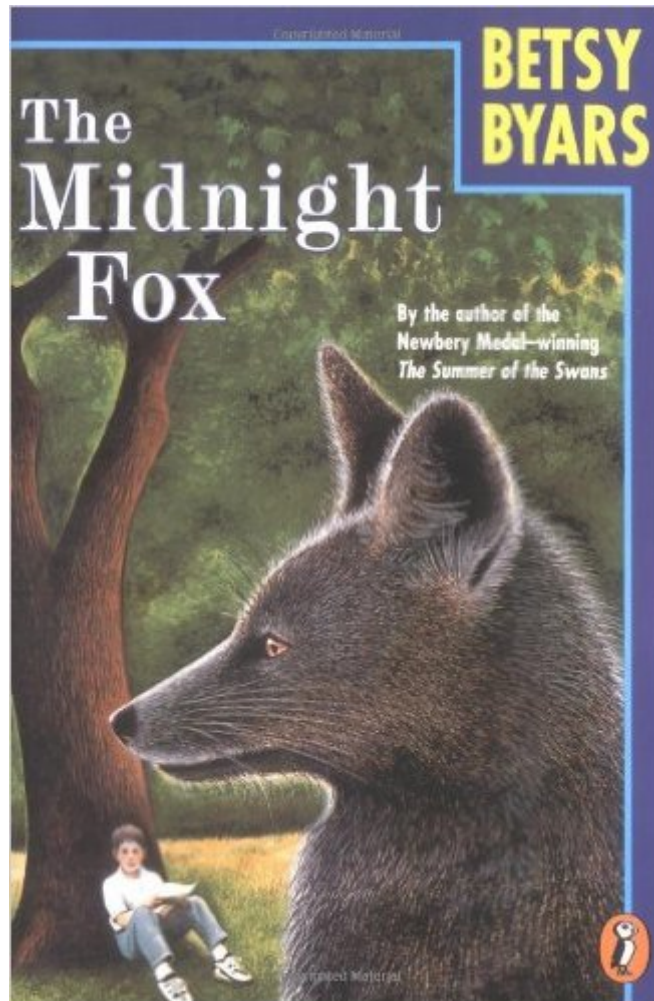


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# The Midnight Fox (Puffin Story Books)



## Synopsis

No one asked Tom how he felt about spending two months on his Aunt Millie's farm. For a city boy, the farm holds countless terrors - stampeding baby lambs, boy-chasing chickens, and worst of all, loneliness. But everything changes when Tom sees the midnight fox. He can spend hours watching the graceful black fox in the woods. And when her life - and that of her cub - is in danger, Tom knows exactly what he must do.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 970L (What's this?)

Series: Puffin story books

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reissue edition (July 30, 1981)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140314504

ISBN-13: 978-0140314502

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (42 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #392,188 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #257 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Foxes & Wolves](#) #456 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Farm Life](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Back in 1968, I think it's fair to say that your average male hero in children's fiction was usually an athletic or at least agile young man. The Hardy Boys, after all, were still popular and the degree of introspection most young men in today's fiction are apt to was significantly less. Not so the hero of Betsy Byars's, "The Midnight Fox". A small unassuming but still interesting book from the last 60s, the tale is of an unathletic average boy, his summer spent on a farm in the country, and his chance encounters with a mysterious woodland creature. There is no magic. No mystical occurrences or significant coincidences. Just ordinary people acting and reacting to one another and the appearance of the animal that divides them. Tom is under the distinct impression that animals of all sorts, regardless of species or family, hate him. And this is just one of the myriad of reasons Tom

does not want to stay on his Aunt Millie and Uncle Fred's farm. He'll be far away from his best friend, alone with family members he hardly knows, and he'll probably get loaded down with chores. Still, Tom's parents are adamant, so it's off to the farm for a couple months he goes. Of course, nothing is as bad as he had anticipated. His relatives are sweethearts, his chores miniscule and his best friend is writing him regularly. As for animals, Tom meets one that becomes his summer fixation. Living on the acres of land surrounding the farm is a rare and beautiful black fox with a single cub. Intrigued by this elusive creature, the boy discovers her lair and protects her secret. But when the fox angers the family by making off with a few chickens, Tom has to figure out exactly what to do to save his new friend from people with excellent fox-tracking skills.

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