

This is *the* book about one of the world's great authors, Alice Munro, showing how her life and her stories intertwine.

Alice Munro: Writing Her Lives

A Biography

Robert Thacker

For almost thirty years, Robert Thacker has been researching this book, steeping himself in Alice Munro's life and work, working with her cooperation to make it complete. The result is a feast of information for Alice Munro's admirers everywhere.

By following "the parallel tracks" of Alice Munro's life and Alice Munro's texts, he gives a thorough and revealing account of both her life and work. "There is always a starting point in reality," she once said of her stories, and this book reveals just how often her stories spring from her life.

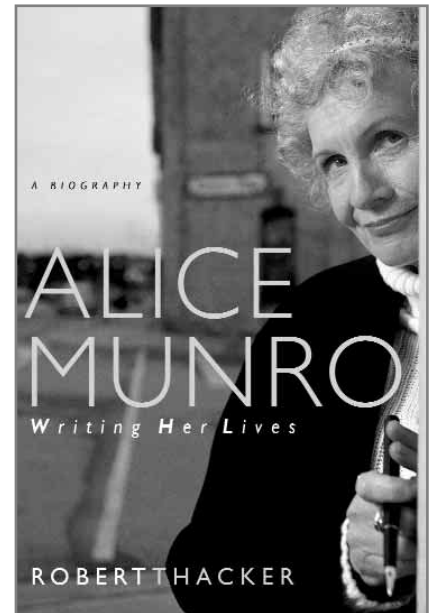
The book is chronological, starting with her pioneer ancestors but with special attention paid to her parents and to her early days, growing up poor in Wingham. Then all of her life stages – the marriage to Jim Munro, the move to Vancouver, then to Victoria to start the bookstore, the three daughters, the divorce, the return to Huron County, and the new life with Gerry Fremlin – are here, leading to the triumphs as, story by story, book by book, she gains fame around the world, until rumours of a Nobel Prize circulate . . .

How the world sees Alice Munro (and *Runaway*)

"Alice Munro has a strong claim to being the best fiction writer now working in North America." – Jonathan Franzen, *New York Times Book Review*

"Cynthia Ozick has said of Munro, that she is our Chekhov. But . . . she is our Flaubert, too. We couldn't ask for more." – *Globe and Mail*

"Alice Munro has devoted her career to the short story, and when reading her work it is difficult to remember why the novel was ever invented." – *The Times* (U.K.)



Robert Thacker wrote his M.A. thesis at Waterloo on Alice Munro way back in 1976. Now the Professor of Canadian Studies and English at St. Lawrence University, he was for many years the editor of *The American Review of Canadian Studies*, and is recognized as the academic authority on Alice Munro.

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