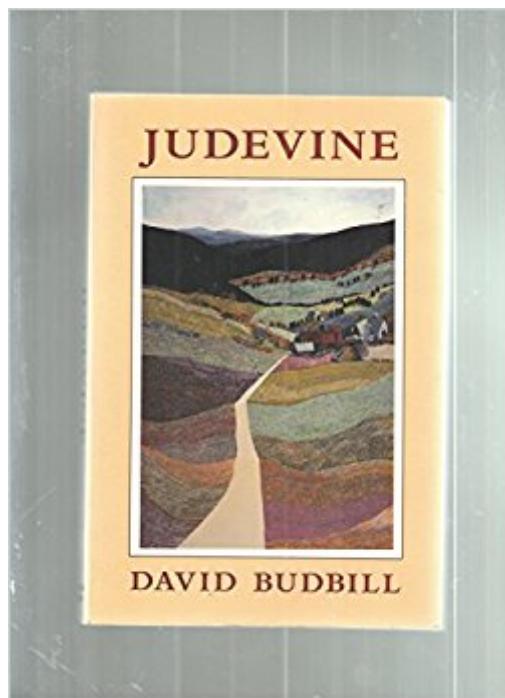


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Judevine: The Complete Poems, 1970-1990



Synopsis

For the past twenty years David Budbill has been writing his lyrical, dark, often humorous narrative poems about the people of Judevine, an imaginary place in the hills of northern Vermont. In a voice both passionate and unadorned, Budbill tells the stories of their hopes and joys, their pain and despair.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Budbill came to northern Vermont in the Sixties as part of the hippie diaspora. Like many others, he responded to the stubborn, hard life of the backwoods poor, and it became both his own way of life and his subject as a poet. This book brings together 20 years of the lives of a semifictional community. The cast of characters ranges from Antoine, harvester of Christmas trees, to Sarah, a newcomer who stays on in Judevine after her husband tires of farming and leaves. Budbill finds "delight . . . / In the midst of what some think is squalor." Over the course of this verse novel, the circumscribed lives of these feisty people accumulate resonance, while retaining the transparency of poetry. Budbill's is an important voice, part of the nascent movement to bring our view of New England's native poor from the long-vanished world of Ethan Frome to the likes of the Beans of Egypt, Maine. Essential for regional collections.- Rob Schmieder, BostonCopyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Arrived fairly quickly in decent shape (former library copy). Wonderful story of townspeople all in poetry. Captures all the fictional residents so you feel that you know them more with each poem.

Beautiful

While reading this book I could see myself in this town of Judevine, VT. Budbill wrote the poetry through the eyes of one of his characters, David a college graduate who had moved to this fictitious hillside town in northern Vermont. Every character comes alive, and has feelins and thoughts that the reader can see. I was able to relate to almost all of the characters of these poems, and was

happy with them, and heartbroken with them as well. Perhaps the greatest character is Antione, a foul mouthed french logger, I am not sure if he was supposed to be french-canadian but that is how I percieved him. Antione has feelings on everything and gives us a humourous perspective on most issues, as well as our own lives. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who enjoys poetry. It almost seems to be a present day Canterbury Tales, and definitely worth reading. Also, if you are able, please watch the play "Judevine" by Budbill as well.

In Judevine, David Budbill transforms a small Vermont town and it's inhabitants into allegories for humanity. Though it's written as a play, or a series of poems, it could easily be a documentary because of it's accuracy. Every vermonter can recognize these charactors, or their real life counterparts. What's amazing about this book is Budbill's great compassion, he treats these people with respect. However Budbill transcends his material and creates art. I recommend this book without qualification to every reader, the casual one who enjoys beautiful writing and colloquial charactors and the more serious one who will understand Budbill's subtle allegories

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