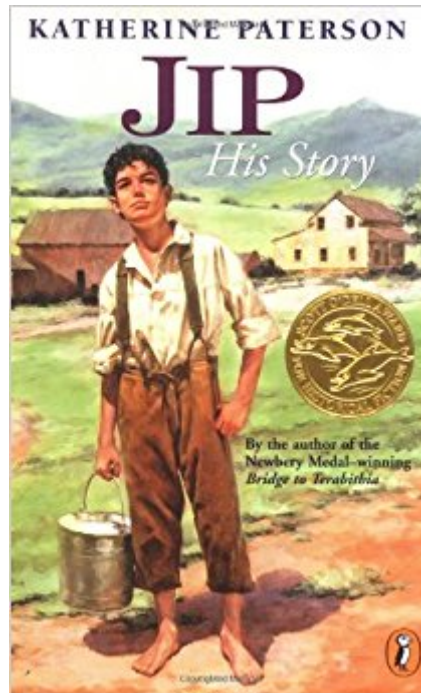




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# Jip: His Story



## Synopsis

Winner of the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction They tell Jip he tumbled off the back of a wagon when he was small, and no one ever came back for him. He never had a reason to question this tale--but then a stranger shows up and begins asking about him around town. Who is this man, and could he possibly know something about Jip's past?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When an aged lunatic named Putnam arrives at a poorhouse farm in rural Vermont in 1855, he is treated as little more than a beast by everyone except the orphan Jip, who himself arrived at the charity orphanage/asylum after being found abandoned by the roadside. Jip and Putnam become friends, then allies of a sort, as Jip struggles to improve his own lot and that of his friend Lucy, the unfortunate daughter of the late town drunk. This historical tale by Katherine Paterson involves its young protagonist in the great 19th century struggle between slave owners and abolitionists while sending him into a test of his own loyalty and courage. Paterson handles weighty issues with grace and verve, and does not shrink from terrible truths in this challenging novel for young readers. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This historical novel about a maltreated orphan "is full of revelations and surprises," said PW's starred review; "first-rate entertainment." Ages 10-14. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

One of the BEST books I have EVER read! seriously!!! would make an incredible movie. Would recommend to young or old readers.

This book is written by Katherine Paterson and is a Historical Fiction book. The setting was a small farm in Vermont in the 1850s. The main character was a 12-year old boy named Jip. When he was little, he was thrown off a wagon-cart by his mother. Nice folks who lived in a farm took him in as their child. The farm hosted guests who were ill or had physical issues. One day, they found a "lunatic" called Putnam Nelson. Everyone believed that Putnam was raving mad, but Jip knew that he was actually a kindhearted gentleman. Some months later, he found out from a "stranger" that he was actually partially black. He also found out that he was the son of an escaped slave, and that his life was at high risk. Consequently Putnam and Jip escaped together on the Underground Railroad. When he was almost captured by the schoolhouse, the teacher found him and told him that she was his mother and her "friend", Luke, was his father. The book ended where Luke, Jip, Putnam, and the teacher escaped to a faraway city. I gave this book a 4 out of 5 star rating. It shows how some people aren't as "lunatic" as other people think. It also gives an example of how we can show kindness toward people with mental problems. I didn't give it a 5 because the ending wasn't very exciting.

Jip His Story Penguin Group, 1996, 180 pp., \$5.99 Katherine Paterson ISBN 0-H0386712 How would you feel if everybody told you that when you were a baby, you fell off the back of a wagon and nobody came back for you and the only person who knows the truth is a complete stranger who has been following your every move? That's what happened to Jip, the protagonist of Katherine Paterson's Jip His Story. When he tries to find out answers, his whole world is turned upside down. Jip is a thirteen year-old boy who lives on a barn with Mr. and Ms. Lyman, neither of which are his real parents. Supposedly, Jip fell off the back off of a wagon and no one came back for him or even cared. Mr. Lyman found Jip on the side of the road and took him back to his barn. As soon as Jip was old enough to work, Mr. Lyman put him to work in the barn; they made hi feed the animals clean the house. Jip had to do all the dirty work. Jip hates working in the barn. One day a truck pulled up to the barn and in the back was a guy who everyone thought was a lunatic. At first Jip was frightened to talk to him, but when he got to know him, this lunatic became his best friend Put. Jip eventually decides that he wants to find his real parents and get as far away from the Lyman's and the barn as possible. Jip doesn't know exactly where he needs to go, but he knows he needs to get away. Jip and Put are on a quest to leave the town, but bad things start to happen when a

mysterious stranger starts following Jip, telling him he knows his real dad. This is a really excellent book about friendship and trust. I recommend this book to anyone who likes books in the genre of realistic fiction. This book has a lot of adventure in it too. I really got into this book and I couldn't put it down. This is not the first Katherine Paterson book I have read and enjoyed, but it is one of my favorites. Katherine Paterson is a fabulous writer children's author who hooks you into her writing. She makes you feel like you're the story. This book is a lot like the book *Stuart Little*, in *Stuart Little*, a little boy didn't think he could be friends with a mouse, just like Jip didn't think he would be able to be friends with a lunatic. If you are looking for a good book to read, I suggest that you go get *Jip His Story* right now. It's a great book to read for enjoyment and I think that everybody should read it. There is not a certain age group who should read this book. It's a book that almost anybody can read and enjoy.~Jordan Sawyers, Grade 8, Patrick Lyndon Pilot School, Boston, Massachusetts~Teacher: Lisa Portadin

In the book *Jip: His Story* by Katherine Paterson, a boy named Jip, who is living on a poor farm, sets out to get away from a slave catcher. After starting a life-long friendship with the local maniac, Put, Jip is suddenly found by a stranger who claims to know about his real father. Jip is not sure what to do, but when the stranger tries to catch him along with a slave catcher, Jip takes Put and goes to the Stevens' house for help. The Stevens' are people who told Jip about his past and offered to help out of danger. This was an amazing book that I really enjoyed reading. The plot line was incredible and I would recommend it to anyone who likes a good adventure story. One of the best parts of the plot is when Jip was trying to find his schoolteacher who promised to help him if anything bad happened. When he was almost there, he saw the slave catcher and some dogs that he had gotten to know started barking so the slave catcher knew someone was there. The only flaw with this book is that it took a while to get to the good part, so for the first few chapters, I didn't really care for the story. When I finished the book though, it was worth it. Throughout the story, I had feeling when I was actually in the book actually seeing what was happening first hand even though I was only reading a book. The one time I could feel myself not actually reading the book and like I was part of the book, was at the very end of the story, which I don't wish to give away at this time. The text gave me a very detailed picture in my mind allowing me to feel like I was in the story. The plotline shown above only gives you the story at a glance. You will have to read through the entire book to get the good details. The book also comes complete with one heck of a good ending. This book is great. With an interesting plot line and good storytelling suspense, I couldn't stop reading it. Anyone who doesn't read this book will miss a story of amazing proportions. I hope this review helps anyone who

wants to know what this book is about.

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