



2009

Mitzi's World

Sandra L. Tidwell

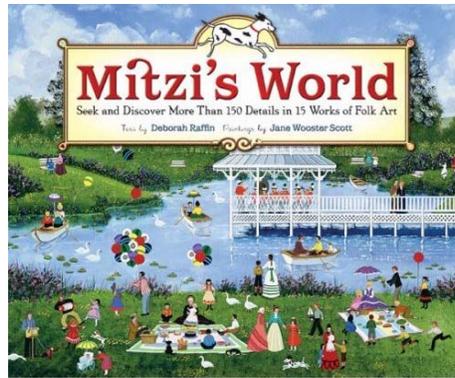
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Tidwell, Sandra L. (2009) "Mitzi's World," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 30 : Iss. 5 , Article 7.

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Raffin, Deborah. *Mitzi's World*. Illustrated by Jane Wooster Scott. Abrams, 2009. ISBN 9780810980044. \$17.95. 32 p.

Reviewer: Sandra L. Tidwell

Reading Level: Preschool, Primary, Intermediate

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Picture books;

Subject: Picture puzzles--Juvenile literature; Dogs--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

Experience a year in the countryside and towns of early folk America as you look for "teeny-weeny, itsy-bitsy, ditzzy" Mitzi, a frisky Dalmatian with a red collar. Each season is portrayed with three or four one-page paintings. Winter is cold: snowflakes, city streets, moonlight, and railroad tracks. Spring is warm: friends, community, furry companions, and wheeling. Summer is hot: contestants, breezes, and balloons. Fall is chilly: noses, pumpkins, art lovers, and hustle and bustle. Cities represented in the paintings include New York, Brooklyn, and Long Island, New York; Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania; San Francisco, California; and Seattle, Washington.

Beautifully colored and detailed oil paintings by world-famous Jane Wooster Scott are a natural for this "Can you find ..." book. Raffin's text prompts readers to look for over 150 details, but there are plenty more that can be discovered during rereads. It is interesting to look at the early fashion, modes of transportation, recreation, and businesses. At the end of the book, the following folk art styles are explained: naïve art, neo-naïve art, environmental art, outsider art, and memory art. The reader discovers that Mitzi's world was created in the "memory art" style.

Volume 30, no. 5 (May/June 2010)