

Writing Naturally—Learning from two great authors

Patricia MacLachlan

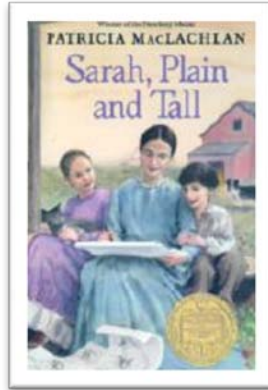
Four quotes from [Sarah, Plain and Tall](#)

Sarah came in the spring. She came through green grass fields that bloomed with Indian paintbrush, red and orange, and blue-eyed grass. (Chapter 3)

Gophers ran back and forth across the road, stopping to stand up and watch the wagon. Far off in a field a woodchuck ate and listened. Ate and listened. (Chapter 3)

The dandelions in the fields had gone by, their heads soft as feathers. The summer roses were opening. (Chapter 7)

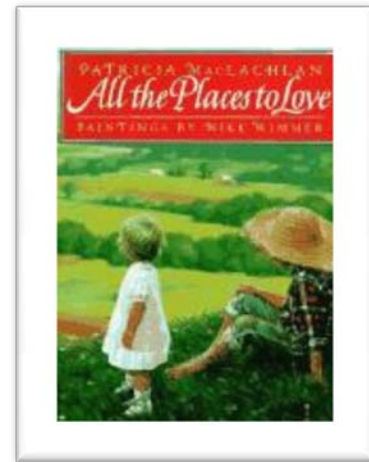
The rain came and passed, but strange clouds hung in the northwest, low and black and green. And the air grew still. (Chapter 8)



Two quotes from [All the Places to Love](#)

Once Papa and I lay down in the field, holding hands, and the birds surrounded us: raucous black grackles, redwings, crows in the dirt that swaggered like pirates.

When spring rains came and the meadows turned to marsh, cattails stood like guards, and killdeer called.

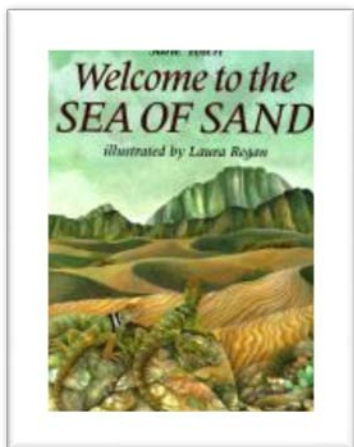


Jane Yolen

Two quotes from [Welcome to the Sea of Sand](#)

Welcome to the sea of sand, a hot sea, a dry sea, and rock and stone and sky sea, where mountains rise like islands high above the waves of sand.

And this is not a silent sea: you can hear the yawning growl of a mountain lion up from his morning drowse.



A haiku from [Least Things: Poems about Small Natures](#)

Snail

I make my slow way
Between the water droplets,
Between the minutes.

