

orphan train by christina baker kline

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline: A Journey Through History and Humanity

orphan train by christina baker kline is more than just a historical novel; it's a profound exploration of resilience, identity, and the untold stories of thousands of children who lived through one of America's lesser-known social experiments. This compelling book intertwines past and present, creating a vivid tapestry that invites readers to reflect on the complexities of family, belonging, and survival. If you're curious about the orphan train movement or looking for a novel that combines rich historical detail with emotional depth, this book is a remarkable place to start.

Understanding the Historical Context of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

The orphan train movement was a social initiative in the United States that operated roughly between 1854 and 1929. During this period, an estimated 200,000 orphaned, abandoned, or homeless children were transported from crowded Eastern cities to foster homes in rural America. The goal was to provide these children with stable families and opportunities for a better life, but the experience varied widely, with some children finding loving homes and others facing hardship and exploitation.

Christina Baker Kline's novel brings this history to life through compelling storytelling. By focusing on the personal experiences of her characters, she sheds light on the emotional and psychological impact of this mass relocation. The book not only educates readers about the orphan train but also humanizes the children behind the statistics.

The Orphan Train Movement: What You Should Know

Many readers come to the book curious about what orphan trains were and why they existed. Here are a few key points the novel helps illuminate:

- **Origins:** The movement began as a response to the massive influx of immigrants and the resulting overcrowding in urban areas like New York City.
- **Operation:** Children were gathered from orphanages and homes, placed on trains, and sent westward to be adopted or fostered by families in need of labor or companionship.
- **Controversies:** While well-intentioned, the program often lacked

oversight, leading to neglect or mistreatment in some cases.

- **Legacy:** The orphan train movement influenced future child welfare policies and remains a significant chapter in American social history.

By weaving these facts seamlessly into the narrative, Kline's novel educates readers without feeling like a textbook.

Plot and Characters: The Heart of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

What makes orphan train by christina baker kline stand out is its dual narrative structure. The story alternates between two main characters—Molly Ayer, a modern-day foster teen, and Vivian Daly, an elderly woman with a secret past linked to the orphan trains. Their interconnected stories reveal the long-lasting effects of childhood trauma and the search for identity.

Molly's Story: A Modern Perspective on Foster Care

Molly's experiences as a foster child struggling to find stability reflect ongoing challenges in the child welfare system. Her journey is relatable and raw, capturing the feelings of uncertainty, hope, and resilience. Through Molly, readers gain insight into how the echoes of past social programs resonate today.

Vivian's Story: A Voice from the Past

Vivian's narrative transports readers back to the early 20th century. As an orphan train rider herself, her memories reveal the hardships and unexpected kindness she encountered. Her reflections serve as a bridge between generations, highlighting how history shapes personal identity.

Thematic Explorations in Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

The novel touches on several profound themes that enrich the reading experience and invite deeper thought.

Identity and Belonging

Both Molly and Vivian grapple with questions of who they are and where they belong. The orphan train experience disrupted traditional family structures, forcing children to carve out new definitions of home and family. Kline expertly explores how these themes transcend time and continue to affect individuals today.

Resilience and Survival

Survival is a central theme, as characters face abandonment, uncertainty, and loss. The novel celebrates the strength of the human spirit, showing how adversity can foster courage and compassion.

The Complexity of Family

Orphan train by christina baker kline challenges conventional notions of family. Through foster care, adoption, and chosen families, the story illustrates that family is not solely defined by biology but by love, support, and commitment.

Why Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline Resonates with Readers

One reason this book has gained widespread popularity is its ability to blend historical fiction with contemporary relevance. Readers often find themselves emotionally invested in the characters' journeys while learning about an important yet overlooked part of American history.

Engaging Storytelling That Educates

Kline's writing style is accessible and evocative, making complex social issues understandable and engaging. The alternating timelines keep the narrative dynamic and maintain suspense, encouraging readers to keep turning pages.

A Window into Social Welfare History

For those interested in social history or child welfare, the novel offers a well-researched and respectful portrayal of the orphan train movement, often

prompting readers to explore further.

Emotional Depth and Character Development

The nuanced characters invite empathy and reflection. Their struggles and triumphs resonate with anyone who has experienced displacement, loss, or the longing for connection.

Reading Tips and Recommendations for Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

If you're planning to read orphan train by christina baker kline, here are a few tips to enhance your experience:

- **Take Your Time:** The dual timelines reveal details gradually. Reading at a comfortable pace helps you appreciate the depth of each character's story.
- **Reflect on the Themes:** Consider how the themes of family, resilience, and identity relate to your own life or current social issues.
- **Explore Further:** After finishing the book, you might want to research the real history of the orphan trains or learn about modern foster care challenges.
- **Join Discussions:** Many book clubs and online forums discuss this novel. Engaging with others can deepen your understanding and offer new perspectives.

Legacy and Adaptations of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

The novel's impact extends beyond the page. It has sparked renewed interest in the orphan train history, inspiring educational programs and historical societies dedicated to preserving these stories. Some readers and educators use the book as a teaching tool to discuss child welfare and social justice.

While there has been talk of adapting orphan train by christina baker kline into film or television, its rich narrative and strong character arcs make it an excellent candidate for visual storytelling. Such adaptations could bring even wider attention to this important chapter of American history.

The story's blend of historical authenticity and emotional resonance ensures that it remains a meaningful read for anyone interested in the human stories behind social policies.

The journey of orphan train by christina baker kline invites readers not only to witness history but to empathize with the children who endured it. It's a reminder that behind every historical event are real lives filled with hope, struggle, and the enduring desire to belong.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Orphan Train' by Christina Baker Kline?

'Orphan Train' explores themes of identity, family, resilience, and the search for belonging, focusing on the historical orphan train movement and its impact on both the children sent west and their adoptive families.

Who are the central characters in 'Orphan Train'?

The central characters are Molly Ayer, a modern-day social worker, and Vivian Daly, a former orphan train rider. Their intertwined stories reveal the challenges and triumphs of the orphan train experience.

What historical event does 'Orphan Train' depict?

'Orphan Train' depicts the orphan train movement from the mid-19th to early 20th centuries, where thousands of orphaned and homeless children were relocated from Eastern cities to foster homes in the Midwest.

How does Christina Baker Kline portray the emotional impact of the orphan train on the children?

Kline portrays the emotional impact through vivid character development and personal narratives, showing the loneliness, hope, and resilience of the children as they navigate uncertain futures and the longing for family.

Why is 'Orphan Train' relevant to modern readers?

'Orphan Train' remains relevant as it addresses timeless issues of displacement, identity, and the meaning of family, encouraging readers to reflect on historical social welfare practices and their lasting effects on individuals and communities.

Additional Resources

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline: An In-Depth Exploration of History and Humanity

orphan train by christina baker kline presents a compelling narrative intertwining historical reality with fictional storytelling, offering readers a profound look into a little-known chapter of American social history. Published in 2013, this novel sheds light on the orphan train movement, a social experiment that relocated thousands of orphaned and abandoned children from crowded Eastern cities to foster homes in the rural Midwest between 1854 and 1929. Through a dual narrative structure, Kline not only illuminates the struggles and resilience of these children but also explores themes of identity, belonging, and redemption.

Unpacking the Historical Context of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

The orphan train movement is a significant yet often overlooked aspect of American history. Christina Baker Kline's novel serves as a valuable lens through which readers can examine this phenomenon. Between the mid-19th and early 20th centuries, the Children's Aid Society and other organizations transported approximately 200,000 orphaned or homeless children from urban centers like New York City to foster families in the Midwest. This was a response to the dire conditions faced by many children in overcrowded, impoverished neighborhoods.

Kline's narrative deftly integrates the historical backdrop with personal stories, offering a nuanced portrayal that neither glorifies nor condemns the movement outright. Instead, she presents the complexities involved: the promise of a new start, the challenges of displacement, and the varying degrees of acceptance and rejection these children faced in their new homes.

Dual Narrative Structure and Character Development

One of the defining features of orphan train by christina baker kline is its use of a dual timeline narrative. The story alternates between the perspectives of Vivian Daly, an elderly woman who was herself an orphan train rider, and Molly Ayer, a contemporary teenager in foster care assigned to help Vivian document her experiences.

This duality allows Kline to explore the echoes of past trauma in the present, linking Vivian's early 20th-century experiences with Molly's modern struggles. The intergenerational dialogue highlights enduring issues related to foster care systems, identity crises, and the search for family. The characters are intricately developed, with Vivian's resilience and Molly's

vulnerability creating a powerful emotional resonance that anchors the historical themes in human experience.

Thematic Exploration in Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

At its core, orphan train by christina baker kline is a meditation on survival and the human capacity for hope. Several key themes emerge throughout the novel:

- **Displacement and Belonging:** Both Vivian and Molly grapple with feelings of alienation, underscoring how geographical and emotional displacement shape identity.
- **Resilience and Reinvention:** The narrative celebrates the adaptability of children who, despite trauma, carve out new lives and identities.
- **Historical Memory and Storytelling:** Through Vivian's recollections, the novel underscores the importance of preserving marginalized histories.
- **Foster Care and Adoption Systems:** By paralleling past and present, Kline critiques ongoing challenges within child welfare systems.

These themes are not explored superficially; rather, Kline's prose invites readers to consider the moral ambiguities and social dynamics that shaped the orphan train era and continue to influence contemporary foster care debates.

Literary Style and Narrative Techniques

Kline's writing in orphan train by christina baker kline is marked by clarity, compassion, and an engaging narrative pace. Her prose is accessible yet evocative, balancing historical detail with emotional depth. The alternating chapters between Vivian and Molly are carefully paced, allowing the tension and empathy to build gradually.

Moreover, Kline employs vivid imagery and sensory descriptions to immerse readers in the contrasting environments: the gritty tenements of early 1900s New York and the wide-open landscapes of rural Minnesota. This geographical juxtaposition underscores the stark transitions experienced by orphan train riders and enriches the narrative texture.

Impact and Reception of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

Since its release, *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline has garnered significant acclaim for its historical insight and emotional storytelling. It has become a popular choice in book clubs and educational settings, praised for shedding light on a neglected aspect of American history. The novel's impact extends beyond literature: it has spurred renewed interest in the orphan train movement, leading to historical societies and museums dedicated to preserving the stories of orphan train riders.

Critics have lauded Kline's ability to humanize historical data without resorting to sentimentality. However, some have noted that the novel occasionally simplifies complex social issues, particularly the varied experiences of Indigenous and minority children during the orphan train era. Nevertheless, the book's strengths in character development and thematic exploration overshadow these critiques.

Comparisons with Other Historical Fiction Works

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline fits within a broader genre of historical fiction that revisits marginalized narratives. It can be compared to works like Jennifer Chiaverini's *"Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker"* or Ruta Sepetys' *"Between Shades of Gray,"* which similarly blend historical fact with personal stories. Unlike some historical novels that focus on well-trodden events, Kline's choice to spotlight the orphan train movement distinguishes her work, offering fresh perspectives on child welfare and American social reform.

Relevance of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline in Contemporary Discussions

Beyond its historical and literary merits, *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline resonates with current conversations about foster care, adoption, and child welfare reform. The novel's portrayal of Molly's experiences in the modern foster system draws direct parallels to Vivian's past, emphasizing persistent systemic challenges such as instability, trauma, and the search for permanent families.

This relevance has made the book a resource for social workers, educators, and policymakers interested in the human side of foster care. It encourages empathy and awareness, fostering dialogue about the needs and rights of vulnerable children across generations.

Educational Value and Classroom Application

Educators often incorporate *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline into curricula to address themes of social justice, history, and ethics. Its accessible narrative and emotional depth make it suitable for high school and college students alike. The novel provides a springboard for discussions on:

- The history of child welfare policies
- The psychological effects of displacement and trauma
- The role of storytelling in preserving marginalized histories
- Comparative analysis of past and present foster care systems

By engaging with Kline's work, students gain critical insights into how historical events shape contemporary social issues, fostering a deeper understanding of both.

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline stands as a significant contribution to historical fiction, bridging the gap between past and present experiences of vulnerable children. Through its careful research, empathetic characterizations, and thoughtful thematic exploration, the novel invites readers to reflect on a complex social history and its ongoing implications. Its enduring popularity underscores the power of storytelling to illuminate forgotten histories and inspire compassion across generations.

[Orphan Train By Christina Baker Kline](#)

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orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train LeoPard Books, 2015-12-14 *Orphan Train*: by Christina Baker Kline A 15-Minute Summary & Analysis Preview: The *Orphan Train* is a novel by Christina Baker Kline which was published in 2013 by William Morrow, an imprint of Harper Collins. The *Orphan Train* tells the stories of Vivian Daly and Molly Ayer who have a chance meeting as a result of a petty crime. Both their lives are transformed as a result of meeting each other. PLEASE NOTE: This is a Summary and Analysis of the book and NOT the original book. This companion includes the following: - Book Review - Character List - Summary of the Chapters - Discussion Questions - Analysis of Themes & Symbols This Analysis fills the gap, making you understand more while enhancing your reading experience.

orphan train by christina baker kline: *Orphan Train* Christina Baker Kline, 2019-01-08 From Christina Baker Kline comes a novel about two women: one about to age out of the foster care system, the other 90 years old and carrying both a tremendous secret and a story of a life formed by a part of American history almost entirely forgotten: the Orphan Trains Molly Ayer has one last chance, and she knows it. Close to being kicked out of her foster home -- just months from turning 18 and "aging out" of the system -- Molly should be grateful that her boyfriend found her a community service project: helping an old lady clean out her home. Molly can't help but think that the 50 hours will be tedious, but at least they'll keep her out of juvie, and right now that's all she cares about. Ninety-one-year-old Vivian Daly has lived a quiet life on the coast of Maine for decades. But in her attic, hidden in trunks, are keys to a turbulent past. Molly is about to discover -- as she and Vivian unpack her possessions, and memories -- that Vivian's story is a piece of America's tumultuous history now largely forgotten: the tale of a young Irish immigrant, orphaned in New York City and put on a train to the Midwest with hundreds of other orphaned children whose destiny would be determined by luck and chance. As Molly digs deeper, she finds surprising parallels in her own experience as a Penobscot Indian and Vivian's story -- and Molly realizes that she has the power to help Vivian find answers to mysteries that have haunted her for her entire life. Rich in detail and epic in scope, *THE TRAIN RIDER* is a powerful novel of upheaval and resilience, of second chances, of unexpected friendships, and of the secrets we carry with us that keep us from finding out who we are.

orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline | A 30-minute Summary Instaread Summaries, 2014-10-02 PLEASE NOTE: This is a summary of the book and NOT the original book. Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline | A 30-minute Summary Inside this Instaread Summary: Overview of the entire book Introduction to the Important people in the book Summary and analysis of all the chapters in the book Key Takeaways of the book A Reader's Perspective Preview of this summary: Chapter 1 Molly is a seventeen-year old girl living in the foster care system. Her current foster parents are Dina and Ralph. Molly is sure she will soon be kicked out and sent to the juvenile detention center. She was caught stealing an old copy of *Jane Eyre* from the public library. She learns she can do community service instead of going to the detention center. Dina wants to kick Molly out, but Ralph talks her into letting Molly stay. Jack is Molly's boyfriend. His mom, Terry, is a housekeeper for Vivian, the elderly woman who lives alone. Terry asks Vivian if Molly can help her clean her attic as part of a school project. She does not want Vivian to know that Molly actually needs community service hours. Chapter 2 During Molly's interview, Vivian asks Molly about herself. Molly shares that she is a Penobscot Indian. Her father died, and her mother could not care of her, so she ended up in the foster care system. Vivian tells Molly that she became an orphan at almost the exact same age as Molly. She then asks Molly when she would like to begin working in the attic...

orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train: by Christina Baker Kline | Summary & Analysis Elite Summaries, Molly Ayer is getting close to being too old for the foster care system. Amidst all the uncertainties in her life, she found a community service position to assist an elderly woman, Vivian, clean out her home. The only thing keeping her out from juvie, sorting through Vivian's belongings and memories brought a sudden realization in Molly's mind: that she and Vivian are similar in so many ways. Being a Penobscot Indian herself, Molly sees her journey and struggle in Vivian's earlier age where she was put on a train filled with hundreds of children to the Midwest, full of uncertainties and luck for her future. p.p1 {margin: 0.0px 0.0px 10.0px 0.0px; text-align: justify; font: 11.0px 'Trebuchet MS'; color: #000000; -webkit-text-stroke: #000000} span.s1 {font-kerning: none} "Orphan Train" seeks to entice the readers in feeling Molly's life struggles where she kept her grace and strength despite everything. Alluding to the most secret part of history, Kline draws attention to Minnesota's Depression-era while covering a rarely discussed portion of American history. This book teaches the reader to stay put through loss while maintaining adaptability and courage. All and all, *Orphan Train* provides a comparison between the American past and present portrayed through two steadfast, courageous women. Superbly composed and

incredibly moving, *Orphan Train* captures the heart and mind of the readers through the intensity of Molly and Vivian's journey. Intriguing, warm, and inspirational, the intertwined tales of these two strong women will definitely please readers who are looking for an inspirational new read. Definitely, a must-read for the years to come.

orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train Girl Christina Baker Kline, 2017-05-02 This young readers' edition of Christina Baker Kline's #1 New York Times bestselling novel *Orphan Train* follows a twelve-year-old foster girl who forms an unlikely bond with a ninety-one-year-old woman. Adapted and condensed for a young audience, *Orphan Train Girl* includes an author's note and archival photos from the orphan train era. This book is especially perfect for mother/daughter reading groups. Molly Ayer has been in foster care since she was eight years old. Most of the time, Molly knows it's her attitude that's the problem, but after being shipped from one family to another, she's had her fair share of adults treating her like an inconvenience. So when Molly's forced to help an a wealthy elderly woman clean out her attic for community service, Molly is wary. But from the moment they meet, Molly realizes that Vivian isn't like any of the adults she's encountered before. Vivian asks Molly questions about her life and actually listens to the answers. Soon Molly sees they have more in common than she thought. Vivian was once an orphan, too—an Irish immigrant to New York City who was put on a so-called orphan train to the Midwest with hundreds of other children—and she can understand, better than anyone else, the emotional binds that have been making Molly's life so hard. Together, they not only clear boxes of past mementos from Vivian's attic, but forge a path of friendship, forgiveness, and new beginnings.

orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train: A Novel by Christina Baker Kline (Trivia-On-Books) Trivion Books, 2016-09-07 Trivia-on-Book: *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline Take the challenge yourself and share it with friends and family for a time of fun! In the 1800's up to early 1900's, orphan trains were used to bring orphans and homeless children from the west to the east. They were lucky if the family that adopted them was loving and caring, but unfortunate if the family was not. Vivian Daly, a young Irish immigrant was one of the children who rode the orphan train. As she grew older she hid away everything that reminded her of her past but one day a girl doing community service at Vivian's opened her past once more. Here, they find out that they're not so different from each other after all... You may have read the book, but not have liked it. You may have liked the book, but not be a fan. You may call yourself a fan, but few truly are. Are you a fan? Trivia-on-Books is an independently curated trivia quiz on the book for readers, students, and fans alike. Whether you're looking for new materials to the book or would like to take the challenge yourself and share it with your friends and family for a time of fun, Trivia-on-Books provides a unique approach to *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline that is both insightful and educational! Features You'll Find Inside: • 30 Multiple choice questions on the book, plots, characters and author • Insightful commentary to answer every question • Complementary quiz material for yourself or your reading group • Results provided with scores to determine status Promising quality and value, come play your trivia of a favorite book!

orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train Christina Baker Kline, 2013-04-02 The #1 New York Times Bestseller Now featuring a sneak peek at Christina's forthcoming novel *The Exiles*, coming August 2020. "A lovely novel about the search for family that also happens to illuminate a fascinating and forgotten chapter of America's history. Beautiful."—Ann Packer Between 1854 and 1929, so-called orphan trains ran regularly from the cities of the East Coast to the farmlands of the Midwest, carrying thousands of abandoned children whose fates would be determined by pure luck. Would they be adopted by a kind and loving family, or would they face a childhood and adolescence of hard labor and servitude? As a young Irish immigrant, Vivian Daly was one such child, sent by rail from New York City to an uncertain future a world away. Returning east later in life, Vivian leads a quiet, peaceful existence on the coast of Maine, the memories of her upbringing rendered a hazy blur. But in her attic, hidden in trunks, are vestiges of a turbulent past. Seventeen-year-old Molly Ayer knows that a community service position helping an elderly woman clean out her home is the only thing keeping her out of juvenile hall. But as Molly helps Vivian sort

through her keepsakes and possessions, she discovers that she and Vivian aren't as different as they appear. A Penobscot Indian who has spent her youth in and out of foster homes, Molly is also an outsider being raised by strangers, and she, too, has unanswered questions about the past. Moving between contemporary Maine and Depression-era Minnesota, *Orphan Train* is a powerful novel of upheaval and resilience, of second chances, and unexpected friendship.

orphan train by christina baker kline: A 30-minute Summary of Christina Baker Kline's *Orphan Train* Christina Baker Kline, 2014 *Orphan Train* is a good read for those that want a bit of bittersweet storytelling. Kline sets up a good story of orphan's past, and the struggle to find identity, friendship, and acceptance in a world that is so often cold. You're introduced to Molly, and her struggles in the foster care system, the law, and trying to find hope. The story pulls at your heart, and is really an up and down ride of emotions. Kline does well here, and the summary illuminates the power of the emotions that are in the novel. It's hard to read and not have a visceral reaction, as the characters seem so real, and when the sadness prevails, you feel it.

orphan train by christina baker kline: Vivian's Choice: An Expanded Scene from *Orphan Train* Christina Baker Kline, 2016-12-13 Since the publication of her smash international bestseller *Orphan Train*, Christina Baker Kline has met with countless readers and book clubs and is often asked the same question about a key decision one of her protagonists makes in *Orphan Train*. Christina has longed to write a scene in which she clarifies Vivian's motivations. Now, in this newly released scene and within the book itself, she gives her readers new insights into Vivian's thoughts and feelings behind that fateful decision.

orphan train by christina baker kline: Summary of *Orphan Train* Instaread Summaries, 2016-04-05

orphan train by christina baker kline: Summary: Christina Baker Kline's *Orphan Train: A Novel* (Discussion Prompts) Sarah Fields, 2019-03-11 Christina Baker Kline's #1 New York Times bestselling novel entitled *Orphan Train* is set between the years 1854 and 1929. During this time, the so-called orphan trains regularly ran from the cities along the East Coast going to the farmlands of the Midwest. These trains carried thousands of abandoned children. Their fates would then be determined by pure luck. Vivian Daly was such a child. She was a young Irish immigrant who was sent by rail from New York City to an uncertain future one train ride away. When she returned east later in her life, Vivian led a quiet and peaceful existence in her residence on the coast of Maine. The memories of her childhood were only a hazy blur but hidden in the trunks in her attic were memories of her turbulent past. *Orphan Train* is a powerful novel that reveals the story of upheaval and resilience. Vivian's story moves between Minnesota during the Depression-era and contemporary Maine. This is a novel of second chances and unexpected friendship. In this comprehensive look into *Orphan Train: A Novel* by Christina Baker Kline, you'll gain insight with this essential resource as a guide to aid your discussions. Be prepared to lead with the following: More than 60 done-for-you discussion prompts available Discussion aid which includes a wealth of information and prompts Overall brief plot synopsis and author biography as refreshers Thought-provoking questions made for deeper examinations Creative exercises to foster alternate if this was you discussions And more! Please Note: This is a companion guide based on the work *Orphan Train: A Novel* by Christina Baker Kline not affiliated to the original work or author in any way and does not contain any text of the original work. Please purchase or read the original work first.

orphan train by christina baker kline: *Orphan Train: A Novel* By Christina Baker Kline | Conversation Starters dailyBooks, 2016-09-02 *Orphan Train: by Christina Baker Kline | Conversation Starters* A Brief Look Inside: *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline is about the relationship between Molly Ayer and Vivian Daly. Brought together by Molly's community service sentence, seventeen-year-old Molly learns that she has much more in common with ninety-one-year-old Vivian than she first thought. Both women were orphaned as children and share a similar story. However, Vivian was an orphan during the Great Depression and Molly is an orphan today. Kline tells this enlightening and emotionally engaging story based on true accounts of the Orphan Train Movement in early 20th century America. *Orphan Train* has become an international bestseller, having sold

over two million copies in thirty-five countries. It has spent over ninety weeks on the New York Times bestseller list, including five weeks in the top spot. EVERY GOOD BOOK CONTAINS A WORLD FAR DEEPER than the surface of its pages. The characters and their world come alive, and the characters and its world still live on. Conversation Starters is peppered with questions designed to bring us beneath the surface of the page and invite us into the world that lives on. These questions can be used to... Create Hours of Conversation: • Foster a deeper understanding of the book • Promote an atmosphere of discussion for groups • Assist in the study of the book, either individually or corporately • Explore unseen realms of the book as never seen before Disclaimer: This book you are about to enjoy is an independent resource to supplement the original book, enhancing your experience of Orphan Train. If you have not yet purchased a copy of the original book, please do before purchasing this unofficial Conversation Starters.

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orphan train by christina baker kline: Summary of Orphan Train Instaread, 2016-05-05 Summary of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline | Includes Analysis With Instaread Summaries, you can get the summary of a book in 30 minutes or less. We read every chapter, summarize and analyze it for your convenience. Below is a preview of the earlier sections of the summary: Chapter 1 Molly is a seventeen-year old girl living in the foster care system. Her current foster parents are Dina and Ralph. Molly is sure she will soon be kicked out and sent to the juvenile detention center. She was caught stealing an old copy of Jane Eyre from the public library. She learns she can do community service instead of going to the detention center. Dina wants to kick Molly out, but Ralph talks her into letting Molly stay. Jack is Molly's boyfriend. His mom, Terry, is a housekeeper for Vivian, the elderly woman who lives alone. Terry asks Vivian if Molly can help her clean her attic as part of a school project. She does not want Vivian to know that Molly actually needs community service hours. Chapter 2 During Molly's interview, Vivian asks Molly about herself. Molly shares that she is a Penobscot Indian. Her father died, and her mother could not care of her, so she ended up in the foster care system. Vivian tells Molly that she became an orphan at almost the exact same age as Molly. She then asks Molly when she would like to begin working in the attic...

orphan train by christina baker kline: Summary of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline - Conversation Starters BookHabits, 2017-08-21 Summary of Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline | Conversation Starters Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline is about the relationship between Molly Ayer and Vivian Daly. Brought together by Molly's community service sentence, seventeen-year-old Molly learns that she has much more in common with ninety-one-year-old Vivian than she first thought. Both women were orphaned as children and share a similar story. However, Vivian was an orphan during the Great Depression and Molly is an orphan today. Kline tells this enlightening and emotionally engaging story based on true accounts of the Orphan Train Movement in early 20th century America. Orphan Train has become an international bestseller, having sold over two million copies in thirty-five countries. It has spent over ninety weeks on the New York Times bestseller list, including five weeks in the top spot. A Brief Look Inside: EVERY GOOD BOOK CONTAINS A WORLD FAR DEEPER than the surface of its pages. The characters and their world come alive, and the characters and its world still live on. Conversation Starters is peppered with

questions designed to bring us beneath the surface of the page and invite us into the world that lives on. These questions can be used to... Create Hours of Conversation: * Promote an atmosphere of discussion for groups * Foster a deeper understanding of the book * Assist in the study of the book, either individually or corporately * Explore unseen realms of the book as never seen before Disclaimer: This book you are about to enjoy is an independent resource meant to supplement the original book. If you have not yet read the original book, we encourage to do before purchasing this unofficial Conversation Starter.

orphan train by christina baker kline: Study Guide SuperSummary, 2019-03-21

SuperSummary, a modern alternative to SparkNotes and CliffsNotes, offers high-quality study guides for challenging works of literature. This 44-page guide for Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis covering 7 parts, as well as several more in-depth sections of expert-written literary analysis. Featured content includes commentary on major characters, 25 important quotes, essay topics, and key themes like Portaging and Ghosts Haunt the Present.

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orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train - Behind the Story Jillian Warman, 2014-08-05 Christina Baker Kline wanted to do something she'd never done before: write a work of fiction based on historically accurate information. And if that's not difficult enough, she faced incredible heartache in the midst of writing the book. But, Kline never gave up on her writing, pushing through the pain until Orphan Train was published. Her novel has enjoyed great success—in part because it discusses feelings many can relate to: neglect, rejection, hope, redemption. It isn't a fairytale; rather, Kline created a work of authenticity—a work about struggle and hope and new beginnings. Orphan Train is also a fictional account of a real time in US history in which orphans were relocated to various homesteads in the Midwest. The journeys these children had to make involved much more than a train ride and Kline does a brilliant job illustrating what they went through. Orphan Train is a masterpiece in every way and a creative account of a very real time in US history. Experience: The Behind the Story Effect After reading a BTS... You feel inspired to follow your hearts and dreams... — Arshi Ever been backstage at a concert? Here you go -- in written form. — Author, Editor I felt enriched with knowledge about the book, and I felt like I knew more about the book. — Aspiring Author I felt like the Behind the Story offered a new look into the book, and appreciated that, as most of the time, that angle is unexplored. — Aspiring Author It makes me

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orphan train by christina baker kline: Orphan Train Bookbuddy, 2014-02-07 WARNING: This is not the actual book Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline. Do not buy this reading Sidekick if you are looking for a full copy of this great book. In this sidekick of Orphan Train, you'll find a chapter-by-chapter guide to walk you through the book's major events, as well as character breakdowns and major symbol analyses. Despite the 74-year difference in age, Vivien and Molly find something in each other that allows them both to begin healing. Orphan Train is a touching look at the importance of what people carry with them and the legacy of trauma. Readers will feel heartbreak and joy as the narratives of these two strong women unfold. A sentimental novel that interweaves the stories of two women who carry the burden of the past with them, Christina Baker Kline's Orphan Train is also a compelling look at a little-known chapter of American history. When 17-year-old Molly must complete 50 hours of community service, she is hired to clean out 91-year-old Vivien Daly's attic. A foster child, a Native American, and a goth, Molly has felt alienated for most of her life, and she's built up emotional barriers to protect herself. Vivien, an orphan sent by train to live a life of indentured servitude, also bears the scars of solitude and alienation. The two recognize each other as kindred spirits, and a powerful friendship blossoms despite the generational differences. In Orphan Train, Kline tells a compelling story from dual perspectives, playing with tense and perspective to clue readers in to who is narrating the story.

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