write one more book to answer all our questions about Moe and Cassie. Do they have a fighting chance??? She wrote this book when I was fresh out of high school after I was introduced to the books in high school. I really liked that we can see where cassie gets that sassy from her grandmama. We also get to see what her grandparents went thru just to get that land the pain the heartache and to learn to be grateful for the sacrifices of those who came beforem

The Land is not merely entertainment, but enlightenment. Out of the hundreds of fiction books I’ve read, this one has impacted me the most. Perhaps I am just employing hyperbole, but hear me out:In a quest to own land, the main character, Paul, experiences incredible pain and miracles. His greatest struggle arises from his colored skin. Even though his father is white, his mother is colored and he’s treated as such.First of all, the book’s themes of hard work and discipline put me to shame; I consider myself diligent, but I still moan about emptying the dishwasher or other chores around the house. The main character, at one point, works 14-hour days, seven days a week, to accomplish his goal.And just as profound, we see the extent of racial discrimination and injustice, as all this hard work goes to waste because of a white man’s shameless breach of contract. I have grown up in an age where the color of one’s skin truly means nothing to me, beyond hinting at heritage, so it’s shocking to see that just over a hundred years ago there was such a disparity between white and black human beings.This book illustrated to me the need for a Civil Rights Movement, a need to reform the way we think about people; I’m glad because, for all it’s defects, our society embraces

and respects diversity.There is much to respect in the way Paul conducts matters of business and keeps himself from being indebted to anyone, even his own father. It could come off as arrogant or too independent, and often does in his dealings with white men or "betters," but, again, I respect that.Other themes include: family, respect, brotherly love.Furthermore, the author describes her experiences in trying to own land, and most of the plot is based on real-life history of her great-grandfather. I guess you just can’t make this stuff up.I highly recommend this book to everyone of my generation and generations to come.

This is the beginning of the series of Mildred Taylor’s books. Awesome series. A must read for all Americans! Great read for teens!

Mildred Taylor’s books are all wonderful. Reading about her recent ancestors gives mea deeper appreciation for my own "privileged" life. And it gives me a deep admirationfor her family who overcame tremendous adversity. I want my children and grandchildrento learn and read and appreciate such people.

great books, great author! bough the entire series for my daughter.

Absolutely a wonderful book. I fell in love with all of the characters. Detailed but not too much. Just shows the determination of the family to rise above. Not letting anything or anyone get in their way. I applaud Ms Mildred. Your an awesome author handing down your family stories. Hallelujah.

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