

The book was found

Silent Observer



Synopsis

"I was born, like my seven brothers and sisters, in a house atop a hill overlooking lovely Bras d'Or Lake." So begins Christy MacKinnon's story of life as a little girl in 19th-century Nova Scotia, Canada. Through wonderful images created with her own words and her watercolors, she tells of a simple, charming life on the family farm; of learning with her father, the master of her town's one-room schoolhouse; and of her eventual travel to Halifax to attend a "special" school. As with many children in the 1800s, Christy became deaf after a "seige of whooping cough, " a sickness common then, which she barely survived. Silent Observer opens to young readers a world rarely seen today. They will be thrilled by her family's ride in a horse-drawn sleigh over a frozen northern lake, and her close encounters with a noisy bull and a "gentleman" ram. Children and adults alike will warm to her cheerful memories of the simple pleasure of playing in a flower-filled field with her brothers and sisters. They will discover, too, that young Christy crossed paths with many vital figures of the day, beginning with frequent visits by Alexander Graham Bell, and later with a momentous meeting with Helen Keller. Silent Observer is a delightful memoir told as it was seen through the eyes of a lively child. It is also a meaningful record of life for a deaf child and her family in the far reaches of Canada at the end of an era. Silent Observer is a beautiful, sensitive story that is sure to be enjoyed by everyone.

Book Information

Hardcover: 42 pages

Publisher: Gallaudet University Press; 1 edition (April 1, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 156368022X

ISBN-13: 978-1563680229

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #1,256,835 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #144 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Canada](#) #967 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs](#) #6510 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies](#)

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

Grade 2-4-MacKinnon, born in 1889 and deaf since the age of two, worked as an artist until her death in 1981. Her niece later found a package of artwork and notes and published them in this memoir. The text reads like a diary, lending authenticity and charm to MacKinnon's anecdotal stories of growing up in 19th-century Nova Scotia. Her watercolor illustrations are colorful and heavily outlined; some are more detailed than others. Their unpolished look reinforces the personal nature of the book. However, the intended audience for this title is unclear. The text is quite long, and the subject matter would be best appreciated by upper-elementary students, but the format is that of a picture book. A unique offering, but one with limited appeal. Christine A. Moesch, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, NY Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Ages 5-9. A personal view of growing up on a Cape Breton farm at the end of the nineteenth century. Illustrated with line-and-watercolor artwork, this first-person memoir starts when MacKinnon contracted whooping cough and lost her hearing at age two. The narrative continues through her first term at a boarding school in Halifax when she was 13. MacKinnon's experiences included the death of her mother, the realization that she was deaf, her father's remarriage, and her difficult adjustment to boarding school. While both the drawing and the writing are awkward at times, this memoir, culled after her death from MacKinnon's diaries and artwork, has a certain charm. Aside from the story itself, which includes the child's meeting Alexander Graham Bell and Helen Keller, as well as some amusing anecdotes of farm life, the book may be useful to teachers presenting units on nineteenth-century life or on deafness. Carolyn Phelan

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Silent Observer S. Petersen's Field Guide to Lovecraftian Horrors: A Field Observer's Handbook of Preternatural Entities and Beings from Beyond the Wall of Sleep (Call of Cthulhu Roleplaying) Astrophotography: An Introduction (Sky & Telescope Observer's Guides) Minding Mr. Market: Ten Years on Wall Street With Grant's Interest Rate Observer New Rules: Polite Musings from a Timid Observer Marine Mammal Observer and Passive Acoustic Monitoring Handbook (Conservation Handbooks) The Sky Observer's Guide: A Fully Illustrated, Authoritative and Easy-to-Use Guide (A Golden Guide from St. Martin's Press) Observer's Handbook 2016 Silent Steel: The Mysterious Death of the Nuclear Attack Sub USS Scorpion The Silent Service in World War II: The Fleet Type Submarine The T is Not Silent: new and selected poems Silent Selling: Best Practices and Effective Strategies in Visual Merchandising Controlling High Blood Pressure the Natural Way: Don't Let the

"Silent Killer" Win Ido in Autismland: Climbing Out of Autism
Silent Prison Grain Brain: The Surprising Truth about Wheat, Carbs, and Sugar--Your Brain's Silent Killers
Skinny Liver: A Proven Program to Prevent and Reverse the New Silent Epidemic
Fatty Liver Disease Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes, and the Immigrant Menace
Grain Brain: The Surprising Truth About Wheat, Carbs and Sugar
Your Brain's Silent Killer Grain Brain: The Surprising Truth about Wheat, Carbs, and Sugar (Your Brain's Silent Killers) by David Perlmutter -- Summary, Review & Analysis
Candida: The Silent Epidemic: Vital Information to Detect, Combat, and Prevent Yeast Infections

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)