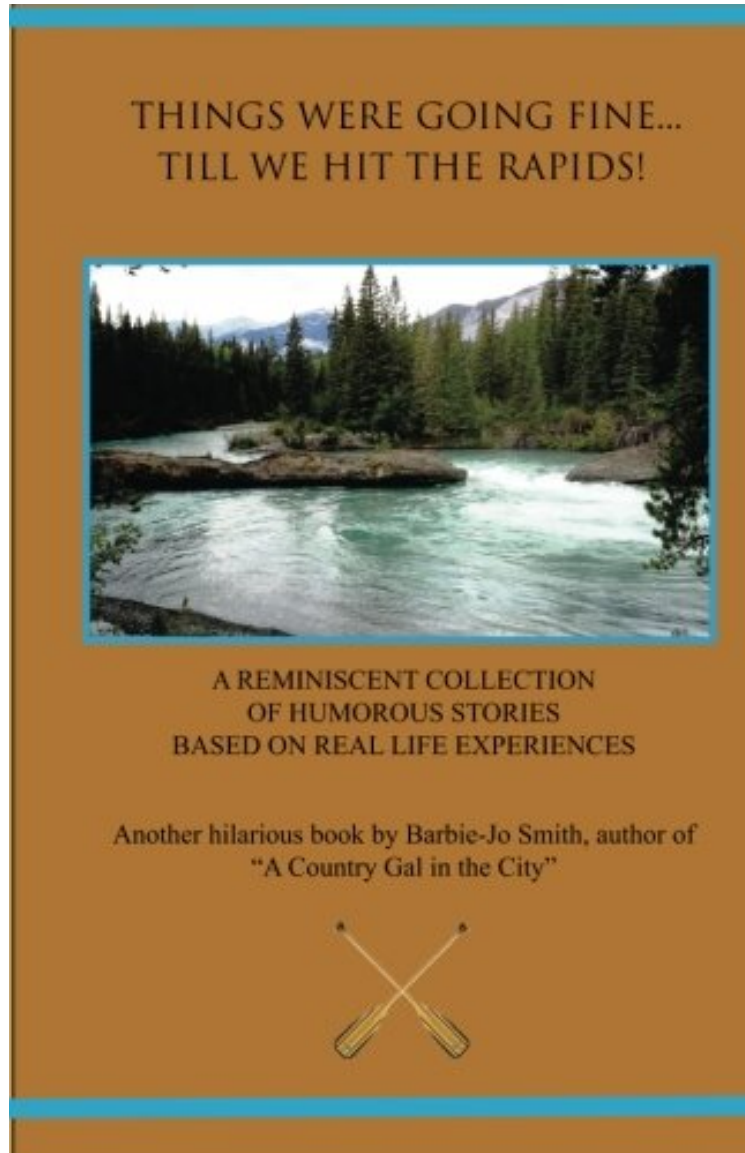


(Read ebook) Things Were Going Fine... Till We Hit the Rapids

Things Were Going Fine... Till We Hit the Rapids

Barbie-Jo Smith

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Barbie-Jo Smith : Things Were Going Fine... Till We Hit the Rapids before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Things Were Going Fine... Till We Hit the Rapids:

One afternoon my husband and I were driving in our truck heading home from a great day of fishing. As we chatted, he began to recount a story about being with friends and drifting down a lazy shallow mountain river on a sunny

afternoon, enjoying the wonders of Mother Nature. Ahead was a bush trap, which is a low hanging tree limb that catches floating logs and debris. As they swerved to avoid the trap, and simultaneously rounded the bend in the river, they realized they were headed directly into a huge set of rapids. In recounting this to me, in his low key and calm way of speaking, he said, "Yup. Things were going fine till we hit the rapids." I threw back my head and laughed until my sides hurt. For me, this simple phrase sums up, not only the reality of the incident he was recounting and the riotous scramble to keep the boat afloat, but it symbolizes life in general. Who among us cannot say that they have experienced the smooth ride down the river of life, which sometimes turns around the bend throwing us into the rapids? It's that sort of experience, and the ensuing determination to stay afloat, that makes us strong. On the other hand, being thrown into the river can be a hilarious and wonderful experience. While each of us experiences life in terms of our own unique perspectives, I find that as I get older I see more of the humorous side to flailing around in the water. So my friends, put on your bathing suit, grab a towel, and let's launch the boat into the rapids! "Things Were Going Fine Till We Hit the Rapids" is a collection of short stories and embedded poems, based on real life experiences. The title has a double meaning, because we can literally hit the rapids on a boat ride down a river and we can figuratively hit the rapids on our journey down the river of life. Barbie-Jo writes with both sensitivity and hilarity, sharing stories from her life and introducing characters whose antics and experiences will have you laughing out loud.

About the Author Barbie-Jo is a published columnist, writer, and poet living and working in the Calgary area. Over the years she has written three regular magazine columns, written and produced seminars and her name appears on several medical research manuscripts. Now retired from a career in medical administration, health and fitness, she stays active within her community and participates in two writing groups. Her working focus is on her writing. She's a natural story-teller with a special talent for writing humorous stories and story poems. Her boots are always parked close to the door because this country gal loves to travel, camp and fish with her husband. Her first book, "A Country Gal in the City," is a compilation of short stories and poems, all based on real life experiences. The title refers to her love of the many rural places where she has lived, but also her loving connection to big cities, where she has also made her homes. As she writes on her book cover, the dichotomy between country and city illustrates the contrasts in her life, indeed all of our lives. It is about these contrasts that she writes with great sensitivity and witty humor. Whether she is wearing high heel shoes or manure caked boots, she invites you, the reader, to come along with her on a wonderful reading journey. Look for her new poetry book, "Echoes of a Country Heart." Barbie-Jo Smith is a story teller who paints exquisite pictures with her words. In "Echoes of a Country Heart" she leaves the reader wanting to step into her story poems and experience them first hand. From "I'll Put the Coffee on Pappy" to "Down in the Pasture", "Harvest", "Varmint Trap" and "The Land That I Call Home" your soul will be touched and, like a coming thunder storm, memories will roll across the landscape of your mind and echo in your heart.