
Belle Praters Boy Ruth White

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Tadpole Macmillan

"What else would you wish for?" Daddy says. "If you could have anything in the world, what would you wish for?" I shrug. "Oh, I don't know. Maybe . . ." "Maybe what?" "For us to live better than we do." He does not say anything. In 1948, award-winning author Ruth White lived in Jewell Valley, a coal camp nestled between the hills of southwestern Virginia, with her mother, still mourning for a baby who died four years earlier; her father, who spent the weekends and most of his pay out drinking; and her three older sisters, Audrey, Yvonne, and Eleanor. Told in

Audrey's voice, this is how the author imagines Audrey's experiences during a time of great trauma for the White family - and what happened before they were able to live a better life. This snapshot of life in a coal camp, complete with everyday heartaches and joys - as well as stories, songs, and jokes - is Ruth White's most personal work to date. Little Audrey is a 2009 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year. *The Stones of Green Knowe* Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)

Spanning six years in Ginny Shortt's life, this is a remarkable novel about growing up in a small mining town in Appalachia. A "novel of aspiring proportions...This is a haunting story, well written."

--Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books A "triumph." --The New York Times Book Review

[The Place My Words Are Looking For](#)

Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)

Teaches reading skills to students by using the book *Belle Prater's boy* by Ruth White. [Belle Prater's Boy \[by\] Ruth White](#) Macmillan Thirty-nine United States poets share their poems, inspirations, thoughts, anecdotes, and memories.

Buttermilk Hill Farrar, Straus and

Giroux (BYR)

In the small town of Baylor, Kentucky, twelve-year-old Jessie K. Bovey and her friends confront some of life's questions during their summer vacation in the late 1960s.

You'll Like It Here (Everybody Does)

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

When push comes to shove, two Kentucky girls find strength in each other. Ivy June Mosely and Catherine Combs, two girls from different parts of Kentucky, are participating in the first seventh-grade student exchange program between their schools. The girls will stay at each other's homes, attend school together, and record their experience in their journals. Catherine and her family have a beautiful home with plenty of space. Since Ivy June's house is crowded, she lives with her grandparents. Her Pappaw works in the coal mines supporting four generations of kinfolk. Ivy June can't wait until he leaves that mine forever and retires. As the girls get closer, they discover they're more alike than different, especially when they face the terror of not knowing what's happening to those they love most.

Belle Prater's Boy Delacorte Press

This 1997 Newbery Medalist tells the story of Woodrow Prater, who goes to Virginia to live with his grandparents in Coal Station, Virginia, when his mother, Belle, disappears.

Faith, Hope, and Ivy June Simon and Schuster

While Meggie and David Blue are from another planet, they're a lot like Earth kids, with similar hopes and dreams, and can't wait to grow up. BUT they also have GROSSLY UNIQUE qualities, such as blue streaks in their hair that pop up randomly and language skills that sound like nothing on this planet. The story takes these alien kids, along with their mother and grandfather, by accident, to a far planet in which the society is not only oppressive but hostile to individual freedom. People

are kept submissive through drugs and brainwashing. The Blues, who have spent time in free societies recognize the upside-down-ness of this world. They're almost helpless to do anything, but do what they can, plan their escape, and vow to help others.

The Breaker Boys Macmillan

Finding a way to cope through poetry

The days seem carefree for Piper Berry in her hometown of Buttermilk Hill, North Carolina -- days filled with fishing with her daddy and ten-year-old aunt/best friend Lindy and listening to her grandmother's stories. But then Mama, Tiny Lambert (whom readers may remember from *Weeping Willow*), announces she wants more out of life than being a housewife, and Daddy thinks this is unreasonable. He moves out and that ugly word d-i-v-o-r-c-e becomes a reality. Soon Mama's time becomes consumed with waiting tables and taking college classes. Daddy remarries, adopts two sons, and has a new baby daughter. Piper can't help but feel as if she doesn't belong anywhere anymore, and her only comfort is found in spending time with Lindy and their friend Bucky, whose life is full of his own share of family trouble. Piper's growing interest in and talent for poetry help her find a voice to say the things that are hardest and make an important decision about following her own dreams.

The Search for Belle Prater Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)

A funny and moving story set in Kentucky It's the beginning of summer 1955, and though her family is struggling financially, Carolina's mama still indulges her four daughters' whims, like springing for all of them to get permanents. Each of her older sisters seems to have cut out a niche

for herself, but Carolina Collins is still trying to find her own special place in life. The girls' hardship is softened by the sudden appearance of their favorite cousin, Tadpole, a charismatic thirteen-year-old with a knack for guitar playing. Tad sees in Carolina a spirit and talent that no one has noticed before, and he predicts that she "is gonna surprise everybody one of these days." The Collinsees soon learn the real reason for Tad's visit, however, and the weeks that follow are filled with dread that his abusive guardian will come and take him away. But Tad is not the sort of boy to succumb to a bully, and he and Carolina both have surprises in store for everyone. A Junior Library Guild Selection Tadpole is a 2004 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

Mister Max: The Book of Lost Things Yearling

When Lindy's parents divorce and gradually begin to make new lives for themselves she finds all the changes difficult, but in time she starts to find her own way.

Buttermilk Hill Carson-Dellosa Pub Llc

When Woodrow's mother suddenly disappears, he moves to his grandparents' home in a small Virginia town where he befriends his cousin, and together they find the strength to face the terrible losses and fears in their lives.

Way Down Deep Yearling Books

When Woodrow's mother suddenly disappears, he moves to his grandparents' home in a small Virginia town where he befriends his cousin and together they find

the strength to face the terrible losses and fears in their lives.

Spitting Image Belle Prater's Boy

The sequel to the beloved Newbery Honor Book, Belle Prater's Boy Since Belle Prater inexplicably disappeared about a year ago, her son, Woodrow, and his cousin Gypsy have been searching for answers. Then, on the stroke of midnight on Woodrow's birthday, the phone rings. No one is at the other end of the line, but Woodrow is certain it was his mama. They find out that the call was placed from nearby Bluefield, and set out to see if they can track her down. Joining them is Cassie Caulborne, the new girl in school, who is endowed with the gift of second sight. Unfortunately, they can find no trace of Belle. Once again, Woodrow realizes that perhaps even worse than not knowing where she is, is not understanding why his mama would leave him. How Woodrow, Gypsy, and Cassie come to understand the truth, and Woodrow eventually finds Belle, fills this oft-requested sequel to Belle Prater's Boy with magic and suspense. The Search for Belle Prater is a 2006 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

Belle Prater's Boy Macmillan

While eagerly following each stage of the new stone manor house his father is building to replace their old wooden Saxon hall, a young boy, part Saxon and part Norman, becomes involved with ancient magic that carries him through time. Simultaneous.

The City Rose Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)

With a swimming medal, the key to a mansion, and a comic book about a half-man/half-rat as her only clues, a 12-year-old girl seeks the true story of her father's mysterious death four years earlier near an

island in the Pacific Northwest.

How to Disappear Completely and Never Be Found Knopf Books for Young Readers

Perico, or parrot, was what Dad called me sometimes. It was from a Mexican saying about a parrot that complains how hot it is in the shade, while all along he's sitting inside an oven and doesn't know it.... For Manuel Hernandez, the year leading up to his test of courage, his initiation into a gang, is a time filled with the pain and tension, awkwardness and excitement of growing up in a crazy world. His dad spends most of his time and money at the local pool hall; his brother flips through jobs like a thumb through a deck of cards; and his mom never stops cleaning the house, as though one day the rooms will be so spotless they'll disappear into a sparkle, and she'll be free. Manny's dad is always saying that people are like money--there are million- and thousand- and hundred-dollar people out there, and to him, Manny is just a penny. But Manny wants to be more than a penny, smarter than the parrot in the oven. He wants to find out what it means to be a vato firme, a guy to respect. In this beautifully written novel, Victor Martinez gives readers a vivid portrait of one Mexican-American boy's life. Manny's story is like a full-color home movie--sometimes funny, sometimes sad, but always intensely original. For Manuel Hernandez, the year leading up to his test of courage, his initiation into a gang, is a time filled with the pain and tension, awkwardness and excitement of growing up in a mixed-up, crazy world. Manny ' s dad is always calling him el perico, or parrot. It ' s from a Mexican saying about a parrot that complains how hot it is in the shade while all along he ' s sitting inside the oven and doesn ' t know it. But Manny wants to be smarter than the parrot in the oven—he wants to find out what it means to be a vato firme, a guy to respect. From an exciting new voice in Chicano literature, this is a beautifully written, vivid portrait

of one Mexican-American boy ' s life. 1998 Pura Belpre Author Award 1996 Americas Award for Children ' s and Young Adult Literature 1997 Books for the Teen Age (NY Public Library) 1996 National Book Award for Young People ' s Literature Sweet Creek Holler Wendy Lamb Books

Sam is almost 11 when he discovers a locked box in the attic above his grandfather Mack ' s room, and a piece of paper that says he was kidnapped. There are lots of other words, but Sam has always had trouble reading. He ' s desperate to find out who he is, and if his beloved Mack is really his grandfather. At night he ' s haunted by dreams of a big castle and a terrifying escape on a boat. Who can he trust to help him read the documents that could unravel the mystery? Then he and the new girl, Caroline, are paired up to work on a school project, building a castle in Mack ' s woodworking shop. Caroline loves to read, and she can help. But she ' s moving soon, and the two must hurry to discover the truth about Sam.

Memories of Summer Milkweed Editions

In rural Kentucky in 1955, Serilda Collins, single mother of four lively girls, discovers that her orphaned nephew, thirteen-year-old Tadpole, is being subjected to brutality. Jr Lib Guild.

Eleven Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR) In 1934, when her mother leaves her and her father, eleven-year-old Nissa tries to cope with the gossip of her small Louisiana town and the changes in her own life.