



Helen Blackburn Hoover

(1910-1984)

Helen Drusilla Blackburn Hoover was born and raised in Greenfield, graduated from McClain High School, then blazed a trail through the wilderness. A trained metallurgist, she authored seven books and numerous articles on nature and the wilderness. In 1954, after a vacation in the north woods of Minnesota, she and her husband, Adrian, decided to rent a cabin and spend a year living in the wilderness. After surviving the year, the Hoovers decided to make their permanent home there. Her seven books, illustrated with pen and ink drawings by her husband, included three children's books. Four of her books, "The Gift of the Deer," "The Long-Shadowed Forest," "A Place in the Woods" and "The Years in the Forest," were based on their life of coping with the difficulties of living in the wilderness. Several were printed in *Reader's Digest*.



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