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Tough Trip Through Paradise, 1878-1879



Synopsis

This book grew out of a manuscript left by Andrew Garcia. Bennett Stein edited the manuscript to tell Garcia's story of the 1877 Nez Perce War, the end of the buffalo herds, and other historic events in western life. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Hardcover: 446 pages

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin; First Edition edition (1967)

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Package Dimensions: 9 x 6 x 1 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 115 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Back in the 1800s it was common for women to keep diaries or journals, but men however seldom had the time. This is a great true story composed of Andrew Garcia's journals. Of Spanish decent, Andrew Garcia wanted to try his hand at fur trapping. He was one of the last, as most of the beaver were trapped out by the time he decided to give it a go. Once in Montana, he really became more of a trader with the Indians. This is his story, filled with adventure, and even romance. This book was first given to me, and I passed it along to a friend, but later re-purchased it. Besides wanting to read it again, I wanted a copy for my personal library. If you love true stories, history, and adventure, you will love Andrew Garcia's book, Tough Trip through Paradise.

I don't know if everything Garcia writes is true--I believe it. But I must say that this is an incredible saga. Every person interested in Western Culture owes it to themselves to read this book--which was actually a great privilege for me. I couldn't put it down and look forward to re reading it again. I cannot understand why they have not made a movie out of this book.

Written by an uneducated trapper in the 1890s, but somehow he wrote a manuscript of his life (and travels in the 1860s). He had an Indian wife so it was suppressed by his immediate family but later generations found the manuscript and published it after his death. Google the history of the book,

then read the book. I read the book twice, the 2nd time about 3 years later, and it was so good it seemed like a new book. One of my alltime favorites.

This gives us a real look at the west at it once was. At least from one mans point of view. This man is an average American, not a mythological character elevated to near god-like status by movies and books, and not torn down by historical revisionists. When I read this, the glint of truth shone through the narrative for me. So self-effacing is the author, he comes across as just an average man dealing with the things he sees and experiences as everyday occurrences.

Not done reading it, yet it is good. I am familiar with Montana's Paradise Valley and it was interesting to see it 150 years ago.

A really great book. I met a woman from Montana and told her the best book I had ever read was about Montana. She asked me what it was and I said, Tough Trip Through Paradise. She said her husband had edited it and was working on another edition, but Garcia had written it all in pencil on paper and it was stored under his bed. He told the same stories over and over as he got older and embellished on them. The second edition never came out to my knowledge and I first read the book and met the woman 40 years ago.

Read this book back in the 70's and never forgot. I bought it and read it again. Told a young college student about the book and she used it for her class study project. Get history, very well written, one you can't put down. I'll keep it and read it again in 10 or so.

I would have preferred a hard cover book, but couldn't afford it. I gave it 4 stars because it has a lot of information regarding Western Montana. I have seen the original manuscript and Ben Stien took a lot of liberties with his editing. The manuscript is located at the Montana Historical Society library. It is written on scraps of paper old envelopes, etc. A lot of it is written in pencil.

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