



Coyote Winds

Helen Sedwick

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When thirteen year old Myles brings home an injured coyote pup, his father warns him -- something as wild as a coyote can't be trusted. Land is the only sure thing.

His father is wrong.

Set on the American western prairie in the years leading up to the Dust Bowl, this historical novel follows the adventures of Myles and his coyote, Ro, as they hunt rabbits and dodge tornadoes.

Meanwhile men like his father are turning the prairie into the world's breadbasket. The American Dream is within reach. But when drought turns the land into blowing dust, Myles must save his coyote from the men who dream of conquering all.

Seventy years later, when Myles's grandson Andy hears about his grandfather's unfenced boyhood on the prairie, he feels trapped by his safe, suburban routine. His mother charts his grades and packs hand sanitizer in his back pack. All she talks about is consequences. Dreams, she warns, bring only heartache like the Dust Bowl. Wanting more out of life, Andy sets out to discover what is left of his grandfather's prairie.

This young adult historical novel explores the American can-do spirit that drew families to the rugged frontier, and it asks whether that spirit has survived the challenges of the Dust Bowl, the Great Depression and the years since.

With unforgettable characters and vivid historical details, Sedwick reminds us that pursuing a dream, even if it brings heartache, is far better than not dreaming at all.

First Place for Young Adult Historical Fiction, Purple Dragonfly Book Awards 2013

Honorable Mention, Young Adult Fiction, 2013 Green Book Festival

Lexile Score HL (High Low) 690L

What people are saying about COYOTE WINDS...

"An engaging story which broaches serious questions about family, the American spirit and hope." Foreword Five-Star Review

"An engrossing account of hardscrabble life in Colorado at the dawning of the Dust Bowl era, as seen through the eyes of a wise-cracking 1920s farm boy, an injured coyote pup, and a disgruntled, 21st century teenager. The story transports readers to a bygone day when dreams died hard and indomitable spirits struggled to endure." --David Schweidel, author of *Confidence of the Heart* and *What Men Call Treasure*

"Coyote Winds is a vivid and beautiful portrait of two very different worlds. Andy's modern day existence couldn't be more different than the wide open promise of Vona, CO that Myles and his family approach, but the stories merge brilliantly. Sedwick pens this story so well that I could see the Vincent farm, hear the chickens pecking at kernels and feel the coyote winds blowing across my face. " -- *Compulsion Reads 5 Star Review and part of its Irresistible Collection.*

"In this fresh, affectionate, and poignant novel, Sedwick brings to vivid life the story of two boys connecting across decades with plucky independence and unexpected courage. Pages turn like the Coyote Winds, unfolding a gritty tale of endurance, love, and a touch of magic that will hold young and old in its spell." -- Joanne Meschery, author of *Home and Away*

"Sedwick's novel succeeds in capturing the imagination of the reader with appealing characters, the spirit of adventure in the West, and the adversity of life during the Dust Bowl...It's a novel I had a hard time putting down." Margo Tanenbaum, *The Fourth Musketeer Blog*

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From reader reviews:

Scottie Hicks:

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Susan Ford:

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Jeremy Quick:

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