



The Root Cellar

Books Reviewed:

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Reviewer:

[David Bennett](#) [3]

~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

0

12 year-old Rose Larkin's peculiarly insular lifestyle is abruptly shattered when events force her to move in with disorganised relatives in a shambles of a house near a Canadian Lake. The discovery there of a root cellar provides an escape from all that she loathes back in the 1860's where she becomes involved with Susan and Will, themselves bound up in the excitement, chaos and separation of the American Civil War. Her experiences bring inevitable changes; she learns that 'it doesn't matter where you come from ... what matters is where you belong', and this leads her to direct her own life, in her own time, in a way that will bring much sought-for peace and contentment. Across the Atlantic this book has won awards and critical acclaim; I found it too slow in places and quite derivative; the last chapter too was over-sentimental for my taste. It might find a readership amongst book-experienced girls.

Running Order:

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