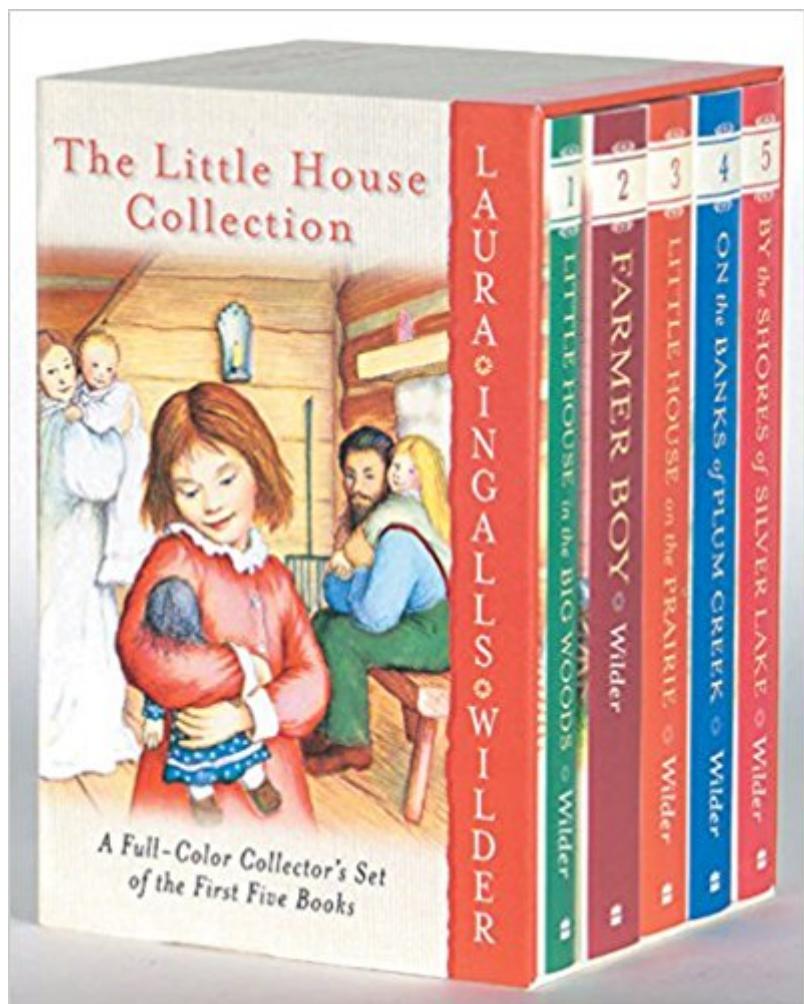


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# The Little House Collection (5 Volumes)



## **Synopsis**

Set during the pioneer days of the late 1800s and early 1900s, Laura Ingalls Wilder's books chronicle her life growing up on the Western frontier. Come along for the adventure with this collector's set of the first five Little House books, featuring Garth Williams' interior art in vibrant full color. The Little House books have been cherished by generations of readers as both a unique glimpse into America's frontier history and a heartwarming, unforgettable story. The story begins in 1871 in a little log cabin on the edge of the Big Woods of Wisconsin. Laura lives in the little house with her Pa, her Ma, her sisters Mary and Carrie, and their trusty dog, Jack. Pioneer life is sometimes hard for the family, since they must grow or catch all their own food as they get ready for the cold winter. But it is also exciting as Laura and her family celebrate Christmas with homemade toys and treats, do the spring planting, bring in the harvest, and make their first trip into town. And every night they are safe and warm in their little house, with the happy sound of Pa's fiddle sending Laura and her sisters off to sleep. And so begins Laura Ingalls Wilder's beloved story of a pioneer girl and her family. Correlates to the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 999 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins (October 12, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060754281

ISBN-13: 978-0060754280

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 5.2 x 4.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (552 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,715 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1800s #84 in Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

There is no need to write what these books are about, for everyone knows that they are about the pioneer life of Laura as she was growing up. Also, the book Farmer Boy is about her husband's boyhood in New York. They are wonderful books. I am 42 and I first read them when I was in Jr.

High school, and at that time, These Happy Golden Years was my favorite of the series. I bought a set years ago when my 21 yr. old was small. She read them and loved them. We read them aloud when my now 12 yr. old was about 6, and we are reading them aloud again so my 7 yr. old son can enjoy them. We just bought this new set of FULL COLOR editions because our first set is pretty ratty from use. These books are very nice with the full color illustrations, and also the pages are much thicker. I am glad to have this set and feel they are very much worth the higher price for being in color. Every child should hear these stories. They are very interesting. For us this time, we are again realizing how drastically different life is now from Laura's day. People LIVED then, for they really WORKED and were PRODUCTIVE then, and I believe they were HAPPIER then as well. We are in Farmer Boy now, and we are amazed at how self reliant his family was in producing almost all their own food, clothes ( mother even wove the cloth herself, used the oat straw from the fields to weave their hats), etc. Everyone worked, even the children. It actually makes me sort of sad, really, for everyone needs work and children do too, but today there isn't much work for children to do. Back then it was a productive society, today sadly it is a consumer society. Another funny thing, in Little House on the Prairie, when the family was packing up to leave, Ma put all the family's clothes into ONE carpet bag!

As a thirty one year old man, I don't suppose I'm the target audience for the "Little House on the Prairie" series. But after reading this book on a whim, I have to say that I'm hooked. Laura Ingalls and her family eke out a difficult living on the plains of Minnesota during the time of pioneers and native americans. They are a tightknit family focused on doing the right thing, but their closeness and morality are severely challenged by the harshness of prairie life. They battle floods, drought, fires, blizzards, and insect infestations, all while trying to earn enough money to work toward a better life. Laura and her sister Mary have their first experiences with church and with school, and have to try to fit in as country bumpkins among more street-smart peers (most notably the obnoxious and relatively rich Nellie Oleson). I found this book to be very charming. The unrelenting goodness of the entire Ingalls family is a bit tiresome at times, but the unflagging earnestness with which it is portrayed won me over, and I soon found myself completely invested in their happiness. The fact that they are happy with so little is refreshing, especially when viewed against the backdrop of modern times. The fact that it took place so long ago, and in such a harsh setting, actually made the good-hearted characters seem more believable. But what really sells this book is the authentic portrayal of the way of life that the Ingalls' live. Living in a dugout by a creek, cutting the grass to make hay, and knitting clothes during long and dreary days; the book's colorful details make a

practically-extinct lifestyle come alive. In particular, the way that the Ingalls must observe nature and learn to live within the context of its rhythms and cycles was very interesting.

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