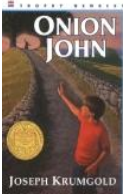


# Passages

## Reading Level 6



**Title:** Onion John

**Author:** Joseph Krumgold

### Sample From The Book

Up until I turned twelve years old the kind of friends I had were what you'd expect. They were my own age more or less. Most of them were born here in Serenity along with me. And all of us went to the same school together.

As long as those were the friends I had, nothing too serious ever happened to any of us, except a broken arm now and then or six stitches in somebody's scalp or scarlet fever. The worst thing was when we were six years old and Eechee Ries had to be pulled out of the pond behind the closed down piano factory.

Eech had to get worked over with a Pulmotor. They had him breathing again in about ten minutes and he came out fine. That was the worst. Until I got to know Onion John and we two came to be the best of friends.

Onion John was a lot different from anyone I ever hung out with before. Like his age. No one actually knew how old he'd be. But considering he was six feet and three inches tall with a mustache, it was a good guess that Onion John was well along in years. Anyway, he was a lot older than I am.



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