






Book Backdrop:  
Connecting Literature and Primary Sources

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	<p><b>Title of Book:</b> Out of the Dust</p> <p><b>Author:</b> Karen Hesse</p> <p><b>Book Type/Genre:</b> Historical fiction/poetry</p> <p><b>Setting and Time Period:</b> Billie Jo lives during the dust bowl in Oklahoma, in 1934. She must contend with hardship, grief, loss and the endless dust which blankets her home and the fields surrounding it. She longs to leave home, and move West.</p>	<p><b>Recommended Grade Level(s):</b> 4-6</p> <p><b>Major Topic/Theme(s):</b> The Dust Bowl</p> <p><b>Curricular Connections/Subject(s):</b> Social studies (history, environment, economics)</p> <p><b>Key vocabulary:</b> Relief Civilian Conservation Corps Drought Debt Pneumonia</p>
Primary Source Thumbnail	Caption Publication Information Book Notes	URL
	<p><b>Title:</b> Heavy black clouds of dust rising over the Texas Panhandle, Texas</p> <p><b>Creator(s):</b> Rothstein, Arthur</p> <p><b>Date Created/Published:</b> 1936</p> <p><b>Book Notes:</b> Billie Jo describes being caught in such a storm, where the black clouds obscure everything, and she has to guide herself with her feet alone.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998018491/PP/">http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998018491/PP/</a></p>

	<p><b>Title:</b> Farmer and sons walking in the face of a dust storm. Cimarron County, Oklahoma  <b>Creator(s):</b> <a href="#">Rothstein, Arthur, 1915-1985</a>, photographer  <b>Date Created/Published:</b> 1936 Apr.  <b>Book notes:</b> This photograph shows the immense force of the dust storm, how hard it was to walk against it. Billie Jo was caught in such a storm, and spent hours trying to get home.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998018983/PP/">http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998018983/PP/</a></p>
	<p><b>Title:</b> Interview about dust storms in Oklahoma  <b>Contributor Names:</b> Robertson, Flora (performer)  <b>Created Published:</b> Shafter FSA Camp, None.  <b>Book notes:</b> This interviewee describes putting wet blankets on the windows and doors of her house, trying to keep the dust out during a storm. Billie Jo describes how hard it is to keep out the dust, and having to set the table with the cups and plates upside down.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/item/afcts.4120a1">http://www.loc.gov/item/afcts.4120a1</a></p>
	<p><b>Title:</b> President Roosevelt visits farmer who is receiving drought relief grant. Mandan, North Dakota  <b>Creator(s):</b> <a href="#">Rothstein, Arthur, 1915-1985</a>, photographer  <b>Date Created/Published:</b> 1936 Aug.  <b>Book notes:</b> Billie Jo talks about Roosevelt lending money to the farmers in Oklahoma, and how her father worries that he won't be able to pay back his debt.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998019727/PP/">http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998019727/PP/</a></p>

	<p><b>Title:</b> CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) boys putting up a fence. Greene County, Georgia  <b>Creator(s):</b> <a href="#">Delano, Jack</a>, photographer  <b>Date Created/Published:</b> 1941 May.  <b>Book notes:</b> Mrs. Love (from FERA) takes applications for boys to go work for the CCC. Billie Jo is “too young and the wrong sex”, but wishes she could go.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa2000025761/PP/">http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa2000025761/PP/</a></p>
	<p><b>Title:</b> Dust is too much for this farmer's son in Cimarron County, Oklahoma  <b>Creator(s):</b> <a href="#">Rothstein, Arthur</a>, 1915-1985, photographer  <b>Date Created/Published:</b> 1936 Apr.  <b>Book notes:</b> Billie Jo talks about people coughing up dust, sneezing it out. She also mentions a boy who got pneumonia, and later died.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998018979/PP/">http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998018979/PP/</a></p>