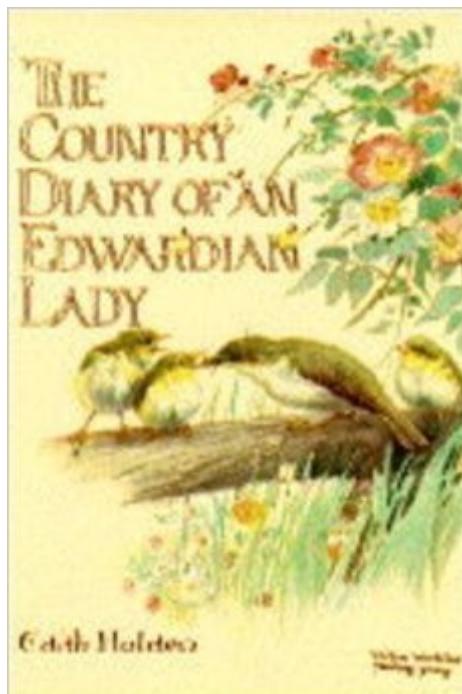


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The Country Diary Of An Edwardian Lady



Synopsis

This is a facsimile reproduction of a naturalist's diary for the year 1906. Edith Holden recorded in words and paintings the flora and fauna of the British countryside through the changing seasons of the year.

Book Information

Hardcover: 186 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (34 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

After a doctor's appointment in Houston I dropped by a small privately owned bookstore I thought looked interesting. As the owner and I spoke she said she could tell I would love this book because of my love of gardening, birds and nature--but that obtaining it would be very difficult. I asked them to put me on a search list and a few months later it arrived. The author's drawings and observations as she watches nature are captivating. Edith started this journal in 1906 and it was never shown to anyone until it was discovered on a shelf in an old country home and then published. There is a sweetness and innocence in the writing that's hard to describe. The pages are like a rather like a thick piece of manilla paper and if I had an extra copy of this book I would frame page after page. I purchased it sight unseen and consider it one of my great treasures.

This book was a bestseller when it was originally published in the 1970's, and there was a good reason for it. Edith Holden, the artist of this work was a very accomplished watercolorist. This book is filled with her views of the fruits, beauty and wonder of nature. It shows the flowers, birds and insects of the natural world as they appear over a year accompanied by appropriate poems and quotations. The watercolours are simply breathtaking. The closest thing to this book that I have seen

is illuminated manuscripts, but the effect here is quite different. The publishers have been very wise with publication. You get a page-by-page facsimile in full colour, reproducing the original manuscript. They have not cluttered the book up by reproducing pages and putting their own text next to it. If you run across a copy of this pick it up and let it take you away to another world.

The Country Diary is a book arranged month by month of the writer/artist's nature walks and discoveries. Each month begins with a history of the month, related folk lore, and poetry. There is also wonderful art work that allows you to journey with Ms. Holden on her adventures. Her monthly entries details the world around her and draws you back to the pages of her journal over and over again. I first checked out this book from the library to get my children to begin their own nature journals as part of our homeschooling science class, but I found myself more captivated than even they could ever be. I have checked out her book so many times, that I finally bought my own copy. She has motivated me to sketch in my own journal and to look with new eyes at the natural world around me. In times where one is forced to stay in, you can still journey outside with Ms. Holden's book. Awesome!

Had my copy of this book for many years was very touched by the beauty of the illustrations and the keen observations. There is art and poetry everywhere! This is a woman who treasured every day and saw the wonder that is freely given to everyone. True riches for those who have the eyes and heart to receive them. I love this book and have bought a copy to share with a very special friend who will love it too. There is so much in the world that is disheartening. Seeing Edith Holden's painting and her choice of verses and comments confirms that there is a grand plan and this beauty does not occur by accident. A visual, but not overt reminder that "His eye is on the sparrow... etc.". It is enriching and comforting and so beautiful. Most people want to or try to keep a diary at some point. She has really done it wonderfully. Thank you for making it possible to share this loveliness with a new and appreciative reader.

I received this book the other day and it is gorgeous! I'd never heard of Edith Holden before. One day, I stumbled upon a biography about her and it included some of her illustrations from this book. Her artwork reminded me a lot of Beatrix Potter's style and I find that very appealing. Having a degree in Art as well and a degree in Environmental Science, the art of nature study is very interesting to me. I decided to get this book to go along with the biography that I have. The quality of the print is outstanding, the journal is beautiful to look at. It is so interesting to see the care that

people took into recording nature journals. This is a great book to add to your library if you're a fan of nature, of the Edwardian Period or a fan of art. This book appeals to many!

I love this book as you travel along in time with the author. Her art work is wonderful and so detailed. You are back in the British countryside in 1906 with her thoughts and drawings. You are almost sad when the year comes to an end. Love her work. A great book for a naturalist, a painter, a poet and a journalist.

Some relation found...their long-dead relation's lovely illustrated one-year journal of the nature (mostly the small animals and plants) around her. Edith Holden drew/painted lovely watercolor pics of the small nature around her (see the two birds, flowers on cover). She combined comments on each month's weather, and includes both bits of poetry/quotes and that month's christian holidays. Her lovely one-year illustrated journal was lost amongst her family's papers...and rediscovered in the 1970s. Used copies of her lovely work would be great for the art journalist/the nature lover/the watercolor fan...and anyone else who loves the artwork and brief quotes/observations of an intelligent woman on the natural world around her.

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