



## The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards))

By Suzanne Jurmain

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They threw rocks and rotten eggs at the school windows. Villagers refused to sell Miss Crandall groceries or let her students attend the town church. Mysteriously, her schoolhouse was set on fire—by whom and how remains a mystery. The town authorities dragged her to jail and put her on trial for breaking the law.

Her crime? Trying to teach African American girls geography, history, reading, philosophy, and chemistry. Trying to open and maintain one of the first African American schools in America.

Exciting and eye-opening, this account of the heroine of Canterbury, Connecticut, and her elegant white schoolhouse at the center of town will give readers a glimpse of what it is like to try to change the world when few agree with you.

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## **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Grade 7-9—Jurmain describes the difficulties Crandall faced when she decided to open a school for African-American females in Canterbury, CT. Although she had the support of William Lloyd Garrison, editor of the antislavery publication the *Liberator*; Reverend Samuel May, a Unitarian minister; and others, her hard work met resistance in the form of riots, arson, and a jail sentence. Black-and-white photos highlight the key players and the famed schoolhouse. The appendix lists the courageous students who attended the school along with a few facts about them, including how their futures played out after the institution was forced to close. This book offers a fresh look at the climate of education for African Americans and women in the early 1800s. Report writers and recreational readers alike will find it informative.—*Kelly Czarnecki, Bloomington Public Library, IL*

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From [Booklist](#)

\*Starred Review\* Gr. 5-8. Jurmain has plucked an almost forgotten incident from history and has shaped a compelling, highly readable book around it. In 1831, Prudence Crandall opened a school for young white ladies. When asked by an African American teenager if she might join the class, Crandall, whose sympathies were with the abolitionists, agreed. So begins a jolting episode in which Crandall turned her school into one for girls of color, and is both tormented and sued by the citizenry of Canterbury, Connecticut, who wanted no part of African Americans in their town. Writing with a sense of drama that propels readers forward (and quoting the language of the day, which includes the word *nigger*), Jurmain makes painfully clear what Crandall and her students faced, while showing their courage as they stood up to those who tried to deter them. Printed on thick, snowy stock and including a number of sepia-toned and color photographs as well as historical engravings, the book's look will draw in readers. Children will be especially pleased by the appended material, which includes an epilogue that tells what became of the principals, as well as source notes for the many quotes. *Ilene Cooper*

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Review

\* "Jurmain has plucked an almost forgotten incident from history and has shaped a compelling, highly readable book around it."

—*Booklist, starred review*

"Fascinating photographs and images . . . and endnotes provide insight into the lives of the students, Crandall, and her supporters."

—*Horn Book*

"This book offers a fresh look at the climate of education for African Americans and women in the early 1800s."

—*School Library Journal*

"A captivating read."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Darren Custer:**

The book *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students* (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards)) make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable far more increase. Book can being your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make looking at a book *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students* (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards)) to become your habit, you can get more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You could know everything if you like open up and read a book *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students* (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards)). Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this book?

#### **Joshua Rodrigue:**

This *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students* (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards)) book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. This particular *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students* (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards)) without we comprehend teach the one who examining it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't end up being worry *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students* (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards)) can bring if you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students* (Bccb Blue Ribbon Nonfiction Book Award (Awards)) having excellent arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

#### **Teresa Graham:**

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