



Alabama Moon

By Watt Key

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Alabama Moon By Watt Key

For as long as ten-year-old Moon can remember, he has lived out in the forest in a shelter with his father. They keep to themselves, their only contact with other human beings an occasional trip to the nearest general store. When Moon's father dies, Moon follows his father's last instructions: to travel to Alaska to find others like themselves. But Moon is soon caught and entangled in a world he doesn't know or understand; he's become property of the government he has been avoiding all his life. As the spirited and resourceful Moon encounters constables, jails, institutions, lawyers, true friends, and true enemies, he adapts his wilderness survival skills and learns to survive in the outside world, and even, perhaps, make his home there. This title has Common Core connections.

Alabama Moon is a 2007 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

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Alabama Moon By Watt Key Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #55693 in Books
- Brand: Square Fish
- Published on: 2010-08-03
- Released on: 2010-08-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.64" h x .82" w x 5.22" l, .56 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 6-8—Moon, 10, has spent most of his life in a camouflaged shelter in the forest with his father, a Vietnam veteran who distrusts people and the government. Pap has educated him in both academics and survival skills. His life suddenly changes when the land is sold to a lawyer and his father dies. The lawyer discovers him and, believing what he is doing is best for the child, turns him over to Mr. Gene from the local boys home. When Moon escapes, Mr. Gene alerts the constable, an emotionally unstable bully who becomes obsessed with capturing him. Once at the home, though, Moon makes his first real friends and learns what friendship is all about. Much of the story revolves around multiple chases, captures, and escapes. The ending might be a bit too perfect, but it is a happy one for Moon. The book is well written with a flowing style, plenty of dialogue, and lots of action. The characters are well drawn and three-dimensional, except for the constable—but then, maybe that's all there is to him. Even those who knew him as a child have nothing good to say about him. The language is in keeping with the characters' personalities and the situations. Although Moon is only 10, older readers will also enjoy the book and will better understand the adults' perspectives.—*Nancy P. Reeder, Heathwood Hall Episcopal School, Columbia, SC*
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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review This excellent novel of survival and adventure begins with the death of young Moon's father, an antigovernment radical who has been living off the land in rural Alabama with Moon for years. Moon has never known any truth but his dad's, and so he tries to continue his father's lifestyle. Unfortunately, Moon quickly finds himself in the claws of civilization, as personified by a sadistic cop. After a brief stint in jail (a lifetime of hunting and gathering leaves Moon hilariously pleased with the prison food), Moon again lights out for the territories, only to be recaptured and end up in reform school. Of course, no reform school is gonna keep Moon in check. Key's first novel is populated with memorable characters—such as Moon's reform-school buddy's dad, whose life is devoted to drinking and shooting machine guns—and studded with utterly authentic details about rural Alabama and survivalism. Stylistically, the book is perfectly paced, and Moon's narration is thoroughly believable. A terrific choice for reluctant readers and also for fans of Gary Paulsen's Brian novels. *Ilene Cooper*
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Review

“Excellent. A terrific choice for reluctant readers.” *?Booklist, Starred Review*

“An unusual coming-of-age story.” *?The New York Times Book Review*

“A winningly fresh look at life and culture almost never seen in children's books.” *?The Horn Book Magazine*

“Key writes honestly about hunting, trapping and the hardships of survival in this rather unusual coming-of-age story.” *?Kirkus Reviews*

“Well written with a flowing style, plenty of dialogue, and lots of action.” *?School Library Journal*

“Compelling.” *?Voices of Youth Advocates*

“Absorbing.” ?*Publishers Weekly*

“For boys who dream of unfettered life in the great outdoors . . . Moon's a bona fide hero.” ?*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Esmeralda Rossman:

What do you think about book? It is just for students since they are still students or the item for all people in the world, the particular best subject for that? Merely you can be answered for that concern above. Every person has distinct personality and hobby per other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't desire do that. You must know how great in addition to important the book Alabama Moon. All type of book could you see on many options. You can look for the internet methods or other social media.

Jenna Springer:

Book is to be different for every single grade. Book for children until finally adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important usually. The book Alabama Moon was making you to know about other know-how and of course you can take more information. It is extremely advantages for you. The guide Alabama Moon is not only giving you considerably more new information but also to get your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship using the book Alabama Moon. You never experience lose out for everything should you read some books.

Robert Berman:

The reason why? Because this Alabama Moon is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap this but latter it will jolt you with the secret this inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such amazing way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book include such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I have been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Henry Brown:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book particularly book entitled Alabama Moon your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in most aspect that maybe not known for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a guide then become one form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get just before. The Alabama Moon giving you an additional experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful data for your better life with this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a sport. Do you want to

try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

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