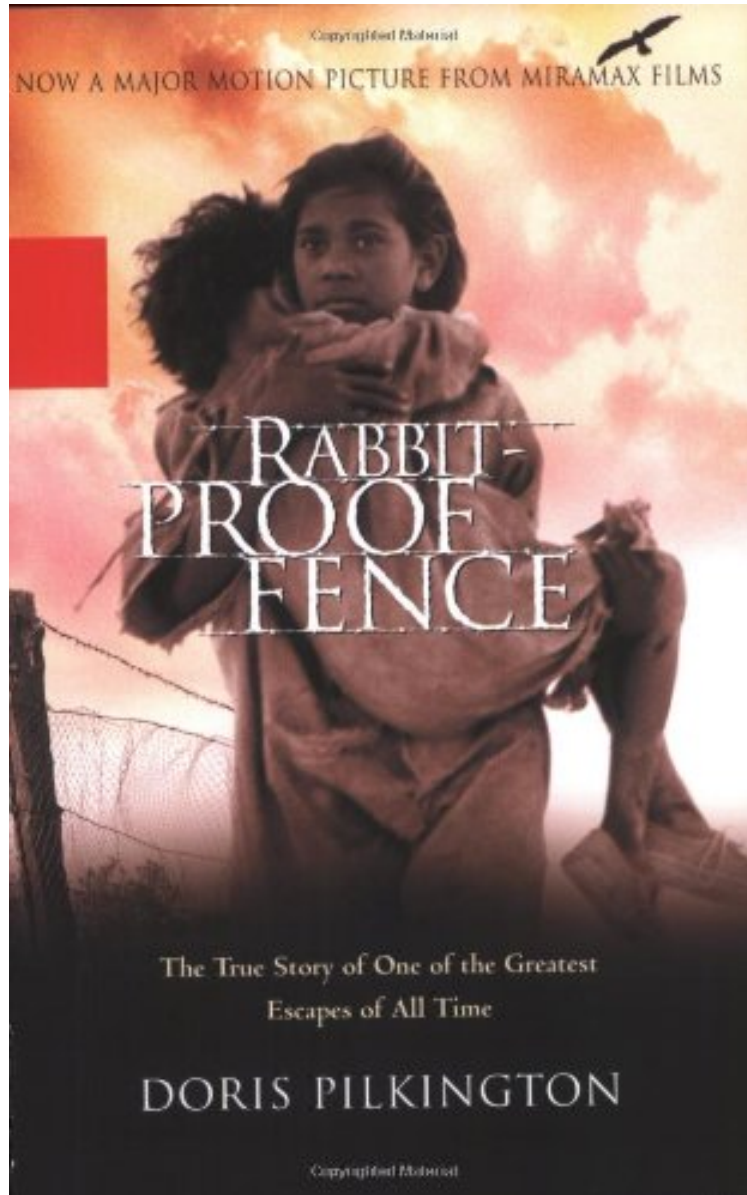


[FREE] Rabbit-Proof Fence

Rabbit-Proof Fence

Doris Pilkington

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Doris Pilkington : Rabbit-Proof Fence before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rabbit-Proof Fence:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Rabbit-Proof FenceBy CustomerRabbit-Proof Fence is a retelling of a brave, dangerous journey three children make simply to go home. As aborigine and white children, they were kidnapped by agents of the Australian government to be raised as "orphans." These girls defied the law and began their

trek home following the only landmark they knew, a fence. The language is appropriately simple. The story was pieced together through the memories of the girls grown to women, official documents, and the recollections of people who knew them. 20 of 20 people found the following review helpful. RUN, GIRLS, RUN...By lawyeraaaI first saw the Miramax movie starring Kenneth Branagh, which was based upon this book. I was intrigued enough by the film to read this book. I was not disappointed. This book is certainly a testament to the human spirit. It also reveals the harsh, paternalistic and racist policies that the Australian government imposed upon its Aboriginal population. In 1931, the Australian government issued an edict that mandated that all Aboriginal and part Aboriginal children were to be forcibly removed from their homes and taken to special settlements where they were to be assimilated. There, while living in inhumane and degrading conditions, they would be taught to be culturally white, would be mandated to speak English only, and would be trained to be domestic help or laborers in white households. The author tells the reader the story of three young girls, Mollie, Gracie, and Daisy, who had Aboriginal mothers and White fathers. Ranging in age from nine to fifteen years old, the three girls were forcibly removed from their loving families and taken to a special settlement. The girls rebelled against this system, and, homesick, escaped from such a settlement. They left with literally just the clothes on their back. Their only guide home would be a rabbit-proof fence that stretched for over a thousand miles across Australia. The girls' Aboriginal heritage and survival skills would come in handy throughout their nearly nine week long trek across Australia, as they were forced to subsist on the land and the occasional kindness from strangers. They had to endure thirst, hunger, and danger, while avoiding being caught along the way by professional trackers, police on the lookout for them, and white settlers that were unsympathetic to their situation. This story is a most personal one for the author, as one of the girls, Molly, is the author's mother. Told in a straightforward, factual manner, it is an incredible story that is an indictment of the Australian government's racist policies against its Aboriginal people and its imperialistic self-proclaimed superiority over them. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good, and great along with the movie By Susan S. This book is very matter-of-fact about a program of displacement of Aboriginal Australians. It does fail to convey the emotional horror of the family separations, so to get a better impression I'd highly recommend watching the movie Rabbit Proof Fence in addition to reading the book. Then you can picture the landscape, etc, unless you already have familiarity with it and this issue. Together they provided both a historical/factual and emotional story.

Following an Australian government edict in 1931, black aboriginal children and children of mixed marriages were gathered up and taken to settlements to be institutionally assimilated. In *Rabbit-Proof Fence*, award-winning author Doris Pilkington traces the story of her mother, Molly, one of three young girls uprooted from their community in Southwestern Australia and taken to the Moore River Native Settlement. There, Molly and her relatives Gracie and Daisy were forbidden to speak their native language, forced to abandon their heritage, and taught to be culturally white. After regular stays in solitary confinement, the three girls planned and executed a daring escape from the grim camp.

About the Author Doris Pilkington is also the author of *Caprice: A Stockman's Daughter*. *Rabbit-Proof Fence*, her second book, is now a major motion picture from Miramax Films, directed by Phillip Noyce and starring Kenneth Branagh.