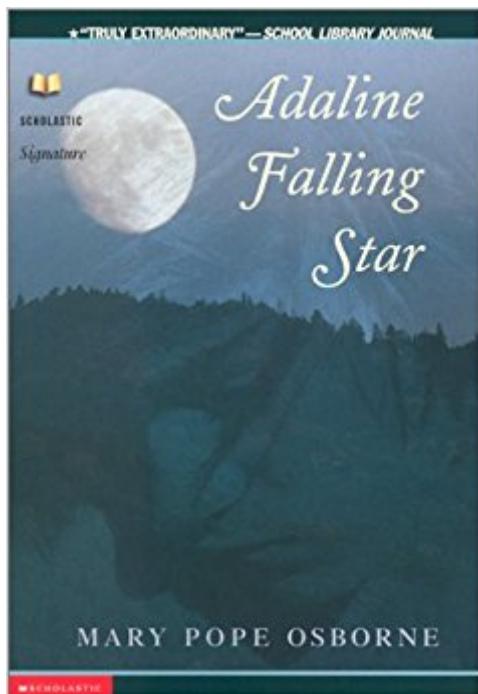


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# Adaline Falling Star



## **Synopsis**

Award-winning author Mary Pope Osborne's first middle-grade novel is a gripping girl survival story reminiscent of such classics as \*Island of the Blue Dolphins\* and \*Julie of the Wolves\*. LOVE AND LOYALTY PUT TO THE TEST Adaline is a fiery child--an irrepressible combination of her white explorer father Kit Carson and her Arapaho mother. When Ma dies and Pa sets off on an expedition out West, Adaline finds herself living in St. Louis with racist white relatives who call her a savage and work her like a slave. When Adaline realizes she may have been abandoned, she decides to find her own way back to her mother's people, where she is sure her father will find her. With the company of a stray dog, Adaline sets out on a journey that will either save her life--or end it...

## **Book Information**

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

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## **Customer Reviews**

Legendary scout Kit Carson's sassy daughter Adaline, or Falling Star, as her Arapaho mother called her before succumbing to cholera, is mute with grief. Her widowed father has left her with his racist, cruel relatives until he returns from his Rocky Mountain expedition. But her cousins' treatment of her is more than she can bear. Instead of allowing her to go to school, they force her to work as a servant in the schoolhouse. Due to her "half-breed" status, she is barely considered human. Her mixed heritage causes her plenty of internal confusion, as well. "I'm a mix, I reckon, of white and red blood, and also a jumbled love for free roaming and the Fruits of Civilization, which is what Doc

Hempstead calls reading, writing, and geography." Adaline's intelligence and sensitivity keep her alive when her impulsiveness provokes her to run away to find her father. Her bravery and gritty frontier resourcefulness rival her father's, but her compassion is all her own. In this lively and touching account, Mary Pope Osborne has fictionalized the life of Kit Carson's real but little-known daughter. Osborne is the renowned author of the very popular Magic Tree House series, as well as many other books for children and young adults, including a collection of yarns about American folk heroes called American Tall Tales. (Ages 9 and older) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In this novel based on a real 11-year-old who lost her mother to fever and was deposited with relatives in St. Louis, "vivid historical detail and descriptive prose fuel the narrative," wrote PW. "Adaline possesses a wisdom marked by an often heartbreaking sense of humor." Ages 9-12. (June) Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Mary Pope Osborne has opened something in my soul, through her rescue of this little girl's story. History sometimes may be cruel according to when, where and from whom one was born, but stories have the power to mend many broken hearts.

I have loved this book ever since I read it with a 4th grade class over 5 years ago. The story is deep and touching. It has so many layers, and Adaline is a character with whom both girls and boys can relate. I highly recommend it for a multicultural, upper elementary story!

All good

Um...Like I said, I really loved this book. This is the first time I've read a book on the journey of a young Arapaho girl and a dog she met on the way. I believe Falling Star is a hero. This book is meant to be about the real life and views of the real Adaline/Falling Star. She is the daughter of an Arapaho mother and a White Man called Kit Carson. Since her mother died, Falling Star is forced to live with her cruel ignorant cousin while her father goes on an expedition. Before Falling Star's father leaves, they exchange promises that he'll come back and that Falling Star will stay and wait for him. As soon as he leaves, Falling Star is treated badly by her cousin's family, forcing Falling Star to act mute so that she will not speak to them. She is treated as a slave and not a student, like her father wished. Falling Star obediently waits for her father to come back, and then one day, she

is told that he is in New Mexico and mentioned nothing of his daughter to anyone during his expedition. Falling Star feels betrayed. Was her father ashamed of his half red daughter? This news causes Falling Star to run away from her cousins and down the Mississippi River to find her Arapaho people. Just when she was just about to give up, Falling Star is saved by an ugly mongrel. At first, she tries to leave the dog, but finds already that the mongrel has already slipped into her heart. Together, Falling Star and her dog start their journey to find her people and her father who left her. The theme of this story is about promises, whether they are said or not. The promise in this story is to never leave your loved one, whatever the consequences. I really enjoyed this book and the journey that Falling Star and her dog go through together flying through tough times with the spirit of the Holy Spirit and the Great Spirit of the Arapaho and the Catholic Religion. I loved this book and I admire the heroic spirit of Adaline Falling Star.

In this book Adaline (the main character) is a troubled girl who is forced to live with her cousins in Colorado and she does not like living there and she has problems with her uncle Jon and he is very upset with her and she decides to try to commit suicide and she failed so she just decides to run away and she goes far far into the woods and she goes into a cave and she is living there for a while then she gets so mad at her dad for sending her there in the first place and that her uncle made her mad like that that she cuts all of her hair off. she then cuts it all off. then she goes to bed then the next day she finds another cave and she goes looking around in there and she then discovered a stone with the shape of a bear. she then picks it up and she was holding it then all of a sudden she heard a loud bang and she gets scared. she looks down the cave and she sees an Indian with a big drum and she goes down there to meet him.....I really liked this book because it was really mysterious and you never knew what was going to happen next. It was one of my favorite books of all time.

The main characters, Kit Carson the dad of Adaline. John C. Fremont the friend of Kit Carson. Adaline Carson the daughter of Kit Carson and Caddie Carson. Ben Fort is Adaline's grandpa and Silas Fort is her grandma which they are Mexican. Doc Hempstead helped Caddie have Adaline. She was born at Horse Creek in Missouri. She has to go with relatives in St. Louis. They treat her bad. They called her skinny and basted, all because of her race. They didn't like her mother before she died. Adaline didn't even get to know her mother because her mother died a week after she was born, because she had a disease, she didn't get the care from the hospital. Her grandparents that she had to move with, They thought her mother was a tramp and that's why she had that disease. They also thought

Adaline was goanna be like her mother. Adaline wasn't like her mother she only looked like her. Arapaho people were concered bad people. My opinion of this book is strong. I used to judge people because people used to judge me.

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