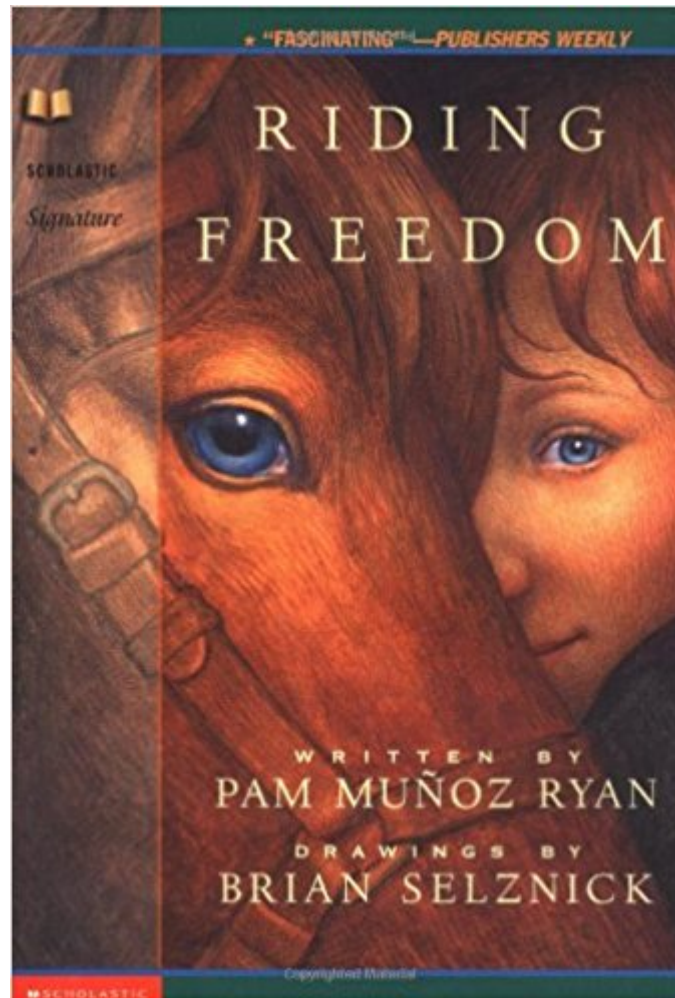




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Riding Freedom



Synopsis

A reissue of Pam Munoz Ryan's bestselling backlist with a distinctive new author treatment. In this fast-paced, courageous, and inspiring story, readers adventure with Charlotte Parkhurst as she first finds work as a stable hand, becomes a famous stage-coach driver (performing brave feats and outwitting bandits), finds love as a woman but later resumes her identity as a man after the loss of a baby and the tragic death of her husband, and ultimately settles out west on the farm she'd dreamed of having since childhood. It wasn't until after her death that anyone discovered she was a woman.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 720 (What's this?)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks; Reprint edition (September 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439087961

ISBN-13: 978-0439087964

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.2 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 156 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #18,541 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > United States](#) #23 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1800s](#) #29 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Horses](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

PW's starred review called this fictionalized biography of equestrian Charlotte "Charley"

Parkhurst "who lived her life disguised as a man and was the first woman voter in the U.S. A an "ebullient and tautly structured novel that moves along at a gallop." Ages 8-12. (Sept.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 4-6? This fictionalized biography of the first woman to vote in the state of California, and perhaps in the whole United States, is fascinating. Charlotte Parkhurst, known as Charley, spent

most of her life masquerading as a man. Raised in an orphanage where she is the only girl, she is prevented from being adopted by the staff, who put her to work in the kitchen. Her own predilection is to be with the horses and the elderly man who cares for them. Vern's tales of escaping slavery are the seeds of Charlotte's own desperate bid for freedom after her only other friend is adopted. Her knack with horses soon enables the disguised Charley to pursue her dream of driving a stagecoach. She does it so well that she is admired and sought after, and is offered the opportunity to earn a livelihood in the California gold fields. Many trials arise, including the loss of sight in her left eye, but throughout, Charlotte remembers her friends, works hard and persistently, and fulfills her ambitions, culminating in her voting in a presidential election. The author provides a compact and exciting story about real people who exemplify traits that readers admire. A concluding note tells more about the historical facts surrounding Parkhurst's life, but kids will read it just for the adventure. The full-page, black-and-white pencil drawings are well rendered and enhance the straightforward text. ?Carol A. Edwards, Minneapolis Public Library Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I love this book and have read it about a billion times! It doesn't have a real age range, but is only for people who love reading, and who are looking for a great book! Once you start reading it, you are in the world of Charlotte Parkhurst until you finish the book. Your eyes will not want to leave the pages!! I believe that this book has a great message in it: Persevere. Be tenacious. Don't let somebody keep you from what you love to do. That is my idea of the message. I thank Pam Munoz Ryan for writing my most favorite book of all time! I hope y'all love this fine book!

My seven year old and I read this book together and we both loved it! This story is so well written. Both of us were fully entranced in the story. This is a must have for all girls- telling the story of a girl who wanted her rights and fought for them. The authors note at the end was really helpful and provided a great deal of detail about the real life story and gave my daughter and I a lot to talk about.

I chose this rating because I felt so touched by this book. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves *fiction*, *adventure*, and *history*.

Wonderful historical fiction for young readers new to the genre. They will love Charlie Parkhurst! Pam Munoz Ryan is an amazing writer.

I loved learning more about a woman who considered it important to vote during this time. An inspiring story for younger readers trying to find their place.

Did you know a woman voted in California before women's suffrage? Great story teaching American history set during westward expansion period

I enjoyed this heartfelt book. A quick read that takes you along a path of civil rights in an era where woman had few rights leading into the gold rush.

This was one of my daughters favorite books so I purchased it for a birthday gift for a 10 year old girl.

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