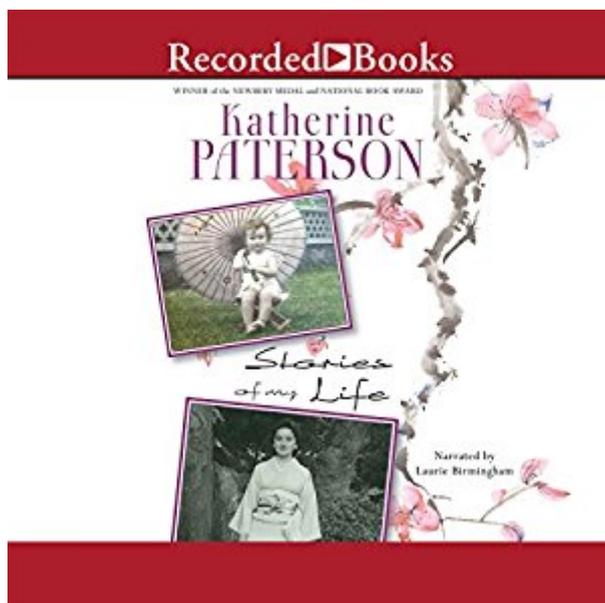


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Stories Of My Life



Synopsis

From her childhood in China to the moment she won her first National Book Award, literary icon Katherine Paterson shares the personal stories that inspired her children's books. Told with her trademark humor and heart, Paterson's tales reveal details about her life from her childhood with missionary parents, to living as a single woman in Japan, to raising four children in suburban Maryland with her minister husband. Read about the origins of such familiar characters as Leslie Burke and Janice Avery from *Bridge to Terabithia*, and go behind the scenes to the moments Katherine found out she won her many awards. Filled with personal photos and letters, this funny, heartwarming history from a legendary writer lets fans in on the making of literary classics.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Finishing Katherine Paterson's *Stories of My Life* at 2 o'clock in the morning as the first snow of the Vermont winter coats the grass feels like I've just had the privilege of a fireside chat with a world known grandmother who lives across town. Within these pages lie the answers to many questions fans would want to ask - her early life impressions of China, her faux pax using Japanese, the backstory of her myriad of stories, overcoming her shyness receiving award after award, all surrounded by her supporting cast of family and friends. I preordered this to my Kindle, forgot it was coming (order it again on its publication to make sure I'd get it), and was thoroughly delighted to be tucked in each night with a story from a favorite story teller. Now, in fact, I have a desire to reread a few of my favorites or try a new to me old one, like *The Master Puppeteer*, that I've not yet enjoyed, but alas the fire is getting dim for the night.

Stories of My Life is a fascinating personal account of the life of renown author Katherine Paterson. It is told with humor and a keen perception of the world and people around her. As author Nancy Graff writes in one of the introductions, "Week after week, one of the greatest story tellers has told me the story of her exceptional life. Diners no more than three feet away, deep into their meatloaf, are oblivious to the presence of the Former National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, the winner of the Astrid Lingred Award and the Hans Christian Andersen Medal." Indeed Stories of My Life gives a glimpse of a person who writes not for honors but with a sense of purpose. It gives a glimpse of a real person who, like each of us, wants friendship, love and a sense of community. Here is a person who embraces life with all it's intricacies and gives back to it in full.

Katherine Paterson never fails to fascinate me. It was lovely to read the stories that later in one way or another became the inspiration for her books. I also enjoy her down to earth humor which she reveals in situations when she had won fame. A friend was once trying to explain to a group about Katherine being presented as the National Ambassador for Young People. Instead she said: "She's in Washington being made a national embarrassment." When she realized what she had said, she tried to correct herself. "Oh, no, I mean natural embarrassment." To that Katherine commented: "Since real friends like mine are more precious than awards, I know I am truly blessed."

very good book...makes me want to read more by this author...what an interesting life!

I love Katherine Paterson's book; have read most of them and delighted at reading this "autobiography."

The author lets the reader now read between the lines of much of her writing and shares her family, her travels, and the good and bad times that she had as living abroad as the daughter of missionaries She returns to the United States where she became the wife of a Presbyterian minister and the beloved writer that we shared with our children and grandchildren. Written with honesty, humor, and warmth, it is a MUST READ for Katherine Paterson fans.

How wonderful to read about the life and thoughts of this fantastic writer. I was blessed to go to graduate school with Katherine Paterson years ago. When my children were reading her books, I read them also. I had no idea for a few years that those fantastic books were written by my former

classmate. We are still enjoying reading her gifts to the world.

One of my lifetime favorite children's authors shares her personal history with us her devoted readers. Now in her 80's her life as a child in China, a student in Japan, a mother of four, the winner of 2 Newbury awards and the Hans Christian Anderson International Award for children's literature, fill each page as Kathryn Paterson shares her life experiences. The book is a delight!

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