OUT-OF-DOOR BOOKS; A LIST OF SPECIALLY READABLE BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649196418

Out-of-door books; a list of specially readable books for young people in high school or college by Marion Horton

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MARION HORTON

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Trieste

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THE BOOKSHOP for BOYS AND GIRLS Women's Educational and Industrial Union 264 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MASS. 1918 ŕ



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PREFACE

In the making of this list, the books in the Children's Museum and the Girls' High School in Brooklyn, the science collection in the New York Public Library, and the books classed in 910, 790, 500 in the New York State Library were carefully examined and those suitable for this list annotated. Bibliographical aids consulted were Best Books, A. L. A. catalogue 1904, A. L. A. catalogue supplement 1904-1911, A. L. A. Booklist, Book Review Digest, Pittsburgh Carnegie Library catalogue, Publishers' Weekly, N. L. Goodrich Mountaineering, W. N. Daniell's Animals in Fiction and Folklore, E. L. Bascom Selected Books on Nature Study, New York State University Arbor Day Annuals, New York Public Library subject lists Mountaineering, Flower Gardens, Wanderers and Vagabonds, and the Bulletins of the Springfield, Detroit and Grand Rapids public libraries, and of course the United States and the Library of Congress catalogues.

Acknowledgment is also made to Miss Alice G. Higgins, Librarian, Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston, for helpful suggestions.

In each case the date is taken from the book examined. Earlier editions have been published in many cases, but are less suitable for the purpose of this list. Cheaper editions in less attractive bindings are also omitted.

Starred entries are those suited to younger students.

Certain books are now out of print or out of stock, but since they may be found in most public libraries, they are included.

Book prices are constantly changing, owing to rising costs of book-making. A price list correct today is incorrect tomorrow. This should be remembered when ordering.

"O FOR A BOOKE AND A SHADIE NOOKE!"

T is not for nothing that Book and Nook rhyme so sweetly, "either in-a-door or out" (equally in the leafy corner of a summer retreat, where a little hut suffices for a town, or in the cosy Bookshop for Boys and Girls, where ivies climb over the quaint windows set with pink geraniums, and where wait the rows upon rows of silent books, offering help, suggestion and companionship to the wise).

For Nature plus the right book is better even than lovely Nature by herself. So I believe. Few of us were born naturelovers. This is one of the tastes that one learns,—but oh, so readily, with the least encouragement, since there is so much answering beauty in the hearts of us all. A book is often the Good Fairy who first touches heart-of-beauty with her awakening wand. Was it not a book that opened your eyes to the wonders of the outdoor world, and set your thoughts groping? Wasn't it a story-book that taught you to love your little brothers of underbrush and treetop and still pool? Maybe a book first gave you a hint of secrets in sky, earth and sea which you had never suspected, and set you to exploring happily for yourself. Like as not a book of poems flashed upon you the revelation that you could find "tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones and good in everything!"

The spell of Nature is powerful; her variety infinite. No matter how satisfactory she may be in one aspect, there is always something more you can get from her, if you will. Perhaps you can reach it by yourself, if your mind is tall enough. But more likely a pile of books will help you. Books do not hamper the one who chooses well. You can make the best of time, swinging along a woodland road with your finger between the leaves of a lightsome, companionable little volume. Just to have the right book with you out of doors is one joy more! Maybe I and Thou will not today read our book of verses underneath the bough.