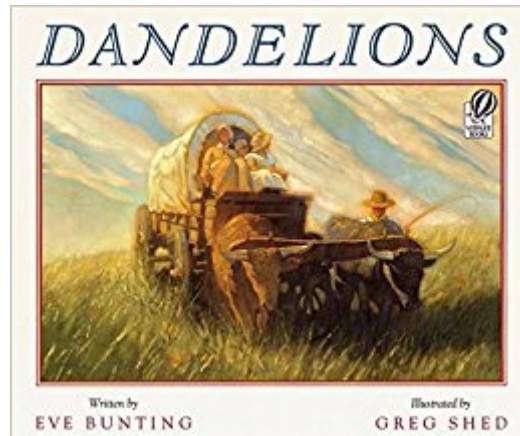




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Dandelions



Synopsis

Embarking on a new life, Zoe and her family journey west to the Nebraska Territory in the 1800s. When Zoe and her family arrive at their claim, nothing distinguishes it from the miles and miles of surrounding prairie. Even after they build their soddie, the home can't be seen from any distance. Zoe has never seen Papa so happy or Mama so sad. But when she takes a trip to the small prairie town with Papa, Zoe sees something that might make a difference to their new soddie, and to Mama's life, too.

Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (May 1, 2001)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #110,186 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #76 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life](#) #136 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1800s](#) #425 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

When a girl and her family move west to Nebraska in the 1800s, they face challenges as they build their sod house and settle into a new life. Ages 5-8. (May) Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Kindergarten-Grade 3?Looking for a better life, a pioneer father moves his pregnant wife and daughters west. Both Zoe and Rebecca recognize their mother's isolation and depression as they arrive at their claim stake in the middle of the prairie, and try to work extra hard to please her. Zoe's first-person account describes a visit to neighbors (only three hours away) and a trip to town for supplies, where she finds something that she hopes will help cheer her mother: a clump of

dandelions, which she and her father speculate came west as a seed on a wagon. They plant it on the roof of their sod home, and the story ends with the clump looking dry and lifeless. However, the closing words indicate that the family feels more hopeful about their prairie life to come; the last picture shows a panoramic view of their farm of the future, with the dandelions covering the roof and the fields plowed and fertile. The gouache on canvas paintings are grand and sweeping; they emphasize the vast expanse of open land that dwarfs and seems to swallow up everything that comes in contact with it. The characters are frequently shown in deep shadow underneath sun hats, as the sun blazes down on them. When their faces are shown, there is a hazy lack of focus in an almost impressionistic style that heightens the centrality of place and climate, rather than individual character. Yet these people make their mark and find their place; modern readers will identify with this family's experiences and concerns, and will admire their adventurous spirits. Bunting tells a poignant story, which is made even more affecting by its lovely illustrations. ?Ruth K. MacDonald, Bay Path College, Longmeadow, MA Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The story is so sweet, and realistic. Has me looking at my lawn's crop of dandelions just a bit differently too. I appreciate that it's not all 'Westward Ho & we're all happy pioneers.' Showing the mother's mixed feelings, including loneliness, and doesn't discount nor dismiss them. Instead they're acknowledged and part of the older child taking the time to be thoughtful and working to find a way to share hope and beauty with her mother.

Great

Love Eve Bunting books. This is another good one. Came new, neat exactly what I ordered.

Fast shipment and exactly as described

Nice supplement to our reading series about the westward movement.

A little lame.

I read this every year to my 8th graders during our westward expansion unit to show them life in the west. They really enjoy the book.

Great story of our earlier days. History becomes real to young readers. I recommend Eve Bunting to all. These books are great to incorporate into themes in school.

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Dandelions Tending Dandelions: Honest Meditations for Mothers with Addicted Children (Hazelden Meditations) Child of Dandelions

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