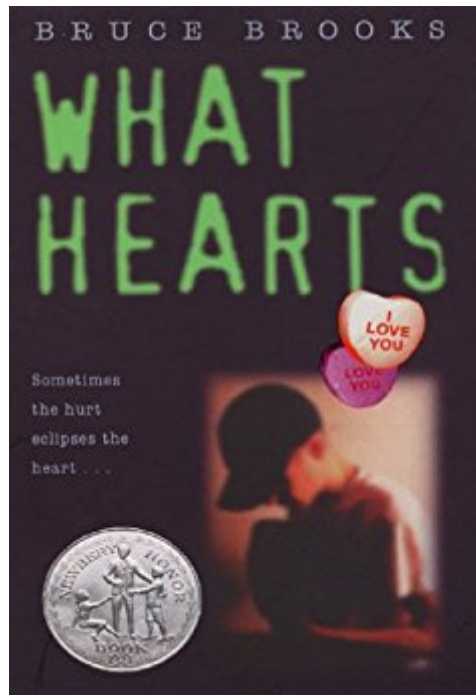




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# What Hearts (Laura Geringer Books (Paperback))



## Synopsis

Recipient of a 1993 Newbery Honor, this novel is an achingly beautiful, powerfully rendered journey through childhood that is not to be missed, now available in a new edition with a striking new cover. "From an outstandingly perceptive writer, a moving portrait of a boy, observed at four revealing turning points." -- Pointer Review/Kirkus Reviews "Combines fast, exciting action with an astonishing ending that proves the power of the individual imagination." -- Starred Review/ALA Booklist "Asa possessed of rare sweetness, humor, and inner strength survives intact cruel tests of his integrity, intellect, and sense of decency. From an outstandingly perceptive writer, a moving portrait of a boy, observed at four revealing turning points." K. "Told with controlled imagery, insightful illumination of motive and the needs of his characters, Brooks has proven himself once again a master of language." BL. 1993 Newbery Honor Book Notable Children's Books of 1993 (ALA) 1993 Best Books for Young Adults (ALA) 1993 Fanfare Honor List (The Horn Book) 1993 Teachers' Choices (IRA) 1993 Books for the Teen Age (NY Public Library)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book has some little gems in it that make you cheer for Asa, a child who's life is constantly changing when his mother leaves his father. But somehow things rarely work out for the very intelligent boys as he moves through life's change in circumstances. He is loved by his mother, but has an over demanding and very demeaning stepfather. Asa is a good kid and tries to always support his mother in many self-sacrificing ways. But it is almost like every time things start going good for him, something comes up and suddenly snatches happiness away. The author has written a thought provoking story about children facing the breakup of their family, divorce, and trying to adjust as a stepchild. There are some lovely moments with Asa's relationship with his mother and connections to his stepfather. But overall, this book made me feel sad and depressed. It might be good for a child who has gone through divorce and a parent's remarriage, to help them sort out the enormous emotional toil and changing with life's changes, but this just wasn't the book for me.

I first read this young adult novel in 1995, when I was, in fact, a young adult. I was very much an "Asa" myself and identified strongly with him. The writing, the emotions, the heartbreaking realism--all superb. I read it again yesterday, and yes, it's still my favorite young adult novel. It might not be for everyone. It isn't a feel-good story, and it's almost never pretty. I've seen several instances where people couldn't quite believe Asa as a realistic character, but I assure you, there are many little Asa's running around in the world right now, and this book is for them. I most recently purchased the Kindle Edition. Unfortunately, there are several typos, seemingly from whatever OCR software was used to create it. There are two instances where "and" became "arid" and at least two cases where "kind" became "land." There are also several stray apostrophes spread throughout (perhaps from flecks or imperfections in the original pages), as well as a few random characters and symbols attached to the ends of words. These issues don't make the Kindle Edition unreadable, but they are noticeable and sometimes distracting. If you simply must have it now, definitely go for the e-book. If you can wait, get a paper copy.

This is a very good book by Bruce Brooks. I recommend this book for young adult readers because the concept could be difficult for 6th grade and under but otherwise it is a great family book!

Would love to contact the author! This is the story of my fifth grade class!

It was kinda crappy. Asa was underdeveloped, the writing style was extremely drawn out, the plot line unrelatable to the target audience and Asa's sudden understanding of every aspect of his parents divorce at such a young age was unrealistic.

I do not recommend this book. Although the author did seem to have a genuine knowledge of the topic he wrote on, the book ultimately fell flat due to the storyline and the characters. There are two main reasons for my dislike. First off, I do not find pleasure in reading a book about a kid who grows up in a dysfunctional family with an unstable mother and an abusive step dad. The whole book is made up of short stories that all have a depressing background and are not very interesting. I do not know why the author wrote on this subject but it is possible that he may have had a childhood much like the main character and so he wanted to show the trials of life in a bad family. My second reason for disliking the book is that the four short stories are only connected by the fact that the main character stays the same. They jump around a year or more at a time in order to try to show most of Asa's childhood. Also most of the short stories end poorly in a way that makes you wonder, never to find out, what happened after the scene ends. In other words there is no real resolution to the story.

will purchase products from this company again, as needed. As described, and delivered before expected delivery date. it has a good cost performance. I have used at least 10 different this kind of product. This is by far the most accurate, I use it is simple and reliable. These are great Work amazingly well I placed another order this morning, I hope it could be as well as the former one.

what Hearts, by Bruce Brooks, is a great book. It is detailed and aimed at any age. That is, any age who reads and enjoys reading chapter books. It is about a boy named Asa. Asa is walking home from from the last day on 1st grade at schol with straight A's on his report card and a ruby red radish that he grew during school. He is shocked when he comes home to find that his mother and father have divorced and tha his father has moved away. He also learns that his mother and himself will be moving to North Carolina to meet a man named Dave who Asa's mom is going out with. As soon as Asa meets Dave he decides that he hates him. This story unfolds with experiences between Asa, Asa's mother, and Dave of shock, fear, sadness, and happiness. I recommend this book to anyone, as I said, who enjoys and can read and enjoys reading chapter books. It is wonderfully written and covers many issues of today's society including hatred and ignorance, while happier issues also queue in like lve and friendship. This is an awesome book.

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