



Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie

Peter Roop , Connie Roop , Peter E. Hanson (Illustrator)

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In the winter of 1856, a storm delays the lighthouse keeper's return to an island off the coast of Maine, and his daughter Abbie must keep the lights burning by herself.

Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie Details

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Author : Peter Roop , Connie Roop , Peter E. Hanson (Illustrator)

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Historical, Historical Fiction, Fiction, 2nd Grade, Academic, School, Young Adult, 1st Grade, Chapter Books, Literature



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From Reader Review Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie for online ebook

Laura (Book Scrounger) says

Wow, this one takes me back. I remember "watching" this book on Reading Rainbow as a child. Even reading it now, I can still "hear" the seafaring music that played in the background. I had no idea it took place in Maine (my home state), though I guess it shouldn't surprise me. It's a story of a girl who has to tend the lighthouse lights night after night, while her father is kept away by a storm. Even with the simple text and short sentences of the reader-style book, I still found the story moving.

David says

Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie by Peter Roop & Connie Roop, pictures by Peter E. Hanson is a story about a lighthouse keeper's daughter who must keep the lights burning by herself. This is a true story based on the life of Abbie Burgess who kept the light on the Matinicus Rock Lighthouse, off the Maine coast in 1856, burning when her father was delayed returning for four weeks by a severe storm. Abbie had to watch her sick mother, take care of her little sisters and maintain the Lighthouse lights, including blowing out each light, trimming each wick, cleaning each lamp, and refilling each lamp with more oil.

The easy reader/transitional reader format is accessible to younger readers who will find this tale of a strong girl a story of courage, love and loyalty to her family. The pictures do illustrate the story but are not my favorite style. The color pictures are more effective than the black and white ones.

For ages 5 to 7, Reading Rainbow, adventure, historical nonfiction, juvenile biography, and fans of Peter and Connie Roop, and Peter E. Hanson.

Claire says

This book is about a young girl whose father tells her to keep the lights burning in the lighthouse for ships to see before he goes out on a fishing trip and does not return for a few days because of terrible storms. Abbie is put to the test when the storms rage on and she has to fight her fear to keep the lights burning. This book is for children ages 9-11 and is in the genre of biography and historical-fiction. I rated this book four stars because it had a great message of bravery and would be excellent to teach this characteristic along with the real history of the book to students. Some common themes in this book are courage, hope, and confidence.

Karen Witzler says

A favorite tale of a courageous 16 year old. This is a chapter book for early readers. Highly recommended.

Rebekah says

My first big-girl book. Owned it and read it *all by my self*.

Cathy says

In the winter of 1856, a storm delays the lighthouse keeper's return to an island off the coast of Maine, and his daughter Abbie must keep the lights burning by herself.

Based on a true story and the events that unfolded during a storm when the lighthouse keeper couldn't return for weeks because of a terrible storm, His young daughter kept the light going through it all - while tending to younger sisters, a sick mother and rescuing chickens from a flood. Their eggs are what saved them from starving. Brave and inspirational.

Alex says

This book has been in my collection since first grade, when I met the book's authors at the Young Author's Conference and got the book signed. I have read the book a few times since then, and decided to read it again for my Children's Literature class. The book is a very simple, but heartwarming, story of a family who live at a lighthouse in Maine. Abbie, is a young girl who helps her father run the lights while also caring for her younger siblings and ill mother. When her father must take a daring journey out to sea to travel to a town for supplies, Abbie has to be in charge of the lighthouse herself.

I enjoy reading this story because of Abbie's courage. She is worried to man the lights herself, but understands how important it is for her to do so.

Jodie Greene says

This is a historical fiction book about based on the true story of Abbie Burgess. Abbie's father is a lighthouse keeper, but in the winter of 1856, he needs to leave by sea to get medicine for Abbie's sick mother. Abbie does not know when he will be returning. She is the oldest child, so it is her job to keep the lights in the lighthouse burning to keep the ships safe and to bring her father back safely.

I recommend the book for grades K-2. Students could make connections to social studies by comparing and contrasting the time period in this book to today. Students could create Venn diagrams as a class, then write a short narrative or draw pictures in their journal about how their lives would be different in 1856.

XIS Grade 3 says

Maya: I liked it because Abbie lived happy.

Amy says

We love Reading Rainbow!

Sean Harding says

This is really a stand alone book that has been put as part of an anthology series - it was a short book but very beautifully written and rendered - a great story for all to read- and a book where you don't have to worry about the next entry in a series - Great Scott what a beautiful thing!

SusanwithaGoodBook says

Cute little story for children about a young girl who must keep the lighthouse lit during a storm while her father is away. Despite the simplicity of the story you can feel the tension in the action. It was a Reading Rainbow book. I think my granddaughter will enjoy it in a few years.

Luisa Knight says

This was another favorite I read as a kid because of Reading Rainbow. After not having read it in so long, I'd forgotten what happened and wondered if I'd still like it. I did. Be sure to order this or check it out at the library.

Reading Level: 2nd - 4th grades

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Pamela says

"Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie" by Peter and Connie Roop is a story that proves that any obstacle can be conquered if a person sets their mind on a positive outcome. Abbie Burgess is a young girl who, without the help of anyone, kept the lights in a lighthouse burning for 4 long and difficult weeks while a terrible storm passed.

During this time, more upkeep had to be done in order to keep the lighthouses lit. Abby had to personally walk up to the top of the lighthouse, and blow out each light. She had to trim each wick, clean each lamp, and refill it with more oil. She had to do this for 4 weeks.

Her father, Captain Burgess, was the lighthouse keeper; however, he had went out in the storm in search of

food and medicine as their supply was almost finished, and Abby's mother was ill. He explained to her that, if anything happened that prevented him from making it back, she would have to keep the lights burning. Her sisters were too little, and her mother was too ill. She was the only one...Abby even had to get up in the middle of the night and scrape ice off the lighthouse's windows so the lights could be seen...how many of us would have taken on that responsibility.

Personally, I believe that Abby was really courageous...I enjoyed reading this book.

I give it 4 stars.

Leslie Rucker says

My 3rd grader gave it 5 stars because, "It was awesome, and I liked the adventure in it."
