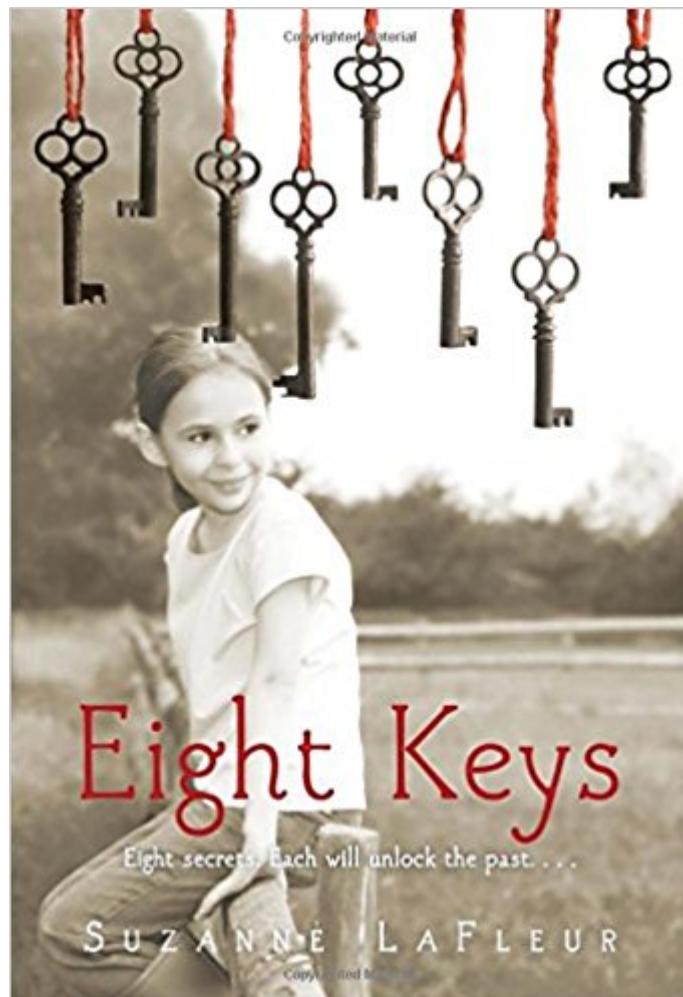


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# Eight Keys



## **Synopsis**

Elise and Franklin have always been best friends. Elise has always lived in the big house with her loving Uncle and Aunt, because Elise's parents died when she was too young to remember them. There's always been a barn behind the house with eight locked doors on the second floor. When Elise and Franklin start middle school, things feel all wrong. Bullying. Not fitting in. Franklin suddenly seems babyish. Then, soon after her 12th birthday, Elise receives a mysterious key left for her by her father. A key that unlocks one of the eight doors upstairs in the barn . . . SUNSHINE STATE AWARD FINALIST! From the Hardcover edition.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 0590 (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Yearling; Reprint edition (July 24, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375872132

ISBN-13: 978-0375872136

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 211 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #100,012 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #125 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #152 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Orphans & Foster Homes #846 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Starred Review, Publishers Weekly, June 6, 2011:"LaFleur (Love, Aubrey) writes with uncommon sensitivity to the fraught period between childhood and the teenage years, when friendships balance on a razor's edge and nothing feels certain. The heart of the story lies in the layered relationships and characters that give the novel its powerful sense of realism."

SUZANNE LAFLEUR received her MFA in writing for children from The New School. This is her

second novel.

This is the story of Elise. She isn't sure where she fits in life but she never realized she should care until a mean girl makes her care. I think a lot of us go along the path of not realizing we need to care where we fit, we just do our thing. It's when someone pushes us to figure it out that we think maybe something is wrong. At 35, I can say, nothing is wrong, you fit where you fit, it will all be okay. But at 12, that is harder. I enjoyed sharing this story with my daughter who is 9 and doesn't care where she fits. She has her friends and her activities and she just does them. In this way, she relates to Elise. She relates to the 9 year old version of me. She gets mean girls, she gets people with non-traditional family dynamics. Someday she will be 12 and she will have questions just like Elise. I enjoyed seeing how much Elise's parents loved her in the short amount of time they were able to spend with her. I loved how much love she has around her coming from her Aunt, Uncle, her Dad's best friend, her best friend and his family. To me, this is the true meaning of family. This is our family. I hope a lot of kids read this book as see this family dynamic is healthy and strong. Way to go Suzanne.

Great book for 4th, 5th, 6th graders. Very well written. I am a retired teacher and I read it before I gave it to my granddaughter. I purchased 1 copy for her and another for me to read aloud to classes that I have as a long term substitute. Lots of lessons and areas for discussion. I was very pleased with the story line, characters, and real life situations.

Eight Keys is not a book I would ordinarily read, being about 50 years older than its target audience. However, my daughter is reading it to my grandkids (ages 9 and 10), so I read it in order to better understand the things they are thinking about. Both kids enjoyed the book immensely. They were able to relate to the trepidation Elise felt in moving from a small elementary school to a larger middle school, with the accompanying peer pressure that goes with such a move. The villain, Amanda, was relatable to them, and gave my daughter an opportunity to discuss bullying in a way that allowed the kids not to feel they were being examined (always an issue at this age). The changes in Elise's relationship with Franklin rang true for the children, and I think the author did a good job of describing the concerns kids have with feeling like they belong. If I have any complaint, and its a minor one, I thought some of the eight keys made more useful points than others, and some were kind of rushed through by the author, but overall, I'm very glad my grandkids read this book.

I finished this book in one day ... it was that good. It is very well written and it had a little suspense in it. I love suspense novels so I am surprised how much I liked this book. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves to read. If you like this book, you should read the rest of Suzanne LaFleur's books.

It was a totally awesome book but, I like because it was talking about all sorts of thing and it was a puzzle in there it was talking about muddled school im going there and I recommend this book to my mother she bought for me and she's a good mother just for my education because I had to read it for school comprehend and good a good grade on it and I liked because it's talking a bout friends and I have one thing to fix with my friend savannah she the greatest friend ever/anahi awesome

This is a great book for you and me and I think it's just a great book for all ages its so amazing how one girl find out so many things about her life. I gave this book a five star rating because it was so amazing! I think anyone can read this and think what an amazing book. You should read this book. It is such a great book to read at any time any day under the shade of a tree. This book is so amazing I just can't say how amazing this book is. I love this book so so so so so so so so so very much. Please you should read this book it is amazing! :-)

My 9 year old daughter brought this home to read along with another book. She picked up the other one, and I picked up this one. She hated the other one and I fell in love with this one. I had to end up buying it on my Kindle so she could have hers back and I could continue reading. I could not put it down. I love it. She ended up loving it as well!!

This book will blow you away with all the secrets Elise will discover! She will find out who she really is and how to be a true friend.I would read this book if you like mysteries and finding out who your support to be. I promise you that you will love it!!!

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