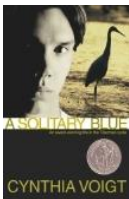


Passages

Reading Level 6



Title: A Solitary Blue

Author: Cynthia Voigt

Sample From The Book

The Professor left the kitchen, but he forgot his briefcase. He didn't come back for it. Jeff heard him go into his study, which used to be a living room, back down the hallway at the front of the house. What used to be the dining room was the living room. They ate all their meals at the Formica table in the kitchen. Jeff did his homework at that table too, because there was no room for a desk in his tiny bedroom tucked under the eaves at the back of the house.

That evening, after his father had left him alone, Jeff did homework. He did a page of mixed addition and subtraction problems; he copied out sentences into his French notebook; being as neat as he could.

He boxed in all the verbs in the ten English sentences and then went back to find the subjects and label them with a S. He wrote a paragraph about lizards for science. He filled in the names of the original thirteen colonies on the social studies map, the memorized it. He worked carefully, because teachers liked neat, careful work. When he was finished he gathered his books up into a pile and set them on the counter by the refrigerator, for the morning. He looked at the clock: six.



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