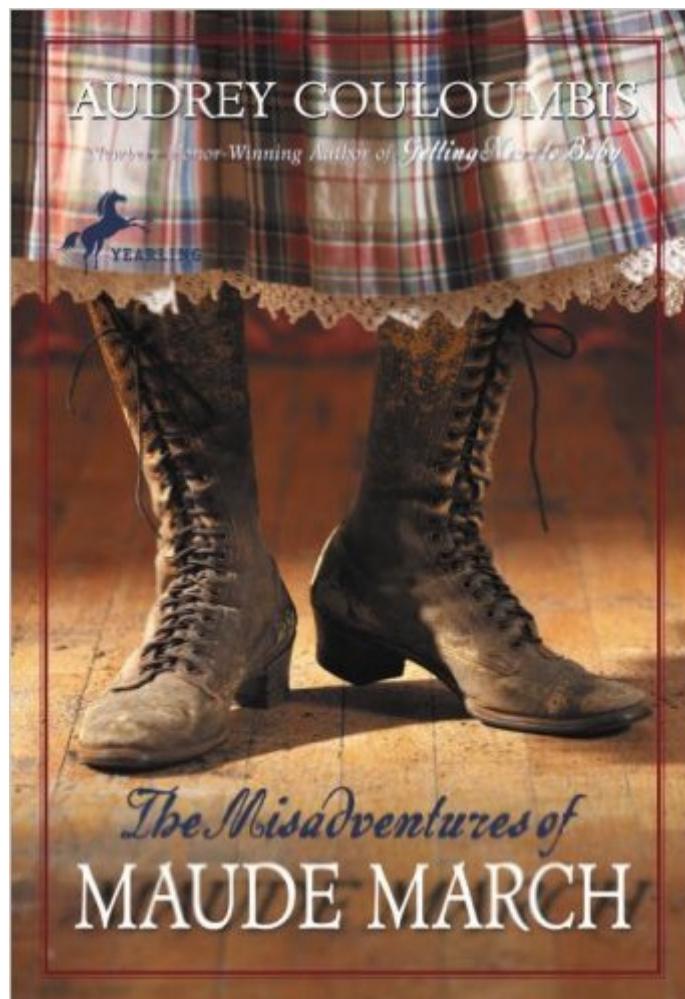


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The Misadventures Of Maude March



Synopsis

Eleven-year-old Sallie March is a whip-smart tomboy and voracious reader of Western adventure novels. When she and her sister Maude escape their self-serving guardians for the wilds of the frontier, they begin an adventure the likes of which Sallie has only read about. This time however, the "wanted woman" isn't a dime-novel villain, it's Sallie's very own sister! What follows is not the lies the papers printed, but the honest-to-goodness truth of how two sisters went from being orphans to being outlawsâ "and lived to tell the tale!

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0810 (What's this?)

Series: Maude March

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Yearling; Reprint edition (March 13, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375832475

ISBN-13: 978-0375832475

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 7.6 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #288,533 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #109 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > Westerns #308 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Orphans & Foster Homes #1272 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Bottom line - this is one of the best sister books I've read in a while. Sure, it's a western adventure with a cowgirls-on-the-run plot. It's sort of a dryly funny "True Grit" for a slightly younger crowd. It has a lot of action and horses and chases and bad guys and dusty towns and accidental shootin's and trail riding and such, and that's all fun, but it's not the main point. What we have is a teenage girl, Maude, who accidentally ends up as a hunted desperado, and her younger sister sidekick, Sallie. This younger sister is a gimlet-eyed, practical, deadpan, dry-as-dust funny narrator of our tale, and her flinty throw-away lines pepper the book. But get this - the two sisters like and admire

each other, support and encourage each other, understand each other, and are loyal through thick and thin. No phoney-baloney, no ironic detachment, they are sisters and a team. This doesn't come across as dopey or preachy; it's just the basic nature of their relationship and who they are, and it informs all of the action. When one is weak the other is strong; when one is confused the other is decisive. And you like them both, you root for them, and you cheer their little escapades and victories. I think the western setting really helps. We avoid all of the modern cliches - no school or fashion angst, no mean girls, or bullies, or cell phones, or dreamy jocks, or any of the staples of modern teen fiction. The western time and place strips the story of the two girls down to its essentials and eliminates modern distractions. This leaves the field open for the characters to really shine, and reminds us why westerns remain a classic story-telling form.

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