

Surviving the Applewhites: A Journey of Self-Discovery and Acceptance

Stephanie Tolan's heartwarming and humorous novel, *Surviving the Applewhites*, is a coming-of-age story about a young boy's journey of self-discovery and acceptance. Jake Semple, a 12-year-old boy from New York City, is sent to live with his eccentric aunt and uncle, the Applewhites, in rural Vermont for the summer. Jake initially struggles to adjust to his new surroundings, but he eventually learns to appreciate the Applewhites' unique way of life. The novel is a heartwarming and humorous tale about the importance of family, friendship, and self-acceptance.



Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 707 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 240 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



Summary of *Surviving the Applewhites*

Jake Semple is a 12-year-old boy from New York City who is sent to live with his eccentric aunt and uncle, the Applewhites, in rural Vermont for the summer. Jake's parents are both doctors, and they are too busy with their work to spend much time with him. Jake is used to a life of privilege and comfort, and he is not looking forward to spending the summer with his

"hippie" aunt and uncle. However, Jake soon learns that the Applewhites are not as strange as he thought they would be. Aunt Cordelia is a poet and a free spirit, and Uncle Randolph is a sculptor and a nature lover. Jake is initially put off by the Applewhites' unconventional lifestyle, but he eventually comes to appreciate their kindness and love.

Jake also meets a group of local children, including Benny, a kind and gentle boy who becomes Jake's best friend, and Zelda, a tomboy who is always getting into trouble. Jake also befriends Miss Fairchild, an elderly neighbor who is a gifted storyteller. Jake learns a lot about himself and the world around him during his summer with the Applewhites. He learns the importance of being true to himself, even if it means being different from everyone else. He also learns the importance of family and friendship, and he realizes that there is more to life than material possessions.

Themes of *Surviving the Applewhites*

Surviving the Applewhites is a novel about many things, including family, friendship, self-acceptance, and the importance of being true to oneself. Jake Semple is a character who is struggling to find his place in the world. He is used to a life of privilege and comfort, but he is not sure what he wants out of life. He is also struggling to come to terms with his own identity. He is not sure if he is a "nerd" or a "jock," and he does not know how to fit in. However, Jake's summer with the Applewhites helps him to find himself. He learns that it is okay to be different, and he learns that there is more to life than material possessions. He also learns the importance of family and friendship, and he realizes that he is loved for who he is, not for what he has.

Characters in *Surviving the Applewhites*

Surviving the Applewhites features a cast of quirky and memorable characters. Jake Semple is a complex and relatable protagonist. He is a boy who is struggling to find his place in the world, but he is also a boy who is kind, compassionate, and intelligent. Aunt Cordelia and Uncle Randolph are two of the most unique and lovable characters in children's literature. They are a couple who is passionate about life and who are always willing to help others. Benny is a kind and gentle boy who becomes Jake's best friend. Zelda is a tomboy who is always getting into trouble, but she is also a loyal and supportive friend. Miss Fairchild is an elderly neighbor who is a gifted storyteller, and she is a wise and慈祥 figure in Jake's life.

Surviving the Applewhites is a heartwarming and humorous novel about the importance of family, friendship, and self-acceptance. Jake Semple is a character who is struggling to find his place in the world, but he eventually learns to appreciate the Applewhites' unique way of life. The novel is a reminder that it is okay to be different, and that there is more to life than material possessions. *Surviving the Applewhites* is a must-read for children of all ages.



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