



Caught in the Act

Joan Lowery Nixon

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Eleven-year-old Michael Patrick Kelly from New York City is sent to a foster home, a Missouri farm with a sadistic owner, a bullying son, and a number of secrets, one of which may be murder.

Caught in the Act Details

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Author : Joan Lowery Nixon

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From Reader Review Caught in the Act for online ebook

Melanie says

Not as good as the first book in the series, but still a great read. I didn't care much for the weaving in of poetry.

Laurie D'ghent says

Well written and engaging. One almost-swear word, no sex or innuendo. Might be frightening for younger children.

Jared M says

Caught in the Act by Joan Lowery Nixon was a good book. It was a good mystery and you could connect to the characters.

The book was about Michael Kelly who is part of the original series of the Orphan Train. Michael along with his other brothers and sister were each adopted by different families. This story is about Michael's life after the trip from New York. His life is filled with pain and constant paranoia. His new parents are from Germany and have many secrets behind them so Michael is constantly trying to figure out what they are. In the end the truth is revealed and everything changes.

I would recommend this book to anyone that likes mysteries or has already read the first book of the Orphan Train series.

Mannix says

The book "Caught in the Act" was a mystifying and back-breaking book. It was about a boy named Mike who was a foster, but was strangely happy to be one. He usually sat in his room letting the time pass in the house of his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reichard. One day though, Mike's life changed. He saw a man killing another man and Mike was in complete shock and didn't know what to do. This conflict is similar to the one in the book "Freak the Mighty". Freak has a step dad who was trying to kill him and the main character had to watch his friend scared to death while they run away from him. Both conflicts made you want to read on, but in my opinion I thought the conflict in "Freak the Mighty" was more interesting. I thought that because the conflict was more realistic and step parents are a common problem in today's world. The book "Caught in the Act" was a very interesting novel though and I recommend it to anyone who likes mysteries. I give it a 4 star because of its very interesting storyline of Mike seeing a guy kill another guy. I loved the book!

Lexii says

I love the Orphan Train Adventures. I first started reading them probably in 8th grade? Not entirely sure.

Anyway, I can't wait to get my hands on the 3rd one ... if i could just find it. lol :)

Katielin317 says

My daughter and I loved reading this whole series together. There are so many things to discuss. The background of the story itself is a difficult one, but the main characters (the 6 children) are such wonderful examples of all sorts of admirable characteristics. My least favorite was the last book, as the ending was too unrealistic.

Ramon López says

The story was too fast paced sometimes, but it managed to keep the mysteries alive until the very end. Even though I was afraid it'd be too predictable, it ended up being an enjoyable read. I particularly liked how the author played with the good/bad dichotomy. I'll probably read the rest of the series.

"They should have got along well, with both of them unable to put down words way they come straight from the mouth." Mike to Reuben about Shakespeare and Wordsworth.

"Ridiculous! There was no way he wanted to love the judge who had threatened him with Tombs Prison, or Mr. Crandon, or Mr. Friedrich, or Gunter. Sure and the preacher might have a fine idea of what heaven would be like, but the man didn't know the Friedrichs very well or he'd think twice about that business of loving everyone."

Summer says

good

Rachel says

I love it.

Becky says

I remember reading these as a child and I absolutely loved them. I figure if the memory of a book has been able to stick with me for over twenty years it deserves four stars. I also remember that these were the first characters I cried for in a book, the first time I was moved to an outburst of emotion by written word. Those are the types of things that stick with a bibliophile.

Read in fifth grade.

Annie says

this book is so amazing!

the parents or i should say the dad is really freaky he beats mike(mike is the main person)

i probably shouldnt even say anymore or else ill spoil it

Amanda says

This one was good too! There were some honest lessons without being preachy and hard situations portrayed in an age-appropriate way. There was even a hired hand who introduced Mike to classic poetry -- something I appreciated now but didn't register when I read as a kid!

Alexa says

Actual Rating: 2 1/2 stars.

Interesting enough, but not brilliant. Good, though slightly predictable plot, but mediocre writing and mostly bland characters. I read because I wanted to know about the mystery, little else.

Duane says

Mike finds himself living with a German immigrant family after being chose from the Orphan Train. His harsh treatment only makes Mike more determined to go west and become the man he so wishes to be. He soon finds though that the family he lives with is hiding a dark secret. Can he discover the secret before he comes to danger? Are they even meaner than he imagines? The author does a good job of keeping the reader entertained and in the dark until the very last moment. A great read.

Tracy says

Next on my list of rereads from childhood is the second book in the Orphan Train Saga, focusing on Mike, the oldest brother in the Kelly family. Unlike his siblings, Mike is placed in a less than desirable home with the Fredericks. Historically, Mike's story in this book, (he is adopted merely as a hired hand), is probably the most accurate outcome for children placed through the Orphan Train.

The story is a page turner, Mike's adopted brother tries to get him in trouble and sent back to New York City where prison awaits, murder, mystery et. al. It reads like the dime novels of the time that Mike is so fond of. What is also interesting is that Mike acts like how a 12 year old boy would. He jumps to conclusions about his adopted family based on conversations overheard, he's impulsive and out of all the Kelly children so far the most complex.

Caught in the Act, is miles better than the previous installment even though it ends with convenient "happily ever after" ending (Mike is adopted by a new family and cleared of all charges). I look forward to rereading

Mike's next book, A Dangerous Promise.
