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# Long Road To Freedom (Ranger In Time #3)



## Synopsis

Ranger is a time-traveling golden retriever with search-and-rescue training. In this adventure, he goes to a Maryland plantation during the days of American slavery, where he meets a young girl named Sarah. When she learns that the owner has plans to sell her little brother, Jesse, to a plantation in the Deep South, it means they could be separated forever. Sarah takes their future into her own hands and decides there's only one way to run -- north.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 620 (What's this?)

Series: Ranger in Time (Book 3)

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Press (December 29, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545639204

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (33 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

I can't speak to the other books in this series, but my son picked this book at a school book fair and brought it home. I stopped reading after the second page. I understand that this book is about a time traveling dog, and the dog travels to a Maryland plantation. So the people in the book speak of their slaves like slaves. Like chattel. Yes, this is accurate to the time, but as an African American man, I feel the ideas contained in the book are too intense for young children. These statements without the proper context are horrible ideas for a child to internalize. My son is a small black boy just like the one being sold in this book. He is devalued and spoken of like an old shoe. ... He heard older kids talking about Ranger and wanted to read about him. He's only 5, I should mention the book is

geared to 7-10 year olds. Although, I definitely wouldn't let my kid read it by himself at 7-10 without being able to place context to the language. To have children of any race read and learn how black people were spoken too at such a young and impressionable age surely does more danger than good in this type of writing. Lots of ways to entertain kids with a time traveling dog without lines like "my dad would never sell you, you're my favorite." or "I can't imagine you'll get much for the boy. He's not strong enough. ... Mr. Fenn will decide if he has value." Not what his value is, if he has it at all. I'm not putting that idea in my kids mind. You shouldn't put it in yours either. There is a time and place for discussing America's ugly past of slavery, but a cutesy kids book isn't it. So, no disrespect to the author or anything, but maybe just don't read this part of the series.

The 3rd book in the series finds Ranger pulled back to 1850 to help Sarah and her brother Jesse. They become fugitive slaves when Sarah finds out her brother is to be sold south. We are taken along on their journey in the Underground Railroad as they race for freedom and their lives. Always so well researched, with informational author's note, Kate shares her sources of information and process for research. Love this series. I think every 2nd -5th grade classroom should have these books! Looking foward to the next!

My 4th grade class loves this series. One boy literally grabbed the new book from the box and hugged it. He read it in 2 days and passed it along to the next on the waiting list. How can you beat that?

I am 9 years old .I think the book was awesome.Each chapter would leave you on a cliffhanger. The chapters would get better and better. I have read all of the books in the series. I love all of the books.

Grades 3-6This, like other Kate Messner books, is a well researched novel. There is a substantial amount of history and research in the author's note at the back. I don't think many children will read the author's note (do many kids read them?) but this would be a good book for a teacher or a parent to read aloud and then read aloud the author's note. It emphasizes (with photographs!) the amount of research authors do for books.This would be a good book to tie into third, fourth or fifth graders studying American history, it takes place in Maryland and really explains the plight of slavery through the eyes of a child. That helps make history appealing to students. The cute dog on the cover might help attract an audience that would not normally pick up a historical fiction book! The

book switches from Sarah, the child slave's point of view back to Ranger the dog's point of view throughout the book. I read the reviewer's comment about how the slaves are talked about in this book. But there is NO offensive language, no bad words. Yes, the slaves are talked about as property because it is a historical fiction book. It's how people talked. But the slaves in this book are treated nicely by their owners, the true atrocities put upon the slaves is glossed over in this children's book. This book will hopefully open up discussions with children about what slavery was like for the children. The best part of this book, in my opinion is that it is told from a child's point of view and not an adults. There are some full page black and white illustrations scattered throughout the book. They are not on every page but there are enough that students could use them to get through the book, i.e. "I'll just read until the next picture."

My eight-year old son Daniel loves the Ranger in Time series. Ranger is a time-traveling golden retriever. He was trained as a search and rescue dog, but his natural love of squirrels made it so that he couldn't complete and actually become a search and rescue dog. He finds a first aid kit buried in his back yard and it transports him through time to help out kids. In Long Road to Freedom, Ranger travels back to the 19th century to a Maryland Plantation. He meets two youngers named Sarah and Jesse. When Sarah discovered that Jesse will be sold to the Deep South, she decides it is time for the two siblings to escape to the north. Ranger is there to help the two travel safely along the Underground Railroad, although they discover that even when they think they are safe, they are not safe after all. I enjoyed this novel and Daniel did as well. It tied in nicely with what he had been learning in school about the Underground Railroad. He enjoyed the adventure while also questioning a world that enslaved its people and forced these two children to have such a perilous adventure. Daniel also loves dogs so having a golden retriever as a protector and one of the main characters really intrigued him. This is a good adventure series for kids to keep them entertained while also learning important history. Book Source: Daniel bought this book at his school's Scholastic Book Fair.

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