

<p>GP 1</p> <p>"Out of the Dust"</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Merit (High)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• clearly answers question• discusses how (techniques eg twists in plot)• discusses specific emotions (e.g unexpected, sadness)• not insightful enough for excellence (free verse not as well dealt with)
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Topic number: 4

Circle the text type:

Novel

Non-fiction

Drama scr

Title: Out of the dustAuthor: Karen Hesse

GPI

PLANNING

Analyse how techniques were used to strongly affect your emotions in one or two key sections

Techniques

- unexpected twists in plot.
- free verse, beautiful, poetic.
- used technique of writing as Billie Jo, young girl and following events through the mind and train of thought.

Sections.

- death of mother & brother
- man in boxcar

Emotions

- Sadness
- shock, disbelief.
- contentment.

Start your essay on the next page.

Begin your essay here:

Karen Hesse's novel Out of The Dust is set in the 1930 depression years in Oklahoma, America. It is the story of ^{a young girl, Billie Jo, and} her family and the trials and tribulations they must face in the

Karen Hesse's novel Out of The Dust is set in the 1930 depression years in Oklahoma, America. It is the story of a young girl, Billie Jo and her family as they go through the trials and tribulations of trying to survive in such harsh unforgiving times, due ~~to~~ not only ^{to} the after-effects of the Wall Street crash of 1929 but also the horrific dust-storms raving the land. Karen Hesse successfully employed many techniques such as unexpected twists in the plot, the writing style of free verse and by telling the story through young Billie Jo's eyes to really tap into strong emotions that I experienced as a reader in two key sections, the death of Billie Jo's mother and brother and Billie Jo's experience running away from home.

Out of The Dust begins as the musings of a young girl named Billie Jo, the pace of the story is consistence and calm as the reader is left with images of farm and school life for Billie Jo. This atmosphere is shattered however by the unexpected twist in the plot, in which Billie Jo's ~~mother~~ pregnant mother is engulfed in flames. Bayard, Billie Jo's father carelessly leaves

or pail of kerosene beside the kitchen stove, mistaking it for ~~the~~ ^{water} Billie Jo's mother ~~accidentally~~ sets the kitchen on fire. She tears out side screaming for Bayard while Billie Jo picked up the pail of kerosene and tips it out the door way. ~~Her~~ ^{Her} timing coincides with her mother re-entering the house and "suddenly ma was a column of fire". I was desperate to save her, desperate to save the baby ~~but~~ I tried beating out the flames with my hands. But it was no good. Ma got burned bad." I did not expect this to happen at all and I remember vividly the feelings of shock turned to sadness as I read the scene unfold. It is like Karen Hesse is ~~using~~ lets the reader experience the utter disbelief and shock that Billie Jo, Bayard and her mother must be ~~experiencing~~ feeling. This is a very powerful technique that not only taps into my emotions but also kept me captivated as a reader.

Hesse's use of free verse is also a great technique in Out of The Dust. The book ~~is~~ flows well but is basically made up of lots of poems about Billie Jo and her life. In the chapter or segment depicting the horrific burning of Billie Jo's mother and her unborn child Hesse uses language techniques in her free verse to emphasis emotions of the reader. She links the beginning and ending of the poem with ~~the~~ "ma got burned bad." When you first read this at the beginning of the poem you can

feel your heart racing as you try to visualise what possibly could have happened and you feel a wave of worry wash right over you. After you find out what has happened to Billie Jo's mother the line is repeated once again ^{"ma got burned bad"} and you are left with a mixture of sadness and a sickening feeling in the pit of your stomach as you begin to comprehend and process of Billie Jo's ^{mother's} burnt and disfigured body. Free verse was a powerful technique that drew strong emotions because of the beauty and metaphoric style of Hesse's free verse not its ability to tell the reader not too much, but not too little information. It also can use a lot of emotive language to draw out emotions.

Telling the story through Billie Jo's eyes is also a technique which creates strong emotions in the reader because it lets us really identify with Billie Jo. We hear her utmost secrets and thoughts like when her mother dies, of course we can imagine Billie Jo would be sad but she shows us that she is "so filled with bitterness. It comes from the dust, the death of her mother, the silence of her father." And that really taps into an emotion of empathy. When Billie Jo runs away, she sits opposite a man who too had run away from his ~~home~~ home. But unlike Billie Jo he left behind a wife and children. This is when Billie Jo realises that although her father has been a quiet

mother

after the death of her ~~father~~ and ~~her~~ brother, he has been dealing with "not only his own sorrow, but her grief as well. And he has been keeping a home together until she broke it." She misinterpreted her father's silence as him not caring, but really he has always been there for her, not leaving her all alone like the cowardly man on the train has left his family. It is such a wonderful feeling to read about Billie Jo really processing how much her father cares for her, which is why telling the story through her eyes is such a powerful technique for creating emotion.

Out of The Dust really draws out deep strong emotions in the reader not only by shocking storyline, but by the techniques ~~she~~ ^{Hesse} used to go about it, such as unexpected twists in plot, free verse and telling the story through main character Billie Jo's eyes. As a reader I found it really enhanced my reading experience, and I really connected with this beautiful story.