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The Coffin Quilt: The Feud Between The Hatfields And The McCoys

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Fanny McCoy has lived in fear and anger ever since that day in 1878 when a dispute with the Hatfields over the ownership of a few pigs set her family on a path of hatred and revenge. From that day forward, along the ragged ridges of the West Virginia-Kentucky line, the Hatfields and the McCoys have operated not within the law but within mountain codes of their own making. In 1882, when Fanny’s sister Roseanna runs off with young Johnse Hatfield, the hatred between the two clans explodes. As the killings, abductions, raids, and heartbreak escalate bitterly and senselessly, Fanny, the sole voice of reason, realizes that she is powerless to stop the fighting and must learn to rise above the petty natures of her family and neighbors to find her own way out of the hatred.

Book Information
Series: Great Episodes
Paperback: 240 pages
Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (April 1, 2001)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0152164502
Product Dimensions: 4.5 x 0.6 x 7 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (94 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #408,489 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #170 in Teens Historical Fiction > United States > 19th Century #232 in Teens Literature & Fiction Social & Family Issues > Violence #438 in Teens Romance > Historical

Customer Reviews
Quickly...this was a wonderful read. I had just watched the Kevin Costner mini-series of the Hatfields & McCoys and wanted to learn more about it. This was written for a younger audience I believe; however that didn't bother me one bit. I'm over 50 and read all sorts of books for all ages. I chose this book because it sounded like it would be different. And it was. Mainly due to the fact that it is told from the view-point of a child. Her name is Fanny and she starts out at age 7 and then progresses in age as the book goes along. She is one of the many McCoy children. So she's right in the middle of all the action. But she is from that side of the feud - so you get her perspective of it from that family. She is not neutral. The mini-series made the McCoy family look like they lost the most and had to endure the brunt of the hardships in the feud. So does this book. You will feel even
more sorry for this family as it goes into way more detail. This is historical fiction though and some of the things are not factual and have been thrown in to jazz up the story. I like that. It didn’t bother me at all and in fact made the story all the more interesting. Sometimes when you don’t have all the information you need you do have to make up some things as fillers in a story to make it flow smoothly and make sense. We can’t know what the "real" Fanny felt - we weren’t there. She left no diary. So we can only guess and that’s what this author did. But it works out fine. I feel the author threw her heart and soul into this character and brought her back to life for us. We can feel Fanny’s confusion and her fears. We understand her sorrow and agony. We want to step in there and rescue her when nobody else seems to care.

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