



## The Breaker Boys

By Pat Hughes

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

### The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes

The son of a wealthy Pennsylvania coal mine operator, Nate Tanner resents being shipped off to boarding school. Anger—mainly at his father and stepmother—is what gets him there and what prevents him from making friends. Then, in the spring of 1897, it gets him kicked out and sent home. To avoid his family, Nate disappears on his bicycle every day. In this way he meets the breaker boys, who do dangerous, dirty work for his father, separating coal from debris. Nate admires these Polish immigrants, especially Johnny, and longs to become his friend. But the only way is for Nate to hide that he is the boss's son. As Nate and Johnny's friendship marches toward the moment of truth, Nate discovers that the mine workers are plotting a strike. Should he warn his family or protect his friend?

This fascinating second novel features a hero who is blessed—or cursed—with the ability to see both sides of a painful issue and to accept that no one is impartial.

 [Download The Breaker Boys ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Breaker Boys ...pdf](#)

# **The Breaker Boys**

*By Pat Hughes*

## **The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes**

The son of a wealthy Pennsylvania coal mine operator, Nate Tanner resents being shipped off to boarding school. Anger—mainly at his father and stepmother—is what gets him there and what prevents him from making friends. Then, in the spring of 1897, it gets him kicked out and sent home. To avoid his family, Nate disappears on his bicycle every day. In this way he meets the breaker boys, who do dangerous, dirty work for his father, separating coal from debris. Nate admires these Polish immigrants, especially Johnny, and longs to become his friend. But the only way is for Nate to hide that he is the boss's son. As Nate and Johnny's friendship marches toward the moment of truth, Nate discovers that the mine workers are plotting a strike. Should he warn his family or protect his friend?

This fascinating second novel features a hero who is blessed—or cursed—with the ability to see both sides of a painful issue and to accept that no one is impartial.

## **The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #758300 in Books
- Published on: 2004-09-10
- Released on: 2004-08-26
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.58" h x 1.03" w x 5.70" l, .89 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 256 pages

 [Download The Breaker Boys ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Breaker Boys ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes

---

### Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 7-9-In 1897, Nate Tanner is kicked out of boarding school and sent home to Hazelton, PA. His mother has died, and his father has married the family's youthful governess. The 12-year-old is lonely and experiences unexplained rage that manifests itself in fights. His father decrees that Nate will work with a tutor in preparation for the next year at another boarding school, and the boy sees a long summer ahead. While on a bicycle ride, he meets up with a bunch of "breaker boys," immigrants his own age who work at sorting coal in the mines owned by Nate's family. Soon, he is playing baseball with them, and he grows particularly close to Johnny. When Nate is invited to a birthday dinner, he begins to wonder about his family's role in the miners' dire living conditions. When the breaker boys participate in a labor strike, Nate witnesses the brutality of management yet must reconcile it with loyalty to his family. Hughes has created a complex protagonist who's likable even when acting "ugly." The author doesn't provide pat answers, but offers the hope that the questions Nate faces will be resolved. Readers—especially boys—will relate to him, and they will learn about coal production and the everyday life of both workers and owners. An author's note discusses the historical events on which this novel is based.—Elizabeth M. Reardon, McCallie School, Chattanooga, TN

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 5-9. Nate's family owns collieries in Pennsylvania, but Nate keeps his relationship to "the boss" a secret when he makes friends with 12-year-old Johnny, a Polish immigrant who works in the mines, just as he never talks at home about his contact with the mining community. With Johnny's help, Nate gets to spend a day as a breaker boy, and he experiences firsthand the exhausting work in a noisy, filthy colliery. There's big trouble in the mines, and a violent strike is brewing, and when Nate's two worlds collide, the boy must cope with Johnny's and Pa's fury at his betrayal. The outcome is a bit too neat, but Hughes never minimizes the meanness, the anger, and the hurt. Most affecting are the facts about child labor and the social history in the late nineteenth century, as seen through the eyes of a witness to many sides. Pair this with Susan Bartoletti's nonfiction account *Growing Up in Coal Country* (1996). Hazel Rochman

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Review

"A strong story of family and friendship, rooted in a fascinating period of American history." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"A compelling fictional narrative." —*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

"Hughes has created a complex protagonist . . . Readers—especially boys—will relate to him, and they will learn about coal production and the everyday life of both workers and owners."

—*School Library Journal*

"Well-researched." —*VOYA*

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Michael Griffin:

The book The Breaker Boys gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable more increase. Book can to become your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem with your subject. If you can make reading through a book The Breaker Boys for being your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about some or all subjects. You can know everything if you like start and read a publication The Breaker Boys. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this book?

#### Alberto Redden:

The experience that you get from The Breaker Boys is a more deep you looking the information that hide into the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to understand but The Breaker Boys giving you excitement feeling of reading. The writer conveys their point in particular way that can be understood simply by anyone who read the item because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having that The Breaker Boys instantly.

#### Peter Mullins:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book may be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the reserve untitled The Breaker Boys can be great book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

#### Nancy Gump:

Reading a reserve make you to get more knowledge from that. You can take knowledge and information from the book. Book is published or printed or illustrated from each source which filled update of news. In this modern era like at this point, many ways to get information are available for an individual. From media social such as newspaper, magazines, science e-book, encyclopedia, reference book, new and comic. You can add your knowledge by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just trying to find the The Breaker Boys when you necessary it?

**Download and Read Online The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes  
#JHGV40ISTXR**

## **Read The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes for online ebook**

The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes books to read online.

### **Online The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes ebook PDF download**

**The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes Doc**

**The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes MobiPocket**

**The Breaker Boys By Pat Hughes EPub**