

A Miner S Life

My name is Tommy Turnbull. I've been a coalminer all my life. My father was a miner, so was my grandfather, my uncles, my cousins and my brother. Wherever there's a pit, you can bet there'll be a Turnbull somewhere down there.

A wealthy landlord's son, and a coal miner's daughter... Growing up in poverty, one of six siblings, Hannah Armstrong never thought she'd know anything other than her little mining town. But then she falls for Timothy Durkin, a wealthy Oxford student... Following her heart, Hannah sacrifices everything she holds dear and follows her new husband to Oxford. But will her new life of luxury be everything she expected - or will she find that once a coal miner's daughter, always a coal miner's daughter..?

An historical novel based on real people and places in the period 1861 to 1913, set amidst the poverty and overcrowding in the miners' rows of Ayrshire Scotland. The author has put words into the mouths of her ancestors to create a picture of life for large mining families and how they battled sickness and disease, and barely eked out a living. The story begins with Thomas and Margaret McMurdo and their growing family and describes their simple lives crowded into a two-room dwelling in a miners' row. There are many highs and lows for the family. You will be introduced to their children, and particularly their eldest son George who (against her mother's wishes) marries 18-year-old Mary Hamilton, a carefree, educated young woman. You will read of the family's friendship with well-known union activist Keir Hardie. It's a story about the struggles of the miners and their families – the men who slaved away underground facing daily dangers, and the women who worked hard bearing and raising large families and praying that their men would return unharmed from the pits. The overwhelming sadness will tug at your heartstrings – and to make this story more poignant, it really happened.

Backbreaking work, threadbare clothes, and black coal dust choking the air -- this is what a miner's daughter knows. Willa Lowell fears that this dust marks her to be nothing else, that she will never win against the constant struggle to survive. Even the fierce flame of her family's love -- her one bright spot against the darkness -- has begun to dim. Willa yearns for a better life -- enough food to eat, clothes that fit, and a home free of black grit. She also yearns for a special love, the love of a boy who makes her laugh and shares the poetry she carries in her heart. When a much brighter future is suddenly promised to her family, Willa knows it is a miracle . . . until she discovers that every promise has a price. But she also discovers that the real change has burned inside her all along -- if only she is strong enough to mine it. Writing in a style that is as breathtaking and lyrical as it is powerful, Gretchen Moran Laskas draws from her family's past to bring to life the story of a girl struggling against seemingly insurmountable odds. The Miner's Daughter will touch readers' hearts and stay with them long after they've read the last word.

Dare we compare mining to slavery? In a way, yes. Although miners were not physically owned, they were mentally owned by their work. Livelihoods were owned by the company store-which was detrimental both emotionally and psychologically-making life difficult for not just the miners but their families, too. Many immigrants who came to America were forced to leave their homelands, seeking a means to survive in the new world. The American Dream promised a life

of freedom-but was that really true for immigrants who became miners? Mining was different from the work they were accustomed to, but immigrants thought it had to be better than what they left behind. Economically, though, they were blind. Immigrants were paid little for dangerous work, but they endured. In *A Miner's Family Life*, author Billy Ray Bibb tells the story of his life and his family history. He comes from a long line of West Virginian coal miners so he knows the true story. This is dedicated to all miners, including the souls of those who suffered in body, mind, and spirit. *Memory of a Miner* is a true account of one man's journey as an old-school miner in the southern Appalachian coal mining region of Harlan County, Kentucky, between 1931 to 1958. This is the same period that "Bloody Harlan" gained its reputation as the battleground for some of the most volatile and insidious conflicts over worker's rights this country has ever known. Although volumes have been written about the struggles and sacrifices that defined this time and place in American history, an important reality is usually missing in those accounts.....the fact that despite the coal wars at home and a World War abroad, the fun times shared and the friendships made make this the most treasured time of life for most of those who lived it. And Dad has the stories to prove it! *Memory of a Miner* revisits his journey - told from his perspective - of the bad and the good. Dad not only loved mining, but he was a crack storyteller to boot! Anyone who enjoys a good story will be delighted to find this book packed full of hilarious, one-of-a-kind real-life adventures recreated by this world-class storyteller. *Memory of a Miner* retains the historical integrity of the period by weaving facts of record with first-hand accounts of a miner right in the thick of it all. Readers who fancy stories about salt-of-the-earth folk who fight for what they believe in...and win...will love *Memory of a Miner*. This narrative fleshes out the robust day-to-day life of real people who knew how to work hard and play hard. As such, *Memory of a Miner* is an inspiring commentary on life which we can all relate to - a journal of joy and sadness, success and failure, hardship and bounty on an intimate scale. The story of a real-life hero who conquered unbelievable odds and not only persevered, but discovered how to truly enjoy life.

In a devastating and urgent work of investigative journalism, Pulitzer Prize winner Chris Hamby uncovers the tragic resurgence of black lung disease in Appalachia, its Big Coal cover-up, and the resilient mining communities who refuse to back down. Decades ago, a grassroots uprising forced Congress to enact long-overdue legislation designed to virtually eradicate black lung disease and provide fair compensation to coal miners stricken with the illness. Today, however, both promises remain unfulfilled. Levels of disease have surged, the old scourge has taken an aggressive new form, and ailing miners and widows have been left behind by a dizzying legal system, denied even modest payments and medical care. In this devastating and urgent work of investigative journalism, Pulitzer Prize winner Chris Hamby traces the unforgettable story of how these trends converge in the lives of two men: Gary Fox, a black lung-stricken West Virginia coal miner determined to raise his family from poverty, and John Cline, an idealistic carpenter and rural medical clinic worker who becomes a lawyer in his fifties. Opposing them are the lawyers at the coal industry's go-to law firm; well-credentialed doctors who often weigh in for the defense, including a

group of radiologists at Johns Hopkins; and Gary's former employer, Massey Energy, the region's largest coal company, run by a cantankerous CEO often portrayed in the media as a dark lord of the coalfields. On the line in Gary and John's longshot legal battle are fundamental principles of fairness and justice, with consequences for miners and their loved ones throughout the nation. Taking readers inside courtrooms, hospitals, homes tucked in Appalachian hollows, and dusty mine tunnels, Hamby exposes how coal companies have not only continually flouted a law meant to protect miners from deadly amounts of dust but also enlisted well-credentialed doctors and lawyers to help systematically deny much-needed benefits to miners. The result is a legal and medical thriller that brilliantly illuminates how a band of laborers — aided by a small group of lawyers, doctors and lay advocates, often working out of their homes or in rural clinics and tiny offices — challenged one of the world's most powerful forces, Big Coal, and won. A deeply troubling yet ultimately triumphant work, *Soul Full of Coal Dust* is a necessary and timely book about injustice and resistance.

"The most comprehensive and comprehensible history of the West Virginia Coal War I've ever read" (John Sayles, writer and director of *Matewan*). On September 1, 1912, the largest, most protracted, and deadliest working class uprising in American history was waged in West Virginia. On one side were powerful corporations whose millions bought armed guards and political influence. On the other side were fifty thousand mine workers, the nation's largest labor union, and the legendary "miners' angel," Mother Jones. The fight for unionization and civil rights sparked a political crisis that verged on civil war, stretching from the creeks and hollows of the Appalachians to the US Senate. Attempts to unionize were met with stiff resistance. Fundamental rights were bent then broken, and the violence evolved from bloody skirmishes to open armed conflict, as an army of more than fifty thousand miners finally marched to an explosive showdown. Extensively researched and vividly told, this definitive book about an essential chapter in the history of American freedom, "gives this backwoods struggle between capital and labor the due it deserves. [Green] tells a dark, often despairing story from a century ago that rings true today" (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette).

Arthur McIvor and Ronald Johnston explore the experience of coal miners' lung diseases and the attempts at voluntary and legal control of dusty conditions in British mining from the late nineteenth century to the present. In this way, the book addresses the important issues of occupational health and safety within the mining industry; issues that have been severely neglected in studies of health and safety in general. The authors examine the prevalent diseases, notably pneumoconiosis, emphysema and bronchitis, and evaluate the roles of key players such as the doctors, management and employers, the state and the trade unions. Throughout the book, the integration of oral testimony helps to elucidate the attitudes of workers and victims of disease, their 'machismo' work culture and socialisation to very high levels of risk on the job, as well as how and why ideas and health mentalities changed over time. This research, taken together with extensive archive material, provides a unique perspective on the nature of work, industrial relations, the meaning of masculinity in the workplace and the wider social impact of industrial disease, disability and death. The effects of contracting dust disease are shown to result invariably in seriously prescribed lifestyles and encroaching isolation. The book will appeal to those working on the history of medicine, industrial relations, social history and business history as well as labour history.

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A Miner's Life An Autobiography Madison, U. of Wisconsin PA Miner's Life Routledge Kegan & Paul A Miner's Family Life Memories of Minden, West Virginia AuthorHouse

Includes New Material Exclusive to the Paperback A Finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award A Finalist for a Los Angeles Times Book Prize A New York Times Book Review Notable Book When the San José mine collapsed outside of Copiapó, Chile, in August 2010, it trapped thirty-three miners beneath thousands of feet of rock for a record-breaking sixty-nine days. After the disaster, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Héctor Tobar received exclusive access to the miners and their tales, and in *Deep Down Dark*, he brings them to haunting, visceral life. We learn what it was like to be imprisoned inside a mountain, understand the horror of being slowly consumed by hunger, and experience the awe of working in such a place—one filled with danger and that often felt alive. A masterwork of narrative journalism and a stirring testament to the power of the human spirit, *Deep Down Dark* captures the profound ways in which the lives of everyone involved in the catastrophe were forever changed.

This book pulses with the thrill of the Klondike Gold Rush, and is full of the "bad women" and gambling and hard-drinking men who haunted mining towns. A fortune could be made overnight, but it could be lost just as quickly.

Describes the hard rock mining industry that developed in the American west following the gold rush, including the operations of a mine and the lives of the miners and their families.

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