In 1921 Solomon Orlovski, a Russian Jew born in 1904, emigrated to America and transformed himself into Robert Orlove, a pattern maker in two senses of the term: during the day, he worked in the fur trade in New York and Chicago, making patterns for toys and hats; in his private life he became a self-taught artist who created prints, sketches, and collages in his study. More than sixty years later his son Ben—an anthropologist educated at Harvard and Berkeley—walked through the doorway of the deceased Robert's study and began to explore more than a half century of his father's experiences, thoughts, and emotions as well as his own very different life. His wry, sensitive combination of biography, memoir, and autobiography taps a remarkably rich vein of individual and collective experience in our diverse society. Ben Orlove's dual narrative constitutes a family history of notable breadth and immediacy. By turns passionate and cool, dramatic and analytic, he excavates his father Robert's lifetime accumulation of diaries, letters, clippings, photographs, and artworks to create a convincing, deeply satisfying portrait that link both father and son.

Abstract

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6. My father helps me in my study. 7. My father takes me on long drive sometimes on Holiday. 8. My father watches award program show on television with me. 9. My father is a good singer. 10. He cares our family members. 11. My father sometimes comes to our school to take us to home. 12. My father always tells me to eat healthy food, to play outdoor games and to sleep a lot along with studies. 13. My father has good habits and good manners.  

In My Father’s Study (Singular Lives). Ben Orlove. Year: 1995.

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