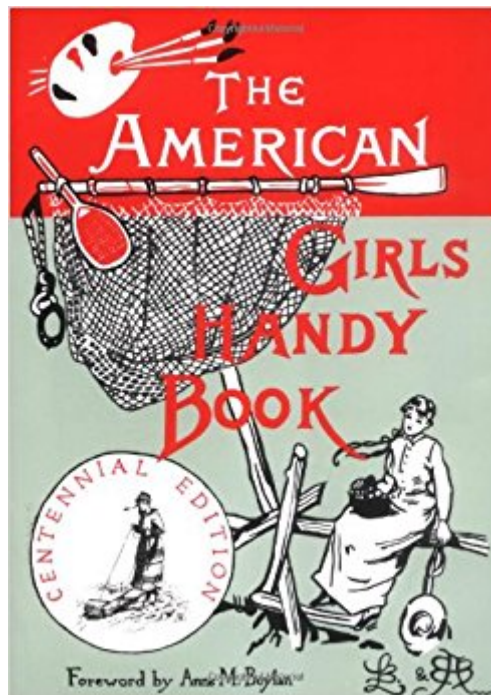




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American Girls Handy Book: How To Amuse Yourself And Others (Nonpareil Books)



Synopsis

If Tom Sawyer had been a girl, Aunt Polly would certainly have seen to it that she had a copy of this book and with a heartfelt blessing. Its a magical cornucopia of projects, devices, toys, gifts, dolls, recipes, decorations, perfumes, wax and clay modelling, oil and water-color painting and games, all with clear and practical directions for how to make and play them. Vintage Americana by the Beard sisters, two of the founders of Girl Scouting in the United States. "In the Beard sisters' version, 'the American girl' ranges in age from eight to eighteen. Healthy and spirited, she thinks nothing of taking a ten-mile 'romp' through woods and fields with a group of friends, and collects flowers and leaves for preservation or presentation to friends and relations. Above all, however, the Beards' girl is handy. She can make a hat rack, a screen, or a bookshelf; fashion a macrame hammock or a cornhusk doll; and draw, paint, sculpt, or decorate a room. The American Girls Handy Book, in short, by emphasizing what girls can do, presents a portrait of girlhood that is vigorous, active, and full of possibilities." - From the foreword by Anne M. Boylan

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lina and Adelia B. Beard were sisters with successful publishing careers, first writing for children's magazines, then writing books for young girls. In the early 1900s, they helped found the Girl Pioneers of America and the Campfire Girls. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I purchased this book as a gift for an elderly female, thinking it would provide some chuckles and good memories. Even though the content was from the late 1800s, she definitely recalled some of the activities as being from her own childhood. It's a fun read, but also offers a telling glimpse into the life of little girls of that time period (yes, complete with what we now call sexism). If you're a fan of the late 1800s, or period amusements; or would like to compare the very-different suggestions for girls with the suggestions for boys (from "The American Boys Handy Book"); or simply are curious about this "simpler time," you should enjoy this "Handy Book".

This book would be a great find for anyone wanting to either look back into the time of their grand parents or looking for ways to bring back enjoyment removed from the hustle of today's high tech society. The book is laid out by the seasons, making it easy to find ideas and projects desired. It also covers many of the major holidays of the year, the origins and history and what a young lady can do to have parties, decorate with hand made items, and entertain her friends for any occasion. Also provided are lessons on how to express herself in various art mediums such as painting, casting, scrap-booking and one of the most unusual lessons that surprised me, heraldry. The ideas and projects found within can and I believe should be used by parents as an excellent way to spent time with their daughters and ways to keep their children active through out the year. One chapter even provides instruction for a home gymnasium to keep fit. For adults wanting to provide gifts and special items for their daughters can learn to make many things such as corn husk and flower dolls that have brought delight and hours of enjoyment since their first creation by the hands of the American Indians. Overall I think this is a must have book for the education of any girl that will benefit her for the rest of her life. This book and it's companion, The American Boys Handy Book should grace the bookshelves of every home with children and a spare copy on hand for it will be worn out from much use.

A wonderful snapshot of another time. A treasury of folklore, crafts, and games that is charmingly illustrated with pen and ink. I only read this as an adult, but was already familiar with similar books from my parents' generation (late 30s, early 40s).

American Girls Handy Book: How to Amuse Yourself and Others (Nonpareil Books) [Paperback] I recently received this "fun" book. I was happy to get it so quickly through .com. A friend brought her hard copy to our ladies church meeting and from there everyone wanted a copy and requested that I order them a copy. Technology aside, it is so nice to get a book to hold in your hand and turn the

pages and then display it on your bookshelf. I look forward to finish reading this enchanting book and pass it along to my granddaughter.

Lina Beard provides a version of D.C. Beard's books for boys. Great crafts, skills, and hobbies from a lost time.

Bought this as a gift for my daughter. She saw it in a catalog but I found it cheaper here. She loves it.

I am a 25 year old writing this review and I must say I really like this book it was fun an I have used the ideas here by myself with my daughters and son (toddlers). An have done things with my necies. It Fun Fun Fun take yourself our young women out from the tv , computer etc and try these fun old classic ideas. Make yourself an or a youngwomen learn how to be handy because we can do things on our own with out a mans help belive it .

Got it for my granddaughters. They found it very interesting.

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