



## Heartbeat

By Sharon Creech

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**Heartbeat** By Sharon Creech

Run run run.

That's what twelve-year-old Annie loves to do. When she's barefoot and running, she can hear her heart beating . . .

thump-thump, thump-thump.

It's a rhythm that makes sense in a year when everything's shifting: Her mother is pregnant, her grandfather is forgetful, and her best friend, Max, is always moody. Everything is changing, just like the apple Annie's been assigned to draw a hundred times.

Newbery Medal winner Sharon Creech masterfully weaves this story about a young girl beginning to understand the many rhythms of life and how she fits within them.

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## Heartbeat By Sharon Creech Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

Grade 4-7 A tenderhearted story told in spare, free-verse poems. Annie, 12, takes great pleasure in running, but has no interest in racing or becoming a member of a team. For her, the pure joy comes from feeling the earth beneath her bare feet and the wind in her face. The experience is totally different for her moody friend and running partner, Max. For him, running is a way to escape his personal problems. Annie's comfortable, tightly knit world begins to unravel when she learns that her mother is pregnant and she becomes increasingly aware that her beloved Grandpa, a former champion racer, is slipping into dementia. She is a resourceful, self-possessed kid who takes comfort in the familiar but is able to face change and take it in stride. She marvels at the new life taking shape in her midst (her father provides month-by-month summations of the baby's development) and mourns the loss of her grandfather's strong and nurturing wisdom. School, art class, and chores appear throughout the verses, creating an everyday rhythm that matches the footfalls of this engaging heroine who loves to move, but who is willing to stop and smell the roses. Readers will enjoy meeting Annie, her family, and friends and will appreciate her resilience and spirit. This is vintage Creech, and its richness lies in its sheer simplicity.--Luann Toth, School Library Journal

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#### From Booklist

Gr. 3-6. "I love to run / but I don't want to run / in a herd," avows 11-year-old Annie, the free-spirited, ruminative narrator of Creech's second novel in verse. Annie's nonconformist outlook has raised tensions with her running buddy, Max, who can't understand why Annie won't join him on the track team. In the meantime, Annie's mother is pregnant, which thrills Annie but brings her grandfather's failing health into painful focus. In the midst of these shifting relationships, a creative teacher's school assignment offers solace and, as in *Love That Dog* (2001), an opportunity for self-discovery: Annie must draw a single apple each day for 100 days. The symbolism of the apple seems belabored, and the story's gentle momentum will probably hook only the most thoughtful young readers. But like the apple Annie draws, this story is a lovingly crafted, miniature landscape, which will find its most passionate advocates among Creech's numerous adult fans.

*Jennifer Mattson*

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#### Review

'A tenderhearted story told in spare, free-verse poems. Readers will enjoy meeting Annie, her family, and friends and will appreciate her resilience and spirit. This is vintage Creech, and its richness lies in its sheer simplicity' (Starred Review) School Library Journal "Heartbeat is a warm-hearted, free-verse story from award-winning Sharon Creech, much in the same mould as her wonderful *Love That Dog*" Financial Times 'Gets under your skin and you will want to read it again. Creech has the ability to write about relationships, particularly between young and old, in the most affecting yet unsentimental way' Scotsman

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

#### Dennis Thorpe:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or even goal; it means that e-

book has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. They may be reading whatever they have because their hobby is reading a book. How about the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, man feel need book once they found difficult problem or even exercise. Well, probably you will need this Heartbeat.

**Ericka McCall:**

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book is usually option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the e-book untitled Heartbeat can be excellent book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

**Linda Manning:**

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**Albertha Lemons:**

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