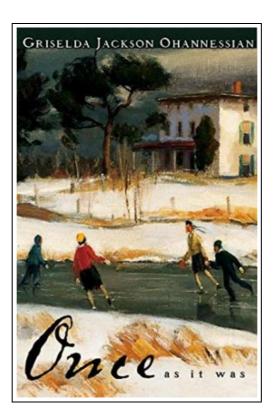
Once: As It Was (Paperback)



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New Directions Publishing Corporation, United States, 2007. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . This book usually ship within 10-15 business days and we will endeavor to dispatch orders quicker than this where possible. Brand New Book. An unconventional family idyll set on a gentleman s farm in Pennsylvania in the 1930s, Once: As It Was is a vibrant pastoral memoir that mixes unsentimentality with childhood innocence in a moving story that builds to a spine-tingling confrontation. Of all my far back memories two remain most vivid, as if they had just happened. The first is of an incident that occurred in a few minutes time; the second, a matter of months. The first happening surely was the key to my survival of the second. So begins, veiled in mystery, Griselda Ohannessian s delightful childhood memoir about growing up on a farm in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, beneath the friendly blue bowl of sky, and the dangerous, pretematural events of the summer of 1939 that changed her life forever. Once: As It Was is narrated through the lens of the author s twelve-year-old self. Her farm-home--today a golf course--was a world as enchanting as Narnia, but without the illusion of fantasy: the perfume of locust trees in bloom, orioles patching nests, fairy dinners in ferny woodlands, the Elephant House, orange monkeys, ringing rocks. There is her dear father Bousie (rhymes with Howsie), who once dressed up like a crackling crone to buy apples from his daughter s makeshift apple stand, her loving Ma, her two sisters and brother, the Owls (the Cherokee Indian farmhands who were also part of the family), and others. There are the dirt roads that split off from macadam, muggy river bottom weather, the glow of candles and lamps, her pet lamb Yamie, the bovine troll,...

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