

## Web Resources to Accompany *Dahlia in Bloom*

*Dahlia in Bloom* takes place in rural North Carolina in 1933, which is during the Great Depression.

- Learn more about the Great Depression: [US History: The Great Depression](#)
- See Depression-era photographs and listen to a “child’s point of view.” [An Overview of the Great Depression – A Child’s Point of View](#)

On page 7, Dahlia’s family walks to Pete Gaddy’s store and “That’s when our new president said something that made no sense: *The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.*”

- View the swearing in of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, on March 3, 1933, followed by his Inaugural Address. [President Franklin D. Roosevelt First Inaugural Address](#)
- Listen to a recording of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s Inaugural Address on March 3, 1933: [Listen to Franklin D. Roosevelt’s First Inaugural Address](#)

On page 9, Dahlia says, “I rocked my little cornhusk doll in my arms, careful not to squeeze her brittle body too hard.” With money being scarce, farm families during this time were generally working hard to meet basic needs. Any toys possessed by children were usually handmade from natural resources or materials leftover from other projects.

- Learn how to make your own cornhusk doll from this demonstration video: [How To Make A Corn Dolly • \(Corn Husk Doll\)](#)

On page 22, Dahlia watches her mother make biscuits in a dough bowl: “Then she threw a couple handfuls of flour in her dough bowl. She poured in some buttermilk, scooped up a little lard, and shook a few drops of that spring water off her fingertips.” Dough bowls were common during this time and were made of wood. Some people still make wooden dough bowls today.

- Watch a dough bowl maker discuss his craft: [Dough Bowl Maker | NC Now | UNC-TV](#)

On page 29, Poppy tells the family that “Mr. Walker has a big farm over in Lothia Mill. He needs someone to run the farm for him since he’s away so much, and he’s offered us the chance to live and work at his place for a while.” This type of work was called tenant farming.

- Learn about farms in the 1930s: [Feeding the Family during the Great Depression](#)
- Learn more about farming in the 1930s, and how machinery brought an end to the practice of tenant farming: [Tenant Farmers Thrown Off the Land as 1930s Land Owners Buy Tractors](#)

At the end of Chapter V, Dahlia receives a handmade rag doll as a gift.

- Learn how to make your own rag doll from this instructional video: [How To Make A Beautiful Rag Doll - DIY Crafts Tutorial - Guidecentral](#)

On page 59, Dahlia discusses “wearing a hand-me-down dress Mommy made from a flour sack.” Flour sack dresses became so common during this time that companies began printing patterns on the flour and feed sacks to make them more attractive.

- Learn more about flour sack dresses: [Feed Sack Fashions And Patterns of Depression Era America](#)

Throughout the book, a shoo-fly quilt pattern is mentioned several times. Quilting is an art form that continues today.

- Learn how to make your own shoo-fly quilt block from this instructional video: [Shoofly quilt block](#)