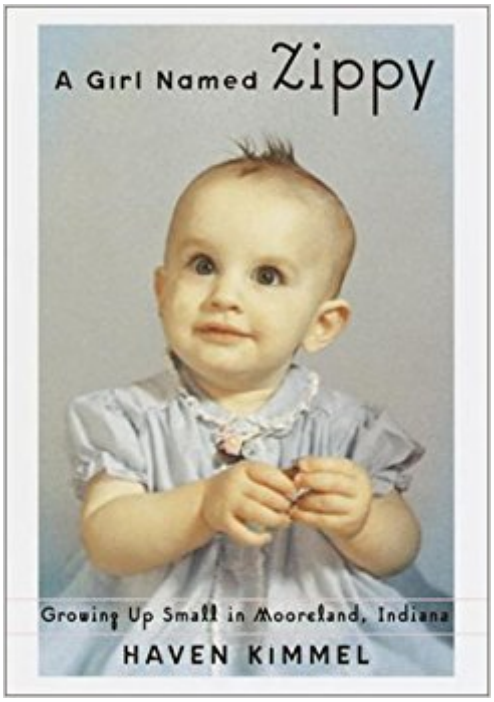
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A Girl Named Zippy: Growing Up Small In Mooreland Indiana



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Synopsis

When Haven Kimmel was born in 1965 in Mooreland, Indiana, was a sleepy little hamlet of three hundred people. Nicknamed "Zippy" for the way she would bolt around the house, this small girl was possessed of big eyes and even bigger ears. In this witty and lovingly told memoir, Kimmel takes readers back to a time when small-town America was caught in the amber of the innocent postwar period--people helped their neighbors, went to church on Sunday, and kept barnyard animals in their backyards.To three-year-old Zippy, it made perfect sense to strike a bargain with her father to keep her baby bottle--never mind that when she did, it was the first time she'd ever spoken. In her nonplussed family, Zippy has the perfect supporting cast: her beautiful yet dour brother, Danny, a seeker of the true faith; her sweetly sensible sister, Lindy, who wins the local beauty pageant; her mother, Delonda, who dispenses wisdom from the corner of the couch; and her father, Bob Jarvis, who never met a bet he didn't like. Whether describing a serious case of chicken love, another episode with the evil Edythe across the street, or the night Zippy's dad borrowed thirty-six coon dogs and a raccoon to prove to the complaining neighbors just how quiet his two dogs were, Kimmel treats readers to a heroine who is wonderfully sweet and shy as she navigates the quirky adult world surrounding Zippy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's a clich‚ to say that a good memoir reads like a well-crafted work of fiction, but Kimmel's smooth, impeccably humorous prose evokes her childhood as vividly as any novel. Born in 1965, she grew up in Mooreland, Ind., a place that by some "mysterious and powerful mathematical

principle" perpetually retains a population of 300, a place where there’s no point learning the street names because it’s just as easy to say, "We live at the four-way stop sign." Hers is less a formal autobiography than a collection of vignettes comprising the things a small child would remember: sick birds, a new bike, reading comics at the drugstore, the mean old lady down the street. The truths of childhood are rendered in lush yet simple prose; here’s Zippy describing a friend who hates wearing girls’ clothes: "Julie in a dress was like the rest of us in quicksand." Over and over, we encounter pearls of third-grade wisdom revealed in a child’s assured voice: "There are a finite number of times one can safely climb the same tree in a single day

In this first book, Kimmel has written a love letter to her hometown of Mooreland, IN, a town with an unchanging population of 300 in America’s heartland. Nicknamed "Zippy" for her energetic interpretation of a circus monkey, she could not be bothered to speak until she was three years old, and her first words involved bargaining with her father about whether or not a baby bottle was still appropriate. Born in 1965, Zippy lived in a world filled with a loving family, peculiar neighbors, and multitudes of animals, including a chicken she loved and treated like a baby. Her story is filled with good humor, fine storytelling, and acute observations of small town life. Recommended for libraries in the Midwest or with large memoir collections.DPam Kingsbury, Alabama Humanities Fdn., Florence Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Life in a very small Indiana town, as experience by a young girl. Kimmel shows us the young girl’s perspective very well A good read for anyone looking back over their formative years.

A funny and heart-warming story which makes you laugh, cry, and enjoy this story of a small town girl and her quirky family, friends, and neighbors. I was fascinated with her language skills and development as a toddler and just went from there. Photos of the actual family and people mentioned adds to the story. With many adventures, unusual animals, the tone of a little tone where nothing every happens but everything happens, the author has really captured her family and childhood. I got this on a promotion at a low price- glad I picked it and very enjoyable true tales.

The voice of the narrator skillfully allows the reader to experience the tales with both the eyes of a child and with the wisdom of years. Impressive writing.

Had to have this, since my youngest granddaughter’s name is Zipporah, nick name, ’Zippy’.

Discovered this book on CD in a library and fell in love with Kimmel's voice telling her own story. The humor with which she recounted her tales made it so entertaining and captivating. I just had to have the book. I always look for the best deals on , of course. It was a great addition to my library at a great price. The book arrived quickly and in great condition. Excellent experience.

If you grew up in the 1970' s in a small town , this book is like reading your life story. Having grown up in a neighboring county so many familiar places, names and events entwined with an outrageous sense of humor and family drama, mixed with a life of bad hair days,you couldn't find a better book!!Thank you Haven Kimmel for writing my favorite book ever!!!

If you want a change from childhood memoirs that are dark and depressing, this is THE book for you. If you've ever been a quirky kid, this is the book you've been waiting for. A Girl Named Zippy is a delightfully funny book, filled with stories that are written from a child's point of view but adult enough to make you realize the innocence and folly of youth. You'll sit down with it & not get up until you're finished without even knowing it.

Love this book and bought an extra copy to share with a friend.

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