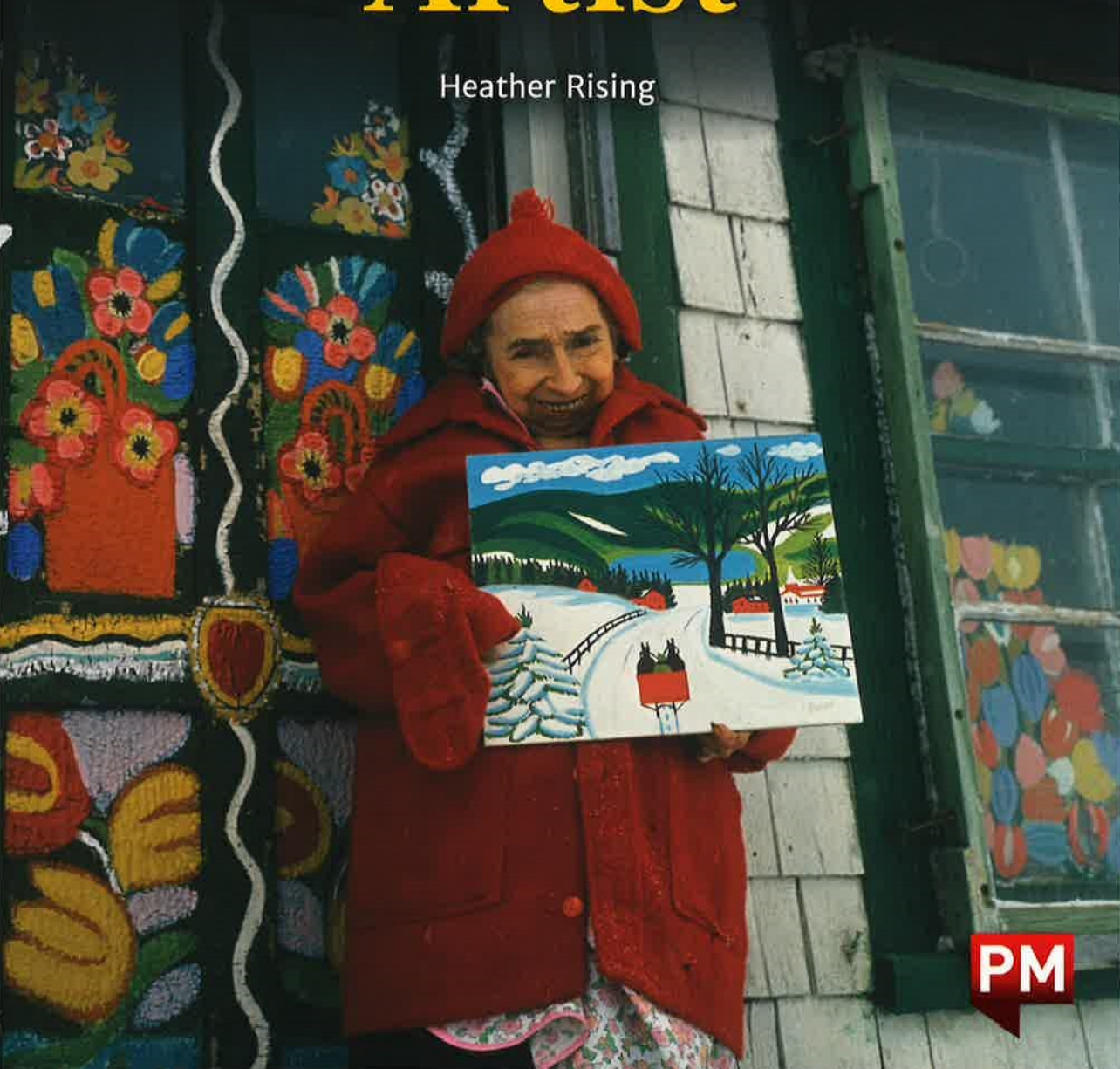


Maud Lewis: Artist

Heather Rising



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Maud Lewis: Artist

Who Was Maud Lewis?

Maud Lewis was a famous Canadian painter. She was known for making a kind of colourful art called **folk art**.



This is Maud Lewis in 1965, when she was around 64 years old.

Maud was born in 1901. She grew up in a small town in a part of Canada called Nova Scotia (say: No-va Sko-sha), and began painting as a child.

Painting was never easy for Maud. She was born with a disease called **arthritis**, which caused her spine and fingers to be bent. But Maud found joy in painting and she continued to paint her whole life.

Maud sold her paintings of colourful country **scenes** from her house. She became well known across Canada and, later, around the world.



Maud liked to paint the countryside around her home.

Maud's Early Life

Maud had a happy childhood with her parents, John and Agnes, and her brother, Charles. Her father was a **blacksmith** and the family had enough money to live comfortably.

Maud could do all the things other children did, despite her disabilities.

In the early 1900s, girls did not always go to school.

But Maud went to school.

The other children were not always kind to her because she looked different.

Maud left school early at only 14 years old.



As a child, Maud had a cat called Fluffy.

Maud learnt to play the piano. She kept playing until she had to stop because the arthritis in her hands made it too painful.

Maud was taught to paint by her mother.

They used **watercolour paints** to make Christmas cards, and together they sold them in the neighbourhood for five cents each.



Maud kept painting Christmas cards, like this one, as an adult.

Maud's Adult Life

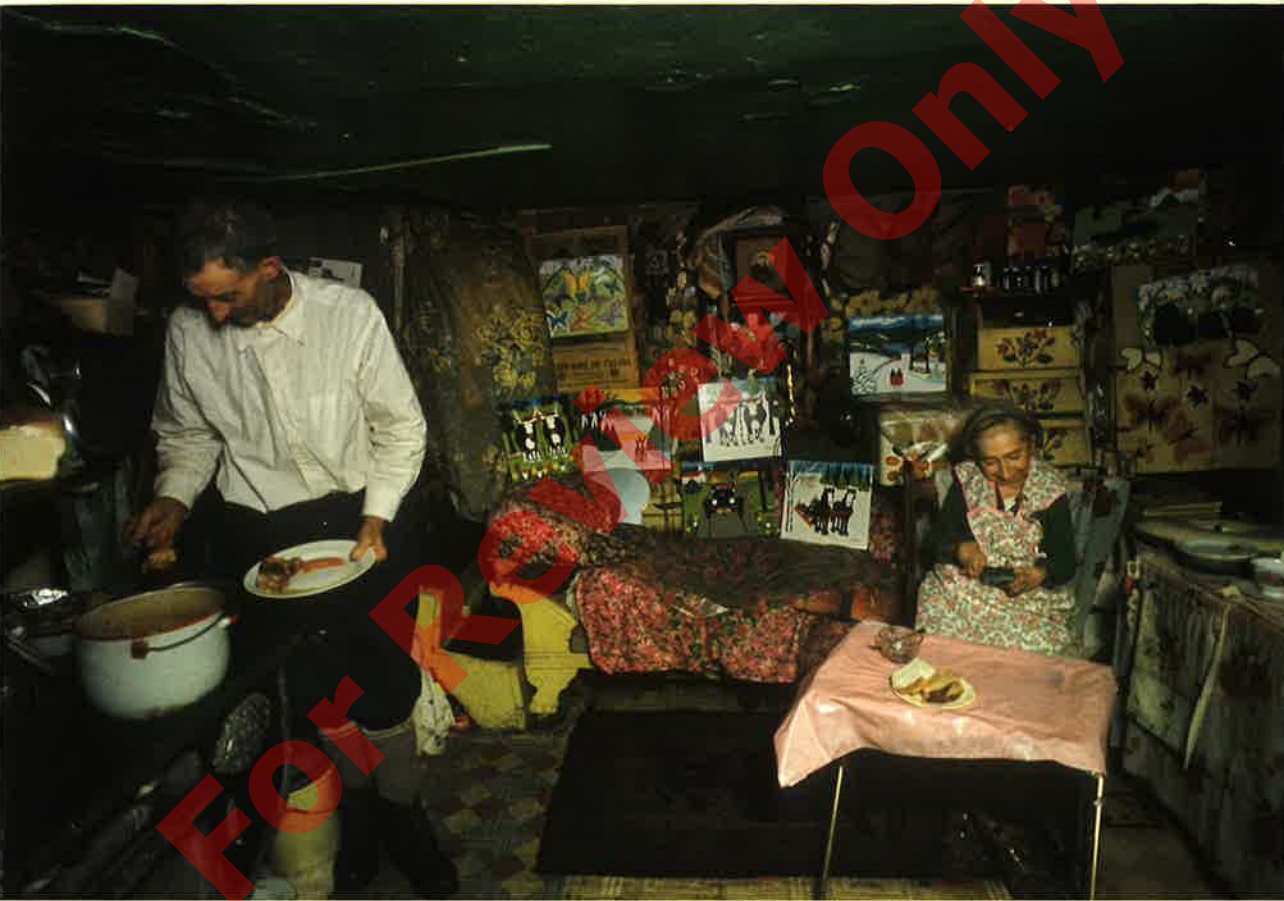
Maud lived in her childhood home until her parents died when she was in her 30s. Her brother sold the house. Maud did not **inherit** anything.

In 1938, Maud moved in with an aunt for a short time. She soon found a job in a town about 100 kilometres away. A man named Everett Lewis **hired** Maud as his housekeeper. Maud moved in with Everett and, soon after, they were married. Maud was 37 years old.



Maud and Everett lived in a tiny house in Nova Scotia.

Maud and Everett did not have very much money.
They lived in a tiny, one-room house.
The house had no running water or electricity.



Maud and Everett's house only had one room.

Everett sold fish door-to-door in their town. Maud went with him and sold greeting cards that she painted.