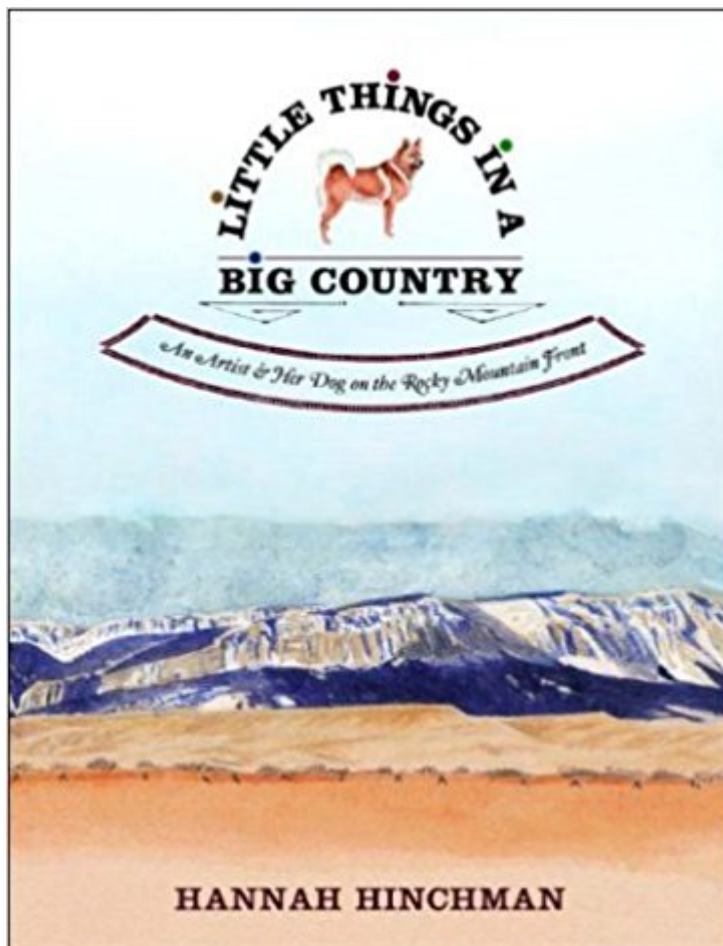




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Little Things In A Big Country



Synopsis

A unique alchemy of art and natural history; a four-color hand-lettered and illustrated tale of a year's rambles in the northern Rockies. Whether chasing gophers (Sisu) or flirting with cowboys at the Buckhorn Bar (Hannah), artist Hannah Hinchman and her dog Sisu are excellent guides to some of the wildest country left in America. Treading carefully near a sandhill crane's nest, testing the ice on the river, and marveling at the seasonal influx of ducks, this pair of curious naturalists takes us into the intimate corners of western Montana, inquiring into all natural phenomena; which Hannah then captures on the page in detailed sketches, notes, and watercolors. If Annie Dillard were an artist, she might have composed a book like this. But few writers, or artists, can bring words and images together like Hannah Hinchman. Insightful, funny, and personal, she not only enables us to enter her own particular patch of the natural world, she also teaches us to see our own, bringing to her work an exceptional unity of hand, eye, and heart.

Book Information

Hardcover: 76 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; First Edition edition (August 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393020169

ISBN-13: 978-0393020168

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 6.7 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,456,018 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in [Books > Travel > United States > Montana](#) #1740 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Nature Writing & Essays](#) #5593 in [Books > Travel > Travel Writing](#)

Customer Reviews

Visual artist and "aging, single, unrepentant hippie-environmentalist" Hinchman (*A Trail Through Leaves*) sets out with her loyal dog, Sisu, to explore, observe and record western Montana's Rocky Mountain Front. While hiking the fields, swamps, rivers, prairies, forests, creeks and game reserves, Hinchman's exacting eye for flora and fauna is always at work chronicling, often in minute detail, all aspects of what surrounds and fascinates her. The result is a love letter to nature: a travel journal/naturalist's notebook replete with hand-written notes; illustrations and diagrams of flowers, birds, deer, animal tracks, "soul-slaying" vistas, cowboys and area maps; and many charming

portraits of Sisu. Hinchman paints stones, ice formations, grasses and leaves, tree bark, and animals in motion with a fluent, sensitive hand. Her relationship with other humans on the Front, however, is not as reverent: "I value the Front for its ecological integrity; they value it as a source of livelihood... to them, my values are perverse, elitist, heretical." She exhibits further disdain for hunters: "More often, the morning stillness is violated by volleys of gunshots, as though a gang of idiots were shooting randomly at a running herd... if these aren't the sounds of brutal ineptitude, someone please enlighten me." Although her voice is strong with witty, barbed opinions, Hinchman does show an undercurrent of loneliness and melancholy, which adds deeper complexity to her forays: "Workaday sadness is diluted and absorbed outdoors in the 'more than human world'... I find it soothing to be rendered insignificant." Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

A flat-out beaut of a book....Humorous, insightful, personal, this is nature journaling at the highest level. -- Susan Dworski, The Los Angeles Times

Hannah does a lovely job of compiling her journals & artworks into a chronicle of life on the Front Range. I really enjoyed her "maps" of the days wanderings & the collections of small sketches that made up the observations of a day trip. I plan to use some of these ideas in my attempts at journaling.

Beautiful illustrated journaling with detailed sketches, water colors and paintings! The reader gets to follow cross-country living the dialogue among mind, self, and place.

Adore the illustrations and all the interesting comments.

A friend gave me this book to read and I liked it so much that I ordered one for a friend. I really enjoyed the writing style and the watercolors were great.

Have all her books...

Charming escape to a more peaceful place.

Love this book, it is my second one gave the first one to my son who lives in Montana.

grab your sleeping bag and go there. dont forget bear repellent.

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