





By Scott Mary

Hancock House, 2013. Condition: New. A biography of Hornby Island's Eagle Man, who overcame the restrictions of autism to live a life of personal accomplishment. Benn Kramer, the celebrated Eagle Man of Hornby Island, was an autistic man who, thanks to the love and attention from family and friends, overcame the restrictions of his condition and lived a life of adventure and personal accomplishment. In the 1950s and early 60s, autism was a misunderstood and frequently undiagnosed condition, and children suffering from it were often deemed hopeless cases. Benn's family, already struggling with the loss of another son, was unaware of the cause of his slow development and was unable to cope with his wild behavior; things only became more difficult for them with the unexpected death of Benn's mother. Fortunately, Ruth Weber, a special education teacher in Montreal where Benn went to school, became interested in him, and when he was five she and her husband, Willy, took him to live with them so that she could devote full attention to his care and development. Benn flourished under Ruth's tutelage and he learned to talk and to manage in society. As he traveled with the Weber family, he learned...



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