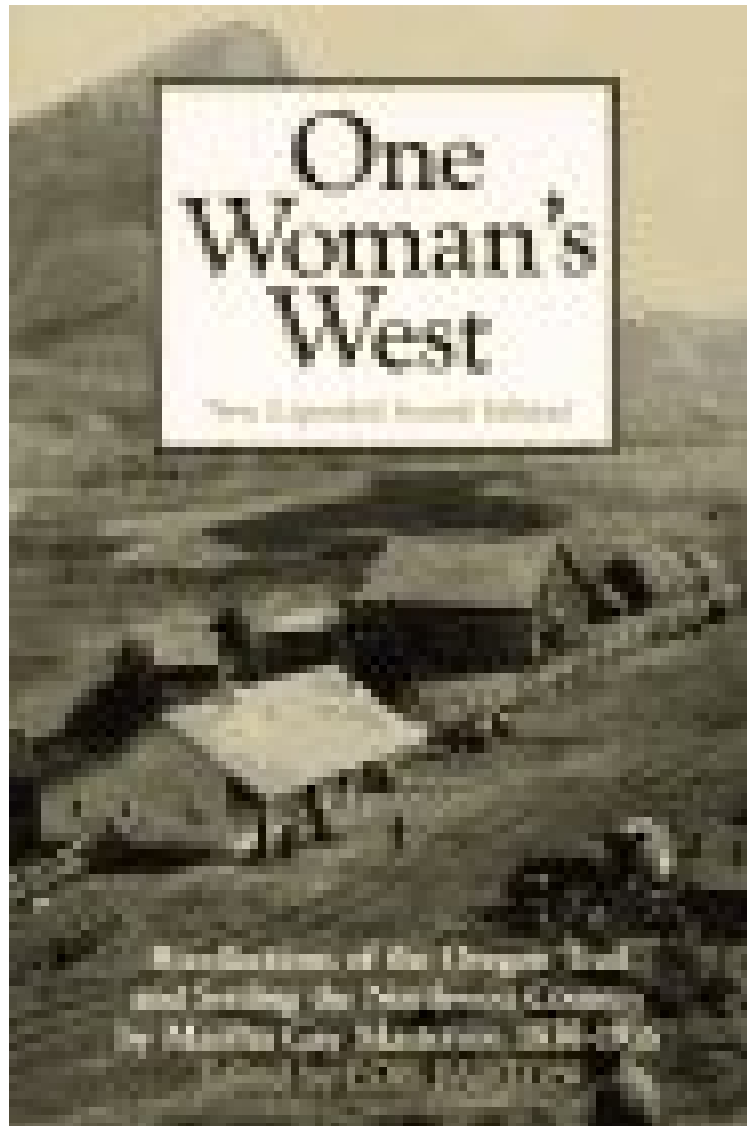


(Download ebook) One Woman's West: Recollections of the Oregon Trail and Settling the Northwest Country

One Woman's West: Recollections of the Oregon Trail and Settling the Northwest Country

Martha Gay Masterson

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Martha Gay Masterson : One Woman's West: Recollections of the Oregon Trail and Settling the Northwest Country before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised One Woman's West: Recollections of the Oregon Trail and Settling the Northwest Country:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Covers a Long Period, Before and After the Oregon Trail

CrossingBy John H.I am very glad that we have this narrative, but must admit it was a bit disappointing with the Oregon Trail material itself, which comes across as fairly abbreviated and far too short. The wagon trains "cover" a large distance -- miles that would have taken weeks -- in the space of only one or two paragraphs. There must have been a lot more detail and drama that was simply not recorded, not reported (by choice), or not remembered by the author, who was 13 at the time of the westward crossing in 1851. It is important to realize that this narrative was compiled by the author, Martha Gay Masterson, in 1892, "41 years after she actually traveled the Oregon Trail." As such, it is an entertaining narrative, but does not have the immediacy and feel of an actual day-by-day diary (though the editor believes that Martha was using her brother's actual diary while writing the narrative). Surprises: The description of the Ward Massacre in Canyon County, Idaho, is invaluable for students of history. All with the wagons were killed, including women and children, except for two wounded children who feigned death. Two other very young White children were kidnapped by the Indians and never seen again -- reported by one squaw later as having been murdered for being too noisy. I was surprised by the number of Indian attacks, house burnings, and murders of settlers in Oregon that continued even many years after the Trail crossing, when the families were already living on farms. Recommended. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Truly Authentic VoiceBy Liz ClarkMartha Gay Masterson is one of my favorite mid-19th century voices--her recounting of her life experiences are by turns funny and poignant. Whether you're reading to glean historical details, or just want to read about an engaging life, this is a great piece of historical writing. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Interesting and EducationalBy Karen L. FrenchThis is a real 'true life' tale of one woman's life out west. She moved there with her family when young, and married a man who could not stay in one place (they moved 20 times!) She faced many difficult experiences and hardships and reminds us of the cost so many counted to settle the west and make it a part of our country today. A good read.

"The intriguing story of a woman who came to Oregon in a covered wagon in 1851 and lived long enough to see hundreds of automobiles passing by her home in the last year of her life. Here we have the West as it truly was, from the primitive era of the Oregon Trail to the modern times of World War I" Dr. Richard M. Brown, History Dept. U of O.

About the AuthorLois Barton, amateur historian, has also authored a local history of the Spencer Butte area near Eugene, Oregon, called SPENCER BUTTE PIONEERS, is a long time editor of the LANE COUNTY HISTORIAN, and is a published poet. She has lived on the same land for over 45 years where she and Hal Barton raised eight children and "countless goats, chickens, rabbits and cattle."