

***The Teacher's Funeral***

**Richard Peck**

**Reviewed by: Deidre Norman, 15**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity**

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After learning about their teacher's death over the summer, Russell and the rest of the kids believe their dreams of no school for their small town have finally come true. That is, until Russell's sister, Tansy, offers to teach the students as part of her training to earn her teaching license. Outraged, Russell and his partners-in-cahoots attempt to force Tansy to give up on trying to teach them. However, Tansy goes ten better and teaches the kids to love learning in ways they least expect and to expect more from themselves than they had ever learned.

The tricks the kids pulled to trip up Tansy were hilarious. Also, I loved the trial the superintendents put Tansy and her students through and how they all came through with colors flying high. They gave the school board much more than they were expecting to witness. There wasn't much to dislike about this book, except some parts may have been a little too graphic—killing the pig, the fight between the two boys over Tansy's affections.

I think this book is appropriate for high elementary grades—4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>. It's a great book to get from the library. It's not as funny as some of Richard Peck's other books, but funny enough. It will make you want to read other books by the author. Here are a few suggestions:

Recommended Titles:

*Secret School* by Avi

*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg

*Here Lies the Librarian* by Richard Peck