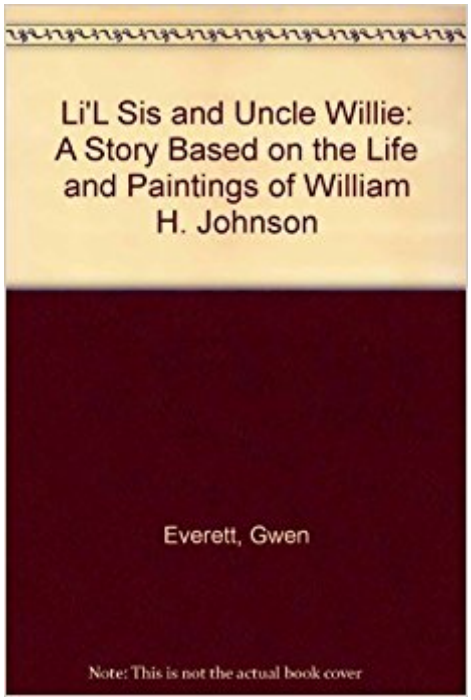
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Li'L Sis And Uncle Willie: A Story Based On The Life And Paintings Of William H. Johnson



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Synopsis

A story based on the life and art of William Henry Johnson. Artist Johnson is remembered for his bold, folk-style paintings of black life. Everett does the job with flair and finesse.--Booklist. An intelligent and inspirational book for children of all cultures.--Publishers Weekly. Winner of a 1992 New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Book Award. (Rizzoli --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Customer Reviews

L'il Sis learns about far-away cities and cultures through Uncle Willie's vibrant paintings. Ages 4-8. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 2-5-- When Uncle Willie visits her South Carolina home, L'il Sis begins a close relationship with the warm, understanding man that endures throughletters for many years. Uncle Willie is William H. Johnson, an African-American painter whose work (from the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution) illustrates and is the inspiration for the story. While it is unusual for a text to be written to accompany illustrations, in this case, it works beautifully. Johnson's paintings are varied in style from a strongly textured almost impressionistic self-portrait, to a geometric, flat-toned picture of children playing by a dock, to a lively and imaginative primitive Swing Low, Sweet Chariot. He paints both historical and contemporary subjects such as L'il Sis and her doll, life in pre-World War II Harlem, and the hanging of Nat Turner. Through his art, readers and Sis come to see some of the harshness and beauty in the African-American experience. Sis's first-person narration brings the story to a child's level, explaining such things as the Underground

Railroad. The warmth of the special uncle-niece relationship shines through and makes readers care about Uncle Willie, his artwork, and the life and places he painted. --Louise L. Sherman, Anna C. Scott School, Leonia, NJCopyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I can’t believe that I’m the first to write a customer review for this book. When I bought it many years ago, I thought it was an excellent story to introduce the life and art work of William H. Johnson to children, but I bought it for myself. At the time I couldn’t afford the expense of the beautiful museum book and I had to have something at home to peruse. I love the historical fiction format, the story is engaging, and the pictures and photos of Johnson make this a winner for anyone who is interested to learn more about and appreciate the art of William H. Johnson. I am buying a couple of books for visiting foreign exchange students to share a bit of Americana they wouldnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t ordinarily experience. This is perfect!

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