

# QUICK CARD: *THE BEE TREE*



<b>Reference</b>	<i>The Bee Tree</i> . Patricia Polacco. (1993) ISBN: 978-0698116962
<b>Plot</b>	A young girl struggling with reading goes with her grandfather on a wild chase for a bee tree and discovers the sweet rewards of patient persistence along the way.
<b>Setting</b>	The story begins and ends in Mary Ellen's Grampa's cozy study, but it bounds throughout the rural area that surrounds Grampa's farm, including colorfully named places like: Dietz Junction, the St. Joe River, Bird Talk Fellow Ridge, Bishop's Meadow, Dead Man's Tree, Bird Talk Hollow, and Dunks Woods. Most significantly, the story takes place in Mary Ellen's childhood.
<b>Characters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mary Ellen (protagonist)</li> <li>• Grampa</li> </ul> <p>A series of community members, who join the hunt for the bee tree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Govlock and her baby Sylvester</li> <li>• Einar Tundevold</li> <li>• Olav Lundheigen</li> <li>• Petra and Dorma Hermann</li> <li>• Klondike Bertha Fitzworth, Yukon explorer</li> <li>• Feduciary Longdrop, the goat herder</li> <li>• Three Traveling Musicians</li> </ul>
<b>Conflict</b>	Mary Ellen struggles to apply herself to the difficult task of learning to read; so, Grampa takes her on an adventure to teach her the joy of persistence. (Man vs. Self; Man vs. Nature)
<b>Theme</b>	The reward of patient persistence. The sweetness at the end of the journey.
<b>Literary Devices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metaphor of Honey and Books</li> <li>• Sensory Language</li> <li>• Alliteration, Assonance, Consonance, Onomatopoeia</li> <li>• Allusion</li> <li>• Neologism: Polacco invents words in order to communicate the noises made by the characters, such as "tweddle-tweddle" and "fump."</li> </ul>