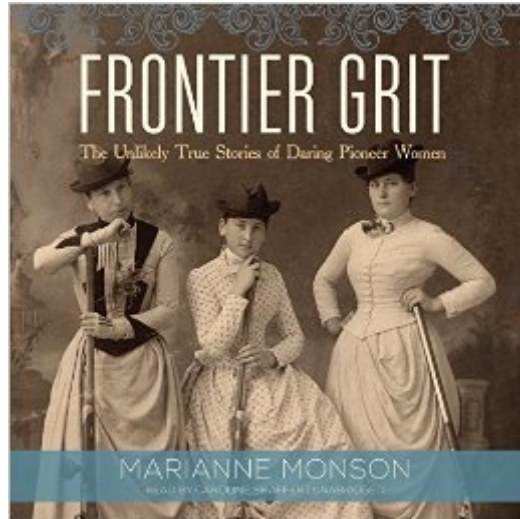


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# Frontier Grit: The Unlikely True Stories Of Daring Pioneer Women



## Synopsis

A fascinating and rare look at women pioneers and their tales of courage and hardship in the untamed American West. These are the stories of twelve women who heard the call to settle the West and who came from all points of the globe to begin their journey: the East Coast, Europe, and as far away as New Zealand. They endured unimaginable hardships just to get to their destination, and then the next phase of their story began. These are gripping miniature dramas of good-hearted women, selfless providers, courageous immigrants and migrants, and women with skills too numerous to list. All the women in this book did extraordinary things: One became a stagecoach driver, disguised as a man. One became a frontier doctor. One was a Gold Rush hotel and restaurant entrepreneur. Many were crusaders for social justice and women's rights. All endured hardships, overcame obstacles, broke barriers, and changed the world -- inspiring examples for the modern woman.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Frontier Grit introduces us to twelve different women (one possible exception in the case of Charley Parkhurst) who lived and carved their places in the western United States from the Gold Rush to the early 20th century. Their lives are summed up and some of their greatest achievements are highlighted and presented with a thoughtful afterword from the author. The book is a great introduction to the stories we don't often hear due to the inherently white male lens we view American history with. Many of their struggles are still reflected in today's society. Each story is fascinating and remarkably different from each other. And I LOVE the focus on elderly women's

achievements. While the majority of women featured are white, there are a few women of color too. Aunt Clara Brown, a freed Black slave in search of her daughter; MarÃ- a Ruiz de Burton, the first female Mexican-American author to write in English; Zitkala-Sa, a Sioux musician and activist; and Makaopio, a Hawaiian who wound up settling in Utah, have their stories told in this book. It is a strange sort of book, too. The author admits in her introduction she avoids "political language", which ends up being this tome's biggest weakness. It creates a sort of inconsistent history. The author is clearly aware of racial differences and various privileges, but their presence varies from chapter to chapter. And the repeated use of "blacks" to talk about black people made me cringe, but I'm super white so I can't really say if it's bad or not - "blacks" is just not something I'm comfortable with. I'm reviewing an e-ARC, so some of this is subject to change.

Frontier Grit: The Unlikely True Stories of Daring Pioneer Women by Marianne Monson is a recommended collection featuring the story of twelve women who were pioneers. The women featured in each short chapter are: Nellie Cashman: Gold Rush â œBoomerâ œ; a nurse, businesswoman and gold prospector. Aunt Clara Brown: a former slave who became an accomplished and beloved community leader. Abigail Scott Duniway: Oregon Trail suffragette; "Abigail burned at these injustices. Women contributed economically, were held accountable for debts, but remained powerless to own property or manage their own incomes." MarÃ- a Amparo Ruiz de Burton: The first Mexican-American novelist. Luzena Stanley Wilson: Ever-resourceful; a gold-rush entrepreneur. Mother Jones: She could not be silenced; a school teacher who became a labor activist and community organizer. "For over fifty years, Mary traveled the country speaking on behalf of child workers, steelworkers, deported Mexican workers, and coal miners. She once declared to a judge, 'My address is wherever there is a fight against oppression. . . . My address is like my shoes: it travels with me.' Zitkala-Sa: â œRed Birdâ œ; a Sioux writer, editor, musician, teacher, and activist. Mary Hallock Foote: Mining town author and illustrator. Wallace Stegner was captivated by Mary's story and his 1972 Pulitzer Prize winning novel, *Angle of Repose*, was based on her life. Martha Hughes Cannon: Frontier doctor, state senator, polygamist, refugee, and women's rights activist. Donaldina Cameron: The Most Loved and Feared Woman in Chinatown. Donaldina Cameron rescued thousands of girls from sex trafficking rings, and then raised them as her own daughters.

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