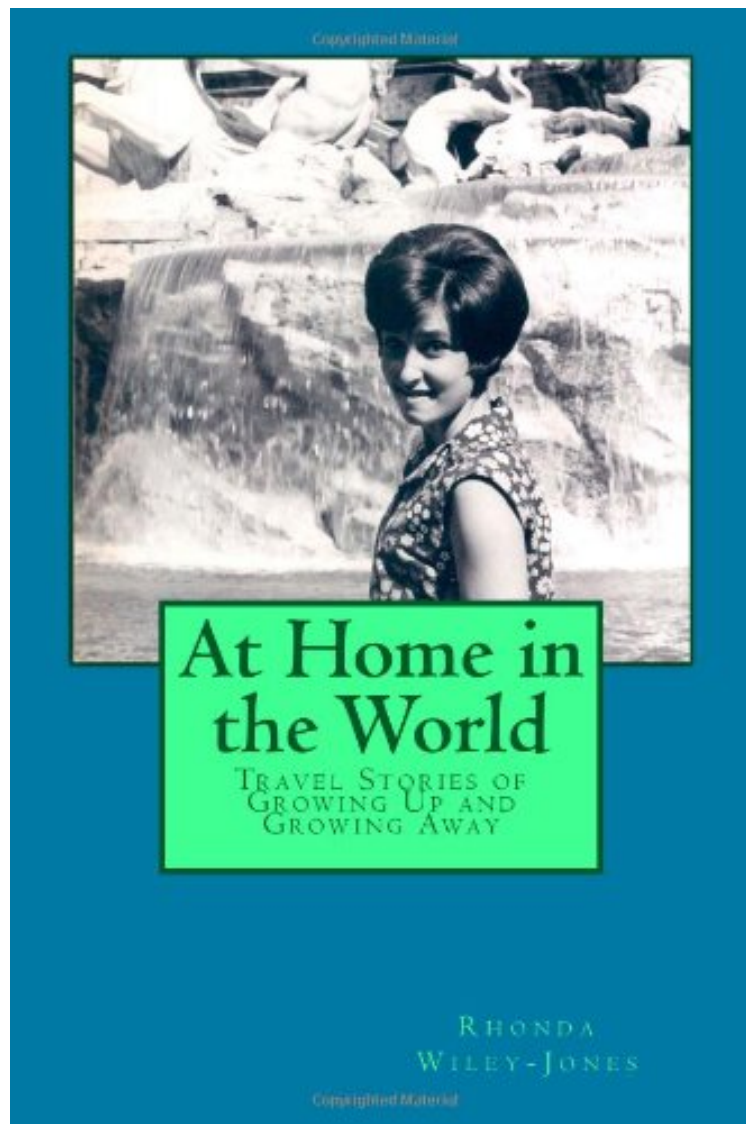


(Mobile book) At Home in the World: Travel Stories of Growing Up and Growing Away

At Home in the World: Travel Stories of Growing Up and Growing Away

Rhonda Wiley-Jones

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Rhonda Wiley-Jones : At Home in the World: Travel Stories of Growing Up and Growing Away before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised At Home in the World: Travel Stories of Growing Up and Growing Away:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. At Home in the WorldBy MaryThank you for writing such a thoughtful and thought provoking book. In 182 pages the reader watches the child you were become the woman you

are. You have described an awesome journey of personal growth and worldly insight.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Natural for Moms and Daughters to Read TogetherBy Rose SmithThis is a book I want to share with my granddaughter. Every young girl needs to have her horizons stretched and this is one way to do it. Road Scholar's Intergenerational Program trips seems to me an ideal way to read this book on a trip with either parents or grandparents and among a variety of other parents and grandparents.Rhonda was fortunate to have a mother who supported her to have experiences and to empower her to make life-time decisions from the early age of fourteen. Rhonda has a rare gift of including the reader in her life from adolescence to age twenty-six with a college degree behind her. The author takes the reader from small town Piggott, Arkansas, where she has grown up with two older brothers and parents who ground her in her school, community and church. When travel was added to the mix, Miss Rhonda Wiley matured to chart her own course.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Without fearBy VirginiaRhonda Wiley-Jones gives us insight into her deepest feelings. She found enough courage from her strong spiritual background to question her roots and hold to that which stood the test and replace that which did not.

Rhonda Wiley-Jones book *At Home in the World: Travel Stories of Growing Up and Growing Away*, is a coming-of-age memoir about her as a girl from the rural Arkansas delta whose mother wants more for her. The world of a ten-year old girl in 1963 sets the stage for her travels abroad and within the U.S. until a young woman in 1980. Rhonda savors various worlds through mission studies and missionaries, who visit her church. Rather than narrowing her views of the world, her church experiences expand her world, and in turn, her worldview. Her mother, wise beyond her own experience, discerns that travel is fundamental to growing up with options and launches a fledgling daughter into the world. Each journey into the world whets Rhonda's appetite for learning more about people and geography, ideas and culture. Traveling, usually alone, mark her growth chart at ages fourteen, fifteen, seventeen and during her college sophomore year. Rhonda travels alone on her first train trip across Arkansas, soars across the Atlantic to Europe for a world youth conference, and jets across the Pacific to Hawaii to work with an island church in a multicultural maze. She then transfers from one college to another to spend a year in another U.S. culture, while working as a missionary in Salt Lake City. Rhonda's upbringing at church and the mentoring by her mother result in opportunities and growth. Neither her church nor mother expects the evolving outcomes inherent in her journeys. She emerges--a young woman traveling solo in the United Kingdom and Ireland at age twenty-seven. Her intent is to achieve a new level of independence and in the process takes stock of the self she once thought she wanted to be. The breaches discovered in her self-assessment, in the belief she once had in her church, as well as her view of the world stand in stark relief against her expeditions into the world. This final declaration of independence coincides with her departure from a church that she has loved and that has given her so much growing up. Rhonda grows up and grows away to find herself at home in the world, due to the collective contributions to her life her mother's tutelage, the church's influence, geographical and ideological travel, as well as the time spent maturing and reflecting on what she has experienced.

About the AuthorRhonda Wiley-Jones coming-of-age, travel memoir is her first book. Her church generated and offered her opportunities not often afforded young people her age. Her mother encouraged and prepared her for her forays into the world. Her travels expanded her worldview and produced a transformation of views about the church. Rhonda writes fiction and nonfiction and is published in several venues. She has traveled extensively with her husband since the end of this story to places such as Japan, Australia, South Africa, Ireland, France, Costa Rica and most recently Turkey. Rhonda and her husband, Lynn Jones, retired to Texas, and now spend at least one month each year in Mexico on an island. Keep up with Rhonda on the website RhondaWiley-Jones.com.