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Molly's Memoir

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Deanna Edens

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Mr. Minion pushed open the door of the cabin and immediately froze when he heard the shrilling sound of an infant crying. He knew, for sure, that when he’d left out this morning there weren’t any babies living with him, and as far as he could recollect, he wasn’t expecting none either. • Molly’s Memoir is a journey through the life and times of a woman who is raised by a Seneca Indian after she is abandoned on the porch of a log cabin in the hills of West Virginia. Growing up in the isolated Monongahela Mountains, she learns about love, faith, and of the craft of healing with medicinal herbs. The background of these stories begins in 1905 when West Virginia was wild and wooly, and continues to the later half of the 20th century, when a journalism student, who works at the Springfield Senior Care Facility, is recruited by two gray-haired, knee-high wearing women to inscribe Molly’s tales. Stories from the past, and from when the memoir is written in 1990, are intertwined as the most memorable events of a remarkable life, are revealed with a humor and a gentle touch. Molly’s Memoir offers a fascinating picture of a strong Native American woman, medicinal healing, historical events, biases, and the significance of family ties even when you aren’t blood kin.
Customer Reviews

Molly’s Memoir is an interesting story of life, past and present, of a family and the love they shared through good and bad times. This story demonstrates the importance of love and the role it plays in the development of a child’s character and self worth. I have read the story three times, experiencing the variety of human emotions shared, and enjoying hearing Molly’s Memories very much with each reading.

More often than not it takes a life event to realize how really fortunate we are. Molly was dropped on a doorstep and she couldn’t have been luckier. She was in a loving, happy family and raised in a simple mountain. She was taught about helping people with herbal remedies, about love and life. A fast and entertaining read made more enjoyable by the author’s descriptions of the country and people.

I loved the story. I laughed and I cried, I cheered and I sighed. The love that Nina and Pop had for Molly was touching; some children don’t even get that much in a blood related family. Kudos to Nina and Pop! I was happy that Nina taught Molly more than school lessons, but realities of life and herbal healing and that Molly was free to answer her own calling in life. I love the admiration Pop had toward Nina that seemed to last their life time and did not fade. I wished to learn more about Molly. I wanted to keep reading about her life. I studied the photo of Nina for a long time. I do wish there had been photos of the family of Molly, the mountains... Deanna Edens did a great job as she retold the stories of Molly’s life, about the mountain, the plants, the people.... I was totally absorbed in the book.

This book really found a lodging place in my heart. I learned most of what I know at the knee of my Mother in the Southern Hills of WV. My Mother and I spent many hours walking in the Mountains of WV, she picked greens, knew all of the wild flowers, showed me different herbs and told me what they were used for. We always kept a bottle of Camphor which was replenished every week from Whiskey that she would snitch from my Dad when he finally came home on Sunday evening after a week end of drinking, gambling and womanizing. Mom held the home together which consisted of her and 6 kids. This Book, took me back home to the walks in the woods, the Seasonal changes, the hardships and Joys of being raised in the hills of West Virginia.
I rarely give anything the highest rating, however this book was delivered in quite the interesting way. Told as elderly friends remembering childhood memories, reading this was enjoyable and captures the readers attention from the beginning. A great read for anyone interested in easy to understand language. Good for any age.

I downloaded this book on a whim. I was about to start another large book and decided to get this for a weekend read. I’m so glad I did. Everyone has a story to tell. It’s their own story---their own life. Boring? I think not. This little book is about Molly, but it could be about you, or even me. It’s simply a story about the love that drives a family through thick and thin. Buckle your belt and hold tight to the bar as you take a wonderful ride on this roller coaster. If you need to renew your faith in mankind, this book is for you.

The was the most "Wonderful Story" I’ve read in a very longtime. I am from the "Foothills Hills " of North Carolina a little town called Gastonia. My favorite place to go as a child, was the mountains. Thank you so much for this story, I look forward to reading more of your work.

This is an outstanding read. The characters are realistic, sympathetic, and interesting. The writing is clear and well crafted. There’s a lot of information about West Virginia, it’s history, as well as natural remedies. And no time wasted with tedious sex scenes! Yay! A good, clean, engrossing book. I highly recommend this book.

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