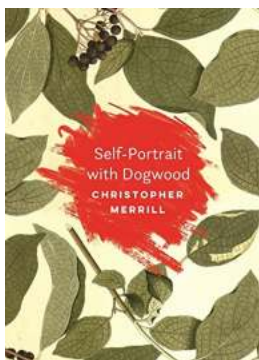


Self Portrait With Dogwood Doris Lessing - A Captivating Artistic Journey

Throughout history, art has served as a medium for self-expression, capturing the emotions and experiences of its creators. In the realm of self-portraits, one particular painting stands out - "Self Portrait With Dogwood" by Doris Lessing. This extraordinary piece of art showcases not only the talent of the artist but also reflects the intricate relationship between humans and nature.

Doris Lessing, a renowned artist known for her profound talent in capturing the essence of her subjects, created "Self Portrait With Dogwood" in 1962. In this self-portrait, she masterfully combines elements of realism, symbolism, and spirituality to convey a deeper meaning.

The central focus of the painting is Lessing herself, positioned against a backdrop of vibrant dogwood flowers. The choice of the dogwood tree is not arbitrary; it holds significant symbolism in various cultures. Often associated with purity and rebirth, the dogwood adds a layer of meaning to the self-portrait. It symbolizes the artist's personal journey of growth and transformation, as well as the universal human quest for self-discovery and enlightenment.



Self-Portrait with Dogwood by Doris Lessing (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1237 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 264 pages



Lessing's self-portrait exhibits a unique blend of warm and cool tones, enhancing the overall atmosphere of the piece. The colors evoke a sense of calmness, inviting the viewer to reflect upon the artist's emotional state. The subtle shades of blue and green highlight the artist's serene expression, while the warm hues of yellow and pink elicit a feeling of joy and contentment.

The use of light in "Self Portrait With Dogwood" further accentuates the artist's work. The soft, natural light cascading through the foliage of the dogwood tree creates an ethereal and dream-like quality. This enchanting illumination adds depth and dimension to the portrait, emphasizing the artist's connection with nature and the spiritual realm.

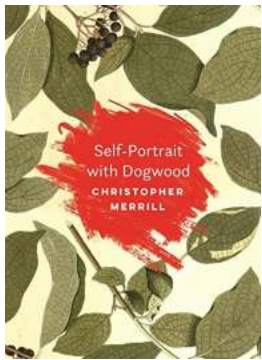
Beyond the technical aspects, "Self Portrait With Dogwood" also provides a glimpse into Lessing's inner world. The artist's pose radiates self-assuredness and tranquility, suggesting a deep sense of self-acceptance and introspection. Her steady gaze towards the viewer invites contemplation and encourages viewers to reflect upon their own journeys of self-discovery.

Intriguingly, the presence of the dogwood flowers in the background creates an interesting juxtaposition. While Lessing's self-portrait signifies personal transformation and growth, the dogwood flowers represent the cyclical nature of life. This contrast serves as a reminder that change is an integral part of the human experience, and that embracing it can lead to spiritual elevation and personal fulfillment.

"Self Portrait With Dogwood" is a testament to the timelessness of art. Decades after its creation, it continues to captivate viewers with its visual poetry and

thought-provoking symbolism. The painting reminds us of the power of self-reflection and the importance of embracing our own unique journeys.

In , Doris Lessing's "Self Portrait With Dogwood" transcends mere representation by offering a profound artistic journey. With its masterful technique, symbolism, and introspection, this self-portrait invites viewers to explore their own personal growth and connection with the natural world. Through this captivating piece, Lessing encourages us to reflect upon our place in the universe and embrace the transformative power of self-discovery.



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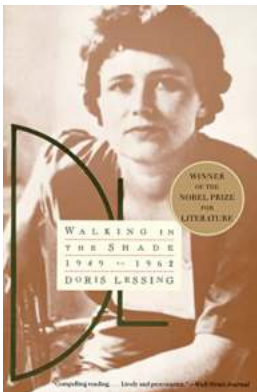


In the course of researching dogwood trees, beloved poet and essayist Christopher Merrill realized that a number of formative moments in his life had some connection to the tree named—according to one writer—because its fruit was not fit for a dog. As he approached his sixtieth birthday, Merrill began to compose a self-portrait alongside this tree whose lifespan is comparable to a human's and that, from an early age, he's regarded as a talisman.

Dogwoods have never been far from Merrill's view at significant moments throughout his life, helping to shape his understanding of place in the great chain

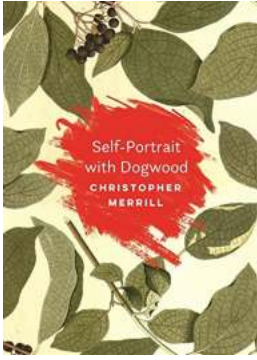
of being; entwined in his experience is the conviction that our relationship to the natural world is central to our walk in the sun. The feeling of a connection to nature has become more acute as his life has taken him to distant corners of the earth, often to war zones where he has witnessed not only humankind's propensity for violence and evil but also the enduring power of connections that can be forged across languages, borders, and politics. Dogwoods teach us persistence humility and wonder.

Self-Portrait with Dogwood is no ordinary memoir, but rather the work of a traveler who has crisscrossed the country and the globe in search of ways to make sense of his time here. Merrill provides new ways of thinking about personal history, the environment, politics, faith, and the power of the written word. In his descriptions of places far and near, many outside of the average American's purview—a besieged city in Bosnia, a hidden path in a Taiwanese park, Tolstoy's country house in Russia, a castle in Slovakia, a blossoming dogwood at daybreak in Seattle—the reader's understanding of the world will flourish as well.



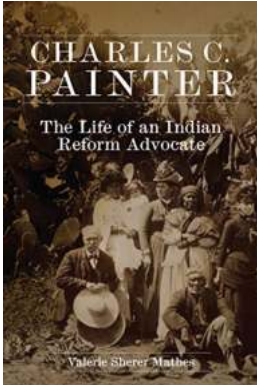
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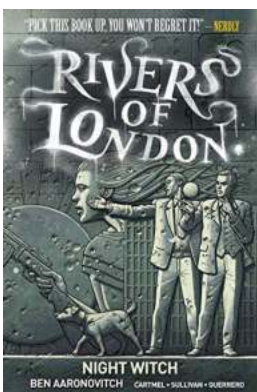
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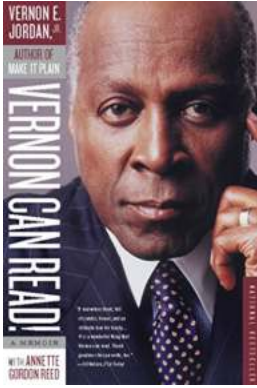
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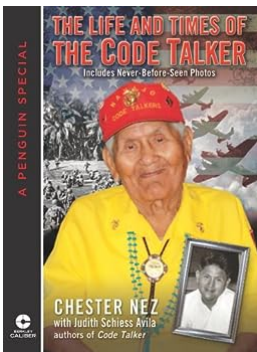
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