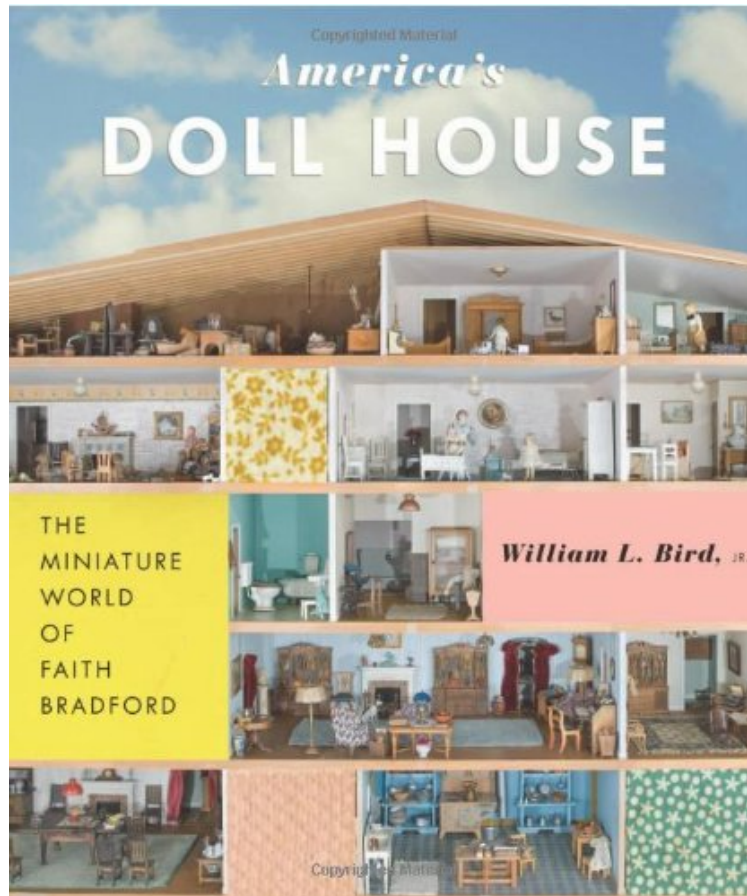


(Download free pdf) America's Doll House: The Miniature World of Faith Bradford

# America's Doll House: The Miniature World of Faith Bradford

*William L. Bird*

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**William L. Bird : America's Doll House: The Miniature World of Faith Bradford** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised America's Doll House: The Miniature World of Faith Bradford:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful book for doll house lovers By B. Graupmann I love this book and really felt sad that I didn't even know the house existed, especially when I made my last trip to DC. It's a wonderful example of our culture and even without the 'story' to go with it, would tell anthropologists much about our family life if viewed as an 'artifact' in the next millenium. If you are a toy collector, doll collector, miniaturist or just a grownup still in touch with your child-side, you'll love this book. I think it's a great testament to one ladies talent and love of family. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. our house is a very very very fine house By kathy18951 interesting. from a woman who had doll houses as a child the scope of the possible was astounding. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Enjoyed reading about the history of the dollhouse at the Smithsonian. Book in excellent condition

From the Star-Spangled Banner flag to Dorothy's Ruby Slippers, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History is home to some fascinating objects. In fact, one of the most fascinating of these, and one of the most popular, is itself a home. On the museum's third floor sits a five-story dollhouse donated to the museum by Faith Bradford, a Washington D.C. librarian, who spent more than a half-century accumulating and constructing the 1,354 miniatures that fill its 23 intricately detailed rooms. When Bradford donated them to the museum in 1951, she wrote a lengthy manuscript describing the lives of its residents: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Doll and their ten children, two visiting grandparents, twenty pets, and household staff. Bradford cataloged the Dolls' tastes, habits, and preferences in neatly typed household inventories, which she then bound, along with photographs and fabric samples, in a scrapbook. She even sent museum curators holiday cards written by the Dolls. In *America's Doll House*, Smithsonian Institution curator William L. Bird, Jr. weaves this visual material and back-story into the rich tapestry of Faith Bradford's miniature world. Featuring vibrant photography that brings every narrative detail to life, *America's Doll House* is both an incisive portrait of a sentimental pastime and a celebration of Bradford's remarkable and painstaking accomplishment.

"This book is a real treat for lovers of doll houses and miniatures, as well as anyone with an interest in interior design and sociology of the first half of the twentieth century." -- mocoloco.com, November 28, 2010 "It's all there... the Victorian bric-a-brac, the cluttered desk, the groaning library shelves, heavy mahogany furnishings, wallpapers and rugs, with the lightly-worn detail of daily life right down to the family portraits tacked on the walls." --Print magazine, November 2010 "A wonderful and vivid narrative. This book is an engaging look at a true labor of love." -- prariemod.com, December 21, 2010 About the Author William L. Bird, Jr. is a historian and curator at the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution. He is the author of *Holidays on Display* and *Paint By Number*, both from Princeton Architectural Press.