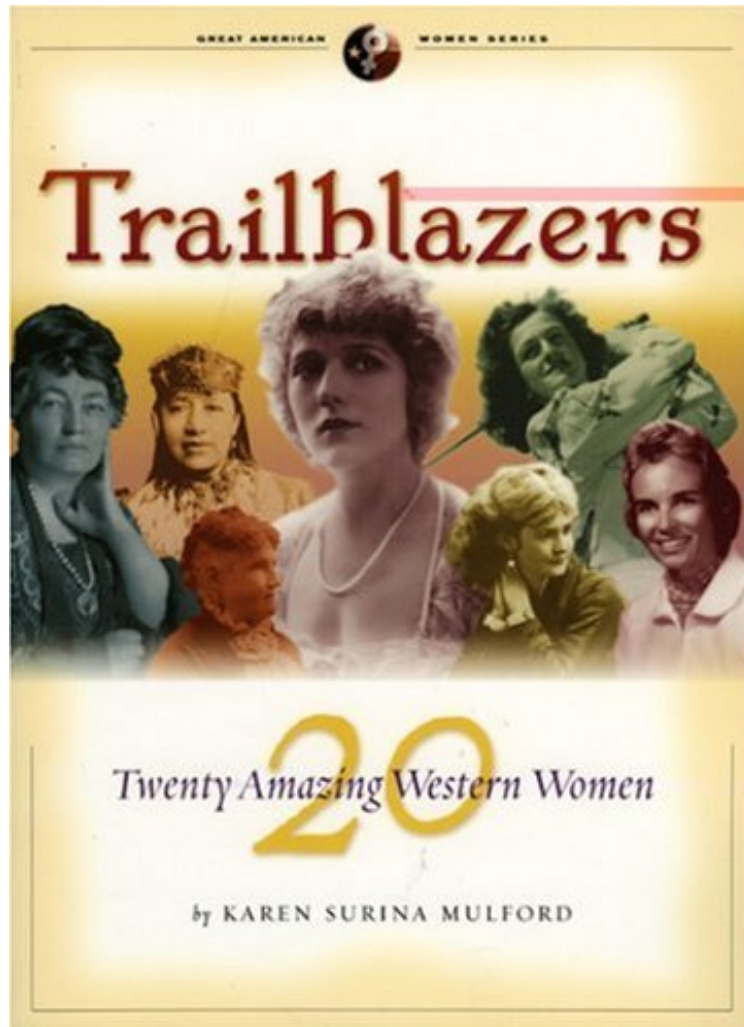


[E-BOOK] Trailblazers: Twenty Amazing Western Women (Great American Women Series)

Trailblazers: Twenty Amazing Western Women (Great American Women Series)

Karen Mulford

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#3731463 in Books Cooper Square Publishing Llc 2001-07-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.70 x .48 x 6.90l, .81 #File Name: 0873587839184 pages | File size: 45.Mb

Karen Mulford : Trailblazers: Twenty Amazing Western Women (Great American Women Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Trailblazers: Twenty Amazing Western Women (Great American Women Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. InformationalBy avid readerI bought this book for research and will be using only one entry. Nevertheless, this is a good book for girls, introducing the lives of several influential women, not always well known.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Determination and grit...By John P. Jones III... and more than a dollop of persistence seems to have been common characteristics of these twenty remarkable women of the American West. Karen Surina Milford has written brief biographical sketches, roughly six to eight

pages each, on each woman. "Trailblazers" is an appropriate title, since the vast majority literally were the first woman in their field of endeavor. Each sketch is accompanied by one or more pictures (or drawings) of the women. I was generally aware of the story of five of these women; the other 15 were completely new territory. The five that I had known about were Sacagawea, Georgia O'Keefe, Mary Pickford, Dorothea Lange and Sandra Day O'Connor. Sacagawea was only 16 years old, with a young baby, when she (and her rather sorry husband) left her Mandan village in present day North Dakota and accompanied Lewis and Clark on their expedition to the Pacific. Since she was originally from the Shoshone tribe, who lived in present day Idaho, she provided invaluable translation and "bon fide" services for the expedition. Georgia O'Keefe was from "back East," a famous artist who (understandably) fell in love with New Mexico. Mary Pickford, I learned, was a very shrewd and calculating businesswoman who made the best of being typecast as sweet "Little Mary." Dorothea Lange, I also learned, contracted polio in her youth, and was self-conscious of the limp that she walked with. I felt this was a key insight into the empathy she demonstrated in her pictures of migrant workers that she took for the Farm Security Administration. And Sandra Day O'Connor grew up on a ranch in southeastern Arizona, which had no running water, and went on to become the first woman on the Supreme Court. The other 15 women demonstrated an equally impressive range of accomplishments. Wyoming was the first place in the world where women could vote. It was an early pioneer to that state, Esther Hobart Slack Morris who had the political "moxie" to corner two legislators, one from each party, and made them promise. A promise a politician kept! Abigail Scott Dunaway was also active in the suffrage movement, securing the vote for women in the Pacific Northwest. Bridget Biddy Mason was a slave from Mississippi who trekked with her Mormon master to Utah, and then on to California, which was a free state, and secured her freedom there, and went on to obtain a considerable fortune in real estate in Los Angeles. Another American Indian, Sarah Winnemucca, of the Paiute tribe, located along the border between Nevada and California attempted to bridge the gap between her tribe and the white world. Lotta Crabtree was an actress who played gigs in the mining camps of the West and Alaska and the Yukon. Jacqueline Cochran was a renowned pilot, and pioneered the acceptance of women pilots (in support roles) in the American air force during World War II. Mildred Babe Didrikson Zaharias was an athlete who excelled in virtually every sport she attempted. Dolores Fernandez Huerta had 11 children, but also spent a lifetime organizing migrant workers and improving their wages and living conditions. Mary Jane Elizabeth Colter was a designer and architect who primarily worked for the Fred Harvey Company designing rest stops along the Santa Fe railroad. Some of her most enduring work is still at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. Jeannette Pickering Rankin was the first female Congressperson, and the only member of Congress to have voted against America's entry into both the First and Second World Wars. Mulford captured a dazzling range of accomplishment by pioneering women in their field. There are a few others I did not mention, one being Mary Hunter Austin, whose book *The Land of Little Rain* I have placed on my to-read list. For Mulford's wonderful introduction into the lives of some American Western women who "made a difference," 5-stars. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. great gift idea for women

By Judy Jingle Trailblazers-Twenty Amazing Western Women was a fantastic book which I have already given to several friends, who are or have gone through some "rough times" in their own lives, and have thanked me for this book as it is inspirational and a comfort. I hope it will be used in schools for teen-age girls, and in classes all over for women who seem to need stories of other women and what all they have been through and gotten through. I would highly recommend this book and plan to give it to others for Christmas presents too. It is nice to have a story to read every night before going to bed, or if you just have a few minutes to devote to a story. Highly enlightening. I loved it!

From Sacagawea to Dorothea Lange to Sandra Day O'Connor, these twenty remarkable women followed their dreams, challenged convention, and created new opportunities for American Women?yesterday and today. Organized chronologically from 1805 to the present, this inspirational book includes women from a variety of racial, religious, professional, and call background.

"No one who reads about these twenty fascinating women can any longer believe in all-male versions of 'How the West was won.' In fact, they may well come to wonder whether without these women and thousands like them, the West would have been settled at all!" -- Sue Armitage Co-editor of *The Women's West* "These are women who designed their own lives, and in so doing made a difference for all of us today." -- Linda Peavy and Ursula Smith Co-author of *Pioneer Women* "Trailblazers: Twenty Amazing Western Women spans two centuries of notable women and is a book that will resonate long after the last page has been turned." -- Sinclair Browning, novelist