

Name: anonymous
School: Yorba Linda High
Grade: Senior
Book: The great Quiet
Author: Laura Vogt
Rating: 4

In *In the Great Quiet* by Laura Vogt, it's a historical fiction kinda book set during the Oklahoma Land Rush back in 1893. The whole story sort of follows Minnie Hoopes, a determined young woman, who really wants to carve out a life that's her own on the Oklahoma frontier. She runs into that fresh territory to claim land, and then of course, she has to deal with all kinds of hard things, a rough place that is also unpredictable. She leans toward her independence, and she prefers being alone most days. Still, life keeps pulling her toward the people nearby, including her neighbor Stot. As Minnie attempts to shape a home and move ahead with what comes next, her past keeps tugging at her future, like it never fully loosens its grip.

I kinda thought *In the Great Quiet* was a real interesting book, more than I expected honestly, because it had this setting that stuck in my head, and the main character was strong in a way that felt genuine. I liked Minnie too because she was independent, and determined, not the kind of person who just gets pushed around by bad luck. She didn't let difficult circumstances fully take over her choices, even when things were not easy. Also, the descriptions of the Oklahoma landscape were good, they made it easier to picture daily life out on the frontier, like you could almost feel the air and see the land. The book surprised me in a different way, because I didn't realize how hard it could be for people trying to start over during the Land Rush. Some parts felt slower than others, but I think those quieter slower moments helped me understand Minnie's personality more. They also showed her connection to the land, in a subtle kind of way. And I liked that I knew the story was inspired by the author's own family history, it made everything feel grounded, not just made up for the sake of it.

I would probably recommend *In the Great Quiet* to readers who like historical fiction, a bit of adventure, strong women in the lead, and tales about starting over. I feel like if you enjoy books that take place out on the American West, or you're into historical happenings, you'd likely be especially into it. I'd also point it at people who prefer stories where personal growth is really front and center, and where someone has to figure out how to belong somewhere, even if it's not obvious at first. Overall, I'd give the book a 4 out of 5. I liked the historical setting, I really connected with Minnie's character, and I thought the author did a great job of bringing the Oklahoma frontier to life, almost like you could step right into it. It honestly made me want to learn more about the Oklahoma Land Rush, and also the real background that inspired the whole story.