

# [PDF] Kissing Tennessee: And Other Stories From The Stardust Dance

**Kathi Appelt - pdf download free book**

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**Books Details:**

Title: Kissing Tennessee: and Other  
Author: Kathi Appelt  
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**Description:**

*"For this one night,  
this one room  
is no longer the  
Dogwood Junior High cafeteria,  
not at all.  
It's the Stardust Dance.*

*You're invited."*

The eighth-grade Stardust Dance at Dogwood Junior High School is the place where dreams, with the help of a few paper moons and a whole lot of glitter, just might come true. Tawny is hoping that her borrowed shoes with the red rhinestone bows will somehow turn her into Cinderella. Mary Sarah dares for the first time in her life to tie a colored ribbon in her hair and apply forbidden lipstick. Russ wonders if he'll ever get over his first love, the unforgettable Annie P. Peggy Lee is enchanted by the magic of her childhood beau Tennessee's kisses. And Cub Tanner hides from the whole affair on the school roof as he nurses a surprising secret crush.

*Kissing Tennessee*, Kathi Appelt's first book for older readers, is a nice mix of frothiness and substance. Appelt humorously and accurately describes the making and breaking of the eighth-grade heart, while still tackling weighty issues like date rape, same-sex crushes, and family violence. Best of all, the entire short novel can be devoured in one study-hall period. This is a great choice for reluctant readers. (Ages 12 and older) --*Jennifer Hubert* --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

**From School Library Journal** Grade 6-9-Readers may be surprised by the powerful literary mix that they encounter in this short-story collection. In interrelated selections, individual students prepare for their eighth-grade dance, and every story shifts imperceptibly through a broad spectrum of teen issues. Rachel's religious father is abusive and volatile; Becca is the victim of date rape. Cub wraps himself in the scent of his father's old shirt hoping to protect himself from "The Question"-a private doubt about his sexuality that is taunting and terrifying him. The title story is equally fulfilling with a more traditional romantic flavor. The various moods are caught with immediacy and intimacy, and the resolutions occur in precious little time. This collection will spark conversation in contemporary literature discussions, will quietly unsettle readers, and will elevate the quality of short-story collections.

*Alison Follos, North Country School, Lake Placid, NY*

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