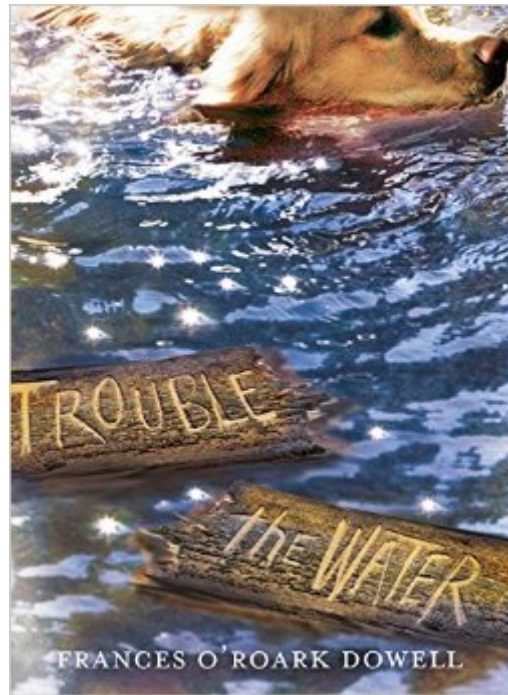


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# Trouble The Water



## Synopsis

From the award-winning author of *Dovey Coe* comes a sweeping tale of the friendship between a black girl and a white boy and the prejudices they must overcome in segregated Celeste, Kentucky, as the pair try to solve the mysteries surrounding a lonely old dog. Eleven-year-old Callie is fearless, stubborn, and a little nosy. So when she sees an old yellow dog wandering around town by itself, you can bet she's going to figure out who he belongs to. But when her sleuthing leads her to cross paths with a white boy named Wendell who wants to help, the segregated town doesn't take too kindly to their budding friendship. Meanwhile, a nearly invisible boy named Jim is stuck in a cabin in the woods. He's lost his dog, but can't remember exactly when his pup disappeared. When his companion, a little boy named Thomas, who's been invisible much longer than he, explains that they are ghosts, the two must figure out why they can't seem to cross the river to the other side just yet. | And as Callie and Wendell search for the old dog brings them closer and closer to the cabin in the woods, the simmering prejudices of the townspeople boil over. *Trouble the Water* is a story that spans lifetimes, showing that history never truly disappears, and that the past will haunt us until we step up to change the present and stand together for what is right.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 920 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 288 pages

Publisher: Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books (May 3, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1481424637

ISBN-13: 978-1481424639

Product Dimensions: 5 x 1 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #126,206 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #154 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism](#) #295 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American](#) #618 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States](#)

Age Range: 9 - 13 years

Grade Level: 4 - 8

## Customer Reviews

In 1953, in a small town in Kentucky, an 11-year-old black girl named Callie sees an old dog wandering near the river for days. She wants to find out who he is and where he belongs.

Meanwhile, a white boy of the same age named Wendell decides to look for an old cabin in the woods that his father has told him he played in as a child. The two children cross paths and find the cabin together. Callie has heard stories that the cabin was used to help runaway slaves hide as they attempted to cross the river to gain their freedom. Inside the cabin, the children find the name Jim carved into the wood. Callie, stubborn, bold, and inquisitive, decides to investigate the cabin, the dog, and the name Jim further. This leads to the discovery of a boy drowned in the river 10 years ago whose dog was thought to have drowned with him. Callie believes the dog she has found is Jim's dog, still looking for him. The reader also meets the spirit of Jim, trapped between here and heaven and not quite sure that he is dead, as well as the spirit of another boy, Thomas, a runaway slave who died in the cabin. Thomas has not crossed over because he is waiting for his family to come and get him. Callie and Wendell form a tentative friendship, both knowing that black and white are not supposed to be friends in their small town. While they are investigating the past, the town is presently in a state of tension because of an article in the black newspaper suggesting that the new town swimming pool be open to blacks and not white only. All these events, past and present, draw in Callie and Wendell. Touching on friendship, loyalty, loss, and the issue of race inequality, this is a moving book that will touch children and introduce them in an age-appropriate manner to the issues that led to the Civil Rights Movement.

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