



APPENDICES

- 1. Summary of *A Painted House***
- 2. The Biography of John Grisham and His Literary Works**

Appendix 1

Summary of *A Painted House*

The story is about a farm boy named Luke Chandler whose age is seven years old. He lives in the cotton fields of Black Oak with his parents; Jesse and Kathleen Chandler and his grandparents; Eli and Ruth Chandler. They stay in a little house that has never been painted. They have simple and nice life but his life and family will change as soon as the laborers come.

The Chandler's farm is eighty acres that they rent from Mr. Vogel, a rich man in Memphis. They plant cotton in their field. September is a good time to harvest cotton. Eli Chandler or Poppy hires Mexicans and Hill People from Ozarks, Eureka Spring to harvest his cotton. And for next six weeks, the Chandler will share a life with them.

The picking of the cotton is done as soon as the laborers come. Everyday, the Chandlers wake up, have breakfast quickly and go to their farm to pick the cotton. For this time, Poppy will pay each of the laborers \$1,60 for hundreds. The Chandlers and their laborers always find themselves battling the heat, the rain, the fatigue and sometimes, each other.

As the weeks of picking the cotton pass, some bad incidents that they never imagine happens. Hank, one of the Chandler's laborers kills a young man from Black Oak and then, Ricky, the youngest son of the

Chandlers, rapes Libby, a daughter from the sharecroppers. Luke, a nice boy of the Chandlers, also makes bad mistakes. He sees unmarried teen girl gives birth and a naked young girl takes a bath in the creek.

The picking of the cotton has been done a half when the heavy rain falls in the farm days and days. St. Francis River in Black Oak cannot control the volume of the water. Therefore, the flood destroys almost the cotton farms in Black Oak including the Chandler's farm. They cannot do anything except asking the laborers to leave. Luke finds his father and grandfather depressed. They have worked for six months for cultivating the field, planting the seed, picking the cotton and finally, they get almost nothing that can show from it. The floods destroy all their dreams. They also cannot pay their loan to the man in Memphis. So, Luke's father, Jesse decides to move in the north part. His cousin, Jimmy Dale finds a job in a car factory for him. They must move to Memphis if they want to have a better life. They cannot always stay at Black Oak after some incidents happen. It will be a new experience for Luke since he almost never leaves the farm. They will save every cent they have to pay their loan. Before leaving the farm, Luke paints the Chandler's house. It is one things that he really wants to do. He is always jealous to see the townies paint their houses. He also wants to have a painted house like them. But he realizes that his parents and grandparents do not allow him to paint the house because they have no enough money. So, Luke saves every cent he has picking the cotton. Later, he paints the house eventhough he cannot finish it, His grandfather promises to finish his work in the day he arrives at home but nobody is sure he will return to the farm.