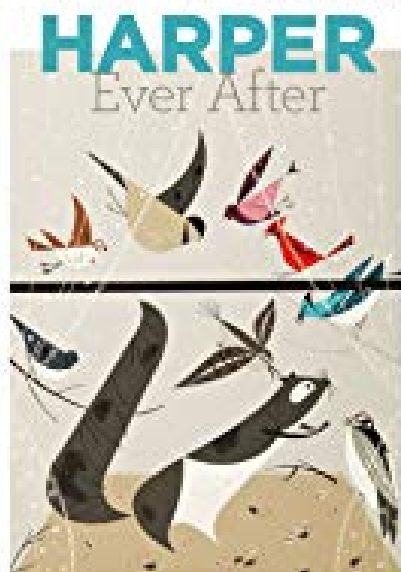


Harper Ever After: The Early Work of Charley and Edie Harper

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Essay by Sara Caswell-Pearce Introduction and Commentary by Brett Harper

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Charley Harper and Edie McKee met on the first day of school at the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 1940. They studied together, fell in love, survived World War II, married, and embarked on successful careers in art. Today, Charley's work is iconic, known around the world particularly for his images of birds and other wildlife created with simple but accurate geometric forms.

Edie's fine art photographs, paintings, prints, designs, and illustrations have earned her lasting respect. Harper Ever After presents paintings and prints from both artists, from their early art school days until 1960, when Charley created Cardinal, now one of his best-known images. The artists' command of a wide range of styles from realism to abstraction to cubism is not only impressive, it informs the path each took to arrive at their individual techniques. The subjects they chose to depict are just as diverse. Charley's World War II scenes, portraits, and cartoons created while serving in Europe as a private first class are especially poignant.