



Boys and Girls

Alice Munro

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Short story by Alice Munro.

My father was a fox farmer. That is, he raised silver foxes, in pens; and in the fall and early winter, when their fur was prime, he killed them and skinned them and sold their pelts to the Hudson's Bay Company or the Montreal Fur Traders...

Boys and Girls Details

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Author : Alice Munro

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From Reader Review Boys and Girls for online ebook

Ritu says

Boys and Girls captures what other stories try their hardest to.

It's a trip down memory lane to the time you were slowly shaped into gender roles.

I kinda hate it and love it.

It seemed that in the minds of the people around me there was a steady undercurrent of thought, not to be deflected, on this one subject. The word girl had formerly seemed to me innocent and unburdened like the word child; now it appeared that it was no such thing. A girl was not, as I had supposed, simply what I was; it was what I had to become. It was a definition, always touched with emphasis, with reproach and disappointment. Also it was a joke on me. Once Laird and I were fighting, and for the first time ever I had to use all my strength against him; even so, he caught and pinned my arm for a moment, really hurting me. Laird is the younger brother in this one.

I had goosebumps reading this because even though I haven't been raised on a fox farm, I have felt these exact emotions. The universalizing of them, through this story, is a no small feat.

All I know is I want to quote the whole darn story so that everyone reads it.

Sara says

Powerful short story on growing up as a girl and how it effects how you define yourself and how others define you. The fact that everything changed in one inexplicable moment adds to the beauty and power of the story.

Aditya Mallya says

A piercing short story about the two words in the title, and how their gravity pulls and shapes lives.

Nicole :) says

Perché non ho mai letto nulla di suo prima?

"The word girl had formerly seemed to me innocent and unburdened like the word child; now it appeared that it was no such thing. A girl was not, as I had supposed, simply what I was; it was what I had to become. It was a definition, always touched with emphasis, with reproach and disappointment. Also it was a joke on me."

burger queen says

1.5 Stars

I like the theme of the story, but the protagonist was highly unlikeable at times. The characters (father, brother, etc...) were also incredibly 2-dimensional with little personality.

Az says

The story was a bit boring to read at some parts, however, it shapes a clear message on gender stereotypes, societal norms, family beliefs and one's own sense of reality and dreams vs others. It was interesting to see the author's opinion on the topics through the short story and there were also a couple of parts that were a little surprising and unpredictable. I liked the writing style and the subject of the whole story. I think the engagement quality could have been improved on but all in all it was a good read. The ending was pretty sad in my opinion :(Although I believe that made the story even more realistic, deep and unique.

Tara says

I just couldn't get through it.

Sidharth Vardhan says

"The word girl had formerly seemed to me innocent and unburdened like the word child; now it appeared that it was no such thing. A girl was not, as I had supposed, simply what I was; it was what I had to become."

Read it here:

<http://womeninlit.tripod.com/alicehun...>

Manar mohamed says

"She's crying"

"Never mind", my father said..."she's only a girl"

I didn't protest that, even in my heart. Maybe it was true.

????? ??????

Ariel Weiss says

