

BOOKLIST review of *Green Mountain Academy* by Francie Greenslade

Green Mountain Academy.

By Frances Greenslade

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A tragic backcountry experience led Francie to Green Mountain Academy, a tiny boarding school for girls, promoting self-sufficiency in rugged, rural British Columbia. Convinced she hears a plane crash during a blizzard, Francie sets out alone to investigate. Francie knows this is a terrible idea, but she goes anyway and puts her wilderness skills to use. “I was cold, I was hungry, and I was tired. . . . It was the middle of the night, and I shouldn’t be awake, let alone out in a whiteout storm, crawling underground in a labyrinth of sasquatch caves.” Perhaps if she can rescue those strangers it will make up for Francie’s past failure? What follows is a gripping adventure story with strong themes of camaraderie, bravery, and forgiveness. While most of the action takes place over one hectic night, tidbits about Francie’s past are teased out, and time is left for a tidy ending. Francie’s strong connection to nature will resonate with outdoorsy readers, who may find the winter survival elements instructive. **A harrowing and reflective escapade.** — *Kit Ballenger*