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The Root Cellar



Synopsis

Rose finally has a place where she fits in - but she has to travel through time to get there! It looked like an ordinary root cellar, the kind of place where you'd store canned goods and winter vegetables. If twelve-year-old Rose hadn't been so unhappy in her new home, she probably never would have fled down the stairs to the dark cellar. And if she hadn't, she never would have climbed up into another century, the world of the 1860s, and the chaos of the Civil War. There she makes her first friends - and they desperately need her help!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My Review: I read this book back when I was about 11 years old and I remember being utterly entranced by it as it transported me to different eras that, until then, I knew nothing about. Even after a few decades have passed I still vividly remember the images it invoked in me as I read it so I opted to read it again for my 2015 Reading Challenge. This book has a lot going on for such a short book. It's a historical fiction read for children with some fantasy (hence the time travel) plus action and adventure. There were a couple of times when I was on the edge of my seat (especially near the end - wow!). Overall, *The Root Cellar* is a sweet coming of age story of a plucky young orphaned girl and her deep friendship with two people from the past. The magic behind this book is Lunn's writing style which has a very easy going vibe to it. While the pace of the book is rather slow (with some action thrown in here and there) it's her characters and descriptions of the settings that make the book feel authentic. I think part of that has to do with her great use of the speech and vocabulary that was used during both eras that Rose lives in. Lunn's descriptions of Rose's time (1960's Canada) and the United States in the 1860's were vivid and a big part of why this book has

stayed with me. It felt authentic and like you were there with Rose but her descriptions of post American Civil War didn't hold back any punches. They're not gory but there is quite a bit of emotion regarding the state of soldiers and how these boys and men find out the devastating truth about war and how they were treated post-war.

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