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Vermeer's Daughter: A Novel



Synopsis

National YA prize-winning author Shoup has created a fictional portrait of the 17th-century world of the great Dutch artist Vermeer as seen through the eyes of his daughter, Carelina. Family relationships, daily life, and the artistic talents and aspirations of a young girl in the male-dominated art world make this beautifully told tale fascinating for young people. Fans of the nationally bestselling *Girl with a Pearl Earring* will enjoy this spirited and inspiring tale.

Book Information

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Adult/High School-Readers of other novels about the famous painter will find the outline familiar. Vermeer and his ever-increasing family live in his mother-in-law's house in the Papist corner of Delft. Tanneke, the cook, prepares broodjes and hutsepot, and poses for her master. His patron, Van Ruijven, eagerly awaits each commissioned work. Verifiable information about the artist's home life is sketchy, so Shoup has fleshed it out into a warm, compelling story, creating a loving, but chaotic household for her narrator, a fictional middle daughter, Carelina. Aware of her stern grandmother's preference for her sisters, lovely Maria and pious Elizabeth, Carelina slips out of the house to visit her adored father in his studio. As she learns to grind pigments and peers through his magical camera obscura, she listens to him discussing philosophy and religion with the great men of his time. She puzzles over the ideas, but is more concerned with the people who make up her world. When she has a surprise encounter with an old friend of her father's, she discovers the artist

within herself. In this book, the smells and tastes of delicious Dutch food, the bustle and excitement of the Grand Market Square, and the luminous glory of Vermeer's masterpieces are brought vividly to life. Kathy Tewell, Chantilly Regional Library, VA Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

A quietly beautiful book. If you are an artist, you will love Shoup's rendering of Vermeer's process and sensibilities.

love it

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