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## When Chores Were Done: Boyhood Stories

*Jerry Apps*

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**Jerry Apps : When Chores Were Done: Boyhood Stories** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised When Chores Were Done: Boyhood Stories:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. MemoriesBy L. M.MIm a farm kid so this was pure nostalgia. Good stuff.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful!By CustomerThe narrative paints wonderful images of life on the farm in the late 30's and 40's. It is worth sharing with young readers, as are all of his books. It is written for adults, but would make great reading during this long winter, or around a campfire in the summer.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. When chores were doneBy S. LacockI am an old farm girl.I loved this book.It stirred up such wonderful memories. I laughed.I cried and so did my husband as he read the book to me as I was traveling down the turnpike.Chapters were self contained so it was an easy read if you had just a few minutes.My husband had a feeling of deja vue when the author's little brother was born. My husband told his parents to take his little sister back because he did not want her.

The Midwest in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s was a special place-a place where parents and children worked side by side to eke out a living from the land, and neighbors stuck by each other through good times and bad. In this affectionate, insightful collection of stories, Jerry Apps takes us to that world. He relives the toughness of farm life-plowing the soil with horses, milking cows by hand, putting in long days with heavy, dangerous machinery. He shows us the lighter side too, as he peddles his father's massive rutabaga harvest and gets to know the neighbor boys-and their personal dictionary of cuss words. We meet Frank, Pinky, and Harry, three farmers whose love of music could transform an entire community; Morty, the odd loner whom only a few wild animals could understand; and Fanny, the extraordinary collie whose role on the farm was as important as that of any human being. Withing each story we see just how warm, loving, and supremely educational growing up on a farm could be, for it is here that a young child learns not only how to take the head off a chicken and drive a tractor like a grown-up, but to deal with illness, disability, and death. Resonating with poignancy and humor, When Chores Were Done contains stories you'll want to

read over and over again. Jerry Apps is a master storyteller who writes through the eyes of a child and with the wisdom of a man. Through the tales are personal, their lessons are universal.

From the Publisher Jerry Apps was born and raised on a Wisconsin farm in the days before electricity, central heating, or indoor plumbing. He is a former county extension agent and University of Wisconsin agriculture professor. He is the author of several other farm nostalgia and Wisconsin regional titles, including "Every Farm Tells a Story." About the Author Jerry Apps is a professor emeritus of agriculture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.