

Book Information

Dori's Gift is a story that brings the Appalachian Mountains to life as the reader spends a special day with Dori. It's her birthday and although she's unsure if she will receive a gift, she knows that Mama will make it a memorable day. Life in the early twentieth century is quite different from today, Dori and her sisters have to help Mama as it is 'wash day' and there is a lot of work to be done. At the end of the day Dori receives a handmade dulcimer that Papa made especially for her. The family gathers and sings in sweet harmony. Dori's gift will fill the hills, hollows, and hearts of her people for many, many years.

Dori's Gift shows the reader a glimpse of the history and tradition of the Appalachian region. The homes were filled with music and singing, and many of the ballads held ties to their Scots-Irish roots. Most of the old songs were orally passed from one generation to the next. The dulcimer was a common instrument in the region. Its origin can be traced back to the Bible, in fact, in some parts of the mountains people would only use instruments that are in the Bible. The dulcimer was very inexpensive to make and became popular for that reason as well.

Dori's Gift is a story for all ages. It gives the reader a unique look at a typical day in the life of a child many years ago.

