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Imagine That!



Synopsis

On her hundredth birthday, Auntie Violet reminisces with her great grandniece, and wonders at all the changes that have taken place in her lifetime. Violet tries to imagine what she could wish for that hasn't already come true. By the time the cake and candles arrive, she has the perfect answer. This look at one of the most amazing centuries of all time offers a wealth of information. Topics range from inventions, fashion, history, and medicine to entertainment, toys, food, and transportation. Sidebars for each decade are color coded to match pictures within the illustrations, creating a search-and-find activity for all ages.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 9 years

Grade Level: 3 - 4

Customer Reviews

Grade 4-8-On the occasion of her 100th birthday, Auntie Violet reminisces about her life to her great-grandniece. The story is framed by sidebars that describe both major events and trivia from the previous century. Each double-page spread is bordered left and right with a listing of events, color coded by decade, covering such topics as sports, popular music, media, fads, inventions, civil rights, medicine, fashion, food, games, and children's literature. A collage of painted images, each tinted to match a particular decade's hue, dominates all but the last spread. A tender picture of Auntie Violet and Elizabeth is imposed on each one. The book reflects its origin by noting several Canadian accomplishments unfamiliar to American readers. While youngsters will find much to look

at and savor, the book is perhaps most powerful to adults who have lived through many of these changes. It's fascinating to consider, for instance, how many of the books children loved in previous decades are still enjoyed today. A livelier but much less inclusive roundup of the century is Cheryl Harness's *Ghosts of the 20th Century* (S & S, 2000), which moves year by year through the century. Susan Hepler, Burgundy Farm Country Day School, Alexandria, VA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Janet Wilson decided at age 29, after her boys were off to school, that she wanted to become a professional artist. After a few years of hard work she graduated and was rewarded with an offer from Scholastic to illustrate a book. And the rest, as they say, is history. With a host of books to her credit, Janet is recognized for her realistic paintings which capture the feelings and mood of the characters and situations in the stories she is illustrating.

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