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A Girl From Yamhill



Synopsis

Told in her own words, *A Girl from Yamhill* is Newbery Medal-winning author Beverly Cleary's heartfelt and relatable memoir—now with a beautifully redesigned cover! Generations of children have read Beverly Cleary's books. From *Ramona Quimby* to *Henry Huggins*, *Ralph S. Mouse* to *Ellen Tebbits*, she has created an evergreen body of work based on the humorous tales and heartfelt anxieties of middle graders. But in *A Girl from Yamhill*, Beverly Cleary tells a more personal story—her story—of what adolescence was like. In warm but honest detail, Beverly describes life in Oregon during the Great Depression, including her difficulties in learning to read, and offers a slew of anecdotes that were, perhaps, the inspiration for some of her beloved stories. For everyone who has enjoyed the pranks and schemes, embarrassing moments, and all of the other poignant and colorful images of childhood brought to life in Beverly Cleary's books, here is the fascinating true story of the remarkable woman who created them.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Newbery Medalist offers two extraordinary memoirs, the first devoted to her childhood, the second following her from college to the acceptance of her first book, *Henry Huggins*. PW called this pair "a real gift to Cleary's many fans, young and old." Ages 12-up. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 6 Up The author's name rather than the title of her partial autobiography will catch the eyes

of her army of loyal readers who grew up with Cleary's great books for children. Then, there are always those special few readers who dream of becoming writers themselves, and Cleary has some information on how this was for her and more about the hunger for reading that often starts writers on their way. It's bootless to compare and contrast autobiographical books, since each memoirist's experiences and those they select to share are unique. Cleary's selection is acute, especially for some growing up pains and problems often scanted in books intended for younger readers, i.e., an uncle who was a potential danger to young girls and the fear and confusion his attentions caused; the possessive, devoted mother whose fierce love was never affectionate; the first, nearly unshakable boyfriend; and much more about each stage of growing up as an only child in Portland, Oregon, when the Great Depression moved in as the unseen, all-powerful villain in every working-class household. It ends with Cleary off to college in California without anything but determination and the ability to work hard and find her own way. As with her fiction, readers are likely to want her memoir to go on when they read her last page. Lillian N. Gerhardt, "School Library Journal" Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I grew up reading Beverly Cleary books, I also grew up in Yamhill, Oregon. The house at the end of 3rd street was always referred to as the "Beverly Cleary House". The house still stands with its unique style of times gone past. I loved reading about her life, and memories of Yamhill when times were simpler. I laughed several times as she recalled memories from the farm, as Ramona Quimby and Beverly Cleary sure have a lot in common.

I bought this for my aunt who was born, grew up, and still lives in Oregon. She is of Beverly Cleary's generation, experienced the Depression, living on the East Side of Portland, so I thought she would enjoy it. She has seen The Beverly Cleary House in Yamhill Oregon where Beverly was born. I loved the book, it is very honest about growing up. It helped me understand my parents growing up before and during the Depression.

Really enjoyed this memoir by an author who I grew up reading. Describes a simple life, but with the subtle telling of her relationship with her mother and dad. Growing through the Depression in Portland, Oregon reminded me of what my grandparents must have gone through.

I absolutely adored this book from beginning to end. I was obsessed with the Ramona series when i

was little. I was elated to discover that Ramona was born inside Beverly as she herself grew up. The imagery that Beverly creates while telling the story of her growing up, is just that of Ramona's. I loved every moment of this book and was sad when it ended. Luckily, I discovered there is a "part two" to this autobiography. I love you Beverly Cleary! Thank you for changing my life. Ramona was my first tattoo on my body, and I have a cat named Picky-Picky.

Beverly Cleary, an esteemed librarian and author of numerous children's books, shares her story about growing up in Yamhill, Oregon in the roaring twenties and depression thirties. She was born in 1916 and resides in California today. I quickly ordered the sequel, 'My Own Two Feet'. The book is a revealing glimpse at a sensitive and curious young girl, an only child, coping with early childhood and her school years in Oregon. The Willamette Valley and Portland, Oregon, are beautifully described as the area was in the early 20th. century. Beverly shares family pictures, provides pioneer ancestor background, describes her schools and teachers, social life and interests in a delightfully easy to read manner. Her mother taught Beverly book appreciation, as well as music and reminded her always to "use her imagination"! I love this woman for her keen insights and independence, and recommend her memoir (and all her children's books as well.) It is surprisingly different from other memoirs and holds your interest all the way thru, leaving you wanting to know more about her as she connects with the reader in a personal way.

Book was recommended to me by a friend who said, "It sounds like your life!" So when I read it I agreed, it did. I grew up just a few blocks from where Beverly did in Portland, NE 34th and Davis St. She was at 37th and Hancock, I believe. Story was so wonderful, and I enjoyed it immensely.

The book's condition was exactly as described, and shipping was prompt. I'm very satisfied. The autobiography was maybe not quite as interesting as I expected. I think that's probably because my expectations were extremely high. I love every story by Beverly Cleary that I've read. But it was still quite interesting and engaging.

If you were in love with Ramona Quimby, Henry Huggins or Runaway Ralph as a child, you will love this memoir of their creator. Beverly Cleary takes us back to her childhood and shares with us her memories of growing up in Oregon and what her family life was like. One can't help but notice, there are so many similarities between Ramona and a young Beverly Cleary! As always, Cleary paints a perfect picture of life as a young girl and what it was like coming of age. Her words are full of

honesty, insightfulness & humor. My only other recommendation is to make sure you buy On My Own Two Feet, which takes you through her adult years. When A Girl from Yamhill is over, you will be hungry for more! Beverly Cleary is a timeless delight to read for all ages.

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