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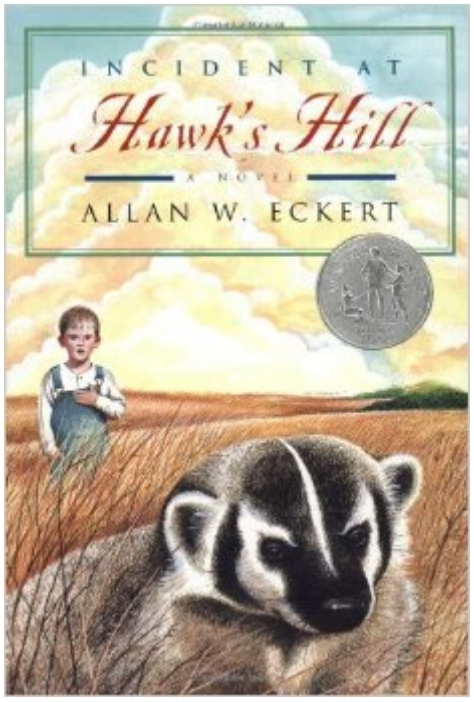
Incident At Hawk's Hill



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Synopsis

Six-year-old Ben is very small for his age, and gets along better with animals than people. One June day in 1870, Ben wanders away from his home on Hawk's Hill and disappears into the waving prairie grass. This is the story of how a shy, lonely boy survives for months in the wilds and forges a bond with a female badger. ALA Notable Book. Newbery Honor Book.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was one of my alltime favorites as a child (in the late 60's). I grew up on the prairies, so badger holes and fields of waving grasses, as well as neighbors with rifles, were part of everyday life to me. I loved the quiet child who fit in with animals more than humans, and the relationship with the wild mother badger. The world created was more realistic and naturalistic than that portrayed by cheery kids books like the Berensteins and Dr. Seuss. There was tragedy as well as compassion: the mother badger has been caught in a trap, her babies have died of hunger, she is hurting and in pain. These are realistic concerns in nature. Not all is cute fuzzy puppies and loving understanding adults. In the end, the misunderstanding between the child who has been cared for by the badger, and the adults who only see a dangerous wild beast, very much touched my child mind and reflected my experience with adults. I saw injustice in the real world left right and center and it was seldom reflected in children's books. This is one of the deeper children's books I have read, that doesn't shy away from the complexities of life, difficult emotions and depth of feeling. I have reread it recently as an adult, and it still touched me. I highly recommend it.

Incident At Hawks Hill is a great book! It may start out a little on the slow side but once you get into the story, it's great! Here is a book report type thing on the book. Ben Macdonald is a shy boy who took a liking to imatating animals' body language. No one believes he has much value exept for his mother, Esther. But not even she can get him to talk and be a normal boy of his age. He is small and light in his weight. Well at least for his age. On one of his jouneys on the prairie he finds a mouse that had just been killed with younglings alive. He knows the baby mice will not survive, so when a badger comes close to him he feeds her the mice, being careful to put them out of their misery quickly. One day he wanders out on the prairie following a praire chicken. By the time he tries to come home for lunch he has found himself lost in the prairie. When he seeks shelter he finds the same badger that he fed wild mice to. Will he make it back to his family. To find out what happens next read the book. Also the other reviews have a very good description. If you read this book I hope you enjoy it. The sequel is also good. Thank You for reading my review.

This is one of the best books of my childhood reading experience. I was eleven years old and my mom baught it for me when we were on a trip to England. It was more than a way to kill down-time. The story, characters and the rollercoaster of emotions it inspired are memorable still. This book is remarkable and I would recomend it in the same breath as 'where the Red Fern Grows' or 'Good Night, Mr. Tom'. Do a child in your life a favor: have them read this book.

Recommended by my son's sixth grade teacher, this novel has enough information to make it a biology lesson and literary masterpiece, all-in-one. I did not want the book to end and am furiously trying to find out what happened to the characters after closing the book on page 191. This novel is ideal for children, fourth grade and up, or as a read-aloud for teachers and parents.

This book was read by my LA class and Wow! Were we blown away! This is a great book and could teach you alot about survival and love. I would recommmend it to anyone. A true kids book. Suspense, love, action, everything is in this novel. Not to mention its a Newbury Honor book. Animal lovers gather around, action seekers get over here! This book it for EVERYONE! :)

Incident at Hawk's Hill is a exceptional book about a six-year-old boy living in the Mid West, during the late 1800's. The boy runs away after he misunderstood his fathers anger. Together the boy and a widow badger live and learn to adapt with each other. When he returns home his family accepts the badger because she it what kept him alive. I highly recommend this book to someone that

enjoys an adventure.

Allan Eckert writes with such truth that it can be startling. While I liked this book, I was reared in a time and place where hunting was a way of life and a means of life. I found it startling to see the kills and hear the men talk about the hunt as if the animals had no rights. It troubled me then as it does now. At the same time, when a fox pup was left motherless, or a bobcat cub, a fawn, etc. my father would bring them home to be raised up until they could fend for themselves. We had several such young, and after one experience of leaving one at a zoo, the family voted that they would be released in a protected area with a friend who would supplement their food sources, giving them the best chance at freedom and survival that we could manage. So I appreciated the dichotomy presented in this book. BUT.....my grandchildren found this book impossible to listen too. The truth was just too cruel, and while I tried to explain what life was like for the characters, it was not possible to allay their fears and disgust. Perhaps when they are older that will change. But I had to finish the book on my own.If you are not familiar with Eckert as a historian, you may not want to present this book to your kids despite its awards.

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