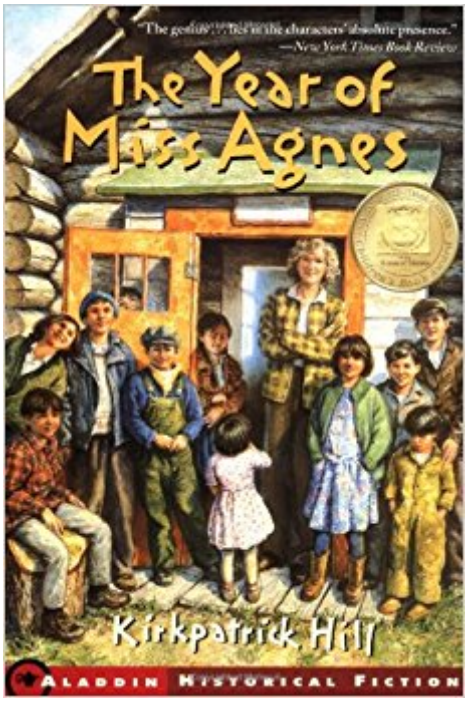
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The Year Of Miss Agnes (Aladdin Historical Fiction)



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Synopsis

A year they'll never forget Ten-year-old Frederika (Fred for short) doesn't have much faith that the new teacher in town will last very long. After all, they never do. Most teachers who come to their one-room schoolhouse in remote, Alaska leave at the first smell of fish, claiming that life there is just too hard. But Miss Agnes is different -- she doesn't get frustrated with her students, and she throws away old textbooks and reads Robin Hood instead! For the first time, Fred and her classmates begin to enjoy their lessons and learn to read and write -- but will Miss Agnes be like all the rest and leave as quickly as she came?

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 790L (What's this?)

Series: Aladdin Historical Fiction

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Grade 2-5-Teaching the children in an Athabascan village in a one-room schoolhouse on the Alaskan frontier in 1948 is not every educator's dream. Then one day, tall, skinny Agnes Sutterfield arrives and life is never the same for the community. Frederika (Fred), the 10-year-old narrator, discovers that unlike previous teachers, Miss Agnes doesn't mind the smell of fish that the children bring for lunch each day. She also stokes the fire to warm the schoolhouse before the students' arrival each morning, wears pants, and speaks with a strange accent. Miss Agnes immediately

packs away the old textbooks, hangs up the children's brightly colored artwork, plays opera music, and reads them Robin Hood and Greek myths. She teaches them about their land and their culture, tutors both students and parents in her cabin in the evening, and even learns sign language along with her students so that Fred's deaf sister can attend school. Hill has created more than just an appealing cast of characters; she introduces readers to a whole community and makes a long-ago and faraway place seem real and very much alive. This is an inspirational story about Alaska, the old and new ways, a very special teacher, and the influence that she has over everyone she meets. A wonderful read-aloud to start off the school year.Kit Vaughan, Midlothian Middle School, VA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Gr. 4-6. From the author of Winter Camp (1993) comes another moving novel about Athabascan life. But instead of a wilderness survival tale, this story is an uplifting portrait of a dedicated teacher, set mostly in a cozy village classroom in 1948. Fred, a ten-year-old girl, describes the year Miss Agnes takes over the one-room school. Unlike the school's other teachers, none of whom have lasted, Miss Agnes encourages the children to explore art, literature, and their own potential. She also teaches basic subjects in relevant ways and shows sensitivity to the rhythms of village life and to each child. The students are devastated when it's time for Miss Agnes to leave, but the story ends with a happy surprise. Readers longing for action may resist the simple, subdued story. But Fred's plain, direct voice, sprinkled with regionalisms, will connect readers with the well-integrated cultural particulars, the poignant scenes of home life, and the joy Fred feels learning in the snug classroom, the snow falling outside. Gillian EngbergCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

The narrator of this story, 10-year-old Fred (Frederika) is a well-written, observant girl. The Alaska she describes is one of villagers following some of their traditional patterns -- moving to different hunting areas as the seasons change, living in family groups, prospering together. It is also an Alaska where change has come, and is coming more quickly. The old ways are (in some cases) being bypassed; clothes are being bought instead of made, children are attending school, people are employed year-round in the village instead of relying on the hunting. Traditional values are brought out in this story, especially the roles of the women of the village, and the respect for authority and parents, and the oral storytelling. This book presents an idealized picture of culture contact between Alaskan Indian bush villagers and their British teacher.It's a good story. Lots of non-standard English grammar, which does start to be corrected toward the end. Still, if your child

has a problem already with "me and her" or "we gots", you may want to be aware that the characters in this book speak that way.As a result of this book, I found a 12-foot stretch of wall in my house and hung an adding-machine-tape timeline on it. I'm letting the kids do illustrations for the time periods of the books they read, and hanging them on the timeline.

This is a cute book, unfortunately, my daughter's teacher would not count it as a "historical" fiction, but still a good story.

One of my all time favorite books to read to my students! Always a hit!

I absolutely loved Miss Agnes' character. I am getting my BSE in elementary education, and I absolutely love reading books that have to do with teachers, especially teachers of the old days. Miss Agnes is a true teacher in every sense of the word. Her teaching style is very much like mine - outside of the box.Each of the students discover individual talents under Miss Agnes' leadership. You can see the children growing as individual people in every chapter. By the end of the book, you have fallen in love with Miss Agnes, Fred (Frederika), Bertha, Martha, Jimmy Joe, Bokko, and the others on Kanakuk Mountain.Loved the style writing - told from the viewpoint of student Fred (Frederika).

I used to live in Fairbanks ,Alaska and this story brought back memories of Alaska. I wish I had known Miss Agnes.

I would recommend this book to both children and adults. A heartwarming story that combines teaching underprivileged youth and the perspective of a bright girl.

This is a very interesting book set in The far north after the Second World War. It she's how people lived even then . It had not changed a great deal. It shows how a good teacher can make the difference in children wanting to learn

This book made me realize the power of teaching in such a refreshing way. Instilling a desire to learn within the hearts of children is the only way to progress. No one needs a test to measure that kind of learning. It is a natural result of enthusiasm and contagion wrought by a thoughtful, loving teacher. Hooray for Miss Agnes and wonderful teachers everywhere!

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