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Sparrow Road



Synopsis

A perfect summer read set in a mysterious artists' estate in the idyllic Midwestern countryside. It's the summer before seventh grade, and twelve-year-old Raine O'Rourke's mother takes a sudden job at Sparrow Road--a dilapidated mansion that houses a group of eccentric artists. While Raine's mother works as the cook and housekeeper, Raine is left to figure out why she and her mother have really come to Sparrow Road. Secrets seem to be everywhere, but it's an unexpected secret from Raine's own life--the reason she's come to Sparrow Road--that changes her forever. An affecting and beautifully written story of family and forgiveness, Sparrow Road is a perfect pick for the middle-grade set.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0530 (What's this?)

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (May 10, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142421367

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.8 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 38 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #704,927 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Drugs #964 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction #1611 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Praise for Sparrow Road: International Reading Association Award - Midwest Booksellers Choice Awards Finalist A VOYA Best Book A Booklist Best Book A Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Book A Bank Street Best Book A *“Readers finding themselves in this quiet world will find plenty of space to imagine and dream for themselves.”* - Kirkus Reviews, starred review A *“[A] timeless piece of middle-grade fiction. . . . A special book.”* - Booklist, starred review *“[T]he strength of even imperfect human connections is*

celebrated through the relationships among a multitude of vivid and varied characters. "Lyrical writing in this first-person narrative, good character development, and a sympathetic heroine will keep readers absorbed." - School Library Journal "Sparrow Road is a book that strikes and gentles with Truth. Here is a world of Sorrow and Comfort, crafted by an artist who dares to suggest, without sentimentality but with a hard-nosed realism, that a broken world can be renewed through love and daring and community and art. What a sweet and hopeful and engaging story." - Gary D. Schmidt, Newbery Honor-winning author of *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy* and *The Wednesday Wars* "Sparrow Road is a place for wishing long and dreaming, and so is this terrific novel. Sparrow Road is quite wonderful and I recommend it highly." - Karen Cushman author of the Newbery Medal-winning, *The Midwife's Apprentice*, and the Newbery Honor-winning *Catherine, Called Birdy* "Sparrow Road has everything I could ask for in a novel - mysteries, secrets, a creepy mansion with a haunting past, a cast of unforgettable characters, and a twisting tale of self-discovery." - Ann Martin, Newbery Honor-winning author of *A Corner of the Universe*

Sheila O'Connor lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. *Sparrow Road* is her debut work for children.

Perfect addition to library

Sparrow Road is a beautiful, seamless story that unfolds like a quiet summer's day. Twelve-year-old Raine O'Rourke's mother moves them to a rural artist's colony without much explanation to take a summer job as housekeeper and cook. After her initial resistance, Raine is drawn into the quirky creativity and mystery of the place and discovers not everything (or everyone) is what she/he seems. The story reminds me a bit of Kate DiCamillo's *Because of Winn Dixie* (which I loved). I think older elementary schoolers, middle schoolers, and adults will love *Sparrow Road*.

I really loved *Sparrow Road* because of its amazing story of a girl who is taken away from her home for the summer to *Sparrow Road*. Raine's long summer days consist of silence. In this amazing story about a girl's summer of suspense, love, friendship, and dreams. I really recommend the book *Sparrow Road*.

This was the best book I had ever read I wish I could read it over and over again. It was so magical

and happy. I was filled with emotions. I loved it so much. I am going to recommend this book to all my friend.

a good book for a 12 year old girl sweet storywas knot very happy about having to read this for a summer book club but I loved it

Purchased for our daughter to read in 4th grade, as part of the Mark Twain requirements for a field trip. She said this book was AWESOME and would totally recommend.

The fast read. Kept me up reading "just one more chapter." It was worth the loss of sleep, though. Unusual characters and a really good story line.

I like this book because it was so good I didn't want the book to end. I would recommend this book to everyone I know,because I know they would love it.

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