

WHOSE NAMES ARE UNKNOWN

Whose Names Are Unknown was written by Sanora Babb at the same time as *Grapes of Wrath* but not published until 2004. The novel is set mostly in Oklahoma and is a detailed account of two families based on her own childhood experience. Some critics consider it superior to Steinbeck's acclaimed book.

The following excerpts come from the Google Books preview for the paperback version of the book (<https://books.google.com/books?id=CLrWpv DtRUC>).

- [Chapter 2, pages 6-9 \(all\)](#)
- [Chapter 9, pages 56-57](#)
 - Excerpt from the bottom of page 56 (following ***) to top of page 57:
“To Julia this was...[56-57]... children yelling and laughing on their way to the gate.”
- [Chapter 16, pages 86-87](#)
 - Excerpt between *** at the bottom of page 86 to *** at the bottom of page 87:
“The next day was the same. All night...[86-87]...and went on with her work.”
- [Chapter 17, pages 90-95 \(all\)](#)

The following excerpts can be found using Amazon’s “Search Inside This Book” feature for the paperback version (<https://www.amazon.com/dp/0806137126>). If the links no longer work, select “Look Inside” above the book cover image on Amazon and search for the chapter titles (e.g., “twenty-five”) in the “Search Inside This Book” search bar.

- Chapter 20, pages [111](#) [112](#) [113](#)
 - Excerpt starts at the beginning of the chapter and continues to all but the last paragraph on page 113: “The Starwood truck...[111-113]...against the steering wheel and got her breath.”
- [Chapter 25, page 133](#)
 - Excerpt starts at the beginning of the chapter and ends with the line, “It’s too hard for you,’ he replied.”
- [Chapter 41, page 200](#)
 - Excerpt is the first paragraph.

GRAPES OF WRATH

Grapes of Wrath is a novel published in 1939 by John Steinbeck, Nobel-Prize winner for literature. The novel centers on the Joads, a family of sharecroppers who journey to California to find a new life amidst the Dust Bowl and Great Depression.

Chapter 1, all (These are recommended reading excerpts)

- **Select quotes** (These are quotes taken out of the passage)
 - "Houses were shut tight, and cloth wedged around doors and windows, but the dust came in so thinly that it could not be seen in the air, and it settled like pollen on the chairs and tables, on the dishes."

Chapter 5, pages 31-33

- **Select quotes**
 - "The bank is something more than men, I tell you. It's the monster. Men made it, but they can't control it."

Chapter 11, all

Chapter 12, page 121

- **Excerpt** (This is *the* excerpt from Chapter 12)
 - "Well, California's a big State.
It ain't that big. The whole United States ain't that big. It ain't that big. It ain't big enough. There ain't room enough for you an' me, for your kind an' my kind, for rich and poor together all in one country, for thieves and honest men. For hunger and fat. Whyn't you go back where you come from?
This is a free country. Fella can go where he wants.
That's what *you* think! Ever hear of the border patrol on the California line? Police from Los Angeles—stopped you bastards turned you back. Says, if you can't buy no real estate we don't want you. Says, got a driver's license? Le's see it. Tore it up. Says you can't come in without no driver's license.
It's a free country.
Well, try to get some freedom to do. Fella says you're jus' as free as you got jack to pay for it."

Chapter 14, page 150-151, first paragraph

- **Select quotes**

- "Man, unlike any other thing organic or inorganic in the universe, grows beyond his work, walks up the stairs of his concepts, emerges ahead of his accomplishments." (p. 150)
- "Fear the time when the strikes stop while the great owners live - for every little beaten strike is proof that the step is being taken ... fear the time when Manself will not suffer and die for a concept, for this one quality is the foundation of Manself, and this one quality is man, distinctive in the universe." (p. 151)
- "Is a tractor bad? Is the power that turns the long furrows wrong? If this tractor were ours, it would be good - not mine, but ours. We could love that tractor then as we have loved this land when it was ours. But this tractor does two things - it turns the land and turns us off the land. There is little difference between this tractor and a tank. The people were driven, intimidated, hurt by both. We must think about this." (p. 151)

Chapter 19, quotes

- **Select quotes**

- "How can you frighten a man whose hunger is not only in his own cramped stomach but in the wretched bellies of his children? You can't scare him--he has known a fear beyond every other." (p. 137)
- "And the great owners, who must lose their land in an upheaval, the great owners with access to history, with eyes to read history and to know the great fact: when property accumulates in too few hands it is taken away. And that companion fact: when a majority of the people are hungry and cold they will take by force what they need. And the little screaming fact that sounds through all history: repression works only to strengthen and knit the repressed." (p. 238)

Chapter 23, quotes

- **Select quotes**

- "The migrant people, scuttling for work, scabbling to live, looked always for pleasure, dug for pleasure, manufactured pleasure, and they were hungry for amusement." ([p. 325](#))