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Penny Guisinger

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Penny Guisinger : Postcards from Here before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Postcards from Here:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Nature, Family Life and Authorship in Rural Eastern Maine.....By missmickee-bookreview"Postcards From Here" by award winning poet/essayist Penney Guisinger, is the story of her life in the rural region tip of eastern Maine. Guisingers work has been published in several notable independent and commercial publications, she is a graduate of the low residency Stonecoast MFA Writing Program in Portland, Maine. In writing about the harshness of the freezing winter weather, the heavy snowfall there is still much warmth in Guisinger's close family life. Although she needs solitude to write she finds much contentment as a wife in her same sex marriage, her two children and a rich rewarding connection with the changing seasons, elements of nature, and the uncomplicated expression and rhythm of ordinary life. There are slight references to problems involving parenting differences with Guisingers former husband and their children, alcoholism, and lack of money and resources. There are no shocking or sensational revelations, it isn't necessary considering this slim volume of thoughtful well written memoir vignettes. Great book cover too;) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An incredible debut from a writer to watch By William Bradley I hadn't planned on finishing this book in one sitting, but that's the effect Penny Guisinger's prose had on me. Even though I was reading the book in June in Ohio, I still wound up transported to rural Maine in winter, with heat and a yellow glow coming from a wood stove. Penny Guisinger writes about love-- love for her wife, love for her children, love for the natural world-- without every resorting to sentimentality, no easy feat. And while others point out the lyrical quality of her prose-- which is beautiful and evocative-- I'm also struck by how concrete and specific her descriptions are. Not too many writers would think to compare a turkey to a porn star, but she does, and it works. This is an amazing debut. I'm looking forward to seeing what Penny Guisinger has to offer in the future. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Gorgeous, raw, and funny snapshots of life in rural Maine By shaftoe Spectacular debut from a writer whose incisive prose churns and flutters with such striking depth and agility that I can truly say I laughed and cried. This book is a searing portrait of place--the beautiful, bracing, menacing, and wild Maine not pictured in quaint postcards. But the book is also an implacable self-portrait of a woman who both resists and celebrates the (sometimes) precarious and (often) pensive places that she finds herself. Guisinger explores everything from LGBTQ politics to "porcupine relocation" with a rare combination of heart and wit that held this reader close and tight. I couldn't put it down, and I can't wait for her next book.

'Postcards from Here' is a capturing of a community, a harsh and beautiful place, a family, and the internal experience of its author in the form of micro-essays. The book takes on the realities of rural New England life, the moments and details that stitch a community together, the politics of being gay and divorced in such a place, and the visceral details

of raising children, gardening, porcupines, travel, marriage, and other hazards of living. Written in a coastal community at the eastern edge of the United States, this book works to transcend the Maine depicted on touristy postcards by crafting missives its rural residents might really send—what true stories this place and its people have to tell. The individual pieces in 'Postcards' tell stories that are both intensely personal and entirely communal in scope, and as a collection they create a portrait of one person's attempt to do a good job at this business of being human.

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