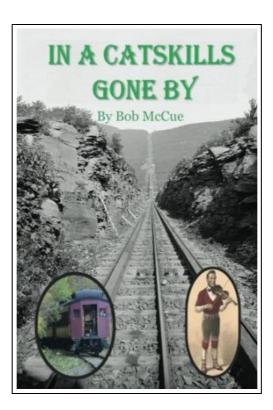
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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. It is the 1890 s, the height of the Gilded Age where vast fortunes are being made by giants whose mantra is bigger, higher, faster. No mountain is too high, and no ocean too vast. America, the great industrial machine, is a beacon for waves of immigrants searching for a better life in the fabled land beyond the ocean. Two of these are Agnes Gale, and her twelve-year old son, Thomas, nicknamed Fiver. The sea that is not yet through with the Gale family will put Agnes s son amid a cast of character, events and machines, the likes of the grandest Irish tale could not imagine. Set in the legendary Catskill Mountains, the land of Rip Van Winkle. Half history, half tall tale, many of the pictures pay homage to the towns lost to the construction of the Ashokan Reservoir. If there were a Mount Rushmore for the Catskills the first faces on it would surely have to be from the Hudson River School of Art. Thomas Cole, Fredrick Church, just to name two. Their artwork of the natural beauty of 19th century America told a story on canvas in a way that had not been done before or since. The first generation of artists opened the world s eyes to the beauty that lay to the north, far from the confines and of Manhattan Island, both natural and man-woven. In that same affection, Washington Irving would admit to never venturing into the Catskill Mountains, but three words from his pen would forever place him in a special place on the Catskill Rushmore-Rip Van Winkle. So many times has this legendary tale been retold that the Rip and the Catskills...

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