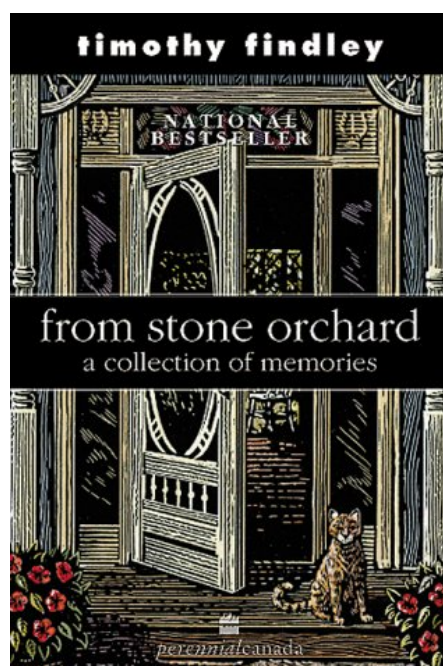




From Stone Orchard

Timothy Findley

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From Stone Orchard Timothy Findley

A gift from Stone Orchard: Timothy Findley's poignant collection of country-life writings. Timothy Findley and his companion William Whitehead freely admit they were innocent romantics when they purchased Stone Orchard farm over three decades ago. Both in the early stages of their writing careers, they reasoned that nothing could be more conducive to a writerly muse than a gently tumbling-down farmhouse nestled among the rolling hills of the southern Ontario countryside. And they were right. Since that first day they laid eyes upon Stone Orchard and its 50 acres of lawns, perennial gardens, fields of rippling grasses and dense, green woods, it has become much more than a home and a workplace. It has become a refuge for Tiff and Bill, an enduring haven of friendship and love for family, friends and neighbors. And, as they say, if only the walls could talk ...

The walls have never talked so eloquently or endearingly as they do in *From Stone Orchard*, a collection of Timothy Findley's *Harrowsmith* columns - revised and expanded - plus new writings, all on life at a 19th-century farm just outside of Cannington, Ontario. Here are tales of the farm's past, both distant and recent: the comic coincidences leading to the naming of the swimming pool, and why Margaret Laurence would never dip her toe in it. Or the night dinner party guests went outside in the twilight, dressed like royalty, to watch a herd of majestic deer pass through the gardens.

On the eve of their departure from Stone Orchard - it being time for Tiff and Bill to move on - Findley's writings achieve a new poignancy, as a piece of our literary heritage is remembered with humor, affection and magic.

Beautifully designed and packaged with lovely woodcut drawings, *From Stone Orchard* will be a cherished keepsake for Timothy Findley's legions of loyal fans, as well as a treasured gift for anyone whose dreams transport them into the charming landscape of country life.

HarperFlamingoCanada

From Stone Orchard Details

Date : Published 1998 by harper flamingo canada

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Author : Timothy Findley

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Genre : Cultural, Canada, Nonfiction, Autobiography, Memoir, Biography

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From Reader Review From Stone Orchard for online ebook

Debbie says

Haven't read anything of Timothy Findlay's in a few years and this made me miss him all the more. It is a collection of memories surrounding the old farmhouse he and his partner Bill, lived in for 30 years. It hits all the right chords for anyone who has had an attachment to a piece of land. The story of them learning, when they first bought the property, of the difference between cistern water and well water was funny and strangely, one I can identify with! Lovely sweet read written by one of my favourites.

Elaine Cougler says

From Stone Orchard is a shameless autobiography by Timothy Findley of the times he and his partner lived on his small farm north of Toronto. Insightful and interesting this is a light read which helps the reader see the man behind the author. Along the way memories from my own childhood were evoked. Good book.

Tanya says

It has taken me a while to get to this book. A collection of shorts about his farm, most originally published in Harrowsmith, and surprising interesting. I shouldn't say "surprisingly" as Findley never fails to amaze me. His way of using words to tell me about his cats, dogs, neighbours and flowers makes me feel like I'm there.

anne says

my favorite findley

Bruce says

A bit disappointing compared to the brilliant fiction from Mr Findley (aka TIFF) but some delightful insights into urbanites coping with the realities of rural properties (a full time handyman is a prerequisite for survival); how pets enter into the plot lines of novels; how important it is to know exactly where your water comes from; and so on.

Dani (The Pluviophile Writer) says

The Stone Orchard is a place I wish I could have been apart of. I'm so jealous that Findley was able to lead this kind of life. I know that living there they didn't always have much money but they were constantly surrounded by such life, nature, calm and calamity. Books such as this one make me look at my own life and the changes that I want to make within it in order to stay grounded, closer to nature, to the things that matter

to me and to not get so lost up in our busy North American lifestyle.

If I ever get a chance to visit Ontario in the future I would love to see what remains of this Orchard. I'm thankful that Findley wrote this memoir as I said it not only gives me insight into my own life but into Findley's novels and where the inspiration came for them. I would recommend this book to anyone who is a fan of Findley's work.

Joanne-in-Canada says

Delightful reminiscences that evoke calmness and reflection. Ah, Timothy, we miss you.

Paula Dembeck says

Timothy Findley and his partner Bill Whitehead, determined to get away from the hustle and bustle of busy Toronto, purchased a fifty acre farm called Stone Orchard in Cannington, Southern Ontario. They spent thirty years on this property and although neither of them knew anything about farming, they loved the lifestyle. Their naiveté about farm practices led to many misadventures including dead rats in their drinking water and a multitude of cats which exploded at one point to a population of almost forty. Findley says that both he and Bill believed that many of the cats were mysteriously dropped off during the night by people who no longer wanted them and believed the farm would provide them with a welcoming home. And they were welcome, becoming the source of some of the couple's funniest and most favourite memories.

The property proved to be a welcome retreat for their writing and Findley wrote some of his well-known titles here, including "The Piano Man's Daughter" and "Headhunter". And when they were not writing they were often receiving guests or having some wonderful adventure. A visit from Margaret Laurence is an important memory as was finding an original Susanna Moodie poem under a print they bought at an auction.

This volume is a collection of some of the columns Findley write for Harrowsmith magazine with some additional content about the couple's private life. Findley wanted to write this memoir as a tribute to the people and the place that had inspired some of his best writing. It is a relaxed and easy read in which one grows to appreciate some of the more personal experiences of this important Canadian writer.
