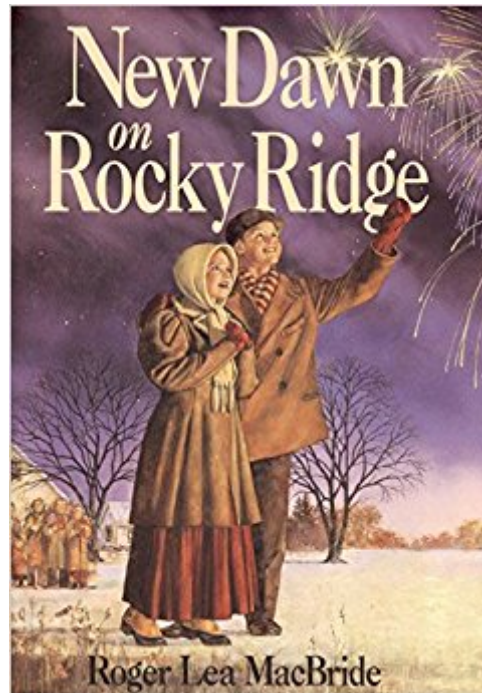




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New Dawn On Rocky Ridge (Little House Sequel)



Synopsis

It's a big year for thirteen-year-old Rose and her family as they witness the turn of the century and, after years of hard work, experience their first apple harvest out on Rocky Ridge farm. And as her feelings for Paul grow stronger, there are even signs of romance in the air for Rose. It's a time for new beginnings in New Dawn on Rocky Ridge, the sixth book in the Rocky Ridge series continuing the story that Laura Ingalls Wilder told of her own childhood, a story that has charmed generations of readers.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 860L (What's this?)

Series: Little House Sequel

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (27 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I have to say that this book was the best book of the whole Little House series. I have read every single book in the series and this one has been the best one yet. Macbride lets you in on the years of Rose's life when she is growing up in the most important years of her life. Falling in love and getting ready to move away for the first time. He also takes you to the time where Laura's father 'Pa' passes away, and he gives you Laura's perspective of when she takes the train back to her home town for the first time since she left her family years before. He also takes you to the moment of 'Pa's' death and saying good-bye to him. Since I have read the entire series of the Little House

books, it was refreshing to see Laura's point of view for a couple of chapters and the heartbreak she felt before and after his death. I have to say that I was in tears for two chapters straight. It took me back to the warmth of the house when Ma, Pa, Mary, Laura, Carrie and Grace lived there. And the pain they felt when Pa dies. I recommend that if you read these books, read them in sequence, so you can get the full effect of time and technology and how it progresses with time. I highly recommend this book to all readers of the 'Little House' series.

This book shows a major turning point for Rose and Laura and the west. Along with the progression of technology, Rose is becoming a young lady and is in transition. MacBride clearly illustrates Laura's feelings about the old west and how she feels about the changing times. I was almost wailing as I read about Pa breathing his last dying breaths. It is interesting to note that his last words--"Look, Caroline, how Laura's eyes are shining."--were also the closing words he uses and the last words in the book *On The Banks of Plum Creek*, when Laura is a little girl. Interesting and heart wrenching. Pa worked hard all his life on the wild prairie. He founded the town of DeSmet. He was a soldier of the soil as well as a carpenter. It was so inspiring the way MacBride wrote about Laura and Pa. There are a lot of interesting things happening in this story, too. I wanted to cry through Laura's whole visit to the Dakotas. It is not only sad about Pa dying, but also sad to learn that Laura's school chum, Cap Garland, had also died years before. Rose learns who her real friends are as well as who her pretend friends are, too, and she learns that just because the town girls are rich doesn't mean that they are happy or have a happy family. She learns, as Laura did when she was young, that she is fortunate to have a happy family. The thing I don't like about this book is that Rose seems so flippant and she does not seem to be at all upset about Pa's dying. At least the book doesn't say much on Rose's thoughts about it or Almanzo's, either, for that matter. Also in her recollections of him in another book, she barely remembers him. This disturbs me! Laura was so close to him how could Rose not be? Pa was such a loving, jovial man, how could he NOT have a relationship with Rose as well?!? Everybody loved Pa! When Laura and Manley were ill, Rose lived with her grandparents, Ma & Pa Ingalls, how could she not have a relationship with them?!? It is sad...I don't care for Rose as much as I do Laura. I also didn't like Rose's attitude towards education; it was very arrogant. Just because she was ahead of her class in their lessons, she acts conceited like she thinks she is too good for them. Otherwise, it is very interesting reading about her adventures with the traveling salesman and also Miss Sarah's fling with the gambling man. I could hardly put the book down. I think I read it in less than 24 hours!

This series just gets better and better and this one did not disappoint. Rose discovers herself in love with childhood friend Paul (they were real people who lived at the time), finds out how mean-spirited small town life can be at times, and in a brilliant step back into Laura's shoes, we see her travel back to the Little Town on the Prairie to be there for Pa's last breath. I defy you to read this section without a handkerchief. I found this book fascinating because it shows how life was a century ago, the beginnings of our modern way of life during a technological revolution much like the one changing our lives today. Instead of the Internet, it was the telegraph. I highly recommend it for adults as well as young adults.

After reading all of the Little House books to my 6 year old daughter, I continued on with the Rocky Ridge series. Rose deals with more mature issues than Laura, such as war, adolescence, deceit and so on. It was in this book that I finally decided I wouldn't keep reading the Rose years to my daughter.

This book is tied with *On the Banks of the Bayou* for worst in a series. As for *New Dawn*, far too much was devoted to the saga of Miss Sarah; Elsa Beaumont/traveling man; and Paul stringing Rose along. *On the Banks of the Bayou*, Rose doesn't even appear to be the same person. Which I can understand someone maturing but Rose was always wishing for a large beautiful house to live in (like her friend Blanche Coday) and complaining about being poor. She travels to Louisiana to live with Eliza Jane who has a huge house with an electric light in the kitchen, beautiful, expensive furniture and a hired girl, but suddenly Rose is ashamed of wealth. Which is confusing because three months earlier she is grumbling because her parents are too poor to send her to Mountain Grove Academy where her rich friend Blanche is attending school. In Louisiana she has nothing for her classmates, her uncle Perley and his family or her Grandmother Wilder. Rose seems to be even more self-centered while in Louisiana than she was in Missouri.

Continues the story of Rose Wilder Lane, Laura Ingalls' daughter, at the turn of the century. Interesting to hear what all the 'new' inventions were at the time and to see what Laura was like as an adult. Rose, however, sounded as if she could be quite a brat!

Wasn't thrilled when I got the book. Now I know what prebound means. It's smaller than the normal size books and there is no dust cover. I bought all 8 books, but three are the prebound ones so it looks a bit off seeing them on the bookcase.

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