

Book Review

The Education of Little Tree, by Forrest Carter
Reviewed by: Kathleen Bell

This is a book that will actually make you laugh and cry – not just cry, but sob, and not just laugh, but rejoice. In it's mere 216 pages, it will completely change the way you see life.

The Education of Little Tree is Forrest Carter's autobiography, centered on a turning point in his life, when he goes to live with his Cherokee grandparents in the Appalachian Mountains after the death of his parents. As he learns "The Way", a very young Little Tree (as he was then called) matures beyond a level reached y many adults. And through his eyes, we see a new way to approach life, and a better way to live.

The Education of Little Tree is not a book for children, though it is *about* a child. Rather, it is a serious adult book, which teaches more about culture, perspective, and how to truly live, than perhaps any other book I've read. It's been re-released this year by the University of New Mexico Press (www.unmpress.com , 1-800-249-7737), for its 25th anniversary, and cost an unexpected \$14.00 at my neighborhood bookstore. But it's worth every penny. My copy currently has a waiting list of five people in line to read it and I imagine it will keep going long after that.

Wanted