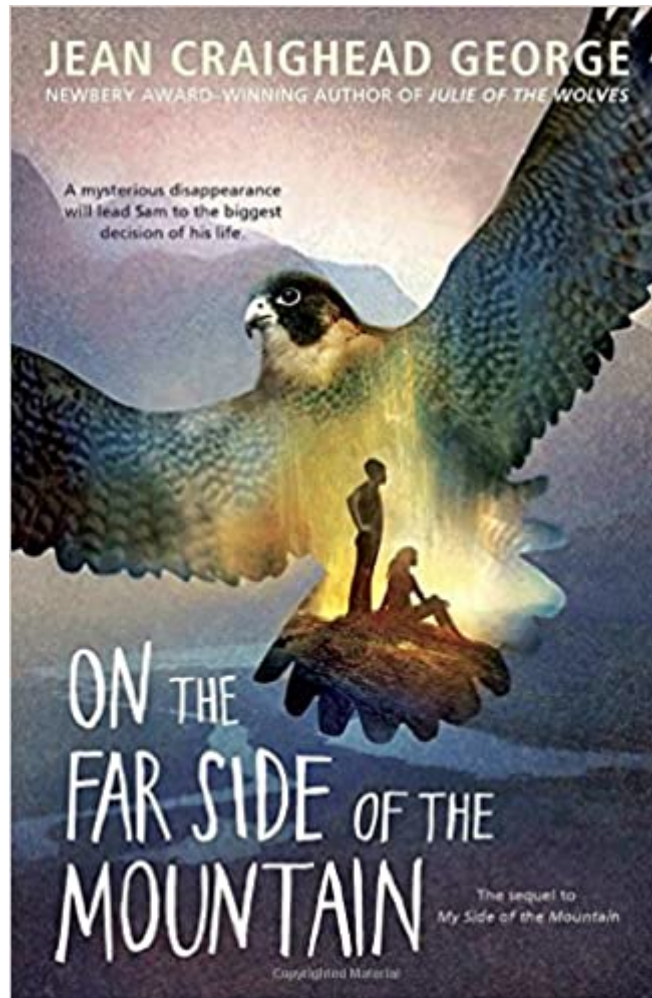




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# On The Far Side Of The Mountain



## Synopsis

Two years ago, Sam ran away from New York City to live in the Catskill Mountains. Now his younger sister Alice has joined him and is quietly living in a tree house of her own nearby. Their peaceful life is shattered when a conservation officer confiscates Sam's falcon, Frightful, and Alice suddenly vanishes. Sam leaves his home to search for Alice, hoping to find Frightful, too. But the trail to the far side of the mountain may lead Sam into great danger. • Surpasses the original in style and substance . . . This story [is] a jewel. • "Booklist" • George has outdone herself here. • "Kirkus Reviews"

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0760 (What's this?)

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; 1st edition (May 21, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0141312416

ISBN-13: 978-0141312415

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 89 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #39,733 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Runaways #120 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds #250 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Life in the wilderness has just become a lot thornier for young Sam Gribbley. For the last two years he's been living in a hollowed-out tree in the Catskill Mountains, hunting and gathering his food supply and befriending the critters in his "neighborhood." Sam's peaceful existence is abruptly shattered when an environmental conservation officer confiscates his peregrine falcon, Frightful. To make matters worse, Sam's sister Alice, who has been living with him for the past year, has disappeared. This double blow quickly puts Sam on the trail to the far side of his mountain, pursuing a multifaceted mystery that, ultimately, will force him to make the biggest decision of his life. Thirty

years after the publication of her Newbery Honor Book, *My Side of the Mountain*, Jean Craighead George rewarded her many fans with an exciting sequel. This remarkable author of over 80 books and recipient of more than 20 literary awards (including the Newbery Medal for *Julie of the Wolves*) is a passionate advocate for the environment. Her knack for naturalist writing that crackles with life will have readers of all ages chomping at the bit for the third novel in her trilogy, *Frightful's Mountain*. (Ages 9 to 12) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Fans of *My Side of the Mountain* will be delighted to find that Sam Gibley still lives in a hollow tree with Frightful, his faithful falcon. Sam has neighbors now: his sister Alice lives in a nearby treehouse and his old friend Bando has bought a nearby cabin. Sam's summer plans are disrupted when a conservation officer accuses him of harboring an endangered species and confiscates Frightful. Sam is so devastated by the loss of his companion that several days pass before he realizes that Alice has left home. Setting out to track his sister down, Sam crosses paths with a band of falcon smugglers and is given the chance to take back Frightful for his own. Faced with a difficult decision, Sam chooses wisely and the story ends on a satisfying note, full of hope for the future. Since nature has become chic in the years since Sam's first adventures were published, sophisticated readers will enjoy the author's wry references to the new fashion for Adirondack furniture and her description of an eatery that specializes in gourmet wild foods. Filled with accurate details (it is possible to trace Sam's journey on a map), likeable characters and plenty of backwoods lore, this sequel is worthy of its predecessor. Ages 8-12. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"*My Side of the Mountain*"<sup>Â</sup> *My Side of the Mountain* (Puffin Modern Classics) is a timeless classic that describes a young boy becoming one with nature. It is one of the rare stories that can appeal to both young and old. "*On the Far Side of the Mountain*" (OTFSOTM) is the sequel that takes place about a year later. does a great job of capturing what the story is about so I will not go over the basics of the plot. However, "*On the Far Side of the Mountain*" is unable to recapture all of the original's charm. One of the problems is that the story is complicated and made messy - compared to the simple "Boy vs. Nature" conflict/theme of the original. OTFSOTM focuses less on "Boy vs Nature" and more on "Boy vs. Man" and the exploitation of the environment - you get the impression that Jean Craighead George is more intent on making a point about protecting endangered species and less on how Sam is able to enjoy his natural environment (which I found a powerful statement in the original). In fact, Sam focuses less on his love for his natural surroundings than his disdain for

the ways of society - such as his refusal to eat at a restaurant. Overall, I would still highly recommend OTFSOTM for both kids and adults. However, I do think that kids could learn a lesson on the need to protect animals and the environment. 4 stars

This is a good book, but not as enjoyable as My Side of the Mountain. I did not recommend it to my 10 year old grandson because as a camper he enjoyed the way Sam was able to rough it and live off of the land. Also the loss of Frightful would have been disappointing to him.

Good addition to the series. Not as good as the first but worth the read.

What a great book for a ten year old child. I only don't recommend it if your child has no love of the outdoors or nature as it is about a boy who runs away and lives on the side of a mountain. It is an adventure that is written so gently. Each chapter presents the boy with a problem he has to overcome and then takes us through his adventure. Yes, it is very old fashioned but a lovely antidote to all the dystopian fantasy fiction that is around at the moment for kids.

Read as a child, bought a copy to give to a nephew.

This was a present/request from my friend who is always looking for books she can read and share with her 12-year old son. They were both very excited to get the book and are carefully selecting a limited number of pages to read each day so they can extend the reading experience.

I love this trilogy. I began with the original book but wish the author had written more on this boy's adventure.

We LOVED the first book and could never find this "sequel" at the bookstore. We have not jumped into it yet, but we can't wait to reconnect with Sam and all his friends.

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