## **Tuck Everlasting**

In the novel, Tuck Everlasting, by Natalie Babbitt, Winnie gets kidnapped by a family who lives far out in the woods. They tell her this crazy story about a magical spring that makes you live forever, that's how the Tucks became immortal. Winnie now realizes there are many decisions to make. How will she solve them?

One of Winnie's first dilemmas is if she should trust the Tucks or not. When Winnie went away with the Tuck family, she was sad and missed her OWN family. Winnie felt that she was wasn't ever going to see her family again. The Tucks took her away from home for 2 days! While they have her, they tell her about a magical spring. Winnie does not know whether to trust them or not. When the Tucks start caring for her, she starts to trust them. Her heart clings to them, as to her parents.

Another one of Winnie's dilemmas was if she should help Mae Tuck or not. Jessie told her to meet them at the jailhouse at midnight to help set Mae Tuck free. Winnie has already been brought home from the constable once, if she gets brought home again, her parents really won't trust her. Winnie has clung to the Tucks while she has been with them so she feels like she has to help the Tucks. Winnie goes to the jailhouse, and is put in the cell, replacing Mae Tuck. Inside she feels guilty about committing a crime by breaking someone out of jail. Now she thinks her parents won't ever trust her again.

The toughest of all dilemmas is if she should drink from the spring. Jessie wants Winnie to drink the water when she is his age and live together forever. LITERALLY! Winnie doesn't know whether to drink it and live forever, or not drink it and die. When Winnie was brought home from the constable the second time, Winnie was lost. Her parents didn't believe her, she was guilty of letting the Tucks go, and she didn't know whether or not to drink the water from the small bottle. But one day Winnie was outside on a hot day sitting by her "pet toad", when a dog was trying to eat the toad. Winnie ran in the house and got the small bottle of everlasting water, and poured it on the toad. Winnie's last words to the toad were, "Now you're safe, forever."

In Tuck Everlasting, Winnie ends up dying, not drinking the water. Mae Tuck and Angus Tuck were walking on the street one day, and they saw the toad. A truck was coming and was going to run over the toad, but if the truck did, the toad would still live, because that was the toad that Winnie poured the everlasting water on. Over the course of Winnie's life, she had hard decisions to make, and all the choices she chose, changed her life forever. Winnie will always be in the Tucks hearts, but not in their lives. Even though Mr. Tuck doesn't want to live forever, he will still think about her, forever.