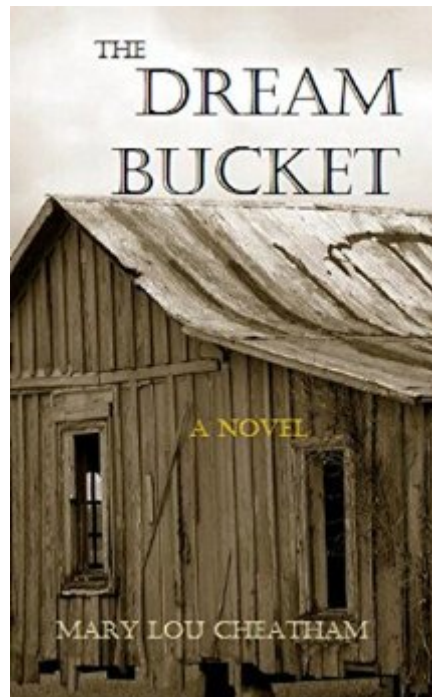


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# The Dream Bucket



## Synopsis

Ten-year-old Trudy loves Papa more than anybody else until she hears him slap Zoe, her mother. She is so angry at him she wishes he'd die. When he accidentally sets fire to the family mansion and dies in the fire, she is not prepared for the shock. William has cautioned Zoe not to pry into his financial arrangements. She wants to know where he keeps his money in case his life should end. How will she survive as a widow? The family has nowhere to call home except a sharecropper's shack.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I enjoyed this story of how a former well to do mother endured the abuse of her rich husband. Yet submitted to his use of her for sex the same day, He played around with the local school teacher dying the same day in a fire that burned him and the house. He is adored by his young daughter who has her foundation of love removed by overhearing him tell her mother is not her business to know where he hides the family money on the farm and slaps her for asking. Then she sees and hears him return her school teacher's hat, kissing her outside the school room door. She arrives at home to find the house burned and him dead in the fire. She thinks since she asked God to handle the situation that he did it in fast order. With no money, two children and no real help from the husbands

family this mother burned in the fire takes her children to a long forsaken house that is a family owned shack on the farm to live. They have nothing to help them only what is donated by a community that was blind to their need. She sews well and takes in sewing from the local store. She has an account that is she is paying off with crop sales and sewing income. A crop is in the fields that provides a bounty of harvest that she and the children live on. They all work so hard just to make do but when she finds herself pregnant, people coming on the farm hunting for her husband's gold she stands and fights with the help of her two children who solve a mystery of where the gold is hidden. Her helping neighbor who is a widower with two children of about the same age as her children is robbed of his Dream bucket. The children solve this mystery and find the money to be able for both families to obtain a new life in their beloved community.

What can I say about The Dream Bucket? To listen to this audio book is to take a journey back in time. I am old enough to remember life on the farm as my grandparents lived it. Drinking water out of a bucket with a ladle, washing clothes with an old wringer washing machine and 3 washtubs for rinsing, sleeping on a pallet on the floor of the screened in porch, heating water on the stove for rinsing dishes, and singeing the feathers on a chicken over a flame on the stove. I can think back to the most delicious homemade biscuits eaten at breakfast and baths taken in a washtub before the fireplace. Much of this book reminds me of those experiences from my childhood. (Missing was the outhouse and under the bed chamber pot!) The author has written about a time in our nation's history that is largely forgotten. Life in the south at the turn of the last century certainly had its challenges! I was surprised by the prosperity of some as written about in The Dream Bucket. It was interesting to learn that the animals were partners in work more than family pets. I discovered that neighbors could be good and helpful or intent on mischief. Danger could come from wild critters as well as human predators. The villains reminded me of characters one might have seen on an episode of Gunsmoke. If I must find a weakness in the story, it would involve the "evil element." I found the two villains to not be as credible as the other characters. One was pretty shiftless, and the other could probably have been admitted to a hospital for observation. The narrator has a delightful voice and did a wonderful job reading the story aloud. Being from the south, I can attest to the authenticity of his speech. It was a joy to listen to him!

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