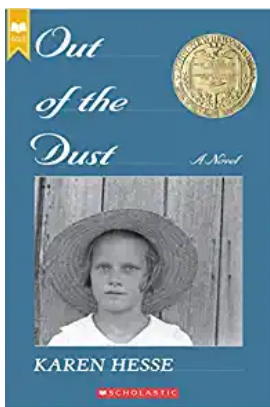


Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Out of the Dust

## by Karen Hesse



Read Aloud Video

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.

### What's It About?

"Dust piles up like snow across the prairie. . . ."

A terrible accident has transformed Billie Jo's life, scarring her inside and out. Her mother is gone. Her father can't talk about it. And the one thing that might make her feel better -- playing the piano -- is impossible with her wounded hands. To make matters worse, dust storms are devastating the family farm and all the farms nearby. While others flee from the dust bowl, Billie Jo is left to find peace in the bleak landscape of Oklahoma -- and in the surprising landscape of her own heart.

This book is a novel in verse, which means it is told in poems.

This book is historical fiction.

This book won the Newbery Award in 2010.

### Who Wrote It?

I was born in 1952, in Baltimore, Maryland. I lived in a brick, row house in the city and my neighborhood brimmed with children my age. Summers were spent flying in and out of each other's homes. We played everything from jacks to hopscotch, jump rope to 'swinging statues', 'talent show' to 'mothers and babies'. There was a park about five blocks from my house in one direction and a public library about the same distance in the other direction and I loved going to both. I graduated from high school when I was sixteen and later earned my English degree from the University of Maryland. I've lived in Vermont since 1976 where, with my



husband, I've raised two amazing daughters. I love to knit dolls, go hiking, take photographs, read, write little tunes for the piano, paint, sing, and cook. Learn more about Karen and her books at <https://karenhesseblog.wordpress.com/>.

AR Reading Level: 5.3

Lexile Level: currently unavailable

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.