

# QUICK CARD: *THE RELATIVES CAME*



Reference	<p><i>The Relatives Came</i> by Cynthia Rylant</p> <p>ISBN-10: 0874995329</p> <p>ISBN-13: 978-0689717383</p>
Plot	<p>When relatives from Virginia descend upon the narrator's family home, they invade his personal space. Yet, when they depart, he finds the house too empty and quiet, making him anticipate their next visit.</p>
Setting	<p>Summer vacation</p> <p>A family</p>
Characters	<p>The narrator, a child (this is a first person narration)</p> <p>An extended family</p>
Conflict	<p>Man vs. Man: The chaos that extended family visits bring. Close spaces.</p>
Theme	<p>When the relatives arrive, the house bursts with joy and activity. The hugging and laughing and eating that ensue are as exhausting as they are wonderful. Things are broken and fixed again. Fruit is harvested, and stories are told.</p> <p>Author Cynthia Rylant evokes vivid recollections of family reunions in <i>The Relatives Came</i>. Simultaneously recalling the joys and discomforts of family visits through the childish, honest eyes of the narrator, she captures both the warmth of family relationships and the difficulty of close quarters. Her colorful recap leaves readers longing for the next visit right along with the narrator.</p>