

Why you should read “Barn Burning”:

1. Faulkner is considered to be one of the best writers to master “stream of consciousness” writing – a technique that represents the circuitous nature of the human mind.
2. Faulkner’s syntax is very well crafted and brings the reader’s attention to each sentence as a work of art.
3. This short story provides the flavor and craft of Faulkner without the time commitment of a novel.
4. The characters of Sarty and Abner are vivid and memorable.
5. Extremely readable and engaging!

Why you may struggle with “Barn Burning”:

1. Faulkner’s vision is often dark and disturbing.
2. Since Faulkner’s well-crafted syntax is circuitous, it can be challenging at times.
3. The ending is difficult, yet thought-provoking.

Still interested? A suggestion before you begin...

- The syntax might be challenging to read. When you hit a difficult sentence, remember to find the subject and go from there.
- You can download the story for free:
<http://www.nku.edu/~peers/barnburning.htm>