

DAVID ZIEROTH

The Education of Mr. Whippoorwill

“This compelling memoir is like the Manitoba landscape of David Zieroth’s childhood, eloquent and spare. With a beautiful clarity he brings to light the everyday events – sometimes lovely, sometimes banal, sometimes cruel – that shape a life.”
– Sandra Birdsell

An unforgettable account of growing up on a prairie farm, the son of poor, industrious German parents, *The Education of Mr. Whippoorwill* gives voice to the love and the lessons a rural upbringing imparts. In brief, interconnected vignettes, David Zieroth evokes a childhood of routine cruelty, natural wonder, and burgeoning imagination. A calf struck by lightning; a dead bird cupped in the hands. A bag full of squirming kittens; a pig’s head sitting on the porch, about to become head cheese. The thrill of reading in a snowbound farmhouse; the brutal camaraderie of high school football. A teenaged Don Juan who works his magic on a desperate girl. A car that takes a gravel corner far too fast. Bright shards of tile, crafted into an enduring mosaic of innocence and experience, love and loss.

This is a sweet, affecting book about the ways of memory. About the ways a boy becomes a man, and a man remains a boy. About the invaluable education of the farm. But mostly it’s about the way a child carries his love for an unfathomable father out into the world.

David Zieroth is an award-winning poet whose work has been widely acclaimed and anthologized. He lives in North Vancouver and teaches creative writing. This is his first book of prose.

Rights available: World

Also available: Film/Television

Memoir

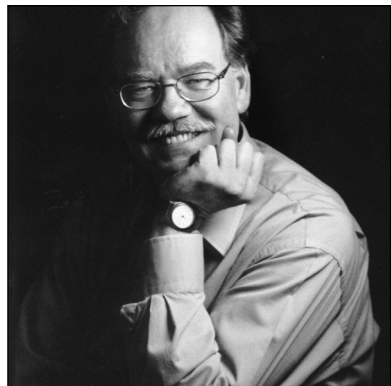
5 ½ x 8 ½

Hardcover

200 pages

\$32.99

Published by Macfarlane Walter & Ross



© M. PATRICK