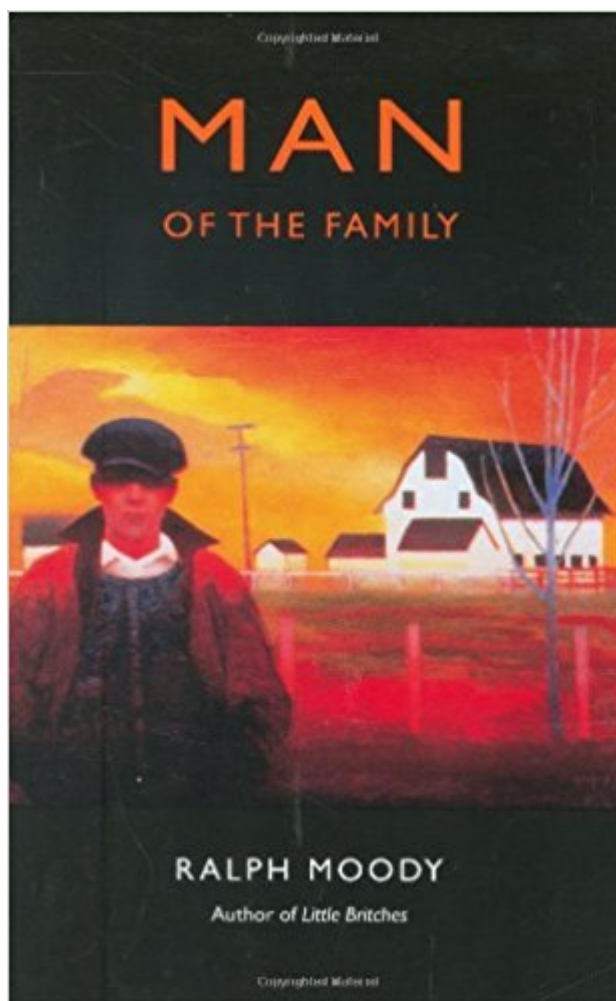


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# Man Of The Family



## Synopsis

Fortified with Yankee ingenuity and western can-do energy, the Moody family, transplanted from New England, builds a new life on a Colorado ranch early in the twentieth century. Father has died and Little Britches shoulders the responsibilities of a man at age eleven. *Man of the Family* continues true pioneering adventures as unforgettable as those in *Little Britches* and *The Fields of Home*, also available as Bison Books.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Ralph Moody's books should be read aloud in every family circle in America." •Sterling North (Sterling North)"[Moody] has a splendid talent for bringing the ashes of the past into life." •Chicago Sunday Tribune (Chicago Sunday Tribune)"An affectionate portrait of ranch-town folk who knew how to help without humiliating, and a warm but unglushing tribute to a remarkable woman who deplored her inability to give her children everything, yet gave them much." •New York Times (New York Times)"Man of the Family is everything that *Little Britches* was" •a heart-warming, frank, completely delightful narrative. Some readers may even like it better." •San Francisco Chronicle (San Francisco Chronicle)"Mr. Moody remembers, and can put on paper, the terrifying passion of a small boy's heart, where there is no routine, and every victory and every disappointment is oversized and overwhelming." •New York Herald Tribune (New York Herald Tribune)"A heart-warming book. . . . Little Britches' fierce loyalty to his mother is matched only by his practical consideration for his brothers and sisters." •Christian Science Monitor (Christian Science Monitor)

Ralph Moody (1898–1982) is the author of *Come on Seabiscuit!* as well as the Little Britches series about a boy's life on a Colorado ranch, all available in Bison Books editions.

The second book in the Little Britches series is both inspiring and thought provoking. Ralph Moody has a way of connecting with the reader. His narration is simple. He has a very straight-forward way of telling his stories that makes it seem like you are sitting down with him, listening to him tell tales of his childhood over a cup of coffee. The characters in his books come to life in vivid form. Your mind's eye can picture the sheriff with his long drawl, the blacksmith's rugged form, his mother pinching her lip as she puzzles out a problem. As I read of what this family went through after his father's death, how every single one of them pulled together and accomplished amazing things, I wonder if our family could do the same. Would we have the fortitude to bare up under extreme hardship? And not only to bare up, but to do so with contentment and optimism? Ralph and his older sister Grace as well as the younger siblings had to accept grown-up responsibilities at a young age. There was no self-pity or feeling that they were somehow missing out in life. The fruits of their labor were never viewed as individual property, but were given to the good of the whole family. A theme of selflessness and love for each other runs through the book. Though the title is "Man of the Family", the thread that ties it all together is Ralph's mother. Her utter selflessness, her constant labor, her unbelievable cheerfulness in the face of constant worry and struggle, and her deep love for her children and theirs for her is what makes this book so touching. She is a woman of tremendous character--character that leads her to right, even when it is hard, character that she passed on to her children. She inspires them to be all that they can be, and they rise to the occasion and meet the obstacles that life throws at them with cheerfulness and a sense of humor. It truly is amazing what a family can do.

Love this series. I bought it to read to my homeschool crew during lunch. I could not wait and had to read ahead! The entire series is captivating.

The first two in this series are definitely worth the buy--a must for growing up with. The ingenuity and sturdiness of this family is a wonderful read!

I enjoy reading about what life was like in the past. This is a well written book about a time where children respected adults and were willing to pitch in and do their part to help their family survive.

Great read!

This is another favorite of mine in this series. It's a sadder book made strong and hopeful by the inventiveness of the woman and the children who are left to manage without a man in house. I know it's Man of the Family because it's Ralph Moody's story, but it ought to be titled simply The Family. They work together to survive and eventually thrive. The ending is something of a shocker though. The passion with which the family commits itself to the land they live on makes you believe everything about their lives is solid even when the ground is shifting under their feet.

This was my review of the first of this series and it holds for all books by Mr Moody."I first read this book in 1956 shortly after it was published. This is probably my favorite book of all time and I am a voracious reader. I own several first editions of Mr Moody's books including an autographed copy of this one. This book is must reading for families as it teaches the values that made this Country what it is. Hard work. Self Reliance. Honesty. Honor. This book and the books in this series helped form the value system that stays with me to this day and served me throughout a successful career in commercial construction and in raising a family of my own. I am now buying copies for my grandkids as they get to the age that they will understand the lessons contained in Mr Moody's books."

good series

Such reading enjoyment for me...can't get enough! Wish I could've met the author...interesting life and person.

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