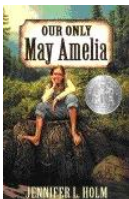


# Passages

## Reading Level 6



**Title:** Our Only May Amelia

**Author:** Jennifer L. Holm

### Sample From The Book

We live on the Nasel in the state of Washington. It is 1899.

Pappa is always yelling at me Don't Get Into Mischief May Amelia when all I'm ever doing is what some other boy has done first. He says that I am a Girl and because I am a girl I cannot be doing what the boys are doing, that there is danger everywhere. Wilbert tells me that Pappa has had a Hard Life. That you can see the hardness in the lines of his face, what with coming all the way to Washington after being pressed into the Finnish Navy and leaving Finland. That's why he's hard on me. But Wilbert's wrong. Pappa doesn't like little girls much in general, and me in particular.

Mamma has a baby in her belly and Pappa said Children I sure hope your Mamma gives us another boy 'cause I don't think I can stand another May Amelia. He said this in front of all the boys, after hollering at me for going up to Ben Armstrong's logging camp by myself. I said But Ivan and Alvin go up by themselves and he said May Amelia, I will not abide any arguments.

But Pappa – I said.

Then he hollered so loud I'm sure they heard him over at Petersen farm



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