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Myth of the Given

By Aileen Boules Zollweg

Outskirts Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 292 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.1in. x 0.7in. Although terrified by what she must do, thirteen year old Billie Leclair uses her wits and prestigious memory to save her mother and sister from starvation. *MYTH OF THE GIVEN* is the eventful story of Billie and her younger sister, Cathy, as they grow from precocious children to pretty teen-agers during the 1930 depression. This novel depicts life during a desperate time when many in the United States lost their jobs, their homes, their hope. A time when unemployment reached twenty-five percent. A time when suicides increased by fifty percent. The young sisters struggle to cope with their mothers strict fundamentalist religion and their fathers alcoholism. Like other children in their neighborhood, they play games with their friends, improvise dramas for their movie star paper dolls, listen to Little Orphan Annie on the radio, and eavesdrop on adult conversations. At school students are disciplined with a wooden paddle. Teachers are strict. Yet school is a refuge from the girls turbulent home life. Billie is kidnapped. Cathy survives diphtheria, often fatal before vaccinations against it became common. The novel begins like this: When the back door few open...



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