Rachel did not like to be indoors at work. She liked the people that she worked with, her co-workers. She liked to laugh with her co-workers at the office. Her friend, Shirley Briggs drew cartoons.

At the office she liked to play tricks with her co-workers. But she was serious about her job.

Her boss asked her to write an introduction to a book. She worked for many hours on it. Her boss was Mr. Higgins.

The book was called "Undersea". It was about animals in the ocean. Some animals live near the coast. The tide is important to them. Some animals live in the deep ocean. They never see the sun. All the animals are important to each other in the ocean.

Mr. Higgins liked her introduction. But, he said it was too good for "Undersea"! He thought it should go into an important magazine!
That year, Rachel's sister got sick and died. Her name was Marion. Rachel and her mother needed to take care of Marion's daughters. They moved together to Silver Springs, Maryland. They had fun together. They went to the woods, to see animals.

Rachel and her mother did not much money. They needed more money to take care of Marion's daughters. She needed to work many hours to make money. She wrote many articles.

Rachel sold some of her articles to different magazines. She sold "Undersea" to another magazine. They bought it.

She showed "Undersea" to her boss, Mr. Higgins. He thought it was still too good! He wanted it to be a book. Many people agreed. The book was published. She worked with a famous naturalist. His name was Willem van Loon. She also worked with a published named Quincy Howe. They gave her $250.

She worked late every night to finish the book. The book was called "Under the Sea Wind". It was about all the animals that live in the ocean, or near the ocean. Some of these animals are birds, fish, and eels. She wrote the book for three years.
When she was finished, Quincy Howe and Willem van Loon were very happy. They told her she would get money for every copy of the book that was sold.

At the same time, a war started in Europe. It was World War II. Everyone was very scared that the United States would go to war soon. When Rachel's book was published, few people bought it. They did not care about the ocean because of the big war.

On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked the United States. This was an important event in history, called Pearl Harbor. Japan bombed the United States, in Hawaii. America had to go to war.