2017

If You Lived Here: Houses of the World

Kimberly Jackson

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BYU ScholarsArchive Citation
Jackson, Kimberly (2017) "If You Lived Here: Houses of the World," Children's Book and Media Review: Vol. 38 : Iss. 12 , Article 50. Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol38/iss12/50

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Book Review

Title: If You Lived Here: Houses of the World  
Author: Giles Laroche  
Reviewer: Kimberly Jackson  
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Books for Children  
Year: 2011  
ISBN: 9780547238920  
Pages: 31  
Interest Level: Intermediate  
Rating: Dependable

Review

What would your house look like if you lived halfway across the world or were born a hundred years ago? You can travel all around the world without leaving the comfort of home as you turn pages to visit houses across the globe in different eras. Each home is unique and lets you get a taste of the culture of people who live there. Information on the materials used to construct each house, the location, and a fascinating fact provide even more insight into these fifteen homes and their inhabitants. Who wouldn’t want to live in the mountains of Switzerland, the Isles of Chile, or in a French chateaux for at least a few minutes?

If You Lived Here: Houses of the World is an enchanting trip around the world. It boasts a wide variety of homes with very specific information about each house, making it a helpful resource for information gathering for a class assignment or project. Although enjoyable for all ages, the illustrations and length may be more sought after by a younger audience. It could also appeal to those who want to travel and are interested in learning about different people, lands, and cultures. The book also includes a helpful map of each house’s location. Giles Laroche’s one-of-a-kind illustrations are beautiful and showcase his bas-relief cut-paper collages.

Published by BYU ScholarsArchive, 2017