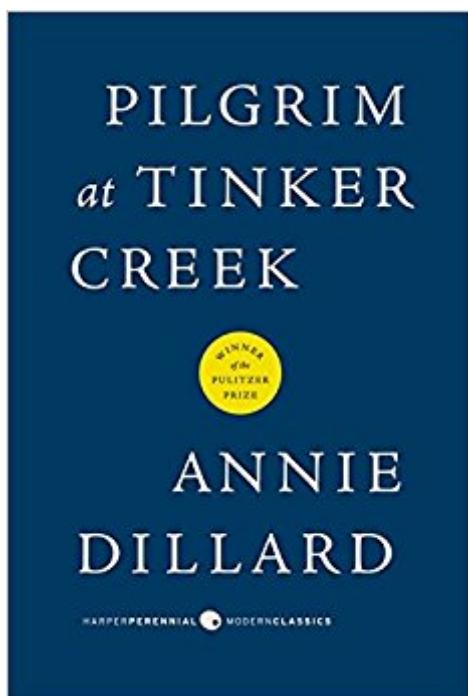


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# Pilgrim At Tinker Creek (Harper Perennial Modern Classics)



## **Synopsis**

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek is the story of a dramatic year in Virginia's Roanoke Valley. Annie Dillard sets out to see what she can see. What she sees are astonishing incidents of "beauty tangled in a rapture with violence." Her personal narrative highlights one year's exploration on foot in the Virginia region through which Tinker Creek runs. In the summer, Dillard stalks muskrats in the creek and contemplates wave mechanics; in the fall, she watches a monarch butterfly migration and dreams of Arctic caribou. She tries to con a coot; she collects pond water and examines it under a microscope. She unties a snake skin, witnesses a flood, and plays King of the Meadow with a field of grasshoppers. The result is an exhilarating tale of nature and its seasons.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The precision of individual words, the vitality of metaphor, the sheer profusion of sources, the vivid sensory and cerebral impressions all combine to make Pilgrim at Tinker Creek something extravagant and extraordinary. --Kirsten Backstrom, 500 Great Books by Women

The book is a form of meditation, written with headlong urgency, about seeing....A reader's heart must go out to a young writer with a sense of wonder so fearless and unbridled. --Eudora Welty, New York Times

Book Review

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek is a series of essays that combines scientific observation, philosophy, daily thoughts, and deeper introspection with glorious prose. --500 Great Books by Women

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek is the story of a dramatic year in Virginia's Roanoke Valley. Annie Dillard sets out to see what she can see. What she sees are astonishing incidents of "beauty tangled in a rapture with violence." Her personal narrative highlights one year's exploration on foot in the Virginia region through which Tinker Creek runs. In the summer, Dillard stalks muskrats in the creek and contemplates wave mechanics; in the fall, she watches a monarch butterfly migration and dreams of Arctic caribou. She tries to con a coot; she collects pond water and examines it under a microscope. She unties a snake skin, witnesses a flood, and plays King of the Meadow with a field of grasshoppers. The result is an exhilarating tale of nature and its seasons.

All expectations were met.

My favorite book. Only one of two books that I have ever read twice !!

Being a forester (retired), I am familiar with the side of nature with which she is dealing. I found her writing interesting, informative and fun. Her discussion of the activity of the walking stick was fascinating. I don't remember such an in depth discussion of the insect life around Tinker Creek in my entomology courses. As a forester, I ate my lunch many days a creek bank in the woods just as she relates. Her writing brings back pleasant memories in her adventures along Tinker Creek.

If you believe, as I do, that most people shouldn't read this book, by all means start it

Her nature writing is truly incredible, borders on now just literature, but nature philosophy.

How can I not like Annie Dillard? I own two copies of this book--one print and one digital. This is my third read of "Pilgrim at Tinker Creek," and I always seem to find a new nugget or favor a different passage. The language, ideas and connections are rich. This classic teaches us what is most important about life and observing nature--show up, open up and be surprised. This is the perfect book to read outdoors and to get you journaling about your own nature interactions.

So I think I am a keen observer of nature and the world? Annie Dillard just proved to me how much I miss, day in and day out.

Reminds me of Thoreau brought to the twentieth century.

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