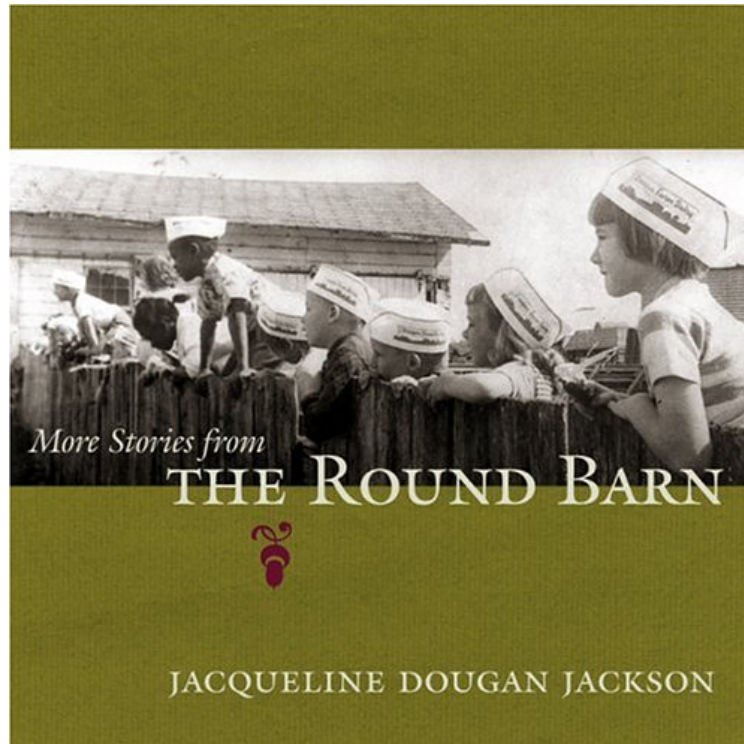


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## More Stories from the Round Barn

*Jacqueline Dougan Jackson*

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**Jacqueline Dougan Jackson : More Stories from the Round Barn** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised More Stories from the Round Barn:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy dmrnicely written.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Doug H.well written

In this much anticipated companion volume to *Stories from the Round Barn*, Jackson assembles a collection of rich narratives and a cast of inspirational characters to joyously illustrate life. In the tradition of Willa Cather, Jackson writes of innocence, simplicity, and what happens when both are messily shattered by the intrusion of animals, children, war, epidemics, and progress itself. With wit and compassion Jackson recollects the hardships and satisfactions of farm life as lived according to her grandfather's motto: "Life as Well as a Living."

From Publishers WeeklyFollowing her well-received *Stories from the Round Barn* (1997), Jackson has compiled dozens more tales about her family's dairy farm in Beloit, Wis., and, she says, "the stories here do not exhaust the supply." These earnest sketches capture the sounds and rhythms of early and mid-20th-century rural life, with chapters on judging cows, cornhusking contests, taming horses and various other chores and pleasures to be found around the Dougan family farm. It's not strictly organized either chronologically or thematically, so readers can dip in and out with ease. "The Split in the Silo" describes the family's efforts to repair a dangerous crack in the just-filled silo that

rises from the center of the eponymous barn. This chapter sits alongside the story of a wayward and destructive goat named Butter who refuses to stay in her pen. The next chapter, "Dan Goldsmith," recalls an exceptional herdsman who always played classical music, whistled Bach cantatas and listened to educational radio while milking the cows. Jackson is a children's author and it shows throughout the narrative: she offers very short chapters, simple sentence construction, present-tense narration and plenty of simple dialogue. Nearly every story reflects a child's point of view the author's own and though the book is not marketed for young adults, it certainly has their interests at heart. Quaint, warm and sincere, this collection of sketches and anecdotes offers a nostalgic record of a dying institution the family-run farm. bw photos. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. About the Author Jacqueline Dougan Jackson published her first story at age ten and has gone on to author eleven books in addition to the popular *Stories from the Round Barn* (Northwestern, 1998). She teaches at the University of Illinois at Springfield.