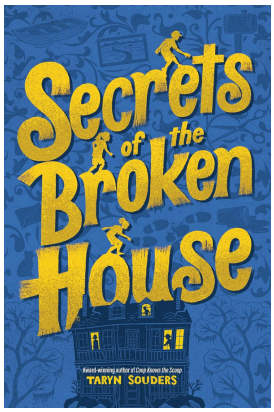
* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *




Name _____ Date _____

# Secrets of the Broken House

## by Taryn Souders

Includes Author Interview!

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

Read Aloud Video

### What's It About?

In the small, southern town of Everson, goats can run for mayor, the mail is always late, and nothing all that bad ever happens. That is, until thirteen-year-old Tucker finds Miss Geraldine dead at the bottom of her stairs. At first glance, it looks like an accident. But Tucker has always had a knack for noticing details that others overlook, and the details surrounding Miss Geraldine's death just aren't adding up. Miss Geraldine was miserable and mean. Miss Geraldine was murdered.

The whole town seems to have reason to want her dead, which makes Tucker's search for the truth nearly impossible. The more he investigates for clues, the more danger he finds himself in, and the more he realizes that maybe Everson was never as safe as he once thought it was. Anyone could be the killer, and in a small town that loves to gossip, if Tucker isn't careful, he could be the next one to have an "accident".

### Who Wrote It?

I was born in Dallas, Texas and lived all over before settling down in Florida with my husband, David, and our three kids. I never started out planning to be a writer—I was a middle school math teacher for a couple years. But, being a voracious reader as a kid gave me a love for words (and working with middle-schoolers gave me a sense of humor). It seemed like a good idea to combine the two (words and humor) and voila, a book was born. Truthfully, my first book was a fluke. I sat down to write a poem about Moses and ended up writing a fraction book about a cow. Who knew? It worked so well the first time, I've continued to try to write poetry and I end up with a book each time. Ok. Not really. But, I did enjoy the writing process so much, that I've kept with it and have enjoyed some success along the way.

AR Reading Level: N/A

Lexile Level: N/A

I want to read this book: YES / NO

### WHAT I THINK

Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.