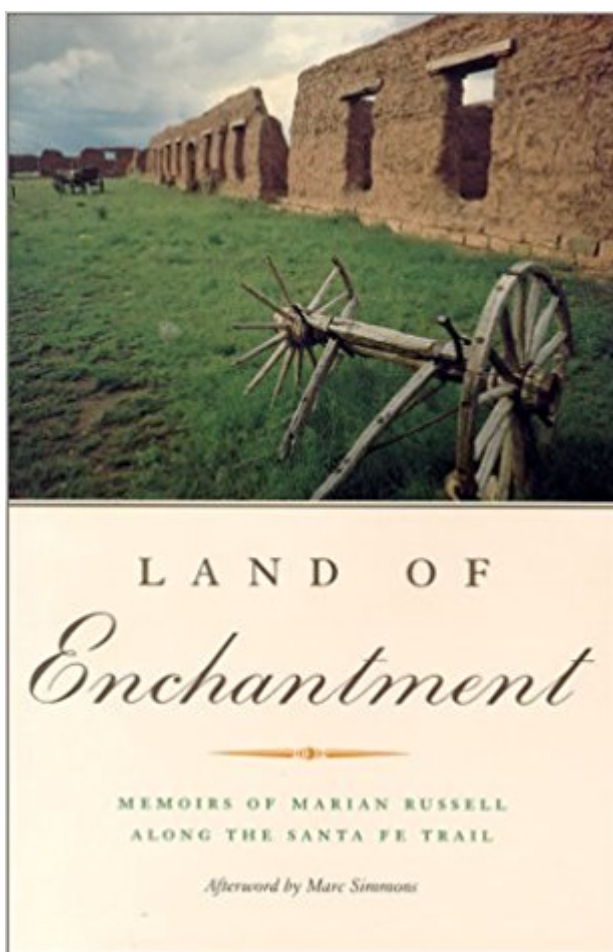


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Land Of Enchantment: Memoirs Of Marian Russell Along The Santa Fe Trail



Synopsis

The Santa Fe Trail was one of the great commercial routes across the West, frequented more by merchants than by emigrants. Hence women travelers were few on the Santa Fe Trail, and *Land of Enchantment* is one of the few firsthand accounts by a woman of life on the trail. The author, Marian Russell (1845-1936), dictated her story to her daughter-in-law in the 1930s. Published in a limited edition in 1954 and highly praised by scholars, that edition has become virtually impossible to obtain. This forgotten classic paints a vivid picture of nineteenth-century New Mexico as seen by a bright young girl from the age of seven on. Mrs. Russell's memories of several well-known western figures are not only delightful reading but make this book a useful addition to the region's history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"*Marian Russell's* account is absolutely wonderful--unassuming, natural, and richly detailed."
"[Russell's] account is absolutely wonderful--unassuming, natural, and richly detailed."

Facsimile edition of one of the few accounts of life on the trail.

We purchased a hard copy of Marian Sloan Russell's "Land of Enchantment" at the park office at Ft. Union National Monument & liked it so much that we bought a copy for our Kindle. It's a wonderful read about the days of the Santa Fe Trail as well as the town of Santa Fe itself. Dictated to her daughter-in-law when she was in her late 80s, the book is easy reading in an authentic voice. It's fascinating to hear Russell tell of days traveling Trail, staying at Ft. Union (& other places), & living

in Santa Fe. A very good book about a by-gone era!

I read this book about 8 years ago. I learned some information that helped me understand how travelers depended on oxen to move them thousands of miles across this great continent. I work with oxen at least once a week. Every bit of information I learn is useful to me. I enjoyed learning the perspective of this woman (child) as she made her way along the Santa Fe Trail. Good reading. I like having the first person story of these journies.

This is a fantastic account of the histories of the Santa Fe Trail, New Mexico and Southwestern Colorado. I am fascinated with the Santa Fe Trail history and was introduced to this book when I recently visited Fort Union in New Mexico. This is a wonderful story of growing up in the mid 1800's. Mrs. Russell is a wonderful story teller with fond memories to tell us about. You won't be sorry you bought this book. It is wonderful. This is one of the "must reads" if you are interested in the history of the Santa Fe Trail.

I loved the book, however there are discrepancies about the Masonic Lodge at Fort Union. There were two Lodges started at Fort Union. Chapman Lodge #95 in 1862 and Union Lodge (don't remember number) in 1874. Chapman was the second Lodge in New Mexico. It became Chapman Lodge #2 under the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, moved to Las Vegas, NM in 1867. Union Lodge is now #4, and is located in Wagon Mound, New Mexico. I am a member of both Lodges.

Interesting read from a historical perspective. It's basically someone telling you what their life was like at that point in history. If you are looking for entertainment, it is mildly entertaining but there are certainly better books out there for that.

Enjoyed it immensely. I was especially interested as I work for many years with her great-grandson who told me of her adventures and memoir. It is an exciting account of adventures encountered by independent women in the old west.

I grew up in the Trinidad/Stonewall, CO area and it was wonderful to read about the history of the Santa Fe trail. My parent knew the Russel and Storz family very well. I remember them in their "golden years". I wish I would have known them better and asked lots of questions. What a remarkable life they had traveling the Santa Fe trail and settling in the Stonewall, CO area.

Enlightening and touchingly sweet, this memoir takes the reader along trails past ,accompanied by a brave, strong and adventurous woman!

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