



CK Reporter of the Week  
Kate Erickson, Centennial

## Creative take on a classic favorite

Children and adults alike may have read the 1962 bestselling novel “A Wrinkle in Time” by Madeleine L’Engle.

Now you can watch the new movie based on the book in theaters. The film version of the story features a modern day twist with biracial characters, and with the lead character as a strong and courageous girl.

14-year-old Meg Murry (*Storm Reid*) is the daughter of brilliant parents. Dr. Kate Murry (*Gugu Mbatha-Raw*) is a microbiologist and a good one at that. Her husband, Dr. Alex Murry (*Chris Pine*), is a physicist.

Her parents have made a discovery called a tesseract, or a wrinkle in time.

Then, unbeknownst to Meg and her mom, her dad transported himself to a new, distant, and different planet, somewhere unknown.

He became trapped there by its evil ruler, known as IT.

Meg is bullied at school because of her missing father, and her grades are very low. Her curly brown hair and glasses make her feel awkward at school and envious of her beautiful mother.

Meg, her little brother Charles Wallace (*Deric McCabe*) and her mom love each very much and never give up hope on finding their father and husband.

Meg and Charles Wallace, along with a new-found friend Calvin (*Levi Miller*), are sent to find him.

Their mission begins with three mysterious beings from within the universe, Mrs. Whatsit (*Reese Witherspoon*), Mrs. Who (*Mindy Kaling*), and Mrs. Which (*Oprah Winfrey*) appearing to them.

Their journey is an epic one, about family, friendship, and love.

The movie’s stunning visual effects made it mesmerizingly enjoyable to watch.

The animation made me feel like I was right there with Meg.

There are beautiful creatures, invisible staircases, and vivid landscapes; this movie stimulates pictures that you can only dream of.

For all the fans of the book, though, heed this: certain things are altered majorly.

For example, In the movie, Mrs. Whatsit turns out to be a side-character. She doesn’t even think that Meg is suitable for finding her father.

Also, in the book, Meg has two younger brothers who don’t exist in the movie.

In general, the character development in the movie doesn’t go into the same depth as in the book.

“A Wrinkle in Time” portrays that in the universe there is suffering, despair, and fear, but that we need to work with whatever we are handed.

By being our true selves and finding our light within we can fight the darkness.

Life is constantly changing, and no matter what, we are capable of handling it, like courageous Meg does.

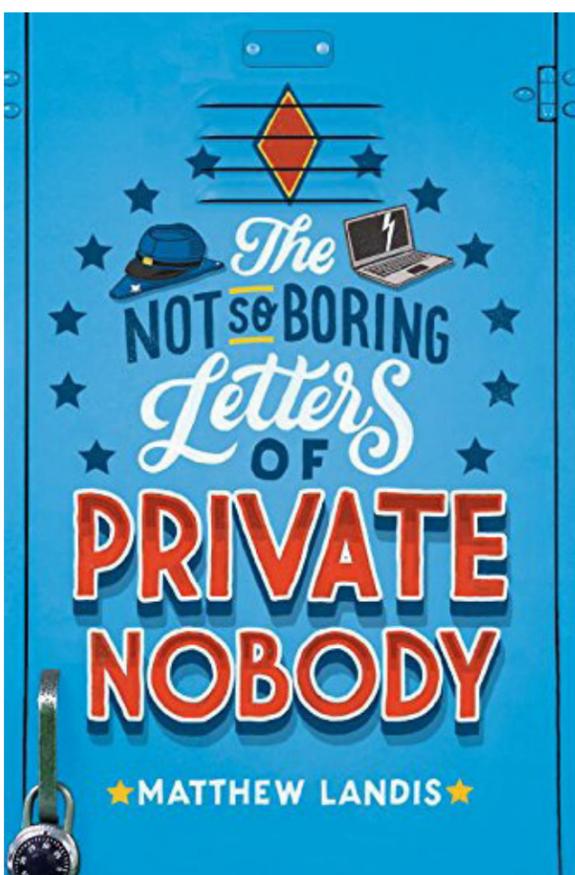
I really recommend watching this creative, classic, book-turned-film.

It is one you don’t want to miss.



By Essie Lamar,  
12, a CK Reporter  
from Denver

## Nothing boring in the project or in the novel



“The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody,” by Matthew Landis, starts out slow, with a Civil War buff and a girl who seems to be an oddity being partnered together on an assignment about a private in the Civil War that no one knew.

Soon after, however, the “boring” research unveils some interesting letters about Private Raymond Stone’s love life, and his life in the infirmary because of infection.

Oliver, the Civil War buff, and his classmate Ella trace the tracks back to their library, where they dig through file after file in search of information on Private Stone.

An hour or so later, they give up at the library and ask around.

They are delighted to find that a historical center about an hour’s drive away has Civil War records containing information on the soldiers.

However, things get complicated when Ella and Oliver start to fall for each other. Before you know it, they are hanging out more and more.

Things come to a head, and it looks as though the information on Stone will not be available to them until after the presentation day, so they’re forced to brainstorm a way to make their presentation anyway.

Now, I won’t tell you whether this new idea is a success, or a great, heaping pile of failure.

However, I will tell you that relationships come to a head, and a nervous two friends watch as their last, and biggest project of the year is graded by their peers.

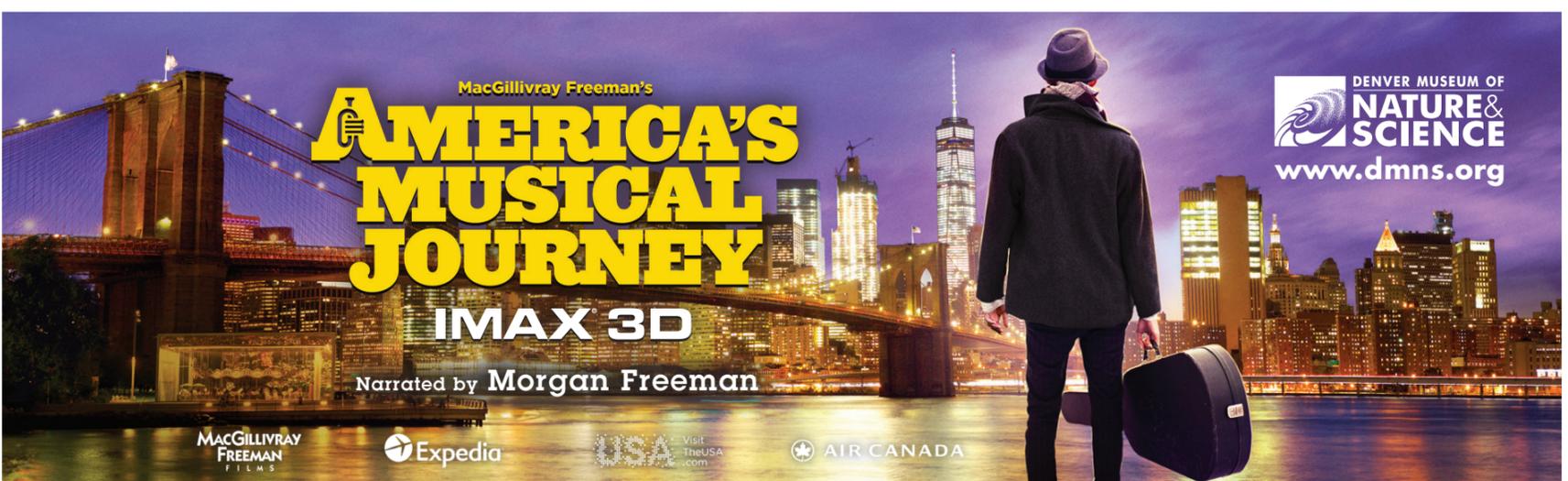
This is a terrific novel about two preteens who come together in a necessary, but unusual alliance to pursue the excitements of the past.

This book would be great for kids aged 11-15. Some kids under age 11 will not have much knowledge of the Civil War or will have a hard time keeping track of all the characters, settings, and small details in the book while kids over age 15 will probably have “aged out” of this type of book and be more interested in books about the war itself, or the logic behind the war, not a story about two kids doing a report on the war.

Even so, “The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody” can be, and is, interesting for people of all ages.



By Jack Vanourek,  
12, a CK Reporter  
from Littleton



# Slow down on your next trip to the Zoo

The Denver Zoo has a new baby sloth! Mom Charlotte and dad Elliott had a sloth baby at the end of January, 2018. The solid-black baby is still really young and very cute.

The zoo has three two-toed sloths: Mom, baby, and dad. Charlotte weighs 20 lbs, and Elliott weighs 15 lbs. They have not yet weighed the baby as they cannot get it away from Charlotte yet.

In fact, they cannot even give it a name yet as they do not know its gender. A baby sloth's sex is not visible, so they have to wait for it to leave the mom to be able to do a blood test and determine the sex.

(I)t was a little bit frustrating to see how long it took them to get down the branch when Morrison was feeding them.

The sloths typically sleep for 21-22 hours each day. When they are awake (*they are nocturnal*), they eat a lot.

According to Anton Morrison, a birdkeeper at the zoo who is taking care of the sloths now, the sloths eat food cut into french fry shapes.

No matter the type of food, it still gets cut into strips as it makes it easier for the sloths to grip with their toes.

The baby is just now starting to eat solid foods. So far it mainly eats cooked sweet potato sticks.

The mom eats a lot of vegetables (*carrots, zucchini and squash*), fruits during training (*like apples and pears*), and a special primate gel that has the vitamins and minerals necessary to sustain her.

They live in one of the indoor bird enclosure areas in Bird World because of the temperature and humidity. The sloths tend to ignore the birds, and the birds tend to ignore the sloths, Morrison said.

There are also glass walls between exhibits. But be careful, one time I almost fell in as I thought there was glass where there was not!



Charlotte takes a slice of apple while her unnamed baby looks on. Photo by Ben Vanourek

If you are taking pictures, be prepared for your cameras to fog up in some rooms due to high humidity.

The sloths at the zoo come from South America and they are not endangered, although there are other species of sloths that are.

Sloths come in two types: two-toed and three-toed. They all have really long claws, and they all move extremely slowly.

They were interesting, but it was a little bit frustrating to see how long it took them to get down the branch when Morrison was feeding them.

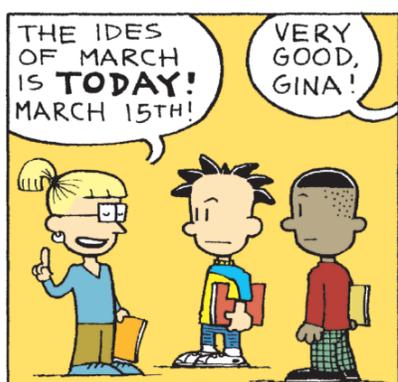
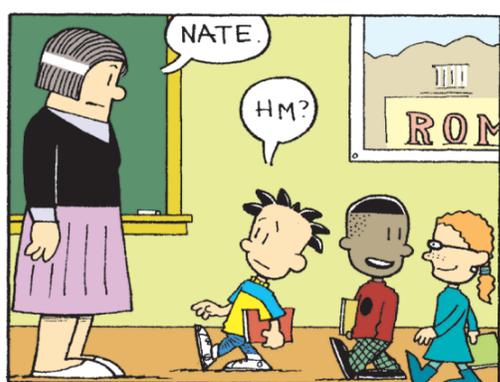
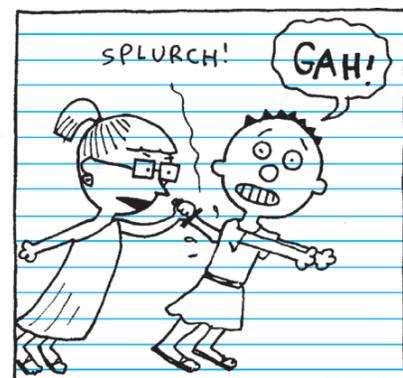
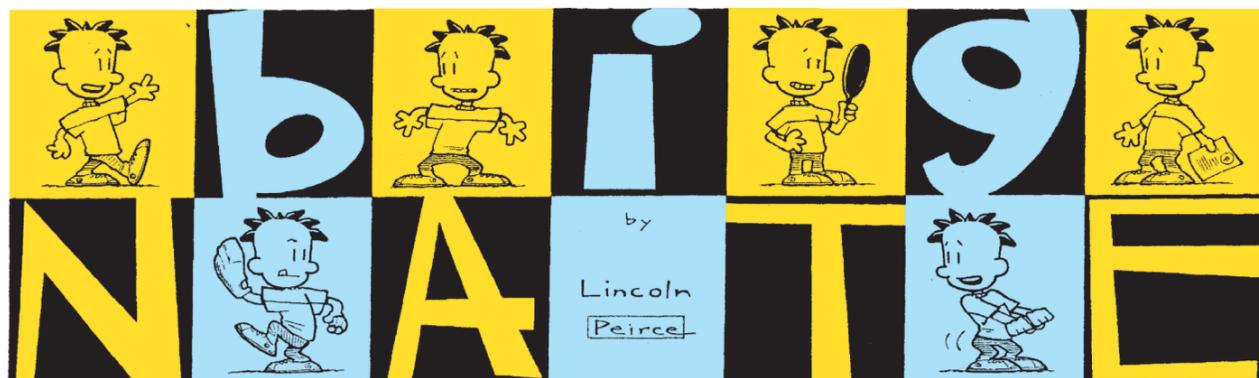
He used a dog clicker to wake them up and then tapped on the branch many times to let the mom know it was feeding time.

Sloths are more popular than they used to be due to the movie "Zootopia" with Flash the sloth. There is also a Geico ad that has a sloth in it ("*Game night with a sloth*") and of course, Sid the sloth from "Ice Age."

If you are at the zoo, make sure that you stop by Bird World and see the sloths.



By Ben Vanourek, 12, a CK Reporter from Littleton



## Danger Islands shelter a million-and-a-half penguins



The Danger Islands got their name for a good reason: They're in a part of the ocean between Antarctica and South America that sees a lot of rough, unpleasant weather, and they are also surrounded by some of Antarctica's thickest sea ice.

That explains their name, and why nobody goes there. Well, nobody human, anyway.

It turns out that the Danger Islands are home, sweet home for about 1.5 million Adélie penguins, plus some gentoo and chinstrap penguins.

The discovery of this unexpected mega-colony came about through satellite imagery and perhaps furnishes one more reason not to go visit the Danger Islands.

Biologists at the Woods Hole Institute in Massachusetts were studying satellite photos of the islands when they

saw huge guano stains, which is how scientists say that they noticed that the islands were covered with poop.

But rather than a reason to stay away, this was a good reason to go find out who was making all that guano, and so a research team traveled to the islands and discovered a huge colony of Adélies, boosting their worldwide population to 8 million.

How do you count 1.5 million funny little birds who all look pretty much alike and are moving around?

The researchers used drones to take aerial photos of the mega-colony, divided the photos into squares, and then used mathematics to figure the number of penguins in a typical square and apply it to the whole colony.

The new number means that Adélies are not at all endangered, thanks to Danger!

photo/Liam Quinn

# Great dress designer had a cruel, sad beginning

Orphaned, anti-Semitic, and envious. All these words could be used to describe the creator of Chanel, Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel.

In "Coco Chanel: Pearls, Perfume, and the Little Black Dress," Susan Goldman Rubin introduces readers to Coco Chanel, a very well-known fashion designer whose company, "Chanel," revolutionized women's clothing.

Chanel's life started out difficult, living in an orphanage. There she was taught to hate Jews and "colored people." The things she was taught at the orphanage stayed with her for life, and she was always anti-Semitic.

As a young child she liked clothes and the simple colors of the nuns' at her orphanage.

When she and her sister got too old to stay there, they decided to go to Paris.

There they worked at a dress shop and Coco dreamed of opening up her own shop.

Little did she know her dream was about to come true.

When Chanel was about 20 years old she started dating Etienne Balsan. Balsan came from a wealthy family, and offered to help Chanel start her company.

After that, she started dating Arthur "Boy" Chapel, one of Balsan's even wealthier friends.

Both of them ended up being incredibly helpful to her in starting her business.

She opened her first shop on Paris's Rue Cambon in 1910.

At first she only sold hats, but when she opened up shops in Deauville and Biarritz she began making other clothes.

Her first dress to have great success was an old jersey she fashioned into a dress.

Soon there were many people asking for her dresses.

In the 1920's, Chanel's business was thriving and, during that time, she also became the name behind the iconic perfume Chanel No. 5, although she only received 10% of the earnings from the perfume.

During the 1920's she also made the "little black dress," and started using men's clothes as models for women's clothing.

During this time, Chanel also made costumes for the famous Ballet Russe, and for the play "Orphée."

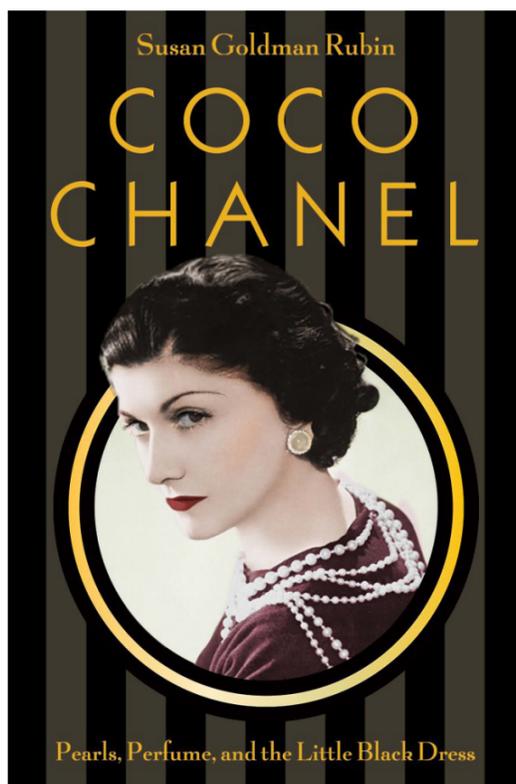
Although she was doing great in the 1920's, soon came new competition: Elsa Schiaparelli an Italian designer.

While Chanel was still using simple colors such as black and white, Schiaparelli was using bright colors and beautiful designs with butterflies, the solar system, and stripes.

This new rivalry was intense and, if it weren't intense enough, for a while Chanel was actually living in the same building as one of Schiaparelli's shops.

Although the book was very interesting it did become dull to read at some points.

However, it was for the most part a very intriguing and eye-opening view of Coco Chanel's life story.



By Ariana Bates-Erich, 11, a CK Reporter from Arvada

# World meets in South Africa to fight tobacco

Many countries have made good progress against tobacco in recent years, including the United States, where, over the past half century, the percentage of people who smoke has fallen by more than half.

But even then, nearly half a million Americans die from tobacco-related causes each year, and the rate of smoking in some other countries remains higher, especially less wealthy and well-developed nations.

In fact, while smoking is decreasing in First World countries, it is rising worldwide.

Smoking is always more common among poorly-educated people who earn less than average, and so countries where most of the people are poor have higher rates of smoking.



Besides the rate of education and income in poor countries, there may also be fewer laws about tobacco use, and so tobacco companies are able to make more progress in encouraging people to smoke in those places.

Last week, several thousand people from around the world met in Cape Town, South

photo/S. Schmidt



Africa, for the World Conference on Tobacco or Health to discuss the problem of tobacco.

American millionaire and former Mayor of New York Michael Bloomberg has pledged \$20 million to start a new worldwide group that will watch the way tobacco companies market their products and work to counter dishonest practices.

Meanwhile, the American Cancer Society has released the new edition of their "Tobacco Atlas" online at <http://www.tobaccoatlas.org> which allows you to see how tobacco is used in each country and how each country works to control and discourage this deadly habit.

For anyone wanting to do research projects on smoking, the "Tobacco Atlas" would be a valuable tool.

For instance, it tells the rate of smoking for men, for women and for both high school boys and girls, which would allow you to see how our country stacks up with other nations.

It also shows, for instance, which countries ban smoking in public places, restrict tobacco advertising and post health warnings on cigarette packs.



## Sudoku

				1	3
1		2			
		6	5		
2			3		1
					6
	5			3	

**Rules:** Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only.

The solution to this week's puzzle is on Page 4.



## Brainteaser

On this date in 1930, the Lowell Observatory sent proof to the observatory at Harvard of the existence of the dwarf planet Pluto, so our answers this week will begin with the letter "P"

1. He's Mickey Mouse's dog.
2. This ant-eating Asian mammal is covered with scales that make it look like a pine cone or artichoke when it is rolled up to avoid danger.
3. Author of "A Single Shard," she sets her stories in her parents' birthplace, Korea.
4. A prune is a dried form of this fruit.
5. In Greece, this god is named "Hades." What is his Roman name?
6. Aspen and Snowmass are in this county, which was named for a governor.
7. An important semiformal social event for high school seniors or juniors
8. This yellow/gold horse gets its name from the Spanish word for "dove."
9. Bolivia is one land-locked country in South America. This is the other.
10. This radioactive element was used to make the warhead for the atomic bombs that were dropped on Japan in World War II.

(answers on Page Four)



## Starting next week - A new serial story!

It's 1864, and Betsy Harrington has one thing on her mind: Her older brother, Jim, who is a prisoner of war at the Confederate prison camp in Andersonville, Georgia.

Life in Elmira offers few distractions, and one upsetting feature: The Union prison for Confederate soldiers right there in town.

Betsy can't understand why the young war widow she works for and the former slave who is sexton at her church don't share her bitterness towards the rebel prisoners, until she is forced to rethink the way her worries over Jim have shaped her attitude.

"I Will Come Home" begins next week in Colorado Kids, with a fresh chapter of this historical fiction story every Tuesday.

While the teaching guide that goes along with the story is intended for classroom use, readers of all ages will appreciate the historic backgrounders that fill in the details behind the events of the story, including the true story of John Jones, the former slave whose remarkable compassion inspired this serial.

To download the guide, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ckserial>

# Beyond These Pages!

## Hot Links to Cool Sites!

### NASA's Space Place

<http://tinyurl.com/ckspace>

### NIE Special Report

<http://tinyurl.com/ckniereport>

### Headline Geography

<http://tinyurl.com/ckgeography>

### Pulse of the Planet

<http://tinyurl.com/ckpulseplanet>

## How to become a NextGen Reporter!

<http://tinyurl.com/colokidsreporter>



### To read the sources for these stories

Penguins on Danger Island

The World Fights Tobacco

go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/ckstorylinks>

## Sudoku Solution

5	6	4	2	1	3
1	3	2	6	4	5
3	1	6	5	2	4
2	4	5	3	6	1
4	2	3	1	5	6
6	5	1	4	3	2

## Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. Pluto 2. pangolin 3. (Linda Sue) Park 4. plum 5. Pluto 6. Pitkin  
7. prom 8. palomino 9. Paraguay 10. plutonium

# Hooch

## Chapter Nine – Homecoming

*Our story so far: Kenny and his uncle George were working at a party for gangsters, but, when they got home, learned that Uncle Raymond has been shot and is in the hospital.*

Raymond lived, but it was several weeks before Martin and Irène brought him from the hospital to the farm in Altona, just in time for Sunday dinner.

Kenny had helped Mémé move furniture around the farmhouse. He and Raymond would share the big bedroom in the front that Raymond and his brothers had shared when they were growing up. It would be good, for the first few weeks, to have Kenny there to help Raymond get dressed and wash up.

Kenny had visited him often in the hospital, but it was strange to see him at home and in his own clothes.

Kenny thought of him as a large, strong man, but now he'd lost so much weight that his shirt could be buttoned even when it was stretched around his left arm, which was bandaged tight against his chest to protect his damaged shoulder.

Raymond had always sat at Pèpé's right, but now he sat next to Mémé, so she could cut his meat, and butter his bread. Hélène sat on his other side, and the two women passed the bowls across him and took turns dishing up his food.

"Welcome home, my boy," Pèpé said, but then he went on with dinner as if nothing had changed, reluctant to embarrass Raymond by paying any special attention to his efforts to eat one-handed.

The conversation was about farming matters: Paul's apples were doing well and he hoped the rest of the summer would pass without hail. There was sweet corn on the table; Irène had sold the first of their crop to the market in Ausable Forks but now they were going to let the rest ripen for the cows. Mémé said something was getting to the chickens. Pèpé said it was probably a fox or maybe a mink, but the dog was getting old and he didn't get up at night to patrol like he used to. Paul said one of the neighbors had a good hound with a litter coming soon and he'd bring them over to look at the pups if they wanted.

But then everyone had eaten and the women had cleared the plates into the kitchen. They came back with blueberry pie and a pot of coffee, and everybody complimented the pie and then waited for Pèpé to speak.

Pèpé finished his pie while they watched.

At last, he spoke. "I suppose the police work is over now, isn't it?"

"My arm will never have its full strength again," Raymond said. "I haven't decided what I'm going to do."

Pèpé nodded. "We'd like you to come back here," he said. "There's plenty of room and I could use your help."

"I don't know how much help I can be," Raymond began, but his father cut him off.

"There are men who've lost an arm completely and yet work a farm alone," he said. "And you won't be on your own. If it takes two strong hands to milk, well, then you wash the cows and George and I will get that much more milking done."

"Your arm will regain some strength," Paul suggested. "And, if it doesn't come back all the way, your other arm will take up the slack. You watch. In another year, it won't matter if you're swinging the ax with one arm or two."

"And I'm going to help you until you get those bandages off," Kenny said. "There's nearly two months before I go back to school."

Raymond looked at him for a moment. "And how will you go back to school, if I don't have the apartment in Plattsburgh anymore?"

"I'll go to Chazy," Kenny said. "I never liked those town boys anyway."

"Chazy's high school is just as good, maybe better," Paul said.

"There's no 'maybe' about it," Hélène spoke up. "They write about it in magazines!"

"He'll stay with us during the week," Paul said. "Our kids aren't old enough to help with chores, so he'll earn his keep, and he'll come back here on the weekends, same as always."

Raymond nodded. "Well, it will do for a time, anyway," he agreed. "I don't know how many people this farm can support, though."

"We can make that work," George said. "I'm thinking it's time we bought a milking machine; the new surge machines are really good, and then we could expand the herd."

"I saw those machines at the fair," Raymond said. "They're not cheap."

"I've got some money saved," George said. "And I'll have more time to work on the farm, too, because I'm not going up to Hemmingford anymore."

"So you've decided construction work is not for you?" Pèpé asked, and Kenny peered at him closely. He still wasn't sure how much Pèpé knew.

"If I need more money, I'll find work that doesn't take me off the farm so much," George said. "I should have been here that night. I should have been with my family."

"You're really going to give it up?" Raymond asked, and nodded his head in approval. "Maybe you're the one we should be welcoming home, baby brother."

Pèpé rose to his feet, which signaled the end of the meal. "Well, that's all settled then," he said. "Kenny, take the little ones so your aunts can get some work done."

Kenny collected the children from the kitchen and took them outside to play hide-and-seek. This time, there was plenty of room to hide behind the driver's seat in George's Roadster.

In fact, he was very comfortable now.

*text copyright 2011, Mike Peterson - illustrations copyright 2011, Christopher Baldwin*

### STARTS NEXT WEEK: I Will Come Home

*A young girl worries about her older brother, a POW during the Civil War*

For a teaching guide, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ckserial>

# ColoradoKids

is produced by  
Denver Post Educational Services  
Executive Editor: Dana Plewka  
[dplewka@denverpost.com](mailto:dplewka@denverpost.com)  
CK Editor: Mike Peterson  
[coloradokidseditor@gmail.com](mailto:coloradokidseditor@gmail.com)  
We welcome your comments.

eEditions of the Post are  
free of charge for classroom use.  
Contact us for information on all  
our programs.

Denver Post Educational Services  
101 W. Colfax Ave.  
Denver CO 80202  
(303) 954-3974  
(800) 336-7678

For tools to extend the learning in this feature,  
look under "Youth Content" at:  
[www.ColoradoNIE.com](http://www.ColoradoNIE.com)

Stories without bylines were written by the editor.



ColoradoNIE.com