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# Stetson



## Synopsis

There are only two things that 17-year-old Stetson cares about. His car . . . and his art. For the past two years, he's been rebuilding an old Civic in the shed behind his father's trailer; his work at the salvage yard and the T-shirts he airbrushes and sells at school help pay for food and parts. As long as Stet avoids his father-who, since Stet's mother left years ago, has become both abusive and alcoholic-he considers himself lucky. The Civic and his art are his ticket out of their small factory town. Then a girl named Kayla blows it all apart. She's waiting for him in the trailer one day after school. Almost gleefully, his father explains: Kayla is Stet's sister. Their mother was pregnant when she left, and no one knew-until she died, and no one wanted to take Kayla in. Now the two wary siblings have to live together, eat together, go to school together, and get to know each other. Responsible Stet and rebellious Kayla.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 520L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 222 pages

Publisher: Viking Juvenile; 1st Edition edition (April 15, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0670035424

ISBN-13: 978-0670035427

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 0.9 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.1 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #457,223 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #75 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Drugs](#) #180 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Drugs & Alcohol Abuse](#) #757 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

The people in this book are real. The Arthur doesn't pull any punches and "Stet" is the one in a hundred kids that just might get out. The only thing that isn't so real is there are almost no mill towns left in the US and no jobs for kids. And let's face it no one bothers to get married. Still it's very much worth the read.

I read this book a few years ago and finally remembered the name for it. I hope that others would consider reading this book, because even though it is quite short for some people, the characters are wonderful and you fall in love with them.

Stetson S.L. Rottman The Penguin Group 2002 222pp \$16.99 ISBN 0-670-3542-4 "The falcon was totaled. The front end had rammed into a large tree, and the whole left side had collapsed. You couldn't see any of the Falcon's eye's or beak. The left front wheel stuck out at a cock eye angle. In the windshield there were two stars, the bigger one on the driver's side. Both of them were blood stained." Stetson or Stet as he likes to be called, is 17 year old delinquent living in a small hick town that he wants desperately to leave. But first he needs to graduate, and rebuild his car, that's why he got a job at the scrap yard working on cars, and in addition does dares for money. Then one day he goes too far and gets suspended but when he comes home from his after school job, he's surprised to find that his alcoholic father picked up his long lost sister. She was born a little after their mom left the house, now she's dead and Kayla has to stay with Stet and his father in a beat up old trailer. I really loved this book! It's realistic fiction about one week in the lives of two teenagers. I love the way the author describes the events and the people, because the whole story is told from the point of view of Stet who has to be the responsible one in the family and take care of both his dad and Kayla. It also teaches moral lessons about the dangers of alcohol and peer pressure. Even though it's not from a Christian perspective (they swear sometimes) I still think it was a pretty good book. I rate this 4.5/5 stars.

I thought that this book was actually more interesting than what the cover actually said. With the book cover it didn't look very good but after I got into it was one of the best books I have ever read in my life. It starts out with Stetson in school and doing stuff he shouldn't do to get kicked out of school and then he goes to his daily job to get car parts for his 1980 Honda Civic that he has been fixing up for a long time. His dad is one of the biggest drunks you will ever see. He works at the mill, where everybody works in that small town. All his old friends had dropped out and started to work. He goes home to see that there is a strange girl on the couch and he finds out that his mom was pregnant before she left him with his dad. The girl's name is Kayla and she tells Stetson that their mom had died. It's a very exciting book and I would highly recommend this book if you like working on cars and young adult books.

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