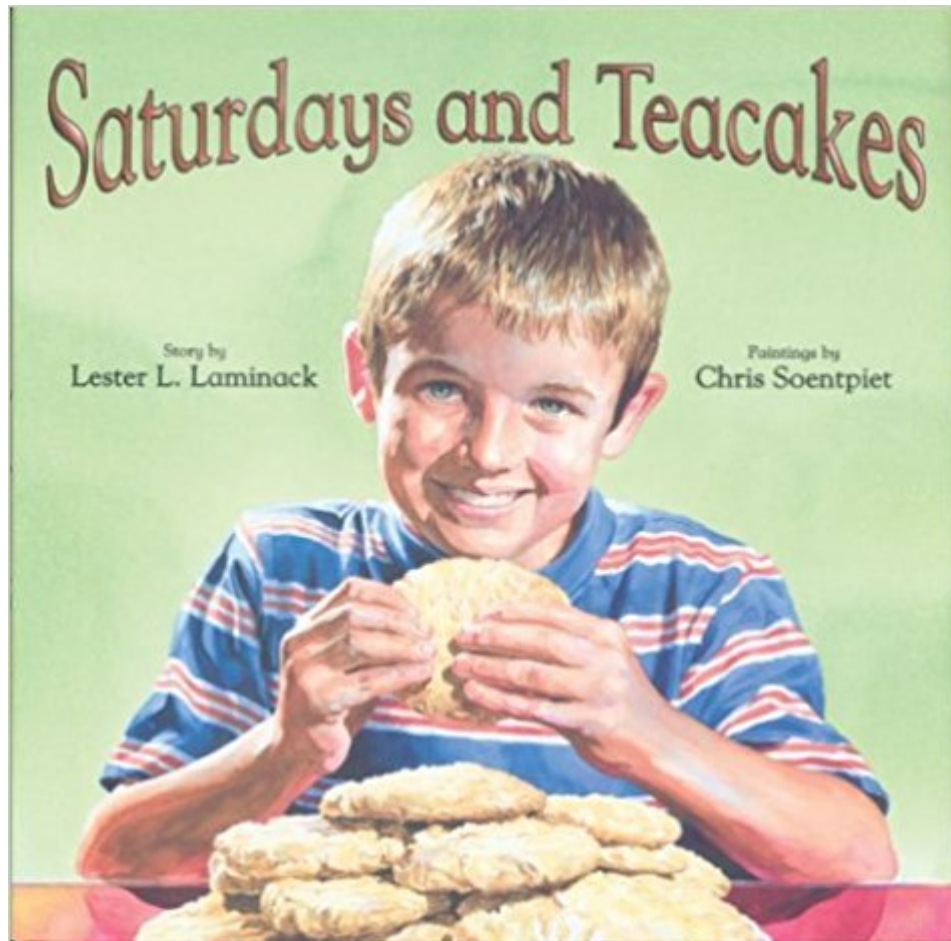




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# Saturdays And Teacakes



## Synopsis

So begins author Lester Laminack's poetic memory of the adult who made him feel incredibly special--his grandmother. Every Saturday, the narrator, a young boy, rides his bicycle up and down country roads past farms, a grave-yard, and a filling station, until he reaches his beloved Mammaw's house. She is waiting for him. No one else, just him. While she picks tomatoes, he pushes the lawnmower through the dew-we grass. Afterwards, he always helps her make teacakes from scratch, breaking the eggs and stirring the batter. But the best part, he remembers, is eating the hot, sweet cookies fresh from the oven. Children will understand the special love between the boy and his grandmother. Set in a small town in the Leave It to Beaver days of the mid-sixties, the story evokes a gentler and more innocent time and place. Young readers will almost hear the crunch of bicycle wheels on gravel and the crrriick-craaack-crrriick of a metal glider in Laminack's richly detailed prose. Award-winning illustrator Chris Soentpiet's images beautifully capture the relationship and the place, perfectly depicting the simplicity of an earlier time.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 840L (What's this?)

School & Library Binding: 32 pages

Publisher: Peachtree Pub Ltd (J) (March 2004)

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 10.5 x 10.5 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 42 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #11,055 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life](#) #30 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational](#) #155 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

Grade 1-4-Every Saturday morning, the young narrator pedals his bike through town, passing familiar landmarks like the bank and the gas station, until he reaches his grandmother's house. The

two share a special day talking, doing chores, and finally baking and feasting on Mammaw's special teacakes. Drawing on his childhood in Heflin, AL, the author splendidly re-creates these nostalgic scenes, carefully bringing the memories to life by describing the sunny kitchen, the crunch of gravel under bicycle wheels, and the sweet aroma of the cakes. The brilliant watercolor paintings glow with light and idyllically capture the world of yesterday. Older readers may enjoy sharing this book with their grandparents, and teachers might incorporate it into lessons about writing descriptive memoirs.-Linda L. Walkins, Mount Saint Joseph Academy, Brighton, MA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

PreS-Gr. 2. Illustrator Soentpiet notes that his model is Norman Rockwell, and this picture book, set in rural Alabama in 1964, certainly evokes Rockwell's idyllic visions of family togetherness. It's Saturday, and everyone is smiling as a young white boy rides his bike through his small town and over the hills to his grandmother's house, where she sits on the sunlit porch: "She was waiting for me. No one else. Just me." Detailed watercolor pictures show the loving bond across generations as the boy mows the lawn in her bright garden, Grandma bakes him delicious teacakes in the kitchen, and together they listen to the calls of the blue jays around them. Most young children won't respond to the nostalgia and period detail, but the pictures are gorgeous, and the bond between child and grandparent is timeless. Hazel Rochman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

While I am a grandma, this book draws me right back into the cozy, comforts of my childhood. The simplicity of a day with my grandmother, the aromas and taste of her special cookies, the clarity of the lessons learned then -which I haven't forgotten. I love the story, the illustrations, and the artistry of this beautiful book. I'll open it often- to remember.

good book

This is a fantastic book. I have read it to hundreds of children before I retired as a school librarian. Even though it is out of their generation, all have loved, loved it. Now I am teaching literacy and storytelling to home school children and use this book to help children learn how to form a story.

A wonderful book indeed!

A lovely story accompanied by absolutely beautiful illustrations! For those of us old to understand and cherish this kind of childhood, and for those lucky enough to still live in a place that hasn't been completely overtaken by everything electronic - this is bliss. I know every generation says . . . "when I was a kid." Well, it is true. Each generation seems to get less and less innocence and less and less of a childhood. I'm sorry, the times were better for everyone when it was like this.

Love Lester Laminack's work! A great story for all ages as it evokes a memory of a simpler time for older folks and gives children a sense of "the good old days".

I purchased this book because it is about my hometown. I bought it for my grandmother because in the book the main character has a special bond with his grandmother. It is a great story with fantastic illustrations.

We love love love this book! We read it every summer and make the tea cakes as part of our summer traditions! Beautiful pictures, and beautiful words!

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