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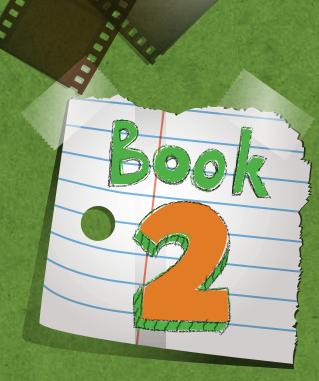
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### Student Reader









•••• An Adapted Literature Collection by •••• Megan Best and Jean Slater

#### Read and Tell: Student Reader Book 2

By Megan Best and Jean Slater
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# Stone Fox

by John Reynolds Gardiner



Willy and Searchlight



Stone Fox

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# Chapter 1 Grandfather









Grandfather would not get out of bed, and that was









very unusual. Usually, he made breakfast and woke Willy.









Ten-year-old Willy and his grandfather lived on a potato farm







in Wyoming. It was a lot of work, but Willy loved the farm.









Willy went to his grandfather's bedroom and found him still in









bed. When Willy talked to him, he did not answer.







Grandfather would not get out of bed.







Willy and his dog, Searchlight, went to get the doctor.









Doc Smith checked him and said Grandfather just did not



want to live anymore.







Grandfather would not get out of bed.

### **Chapter 2**

## Little Willy











Running a farm was a lot of work. Willy thought his









grandfather was worried about the potato crop, and he would



get better after the harvest.





Grandfather was worried.









That evening, Willy made a discovery. Grandfather moved









his hand, and they came up with a code. If Grandfather's





hand was palm up, the answer was yes. Palm down

meant no.







Willy prepared for the potato harvest by getting the







bags and the underground shed ready. He wanted to rent









a horse to pull the plow, so he checked the strongbox







under the floorboards where Grandfather kept his money. The









strongbox was empty except for some letters. Now Willy knew





why Grandfather was worried.









Willy and Searchlight harvested and sold the potatoes.









When he held the money out for Grandfather, he thought







Grandfather would get better now. But Grandfather turned his





palm down, which meant he was worried about

something else.





Grandfather was worried.

#### Chapters 3-4

### Searchlight and The Reason











Winter in Wyoming meant snow. Willy chopped wood









and stored food. School started in October, and Searchlight









pulled Willy to school over the snow on a sled every day.









Every day after school, they would wait in front of the clock







in town. When it struck six, they raced home as fast as they







could go. One day, there was a horse tied up outside



the house.







The man on the porch had a gun. He was a







tax collector. Grandfather had not paid taxes for ten years.







The government planned to take the farm away from them.







Grandfather owed money to the tax collector.







The letters in the **strongbox** were bills from the









government for the taxes. Willy asked the man how much









they owed. When the man said \$500, Willy was very surprised



and worried.







Grandfather owed money to the tax collector.

# Chapter 5 The Way







Willy tried to think of ways to get \$500. He dressed









in his suit and went to see the president of the bank. The











man thought they should sell the farm, pay the taxes, and



have money left over.





Willy needed money.







Willy had to find some way to get \$500. He talked









to everyone he knew. The grocer, his teacher, and the man







who swept at the post office all told him the same thing.









They should sell the farm. Just then, Willy saw a sign in the







grocery store about a dog sled race. First prize was \$500. An







old Indian named Stone Fox was racing this year. He had







never lost a race. Willy took the poster home and showed



his grandfather.





Willy needed money.

#### **Chapter 6**

### Stone Fox











When Willy went to sign up for the race, the mayor









said only adults could enter, and Willy did not have a chance









to win. Willy would not take no for an answer. He paid the









\$50 **entry fee** with his college money.









Willy entered the race to save the farm.









Willy felt wonderful. He knew he could win the race









and save the farm. As he looked down the street, he saw







a man with five dogs coming toward him. The man was a









giant Indian with five beautiful Samoyed dogs.





Word spread through the town and the state that









Stone Fox was going to be in the race. Stone Fox did not









talk to white men because his people had been treated badly.









He won races and used the money to buy back land that





had been taken from the Indians.









Willy entered the race to save the farm.

#### **Chapters 7–8**

### The Meeting and The Day







Willy went to see Doc Smith to get Grandfather's









medicine. Doc Smith thought Willy was foolish for using his









education money, but she would root for him to win. The









grocer wished Willy good luck too. Willy and Searchlight







headed back to the farm. He heard dogs barking and









investigated a deserted barn. Inside were five beautiful







Samoyeds. Willy was about to pet one when a hand







came out of the darkness and hit Willy in the eye.







Willy told Stone Fox he would not harm his dogs, but







Stone Fox would not talk. Willy also told him he was going







to race against him the next day, and he had to win to









save their farm. Willy could not sleep that night. The race







was on his mind, and his eye hurt.







Willy entered the race to save the farm.









Race day! Willy's right eye was swollen shut, but he









left for the race. He looked back at the farmhouse and knew









he had to win the race to save the place he loved. People







lined both sides of the street. He had not expected so many









people to come and watch the race. The racers lined up in









a row, and Willy was next to Stone Fox. The mayor stood in









the street, fired a pistol, and the race started.









Willy entered the race to save the farm.

# Chapter 9 The Race







Willy and Searchlight got off to a good start. No other









racers were close to them as he cut across the lake. With





every turn, Willy was getting farther and farther ahead. At the









end of the first five miles, Willy and Searchlight were way out





in front of all the other racers, but Stone Fox was slowly



moving up.





Willy was winning the race!







When they passed the farm, Willy saw his grandfather