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A Painter's Guide To The Catskills Of Rip Van Winkle



Synopsis

The author escorts the reader on a personal journey of discovery through tiny Victorian villages and along the gorgeous mountain ledges and waterfalls of the eastern rim of the Catskill Mountains. She encourages the reader to explore, to bring a friend and a camera, to paint or hike, to fish or swim or ski or simply sit and enjoy these incredible spaces as she has done. Sixty paintings of hers illustrate the travelogue of the land of James Fenimore Cooper's Leatherstocking stories and the site of the Hudson River School of Painting. This beautifully illustrated volume will be a fabulous addition to any library.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Artist, designer and teacher Judith Katz takes readers on a journey of discovery that's equal parts history, art, literature and folklore in *A Painter's Guide to the Catskills of Rip Van Winkle*. This lovely and lyrical artist's notebook depicts 13 of Katz's favorite "magic places" in the eastern rim of the Catskill Mountains, the land of James Fenimore Cooper's Leatherstocking stories and the site of the Hudson River School of Painting. Katz shares personal observations, local legends and historical facts about the area's Victorian villages, valleys, waterfalls, roads, vistas, inns and farmhouses. Each site is accompanied by her colorful impressionistic renderings and a map. Besides creating striking paintings, she is also a skilled writer whose love and awe for this region is effectively communicated to the reader. For example, she describes the bottom of the Kaaterskills Falls in this way: "Hidden here in the cleft of the mountain I saw, like a child's fantasy, this ribbon of water falling out of the sky, as it ran past me for a moment on its way to the Hudson, on its way to the ocean - to

become a cloud, to become rain, to become, perhaps, part of a person. To travel those inner streams, to return once again, perhaps, to this place." Katz's book is a terrific souvenir for those familiar with the area, and the uninitiated will feel as though they had been there, but need to return.
-- From Independent Publisher

Judy Katz has written a stirring fieldbook to some of the most beautiful areas of the Hudson River Valley. As though she were uncovering a lost Arcadia only three hours from Manhattan, Judy takes us by anecdote and picture to a series of her favorite nooks and vistas. Judy's words have been compared to Whitman's, evidencing a colloquial simplicity and grace. Her artwork is similarly simple and elegant, with a paucity of embellishment and a clean, representational line. Those who know her work already love this book -- those who do not yet, will.

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I live in NM and will move to upstate NY some day. My son and wife have a home in Windham, and I want to explore all the area and, hopefully, sometime meet Ms. Katz. Have taken watercolor - I like her method of combining it with other media.

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