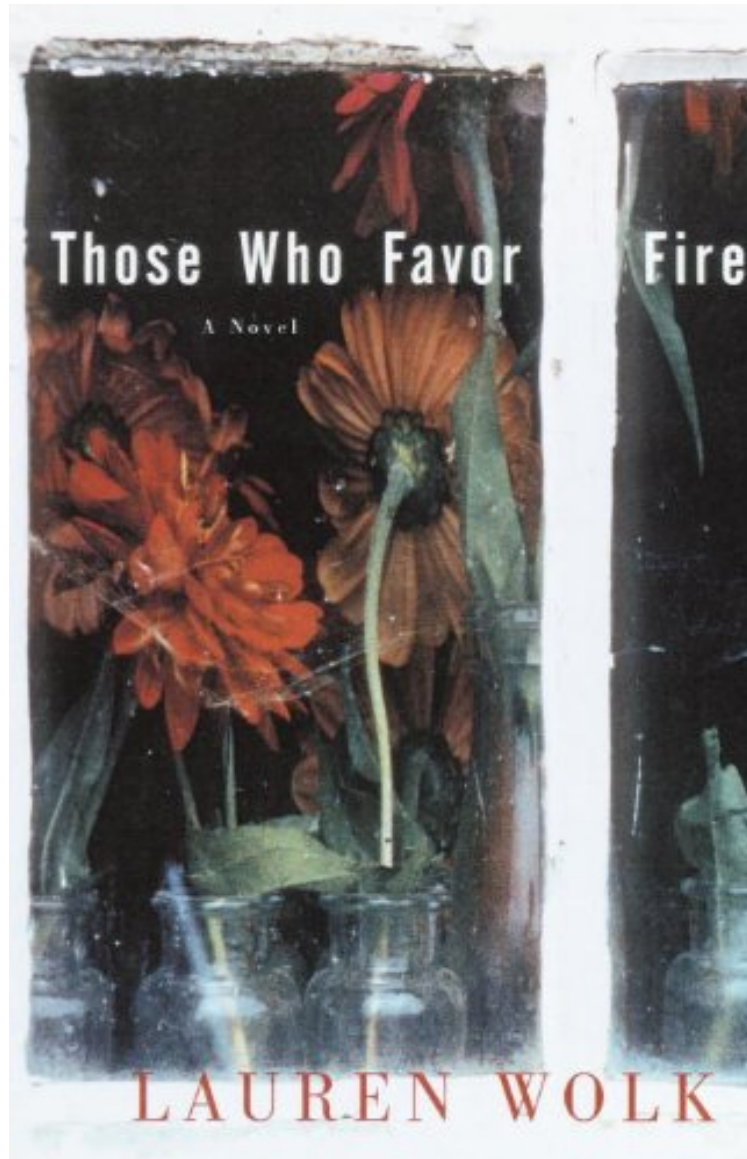


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## Those Who Favor Fire: A Novel

*Von Lauren Wolk*

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**Von Lauren Wolk : Those Who Favor Fire: A Novel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Those Who Favor Fire: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A must-read.Von Ein KundeThis is a wonderful book. I went out and bought it after reading a review in the Boston Globe that called it "brilliant," "breath-catching," "a remarkable first novel." I don't read a lot of new fiction, but this sounded like one I didn't want to miss, and the review I read was right on the money. Not only is this book a suspenseful page-

turner, it's also an excellent work of literary fiction by a talented author. Lauren Wolk has an amazing gift for creating sharp, moving, original imagery, but she doesn't let it get in the way of her masterful storytelling (as some books do). She brilliantly weaves together the story of an underground coal fire burning out of control (and how this threatens to tear a community apart) with a riveting but difficult love story between two ostensibly mismatched people. I couldn't put this book down, and I didn't want it to end. I highly recommend "Those Who Favor Fire" to anyone and everyone who reads books.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. There's no place like home!Von Ein KundeA young girl in college suffers a tragedy and decides to return to her home town to resume her life. A young man learns a terrible family secret and leaves town to be on his own. They both cross paths in Belle Haven. The people of the town embrace them, but the town itself may not be safe. They might lose the only place where they will feel secure because of underground fires which put the town in real danger. This book reminds you that you will always be deeply tied to the place where you grew up and to your family no matter what trauma you endure. It deals with hometown people, quaint places and relationships. I read a lot of contemporary fiction. Those Who Favor Fire is one of the best books I have read in a while!0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Congratulations!Von Naomi mwmitch@interlog.comI was introduced to this book by way of a customer where I work who is also a proud friend of Lauren Wolk's. I trust this woman's judgement and was so thrilled when I found it on the shelf and then for Those Who Favor Fire to be mentioned Mademoiselle! It is a fab read and I am having a really hard time putting it down as the characters are so believably real. I am half way finished and do not want it to end but I am so captivated by Rachel and Just Joe that I feel that I must go on. One word to Lauren Wolk, please write more books soon. A new fan eagerly awaits!!!

KurzbeschreibungPeople feel at home in Belle Haven, and in many ways it is like any other small town, with a caf where regulars come for the fresh cinnamon rolls and to talk about the weather, or one another, often staying all day.It's a town with the usual collection of quirky characters--the people everyone knows who, by staying in one place long enough, have become part of its landscape. But what sets Belle Haven apart is its especially strong sense of community, which is both strengthened and tested by the uncontrollable mine fire that burns below the town.Sometimes it breaks through the earth's surface to swallow somebody's garden or a garbage can, even a beloved pet, or to threaten a house.Those Who Favor Fire is the love story of Rachel Hearn, who has lived in Belle Haven all her life, and the man everyone calls Just Joe, who has arrived only recently--and the story of their love for the town that has brought them together. But as the fire intensifies, endangering Belle Haven and its people, it also threatens what Joe and Rachel have found together. Though some reluctantly consider relocating, Rachel refuses to leave the only place she's ever called home, the place that holds her richest memories. But Joe knows the danger of becoming too firmly rooted in a place. Ultimately, Rachel and Joe must decide whether to abandon their beloved town.In her wonderful debut novel, Lauren Wolk has created a town every bit as real as the Mitford of Jan Karon's novels and populated it with characters as quirky, lively, and endearing as Fannie Flagg's.From the Hardcover edition.From BooklistWolk made up the town of Belle Haven, inspired by the coal town in Pennsylvania that is slowly being consumed by underground fire. Belle Haven is the kind of place where everyone knows who and what you are--and where most people care. Rachel Hearn comes back to the house she grew up in before her senior year of college, shocked by her parents' sudden death. And a young man called Just Joe comes to Belle Haven, fleeing a terrible father and a terrible past. Belle Haven is rich in natural beauty and folks who are careful about how they live with themselves and each other, but the fire beneath their feet is ominous and scary: Should they stay or leave? Wolk has made a ravishing love story in this lyrical novel. Her descriptions of the minutiae of daily living--cleaning, woodcarving, preparing a meal--are beautiful without being precious; her shaping of the relationships between Joe and Rachel, between Rachel and her best friend, Angela, and between Joe and Angela's son, Rusty, are sure and true and sensuous. The tale is not incidentally a magical evocation of what can be done well with a lot of money or with no money at all. The fire scenes are horrific, the eroticism etched in honey and heat, all of the language supple and creamy. A fine read. GraceAnne A. DeCandidoFrom Kirkus sNice Lake Wobegonlike folks have to deal with a Stephen King predicamentan underground fire is destroying their townin a schematic tale of love, loyalty, and the ties that bind (too tightly). Belle Haven, a small Pennsylvania town built over an old coal mine, is the setting for the leisurely love story that unfolds as a fire in the mine intensifies, eventually forcing evacuation of the people who live there. This is a place where everyone's nice: people like single mom Angela, for instance, who's a great cook and runs the local diner; her son Rusty, who's as nice as can be; and Ed, the generous hardware-store owner. Its people like these who drive young Rachel Hearn to try to come to the town's rescueyet Joe Barrows, a stranger who falls in love with Rachel, is able to view the situation with more clarity. Their relationship begins after both have run away from bad situations. Dutiful daughter Rachel has gone to college and savored freedom, but chooses to return home for good after her parents die in an accident, a love affair ends, and a friend betrays her. When Joe, a wealthy, indulged Yale junior, learns from twin sister Holly that their father abused her, drove their mother to suicide, and lied to Joe about the cause of Holly's birth

defect, he trades his Jaguar for a trailer and lands up in Belle Haven. There, a changed man, he becomes as well liked as Rachel. Still, as the fire claims more victims, Joe, who has just inherited a trust fund, decides to act: he buys land, builds houses, and persuades his friends to move away. Only Rachel resists. Conceding that the town can't be saved, she decides to travel before coming back to a waiting Joe. A well-crafted debut, but nothing ever quite ignites. --  
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