



The House on Maple Street

By Bonnie Pryor

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What would you see from your front porch if your neighborhood suddenly looked as it did three hundred years ago? When the two girls who live at 107 Maple Street discover an ancient arrowhead and a broken china cup, they begin to wonder.

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The House on Maple Street By Bonnie Pryor Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Where the house on Maple Street stands now, there was a forest 300 years ago. This simple summary of how civilization came to one backyard traces back through the years: an Indian child loses an arrowhead, a pioneer child loses a china cup and both turn up in today's garden. The difficult task of giving a fiction-like drive to this long impersonal sweep isn't quite managed in the text. But the book's greatest assets are in the dark-toned but lively panoramas of wilderness becoming settlement, and then an everytown "Maple Street." As a preface to what children will find in the earliest school books on the American past, the book may help waken a historical sense, and Peck's rich colorings and details have strong visual appeal. Ages 5-8.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 1-4 Compressing 300 years of this-is-what-happened incidents at a somewhere-place into the limited text of a picture book takes some doing. The narrator starts with a forest and a spring (hard to draw a spring, so we have a stream), and time travels forward past forest fire, buffalo, Indians, wagon trains, settlers, farmers, down to the contemporary family who live in the house on Maple Street. An arrowhead (for recognition purposes drawn so large as to be a spear point, at least) is a unifying object lost by an Indian boy, found many years later by a little girl, lost again, found by the Maple Street family. The concept is intriguing, but the text lacks clarity. Murky illustrations with wooden figures, full of discrepancies, detract, and the whole will have limited appeal for whatever the targeted reading audience is supposed to be. George Gleason, Department of English, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, Mo.

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Review

"Young children will find the ideas suggested here fascinating."--"Booklist

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jeffrey Brill:

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Deborah Brantley:

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this book.

Miriam Ellis:

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