



## Caleb's Story (Sarah, Plain and Tall)

By Patricia MacLachlan

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**Caleb's Story (Sarah, Plain and Tall)** By Patricia MacLachlan

**The third book in the series that began with the Newbery Medal–winning *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan.**

*Anna has done something terrible. She has given me a journal to fill.*

"It's your job now," Anna says as she hands Caleb her journals, asking him to continue writing the family story. But Sarah, Jacob, Anna, Caleb, and their new little sister, Cassie, have already formed a family, and Caleb fears there will be nothing left to write about. That is, before Cassie discovers a mysterious old man in the barn, and everything changes. Everyone is excited about the arrival of a new family member—except for Jacob, who holds a bitter grudge. Only the special love of Caleb, and the gift he offers, can help to mend the pain of the past.

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## **Caleb's Story (Sarah, Plain and Tall) By Patricia MacLachlan Bibliography**

- Rank: #1424411 in Books
- Published on: 2001-09-18
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- Original language: English
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- 128 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Taking over the reins from his sister Anna, who narrated *Sarah, Plain and Tall* and *Skylark*, Caleb describes the event in this heartwarming third installment, in which Jacob is reunited with his father. As the novel opens, readers meet Cassie, the baby whom Sarah carries in *Skylark*; the country is at war in Europe; and Anna leaves home to work for a doctor in town and gives Caleb the responsibility of recording the family events. While Jacob drives his older daughter to town, Cassie spots a man on the property. Thinking it's one of Cassie's imaginary friends, Caleb ignores her until he sees the man for himself. When Jacob returns, the mystery of the man's identity is revealed, and wounds from the past begin to slowly heal. In an uplifting subplot, Caleb discovers why Jacob's father did not correspond with his son all the years he was away and begins to set things right. The narrative cribs liberally from Anna's entries in *Skylark*, but fans of the first two books will enjoy learning more about this resourceful and loving family. Ages 8-10.

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From School Library Journal

Gr 4-6-In this third book in the series begun in *Sarah, Plain and Tall* (HarperCollins, 1985), Caleb is given the responsibility of writing down everything that happens on the farm now that his older sister Anna has gone to live in town to finish school. At first, he thinks there will be nothing to write about, but when an old man appears in the middle of winter, the family's quiet life is suddenly disrupted. The stranger turns out to be Caleb's grandfather, who left when the boy's father, Jacob, was young. While Jacob allows him to stay, he refuses to forgive or even speak to the man. Caleb slowly realizes that his grandfather is illiterate, and he teaches him how to read and write. It takes his efforts and a near-tragedy to reconcile the differences between the men. Readers who are new to the Witting family will quickly become acquainted with the events of the past through the excerpts of Anna's journals that Caleb shares with his grandfather. Despite some heavy elements, MacLachlan manages to provide some lighter moments and humor through Cassie, the baby who was about to be born at the end of *Skylark* (HarperCollins, 1994), and who is now a lively and inquisitive child. This is an excellent work of historical fiction, a satisfying sequel, and an inspiring tale about love and forgiveness.

*Ashley Larsen, Woodside Library, CA*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 3-5. This third installment in the *Sarah Plain and Tall* (1985) series is a novelization of MacLachlan's 1999 television screenplay, "Winter's End." The time is 1918, and Anna has moved to town to finish high school, leaving Caleb to record the family saga. When a stranger appears at the farm, Sarah invites him inside and learns that he is John Witting, Jacob's father, who abandoned his family many years before. As Caleb and Cassie get to know their grandfather, Sarah tries unsuccessfully to broker reconciliation between the two men. Finally, Caleb discovers the reason behind some of the friction (Grandfather, who is illiterate, wasn't able to write to Jacob after he left), paving the way for forgiveness and new understanding. MacLachlan's spare yet elegant prose conveys the deep feelings of the characters as they work through a difficult time. Four-year-old Cassie, Sarah and Jacob's daughter, brings a certain innocence to the story and helps the drama stay focused on the child's point of view. Series fans will welcome this, but it's also a solid

offering that can stand on its own. *Kay Weisman*  
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## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Maryann Goldberg:**

What do you regarding book? It is not important to you? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what your own problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man or woman? If you don't have spare time to complete others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? All people has many questions above. They have to answer that question due to the fact just their can do which. It said that about book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is correct. Because start from on guardería until university need this specific Caleb's Story (Sarah, Plain and Tall) to read.

#### **Lewis Tuggle:**

In this 21st century, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of often the crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a guide your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand up than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading a book, we give you this specific Caleb's Story (Sarah, Plain and Tall) book as basic and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

#### **Catherine Estey:**

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? May be reading a book may be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the e-book untitled Caleb's Story (Sarah, Plain and Tall) can be fine book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

#### **Edward Chavez:**

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