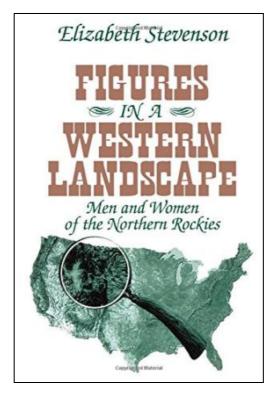
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FIGURES IN A WESTERN LANDSCAPE: MEN AND WOMEN OF THE NORTHERN ROCKIES (PAPERBACK)



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Taylor Francis Inc, United Kingdom, 2002. Paperback. Condition: New. Revised ed.. Language: English . Brand New Book ****** Print on Demand ******. The northern Rocky Mountains and adjacent high plains were the last American West. Here was the final enactment of our national dramathe last explorations, the final battles of the Indian wars, the closing of the frontier. In Figures in a Western Landscape, award-winning biographer Elizabeth Stevenson humanizes the history of the region with a procession of individual lives moving across the generations. Each of the 16 men and women depicted has left behind his or her own unique written record or oral history. They have bequeathed to us stones that are rich in anecdote and colourful detail. Among them: Meriwether Lewis, America's most introspective explorer, whose journals provide the first English-language record of the Northwest's rivers, mountains, and plains, and offer a memorable account of how their newness struck his imagination. Osborne Russell, 21-year-old fur trapper from Maine who vividly described the region's beauty (wild and romantic scenery) and hardships (65 miles in two days without eating) and who passed on a useful survival tip for geyser country - you could boil meat by suspending it in a hot pool. Pierre Jean De Smet, first Catholic missionary to the Northern Plains Indians, who was said to have found gold nuggets on the site of the future Virginia City but, knowing a gold rush would mean the Indians ruin, quietly pocketed the nuggets and kept the discovery to himself. James and Granville Stuart, early settlers lured by rumours of gold in the 1850s, who crossed three dangerous rivers on a 150-mile trek through the wilderness because they heard rumours of an even rarer commodity - books. Pretty-Shield, wife of...

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