

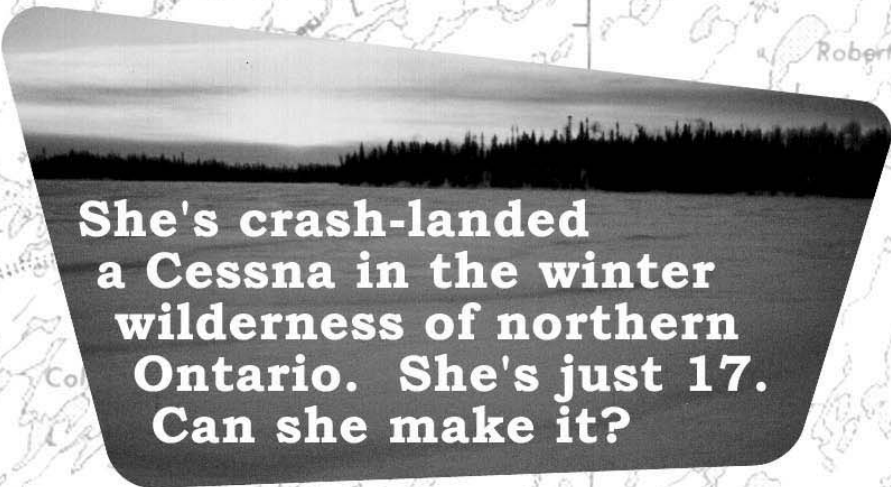
# The Winter Road

Terry Hokenson



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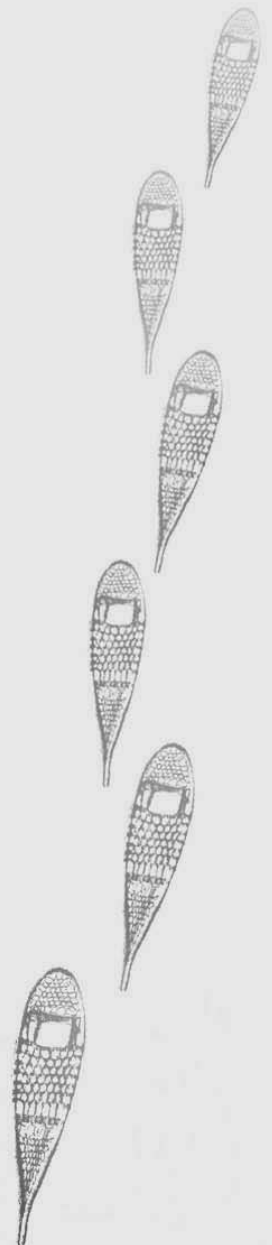
Willa Raedl scowls at the knight's helmet that she made in shop class. She broods a moment, fetches a sledgehammer and smashes it. Since her brother Ray died, her mother is never around and her father ignores her. She needs to prove herself to them, and to Ray. So when Uncle Jordy's drinking threatens to strand her mother in a remote native village, Willa jumps in his plane and flies the wintry route alone. A storm hits the tin grasshopper . . .



**She's crash-landed  
a Cessna in the winter  
wilderness of northern  
Ontario. She's just 17.  
Can she make it?**

Jacket and book design by Helen Robinson; selection from "Big Trout Lake" VFR Navigation Chart, AIR 5017, 6th Edition 1996 reproduced with permission of the Minister of Natural Resources Canada, 2005. Pub. date MAY 31, 2006. Hardcover \$16.95, 176 pages, 5.5 x 8.25, ages 12 and up. Published by Front Street, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc., a Highlights Company. [www.frontstreetbooks.com](http://www.frontstreetbooks.com)

[www.thewinterroad.com](http://www.thewinterroad.com)



## *The Winter Road* – REVIEWS & HONORS

☎ Selected for the New York Public Library's *Books for the Teen Age*, 2007.

☎ Nominated for *Best Books for Young Adults 2007* (American Library Association)

☎ *The Horn Book* - May/June 2006: “This survival story takes the classic girl-versus-nature plot to new extremes when a teen pilot crashes her Cessna in the Canadian bush in January. . . . So thorough is the realiz-ation of Willa's surroundings that readers may well feel they've gone through a whole survival course with her.”

☎ *Publishers Weekly* - May 29, 2006: “In first novelist Hokenson's remarkable story of ingenuity and courage, 17-year-old Willa survives more than two weeks in the wintry wilderness of Ontario after crashlanding her uncle's plane. Willa may be a dreamer, independent and a little "weird," but she's had a pilot's license for three years . . . . The bulk of Willa's story languidly and vividly details her thoughts and actions as she sets about making her own snowshoes, fish traps, shovel, snow caves and toboggan for her survival--and her journey toward the winter road that will take her home. [I]t is a welcome survival tale with a young woman as the sympathetic, brave and resourceful protagonist.”

☎ *Kirkus Reviews*, May 1, 2006: “How Willa survives will immediately engage any young adult, male or female, especially those with a fondness for the great outdoors. Readers will cheer her on in all her spirited ingenuity and will to survive. Educators will appreciate the non-stereotypical teenage female character . . . .”

☎ *Dylan Skerbitz*, age 15, *Special to The Daily Planet, Minneapolis-St. Paul, April 4, 2006*: “I liked the book because it was very realistic, and very hard to put down. The dangers that presented themselves to Willa were varied without being contrived, and her creative responses were clever without being omniscient. It's a book well worth the time it takes to read.”

☎ *Judith Niemi*, St. Paul, Minn., founder of *Women in the Wilderness* and winner of the *Ann Bancroft Award*, in a personal e-mail: “I read *The Winter Road* and like it a lot. This is sure a book I'd like to give to a kid, either gender. I enjoyed the story and felt confidence in you as the storyteller. Most of all, I believe in Willa. She's a believable bush kid, and you do such a nice job of keeping focus on the problem, letting her figure things out a bit at a time.”

☎ *School Library Journal* - May 2006: “Even though this is essentially a gripping survival story, it is also a well-written, thoughtful book about a girl's desperate efforts to gain her father's approval.”

☎ *Midwest Book Review / Children's Bookwatch* - June 2006: “A fine tale of nature, love, and honor.”

☎ *ForeWord* – Sept/Oct 2006: “Armed only with her uncle’s minimalist survival kit, Willa’s endurance and ingenuity are tested many times....[The book's] rugged landscape and likable protagonist will hold the interest of young adults, stoking dreams of wilderness adventures in which they too can persevere.”

☎ **CANADA:** [www.outdooradventurecanada.com](http://www.outdooradventurecanada.com) - June 2006: “*The Winter Road* by Terry Hokenson is . . . a story of survival and self-discovery. This book had a truth to it and I almost felt as if I were reading a non-fiction account. After awhile [my husband] came looking for me because I was so engrossed with the book that I had forgotten lunch. I was riveted and couldn't put this one down. This book would make an excellent and inspiring gift for a young adult.”

☎ *SIGNAL Journal* – Spring 2006: “Hokenson deftly takes the reader with Willa into the cold, the fear, and her dreams as she survives, crisis by crisis. Her brother's remembered courage fuels her own, and Willa's journey of survival in the Canadian winter becomes a journey to confidence in her own ability and worth.”