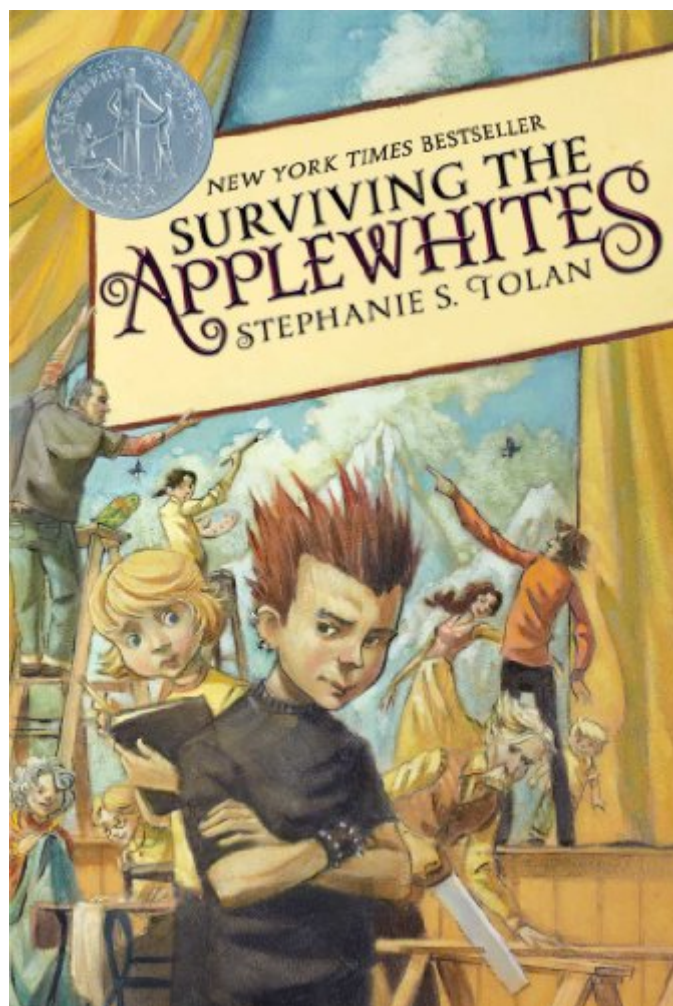


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Surviving The Applewhites



Synopsis

The side-splittingly funny *Applewhite* is a Newbery Honor Book about a rebellious boy who is sent to a home-schooling program run by one family—the creative, kooky, loud, and loving Applewhites! Jake Semple is notorious. Rumor has it he managed to get kicked out of every school in Rhode Island, and actually burned the last one down to the ground. Only one place will take him now, and that's a home school run by the Applewhites, a chaotic and hilarious family of artists: poet Lucille, theater director Randolph, dancer Cordelia, and dreamy Destiny. The only one who doesn't fit the Applewhite mold is E.D.—a smart, sensible girl who immediately clashes with the defiant Jake. Jake thinks surviving this new school will be a breeze . . . but is he really as tough or as bad as he seems?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a review my son, Shawn Scampoli (Age 10) completed for a school assignment. I liked the book, but at times there was too much description of events and unneeded topics. There was a lot

going on that just didn't need to be in the book. It seems to me that the story should have stayed focused on the two main characters, E.D. Applewhite and Jake Semple. The story is mainly about a boy named Jake Semple. Jake does not behave. He smokes, curses and is disrespectful to teachers. Jake is sent to North Carolina because all of the schools in Rhode Island don't want him because of his behavior and because he burnt his old school down. In North Carolina, Jake lives with his grandfather and goes to a new school called the Applewhite's Art Academy. Jake feels that he doesn't fit in at his new school and neither does another student named E.D. Applewhite whose parents run the school. The Art Academy decides to put on a play called the Sound of Music and Jake takes a part in the play. The theater they will use kicks them out because of a minor fire that they blame on Jake. E.D. has an idea that they could use the barn at the Applewhite's Art Academy to be their new theatre. After a lot of work putting the theatre together, the play is a success. E.D. organizes the whole production. E.D. now feels needed because she saved the play from failing and Jake finds his talent in acting.

Home schooling assignment. We happen to also live in NC, so it was even more interesting.

Jake, 13 year old delinquent and incorrigible, meets a family that challenges his perceptions of himself. The Applewhites, creative and seemingly fragmented into individual pursuits, team together. First, Jake finds love from Winston, the basset hound. Close on the heels of Winston follows the hero worship by Destiny, the Applewhites, four year old son. When one family member requests the help of the others, Jake is mystified how these individual people pull together. Thrust into a life of people who celebrate individualism, but understand that families care and support each other, Jake finds success. A great read, optimistic and hopeful.

This book centers around Jake, a 13 year old troublemaker who finds himself at the unconventional school on the Applewhites farm. As Jake stays there, he learns the value of respect and acceptance not only of others but of himself as well. This is a good book that unobtrusively sends the message of finding and accepting oneself. I read this when I was 15 and enjoyed it (I am now 23). My 11 year old sister just read it and loved it. This book is an easy read for the older kids, but still a story worth reading. The younger kids will enjoy the story as well. There is a reason this book won a Newbery Honor!

We bought both of the Applewhites books because we were taking them out from the library so

often. Well done, well written and hilarious. We homeschool... so it rocks!

I read it after it was given to my 7th grader, as an Adv English assignment. Great story about living to the beat of your own drum, acceptance, and finding that special place to fit in. Wonderful, colorful characters! I wanted more!

The story is inspiring. There is hope for everyone. There is also hidden talent in everyone as well.

Great book! Endearing characters. Bought it for my daughter and she read it...her grandma read it and now i am half through. ..lots of humour and nice slice of life from the perspective of a bunch of artists and one type A teen!

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