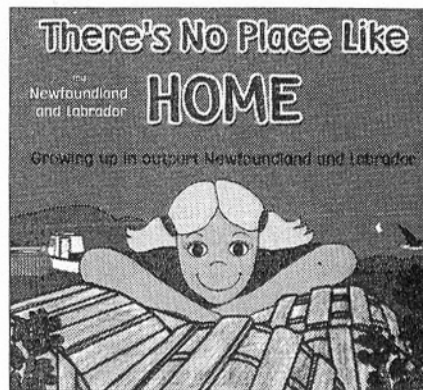


BOOK REVIEWS

Author shares childhood memories of rural Newfoundland

Bonnie Belec



**"There's No Place Like my
Newfoundland and Labrador
Home, Growing up in outport
Newfoundland and Labrador"**

By Necie,
DRC Publishing
\$12.95/30 pages

Instead of swimming in southern seas, she'd rather fish off the pier or eat a Sunday dinner rather than dine in fancy restaurants.

Necie has written two short paragraphs on each page that rhyme and if you read them quickly enough, it's almost as if you're breaking into a song. The children got a kick out of every reading session as I'd read faster and faster, eventually stumbling over the words and they'd make me start again.

On each page she has a small graphic of some Newfoundland icon such as blueberries or mussels, the pitcher plant or scallops. At the end of the book, she has a glossary and a section on plants and sea creatures with short descriptions.

*"Some folks live in buildings that
reach up to the sky,
I'd rather live where I can watch the
fishing boats go by
And stare into the clear blue sky to
watch seagulls in flight,
And wish upon the stars I see when
daytime turns to night."*

his is the opening page of Necie's
"There's No Place Like my
Newfoundland and Labrador Home,
Growing up in outport Newfoundland
and Labrador," and a wonderful
depiction of how special it is to live
here.

It is a beautifully crafted little book
about rural Newfoundland and the
wonderful marvels of growing up in a
place where the ordinary is anything
but.

She has taken some of the world's
most exotic places to visit, such as the
Eiffel Tower and the Andes, and uses
clear common vocabulary to compare
the wonders of those faraway places
to what she sees in her home
province, and, in fact, her own
backyard.

Book Review
The Telegram
July 25, 2009

Lindsay and Liam loved the sea
creatures – bright pictures of cod,
lobster, mussels, all species common
to Newfoundland waters.

"What is that Mommy?" they asked
pointing to a skate and sea urchins.

While we've walked along beaches
before, we haven't had the pleasure of
happening upon either. We came
upon a rotten whale carcass once, but
I preferred to steer them clear in
another direction.

The graphics in "There's No Place
Like my Newfoundland and Labrador
Home," are bright and colourful and
carry on with the tradition of Necie's
writing, simple and refreshing.
There's pictures of mummers dancing
at Christmas, the old two-storey
homes with smoke pouring out the
chimney and children berrypicking.

As I read through it, I remembered
my own childhood doing those very
things and thought how nice it is
someone has put all those memories
together.