

Nightjohn Study Guide

A critically acclaimed tearjerker from a master storyteller: On one side of the border is brutality and heartache; on the other side—a new life. Fourteen-year-old Manny is an orphan in Juarez, Mexico. He competes with his bigger, meaner rivals for the coins American tourists throw off the bridge between Texas and his town. Across that heavily guarded bridge await a different world and a better existence. On the night when Manny dares the crossing—through the muddy shallows of the Rio Grande, past the searchlights and the border patrol—the young man encounters an old stranger who could prove to be an ally or an enemy. Manny can't tell for certain. But if he is to achieve his dream, then he must be willing to risk everything—even his life.

A New Translation From The French By Marion Wiesel Born in Sighet, Transylvania, Elie Wiesel was a teenager when he and his family were taken from their home in 1944 and deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp, and then to Buchenwald. Night is the terrifying record of Elie Wiesel's memories of the death of his family, the death of his own innocence, and his despair as a deeply observant Jew confronting the absolute evil of man. This new translation by his wife and most frequent translator, Marion Wiesel, corrects important details and presents the most accurate rendering in English of Elie Wiesel's seminal work.

One of the best-selling young adult books of all time,

written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Paul Zindel. John Conlan is nicknamed “The Bathroom Bomber” after setting off firecrackers in the boys’ bathroom 23 times without ever getting caught. John and his best friend, Lorraine, can never please their parents, and school is a chore. To pass the time, they play pranks on unsuspecting people and it’s during one of these pranks that they meet the “Pigman.” In spite of themselves, John and Lorraine soon get caught up in Mr. Pignati’s zest for life. In fact, they become so involved that they begin to destroy the only corner of the world that has ever mattered to them. Can they stop before it’s too late?’

Many readers of *Nightjohn* have wanted to know what happened to Sarny, the young slave whom *Nightjohn* taught to read. Here is Sarny's story, from the moment she leaves the plantation in the last days of the Civil War, suddenly a free woman in search of her sold-away children. Her search takes her to New Orleans and the home of the mysterious and remarkable Miss Laura. Like *Nightjohn*, Miss Laura changes Sarny's life, and she helps Sarny pass *Nightjohn*'s gift on to new generations. This riveting saga follows Sarny until her last days in the 1930s and gives readers a panoramic view of America in a time of trial, tragedy, and hoped-for change.

The Time Hackers

War Comes to Willy Freeman

Hatchet

Novel-Tie Teachers Study Guide

Only 13, John must track a deer in the Minnesota woods for his family's winter meat, and in doing so finds himself drawn to the doe he's been tracking and hating his role as hunter.

NightjohnA Study Guide to the Novel by Gary PaulsenNightjohnLaurel Leaf

Two young boys encounter the best and worst of humanity during the Holocaust in this powerful read that USA Today called "as memorable an introduction to the subject as The Diary of Anne Frank." Berlin, 1942:

When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move to a new house far, far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people in the distance. But Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different from his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.

This riveting novel of love and mystery from

the author of *The Things They Carried* examines the lasting impact of the twentieth century's legacy of violence and warfare, both at home and abroad. When long-hidden secrets about the atrocities he committed in Vietnam come to light, a candidate for the U.S. Senate retreats with his wife to a lakeside cabin in northern Minnesota. Within days of their arrival, his wife mysteriously vanishes into the watery wilderness.

Tuck Everlasting

The War on Our Nation's Brightest Young Minds

The Night Manager

Desire, Darkness, and Hope

Trouble Don't Last

Critically acclaimed when it was first published, Tuck Everlasting has become a much-loved, well-studied modern-day classic. This anniversary edition features an in-depth interview conducted by Betsy Hearne in which Natalie Babbitt takes a look at Tuck Everlasting twenty-five years later. What if you could live forever? Is eternal life a blessing or a curse? That is what young Winnie Foster must decide when she discovers a spring on her family's property whose waters grant immortality. Members of the Tuck family, having drunk from the spring, tell Winnie of their experiences watching life go by and never growing older. But then Winnie must decide whether

or not to keep the Tucks' secret—and whether or not to join them on their never-ending journey. Praise for Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt: “A fearsome and beautifully written book that can't be put down or forgotten.” —The New York Times “Exciting and excellently written.” —The New York Times Book Review “With its serious intentions and light touch the story is, like the Tucks, timeless.” —Chicago Sun-Times “Probably the best work of our best children's novelist.” —Harper's “Natalie Babbitt's great skill is spinning fantasy with the lilt and sense of timeless wisdom of the old fairy tales. . . . It lingers on, haunting your waking hours, making you ponder.” —The Boston Globe “This book is as shapely, crisp, sweet, and tangy as a summer-ripe pear.” —Entertainment Weekly This title has Common Core connections.

You, who have dug deep and sifted hard for a story to read, have unearthed an ancient treasure: a mystery from the dusty ages, when a kid could be a hero and fight for the good of all . . . 12-year-old Zet and his sister Kat love running their family pottery stall. But it's a struggle to keep afloat, now that their father is away fighting the Hyksos invaders. When the siblings learn about a valuable scroll that's gone missing, Zet and Kat decide to join forces. If they can find it, they'll win a huge reward for their family. Their problems will be over! Little do they know what troubles lie ahead. The chase leads Zet and Kat into

the hotspots of ancient Egypt--from stunning temples to the Nile river, through a mysterious land of hieroglyphics, Egyptian gods, mythology, and majesty that the world has never forgotten. A modern children's classic "A big hit in our library, can't keep it on the shelf." - E. Crow, Librarian "Action packed" - Middle Grade Fiction Finder "Peters is such a natural and gifted storyteller, so adept at bringing the sights and sounds and smells of ancient Egypt alive, that readers of all ages will be swept along." - Historical Novel Society 6th grade ELA/SS: "My co-teacher and I have used this book for the past 2 years and the students absolutely love it!" Janine Taft. The short, exciting chapters make it perfect for school reading lists. Great for boys and girls age 9-12 (Lexile: 490-570) Packed with fascinating ancient Egypt facts kids will love. This page-turning tale is a great way to introduce middle-school readers to the world of ancient Egypt. The adventure starts here! Start sleuthing with the Hardy Boys of Ancient Egypt. Read now.

For a rugged outdoor man and his family, life in northern Minnesota is a wild experience involving wolves, deer, and the sled dogs that make their way of life possible. Includes an account of the author's first Iditarod, a dogsled race across Alaska.

The Diamond as Big as the Ritz is a novella by novelist F. Scott Fitzgerald. It was first published in the June 1922 issue of The Smart Set magazine,

and was included in Fitzgerald's 1922 short story collection Tales of the Jazz Age. Much of the story is set in Montana, a setting that may have been inspired by the summer that Fitzgerald spent near White Sulphur Springs, Montana in 1915. Orson Welles adapted the story into a radio play in 1945 and another version was presented three times on the program Escape between 1947 and 1949. A teleplay version was broadcast on Kraft Theatre in 1955. The story's sisters, Kismine and Jasmine, were portrayed by Lee Remick and Elizabeth Montgomery, who were unknowns of 20 and 22 at the time. Mickey Mouse No. 47 (Apr./May 1956) contains a retelling of Fitzgerald's story under the title "The Mystery of Diamond Mountain", scripted by William F. Nolan and Charles Beaumont and illustrated by Paul Murry. Jimmy Buffett recounts the story in the song "Diamond As Big As The Ritz" from his 1995 album Barometer Soup. Famous novells of the author F. S. Fitzgerald: "This Side of Paradise", "The Beautiful and Damned", "The Great Gatsby", "Tender Is the Night", "The Last Tycoon", "The Diamond as Big as the Ritz", "May Day", "The Rich Boy".

The Study Guide to Accompany the Tetelestai Video Series

A Summer Remembered

Northwind

In the Lake of the Woods

Being the Story of the Enlistment and Due Service of the Boy Charley Goddard in the First Minnesota Volunteers :a Novel of the Civil War

This American classic has been corrected from the original manuscripts and indexed, featuring historic photographs and an extensive biographical afterword.

Thirteen-year-old Willy Freeman's life changes forever when she witnesses her father's horrific death at the hands of the Redcoats, then returns home to find that her mother has disappeared, perhaps taken by the British as prisoner. Willy, disguised as a boy, begins her long and dangerous search for her mother and luckily finds a haven at the famous Fraunces Tavern in New York City. But even with the help of Sam Fraunces and her fellow worker, Horace, Willy knows that to be black, female, and free leaves her open to danger at every turn. What will tomorrow bring? Will she ever reunite with her mother?

"The Diary of Jesus Christ is a bold attempt to understand the person whom in excess of two billion people claim as their savior. These entries are not

a gospel; they are something far more personal-not a third-, but a first-person account of the life of Jesus Christ"--

"A devastating portrait of a boy holding onto the shreds of his innocence during a war that deliberately, remorselessly works to yank it away."—Los Angeles Times Part Inferno, part Paradise Lost, part Sunjata epic, Song for Night is the story of a West African boy soldier's terrifying yet oddly beautiful journey through a nightmare landscape of brutal war in search of his lost platoon. The mute protagonist—his vocal cords cut to lower the risk of detection by the enemy—writes in a ghostly voice about his fellow minesweepers, the things he's witnessed, and the things he's done, each chapter headed by a line of the sign language these children invented. This "immersive and dreamlike" novella (Publishers Weekly, starred review) by a PEN/Hemingway Award winner is unlike anything else written about an African war. "Not since Jerzy Kosinski's *The Painted Bird* or Agota Kristof's *Notebook Trilogy* has

there been such a harrowing novel about what it's like to be a young person in a war. That Chris Abani is able to find humanity, mercy, and even, yes, forgiveness, amid such devastation is something of a miracle."—Rebecca Brown, author of *The End of Youth* "Impressive and fast-paced...narrated with such dry and lucid precision that it brings to mind Babel, Hemingway, McCarthy."—Esquire

Tracker

Sarny

Stealing Freedom

Mystery of the Egyptian Scroll

Tetelestai Study Guide

An adult slave named Nightjohn teaches twelve-year-old Sarny, also a slave, how to read, in spite of the grim consequences that could result if they are discovered. Reprint. AB. SLJ. PW.

Sent to live with relatives on their farm because of his unhappy home life, an eleven-year-old city boy meets his distant cousin Harris and is given an introduction to a whole new world.

While playing baseball in the summer of 1953, Owen Meany hits a foul ball that kills his best friend's mother, and he becomes convinced that he is an instrument of God, in a new edition of Irving's seventh novel, featuring a new introduction by the author. 20,000 first printing.

TETELESTAI STUDY GUIDE The Tetelestai Study Guide is a 12 session study that will help you trace God's hand from the Garden of Eden to the Risen Christ and unfold the breathtaking Story of a God who passionately loves humanity and paid the ultimate price for our

Rescue. **THIRTY SECONDS** Have you ever caught thirty seconds of a movie right in the thick of the most dramatic scene? Although the music is intense and the action is fast-paced, because you are unaware of the plot and who the characters are, you find yourself feeling disconnected and confused. For many people, their exposure to the Bible is similar to this example; they have only heard the climax without understanding the plot. **GO DEEPER** Through Tetelestai you will watch the plot of the Bible unfold, starting from the beginning of the story. Whether you are spiritually curious or seeking to grow deeper in your understanding of God, this series will help you catch a stunning view of God's love and how much He desires to have a relationship with you. The Tetelestai Study Guide will take you on a journey to unpack each Episode through thought-provoking questions and personal applications. Got Questions? Read Answers! Partnering with Every Student & Got Questions Ministries to provide sensitive, scholarly and biblical answers, this book contains over 90 pages addressing the most asked questions. Such as: Is there any historical evidence of Jesus Christ? Can the flood mentioned in Genesis be proven? Is the Bible trustworthy? Is Jesus a myth? How could a loving God send people to Hell? For more information visit our website: www.tetelestaiproject.com

Song for Night

A Novel

The Diary of Jesus Christ

Tomorrow, When The War Began

The Underground Railroad

Eager to enlist, fifteen-year-old

Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat.

Now an AMC miniseries • The acclaimed novel from the #1 New York Times

bestselling author of *A Legacy of Spies* and *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* John le Carré, the legendary author of sophisticated spy thrillers, is at the top of his game in this classic novel of a world in chaos. With the Cold War over, a new era of espionage has begun. In the power vacuum left by the Soviet Union, arms dealers and drug smugglers have risen to immense influence and wealth. The sinister master of them all is Richard Onslow Roper, the charming, ruthless Englishman whose operation seems untouchable. Slipping into this maze of peril is Jonathan Pine, a former British soldier who's currently the night manager of a posh hotel in Zurich. Having learned to hate and fear Roper more than any man on earth, Pine is willing to do whatever it takes to help the agents at Whitehall bring him down—and personal vengeance is only part of the reason why. Praise for *The Night Manager* "A splendidly exciting, finely told story . . . masterly in its conception."—*The New York Times Book Review* "Intrigue of the highest order."—*Chicago Sun-Times* "Richly detailed and rigorously researched . . .

. Le Carré's gift for building tension through character has never been better realized."—People "Grimly fascinating, often nerve-wracking, and impossible to put down."—Boston Herald

You ever open your locker and find that some joker has left something really weird inside? Seventh-grader Dorso Clayman opens his locker door to find a dead body. Thirty seconds later it disappears. It's not the first bizarre thing that has appeared in his locker and then vanished. Something's going on. Somebody has decided to make Dorso and his buddy Frank the target of some strange techno-practical jokes. The ultimate gamers have hacked into the time line, and things from the past are appearing in the present. Soon, the jokes aren't funny anymore—they're dangerous. Dorso and Frank have got to beat the time hackers at their own game by breaking the code, before they get lost in the past themselves.

This stunning New York Times Bestseller from the survival story master, set along a rugged coastline centuries ago, does for the ocean what Hatchet does for the woods, as it relates the story

of a young person's battle to stay alive against the odds, where the high seas meet a coastal wilderness. When a deadly plague reaches the small fish camp where he lives, an orphan named Leif is forced to take to the water in a cedar canoe. He flees northward, following a wild, fjord-riven shore, navigating from one danger to the next, unsure of his destination. Yet the deeper into his journey he paddles, the closer he comes to his truest self as he connects to "the heartbeat of the ocean . . . the pulse of the sea." With hints of Nordic mythology and an irresistible narrative pull, *Northwind* is Gary Paulsen at his captivating, adventuresome best.

The Definitive Griffin Estate Edition
A Study Guide to the Novel by Gary Paulsen

The Crossing

Soldier's Heart

Brian's Return

Tells a story about the strange relationship of two migrant workers who are able to realize their dreams of an easy life until one of them succumbs to his weakness for soft, helpless creatures and strangles a farmer's wife.

When Ellie and six of her friends return home from a camping trip deep in the bush, they find things hideously wrong -- their families gone, houses empty and abandoned, pets and stock dead. Gradually they begin to comprehend that their country has been invaded and everyone in the town has been taken prisoner. As the horrible reality of the situation becomes evident they have to make a life-and-death decision: to run back into the bush and hide, to give themselves up to be with their families, or to stay and try to fight. This reveting, tautly-drawn novel seems at times to be only a step away from today's headlines.

Use Novel-Ties® study guides as your total guided reading program. Reproducible pages in chapter-by-chapter format provide you with the right questions to ask, the important issues to discuss, and the organizational aids that help students get the most out of each book they read.

#1 New York Times Bestseller - Winner of the Pulitzer Prize - Winner of the National Book Award - Winner of the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction - Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize One of the Best books of the Year: The New York Times, The Washington Post, NPR, The Boston Globe, The Seattle Times, HuffPost, Esquire, Minneapolis Star Tribune Look for Whitehead's acclaimed new novel, *The Nickel Boys*, available now Cora is a young slave on a cotton plantation in

Georgia. An outcast even among her fellow Africans, she is on the cusp of womanhood--where greater pain awaits. And so when Caesar, a slave who has recently arrived from Virginia, urges her to join him on the Underground Railroad, she seizes the opportunity and escapes with him. In Colson Whitehead's ingenious conception, the Underground Railroad is no mere metaphor: engineers and conductors operate a secret network of actual tracks and tunnels beneath the Southern soil. Cora embarks on a harrowing flight from one state to the next, encountering, like Gulliver, strange yet familiar iterations of her own world at each stop. As Whitehead brilliantly re-creates the terrors of the antebellum era, he weaves in the saga of our nation, from the brutal abduction of Africans to the unfulfilled promises of the present day. The Underground Railroad is both the gripping tale of one woman's will to escape the horrors of bondage--and a powerful meditation on the history we all share.

Theology in a Time of Impasse. Engaging the Thought of Constance FitzGerald, OCD

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
Black Like Me

Gary Paulsen : a Study Guide

Nightjohn

Eleven-year-old Samuel was born as Master Hackler's slave, and working the Kentucky farm is the only life

he's ever known—until one dark night in 1859, that is. With no warning, cranky old Harrison, a fellow slave, pulls Samuel from his bed and, together, they run. The journey north seems much more frightening than Master Hackler ever was, and Samuel's not sure what freedom means aside from running, hiding, and starving. But as they move from one refuge to the next on the Underground Railroad, Samuel uncovers the secret of his own past—and future. And old Harrison begins to see past a whole lifetime of hurt to the promise of a new life—and a poignant reunion—in Canada. In a heartbreaking and hopeful first novel, Shelley Pearsall tells a suspenseful, emotionally charged story of freedom and family. *Trouble Don't Last* includes an historical note and map.

Told in short, gripping chapters, this is an unforgettable true story of survival. The author was featured in Steven Spielberg's *Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation*. At just 15, her mother, and brother were taken from their Romanian town to the Auschwitz-II/Birkenau concentration camp. When they arrived at Auschwitz, a soldier waved Elly to the right; her mother and brother to the left. She never saw her family alive again. Thanks to a series of miracles, Elly survived the Holocaust. Today she is dedicated to keeping alive the stories of those who did not. Elly appeared on CBS's *60 Minutes* for her involvement in bringing an important lawsuit against Volkswagen, whose German factory used her and other Jews as slave laborers.

Esperanza Rising joins the Scholastic Gold line, which features award-winning and beloved novels. Includes exclusive bonus content! *Esperanza* thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in

Mexico. She'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home filled with servants, and Mama, Papa, and Abuelita to care for her. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard work, financial struggles brought on by the Great Depression, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When Mama gets sick and a strike for better working conditions threatens to uproot their new life, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances—because Mama's life, and her own, depend on it.

For some decades, the work of Carmelite theologian Constance FitzGerald, OCD, has been a well-known secret, not only among students and practitioners of Carmelite spirituality, but also among spiritual directors, spiritual writers, retreatants, vowed religious women and men, and Christian theologians. This collection sets out to introduce the work of Sister Constance to a wider and more diverse audience—women and men who seek to strengthen themselves on the spiritual journey, who yearn to deepen personal or scholarly theological and religious reflection, and who want to make sense of the times in which we live. To this end, this volume curates seven of Sister Constance's articles with probing and responsive essays written by ten theologians.

Contributors include: Susie Paulik Babka Colette Ackerman, OCD Roberto S. Goizueta Margaret R. Pfeil Alex Milkulich Andrew Prevot Laurie Cassidy Maria Teresa Morgan Bryan N. Massingale M. Catherine Hilbert, OP

Esperanza Rising (Scholastic Gold)

Elly: My True Story of the Holocaust

A Prayer for Owen Meany
Harris and Me
Woodsong

Celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Newbery Honor-winning survival novel Hatchet with a pocket-sized edition perfect for travelers to take along on their own adventures. This special anniversary edition includes a new introduction and commentary by author Gary Paulsen, pen-and-ink illustrations by Drew Willis, and a water resistant cover. Hatchet has also been nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read. Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson, haunted by his secret knowledge of his mother's infidelity, is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father for the first time since the divorce. When the plane crashes, killing the pilot, the sole survivor is Brian. He is alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present. At first consumed by despair and self-pity, Brian slowly learns survival skills—how to make a shelter for himself, how to hunt and fish and forage for food, how to make a fire—and even finds the courage to start over from scratch when a tornado ravages his campsite. When Brian is finally rescued after fifty-four days in the wild, he emerges from his ordeal with new patience and maturity, and a greater understanding of himself and his parents.

After having survived alone in the wilderness, Brian finds that he can no longer live in the city but must return to the place where he really belongs.

A bestselling modern classic—both poignant and funny—narrated by a fifteen year old autistic savant

obsessed with Sherlock Holmes, this dazzling novel weaves together an old-fashioned mystery, a contemporary coming-of-age story, and a fascinating excursion into a mind incapable of processing emotions. Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. Although gifted with a superbly logical brain, Christopher is autistic. Everyday interactions and admonishments have little meaning for him. At fifteen, Christopher's carefully constructed world falls apart when he finds his neighbour's dog Wellington impaled on a garden fork, and he is initially blamed for the killing. Christopher decides that he will track down the real killer, and turns to his favourite fictional character, the impeccably logical Sherlock Holmes, for inspiration. But the investigation leads him down some unexpected paths and ultimately brings him face to face with the dissolution of his parents' marriage. As Christopher tries to deal with the crisis within his own family, the narrative draws readers into the workings of Christopher's mind. And herein lies the key to the brilliance of Mark Haddon's choice of narrator: The most wrenching of emotional moments are chronicled by a boy who cannot fathom emotions. The effect is dazzling, making for one of the freshest debut in years: a comedy, a tearjerker, a mystery story, a novel of exceptional literary merit that is great fun to read.

An ex-jazz drummer wants nothing more than to be a good father in this moving family novel by the New York Times-bestselling author of *The Dutch House*. When his lover takes away his son, he's left only with his Beale Street, Memphis bar. He hires a young

waitress named Fay Taft who brings with her a desperate, dangerous brother, Carl, and the possibility of new intimacy. Nickel finds himself consumed with Fay and Carl's dead father—Taft—obsessing over and reconstructing the life of a man he never met. A stunning artistic achievement, Taft confirms Ann Patchett's standing as one of the most gifted writers of her generation and reminds us of our deepest instincts to protect the people we love. "What could be merely a literary parlor trick—keeping three stories in the air at once—becomes...as resonant as a blues song, each story harmonizing with and answering others.... Expect miracles when you read Ann Patchett's fiction."—New York Times "A moving emblem of fatherhood's rarely explored passion."—Los Angeles Times "Patchett writes with remarkable conviction and attention to telling detail... [She] is excellent at portraying the steady love and interest that holds the family members together, even though that love and interest isn't always successful in preserving the members from danger."—Jane Smiley, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Golden Age "Strikingly original."—Kirkus Reviews

Night

Dumbing Down America

Of Mice and Men

The Diamond as Big as the Ritz

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas

Twelve-year-old Ann Maria Weems works from sunup to sundown, wraps rags around her feet in the winter, and must do whatever her master or mistress orders--but she has something that many plantation

slaves don't have. She has her wonderful family around her. To Ann, her teasing brothers, her older sister, and her protective and loving parents are everything. And then one day, they are gone. Separated from her family by her master and shipped off as a housemaid, Ann learns something about independence and about love before the opportunity for escape arrives. A white man risks his life for Ann, cuts her hair short, dresses her like a boy, and launches her on her journey on the Underground Railroad to Canada, her family, and finally to freedom. Until she was a teenager, Ann Maria Weems lived in the mid-1800s near the author's home in Maryland. This fictionalized account of her extraordinary life is ideal for students, teachers, and parents hungry for interesting and informative reading in African-American history and the Underground Railroad. "To know things, for us to know things, is bad for them. We get to wanting and when we get to wanting it's bad for them. They think we want what they got . . . That's why they don't want us reading." -- Nightjohn "I didn't know what letters was, not what they meant, but I thought it might be something I wanted to know. To learn."--Sarny Sarny, a female slave at the Waller plantation, first sees Nightjohn when he is brought there with a rope around his neck, his body covered in scars. He had escaped north to freedom, but he came back--came back to teach reading. Knowing that the penalty for reading is dismemberment Nightjohn still returned to slavery to teach others how to read. And twelve-year-old Sarny is willing to take the risk to

learn. Set in the 1850s, Gary Paulsen's groundbreaking new novel is unlike anything else the award-winning author has written. It is a meticulously researched, historically accurate, and artistically crafted portrayal of a grim time in our nation's past, brought to light through the personal history of two unforgettable characters.

At a time when the U.S. education system consistently lags behind its international peers, Dumbing Down America shows exactly why America can't keep up by providing a critical look at the nation's schools through the eyes of the children whose minds are languishing in countless classrooms. Filled with specific examples of how gifted children are being shortchanged by a nation that believes smart kids will succeed on their own, Dumbing Down America packs a powerful message: If we want our nation to prosper, we must pay attention to its most intelligent youth. With more than 35 years of experience working with and for gifted children, author James R. Delisle provides a template of what can and must happen in America's schools if they are to fulfill their mission of educating every child to the fullest potential. Dumbing Down America is a must-read for any individual who believes that the unfulfilled promises to gifted children must begin to be met in America's schools today, not someday.

The Pigman

Ancient Egypt Book For Kids

Taft