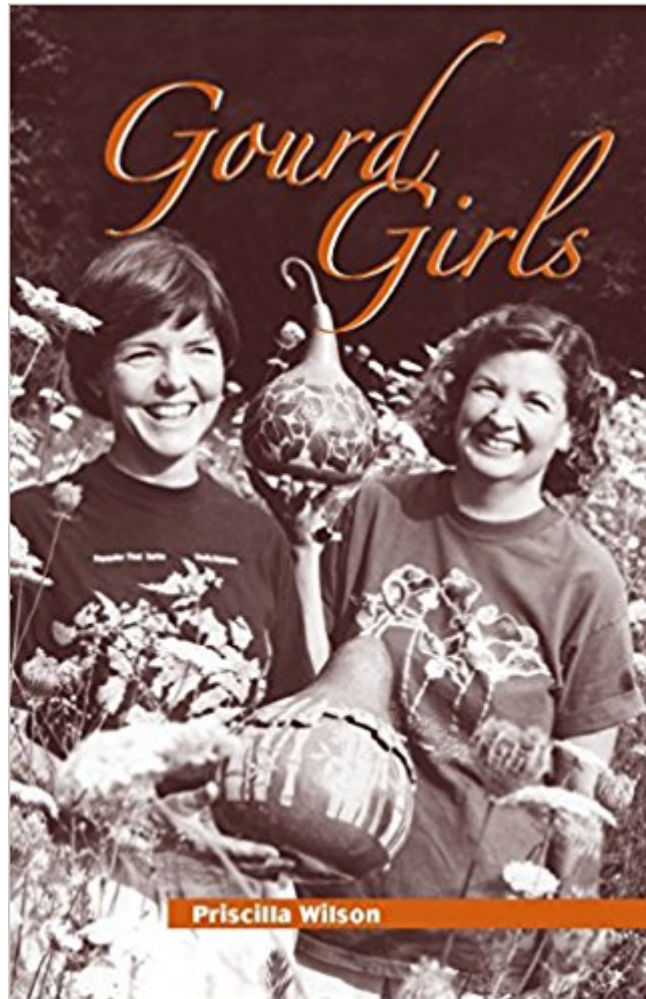




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# Gourd Girls



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## Synopsis

Gourd Girls is a memoir detailing the story of a young lesbian couple who start an unlikely business that becomes not only their livelihood, but also their means of finding their voices, their values, and their beloved community of family and friends.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

• Gourd Girls is an inspiring memoir, frankly told and generously packed with anecdotes about life in rural northeast Georgia. It will be a welcome addition to public library collections in Georgia. • -Teresa Pacheco in Georgia Library Quarterly • A remarkable tale... Readers follow the two girls as they are discovering themselves and their knack for the unexpected, giving Gourd Girls a great and powerful intimacy as the community, their families, and their friends join the girls to create an inspiring unity amidst such an unlikely business as...gourds. • -Midwest Book Review

Priscilla Wilson was born in 1950. She grew up in Valdosta, Georgia and graduated from Auburn University in 1972 with a B.A. in English. She worked for the Atlanta Council of Camp Fire Girls for a year before making the decision to move to the home of her heart, the northeast Georgia mountains, in 1974. In that year she became committed to her life partner, Janice Lymburner. Wilson taught high school English in Dahlonega, Georgia for two years but soon realized that teaching was not her calling. In 1976 she started Gourdcraft Originals, Inc., and in 1978 Lymburner became her partner in business as well as life. The evolution of their unusual business - now known as The Gourd Place - and their coming out are the subjects of Wilson's first book, Gourd

Girls, published in October of 2005. Her career as a "gourd girl" has taught her to be a gourd artist, farmer, graphic designer, clay artist, and now author.

This is an amazing story filled with the love of outdoor, love of people, and the idea of making people laugh. Thank you Girls for sharing your story and perhaps showing that everyone can survive with a partner whether it be male or female. We all put our shoes on one at a time! Also we all have something to give without being chastised for our lifestyle. I loved the book and am glad they shared their story. I would wish them many more happy days of gourdsmanhip. Also, their place is something everyone should visit. The gourds are...well, gourdgeous and the pottery is beautiful. A must see for all.

This is an excellent book that talks about the pain LGBT's go through when they are afraid of exposing their. Congratulations on finally leaping over the fence. Now, where can I get gourds and how do I dry them...in NYC?

This was an easy read that is more of a love story than a story about gourd artists. That being said ,it was sweet. There are some very memorable characters I would like to have met. A good reminder that the world is full of love and kindness .

Priscilla Wilson's "Gourd Girls" is a rich and honest account of a life lived well. The parallel stories of her struggle to live life to the fullest, both in her life and her life's work, are portrayed with honesty, humor, and sadness. You travel these twin journeys with her and her life partner Janice Lymburner and find yourself laughing with them as they learn the ropes of hoeing and gourd gathering and running a business as such delightful greenhorns, who are open to the lessons and generosity of their neighbors, friends, and some wacky strangers who all seem to become lifelong partners in the gourd life, as they call it. She also shares the sheer joy of life with her true love and the pain and fear of years in the closet. I would highly recommend this book to anyone. It inspires and instructs and makes human the whole public debate on gay marriage and rights. It is a beautiful book.

Whether this book catches your eye because it's about the struggles and romance of making a living as a craft artist in a rural area, or because it's about two women who love each other, you'll find it well worth reading. My strongest impression is of the integrity and spiritual strength of the author and her partner. Sometimes it's a bit sad, reading the book, to see them deliberately turn

away from a choice that would probably prove lucrative. (This happens at several points in the story.) Instead, they always choose what keeps their spirit most alive. This--and their deep love for nature and each other--is a great gift from the book. So do I recommend it? Yes, of course!

Gourd Girls by Priscilla Wilson is the story of Janice Lymburner and Priscilla Wilson, two young women whose decision to begin a business soon came to be their most favored pastime. Readers will follow the two girls as they are discovering themselves and their knack for the unexpected, giving Gourd Girls a great and powerful intimacy as the community, their families, and their friends join the girls to create an inspiring unity amidst such an unlikely business as the growing and selling of gourds. A remarkable tale in its vividly written in familiar story telling narrative style, Gourd Girls is very strongly recommended reading for anyone who aspires to have a business of their own one day.

Gourd Girls came in the mail from a friend who told me that because it was self-published it is hard to find in mainstream bookstores. It is a lovely book in every way, and I'm delighted to see it is now available on . The writing style is straightforward and engaging. There's a nice mix of narrative about becoming entrepreneurs, creative and spiritual growth, and dealing with the uncomfortable-ness of an alternative lifestyle in a rural mountain area. There's also a good bit of hilarity and an infectious appreciation of what "foolishness" can do to lighten our burdens. I think you will like this book as much as I did.

I can easily relate to the Gourd Girls in the sense that I left teaching in hopes of starting a business (Several tries actually) and finding a way to support myself while allowing me to dedicate as much time as possible to my art. My strongest impression of this book, however, is that it is simply a delightful read. It's very well written and is entertaining from the moment you pick it up. Gourd Girls is definitely at the top of my list of the best books I've read all year.

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