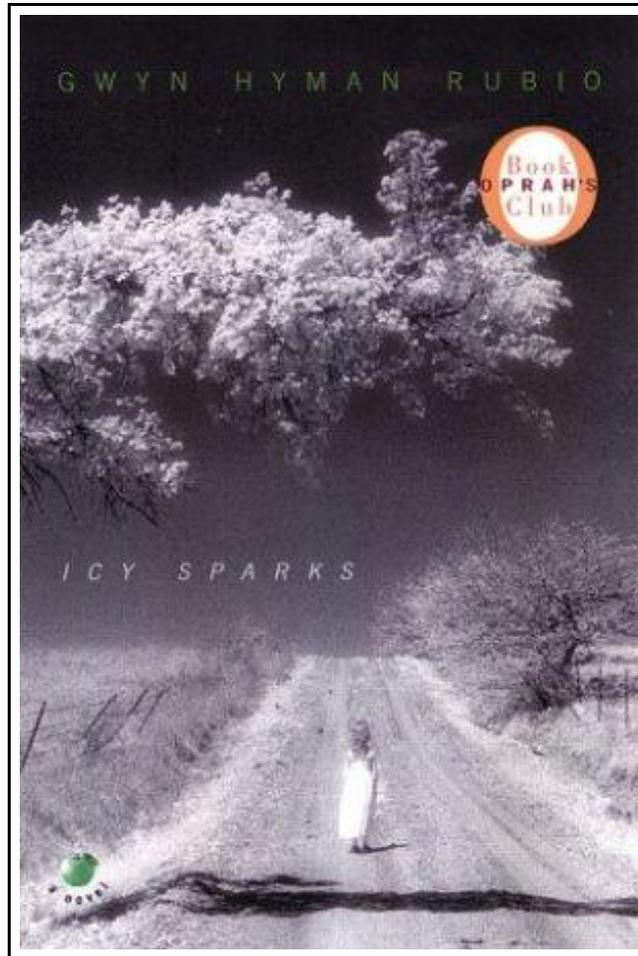


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Penguin Random House LLC, 2001. Softcover. Book Condition: New. A New York Times Notable Book and an early selection of Oprah's Book Club, *Icy Sparks* is the sad, funny and transcendent novel, the tale of a young girl growing up in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky during the 1950's. Gwyn Hyman Rubio's beautifully written first novel revolves around *Icy Sparks*, an unforgettable heroine in the tradition of Scout in *To Kill a Mockingbird* or Will Tread in *Cold Sassy Tree*. At the age of ten, *Icy*, a bright, curious child orphaned as a baby but raised by adoring grandparents, begins to have strange experiences. Try as she might, her "secrets"--verbal croaks, groans, and physical spasms--keep afflicting her. As an adult, she will find out she has Tourette's syndrome, a rare neurological disorder, but for years her behavior is the source of mystery, confusion, and deep humiliation. Narrated by a grown up *Icy*, the book chronicles a difficult, but ultimately hilarious and heartwarming journey, from her first tics to her self-acceptance as a young woman. Curious about life beyond the hills, talented, and energetic, *Icy* learns to cut through all barriers--physical, mental, and spiritual--in order to find community and acceptance. Gwyn Hyman Rubio's *Icy Sparks* is a fresh, original, and completely redeeming novel about learning to overcome others' ignorance and celebrate the differences that make each of us unique. 336 pages. 2001.



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