

at great personal cost. Predominant, however, is the evolution of his relationship to his daughter from doting dad to literary mentor and friend to elderly dependent.

This book will be of particular interest to those interested in Plains literary history. Manfred, born near Doon in northwest Iowa, lived most of his life in southwestern Minnesota. Most of his books are set in what he called "Siouxland," an area roughly defined as the borderlands of Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota. Manfred's dedication to both living in and writing about this area represents a unique literary regionalism in which, to paraphrase Wendell Berry, the life of the author is as important as his literature. Freya Manfred provides important insights into such a "grounded" literary life, both its rewards and costs. In addition, those interested in reading about caring for elderly parents in rural areas will find this narrative full of moving and, at times, informative observations.

Flight Dreams: A Life in the Midwestern Landscape, by Lisa Knopp. Singular Lives: The Iowa Series in North American Autobiography. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1998. xi, 286 pp. \$22.95 paper.

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Flight Dreams is an engaging, thoughtful, and well-written memoir that interweaves personal observation and experience with critical analysis. Like *Field of Vision*, Knopp's earlier collection of 16 personal essays, *Flight Dreams* takes readers along on a journey based on close examination and analysis of the world around them. In his foreword to the book, Albert E. Stone links Knopp's autobiographical work to the *Tao Te Ching*, noting that "Knopp's life story is here re-created as a vivid series of changes and reversals, not a straight Way" (xi).

Flight Dreams incorporates a number of previously published essays as well as new memory pieces that recall and reconstruct Knopp's growing-up years in Burlington, her young adult years in Iowa City, and her graduate school years in Lincoln, Nebraska. Knopp, who currently teaches writing at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, records her journey from the dual perspective of student and teacher. As a writer of memoir, Knopp takes seriously the writer's responsibility to work in good faith, striving to bring past events and individuals into the present through the interaction of her memory and imagination. *Flight Dreams* is honest, poignant, meditative. It adds an important perspective to the burgeoning field of autobiographies and memoirs written by midwestern writers.

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