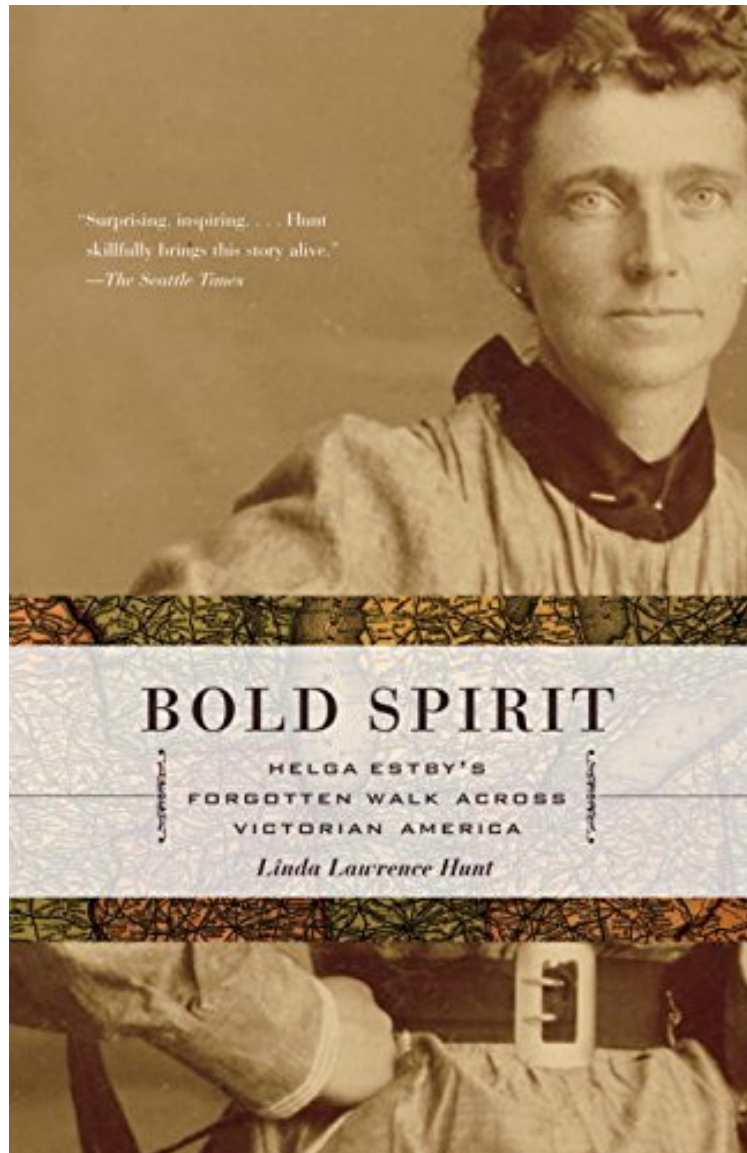


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## Bold Spirit: Helga Estby's Forgotten Walk Across Victorian America

*Linda Lawrence Hunt*

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**Linda Lawrence Hunt : Bold Spirit: Helga Estby's Forgotten Walk Across Victorian America** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bold Spirit: Helga Estby's Forgotten Walk Across Victorian America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Touching story  
By Chris Gregory  
Bold Spirit is an intriguing non-fiction story. It is a well-written work, full of struggle and tragedy, but evinces the strength of human will and courage. Early in the story, I was reminded of Ole Rolvaag's *Giants in the Earth*, as Linda Lawrence Hunt took us through the extreme conditions and weather of a northern Midwest homestead. Throughout the book, I was also reminded of the similarities with *Buckshot Pie: A Family's Struggle Through Homesteading, The Great Depression, and World War II*. *Buckshot Pie* is available from or Barnes Noble and can be accessed through [...] *Buckshot Pie, a Family's Struggle Through Homesteading, the Great Depression, and World War II*  
Bold Spirit is an enthralling read that will inspire those interested in the struggle of our predecessors of the late 19th century and the early 1900s. Highly recommended!  
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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting history given a voice  
By Harvey . C Ritchey  
This is a really good story. It's not necessarily a happy read, but for many reasons it is an important read  
My one criticism is that the author repeated segments over and over again.its as if she had forgotten what she had already written in another section earlier.  
While an important part of the story is the background, I think the whole book would have been better if there had not been so much emphasis on the political climate.

In 1896, a Norwegian immigrant and mother of eight children named Helga Estby was behind on taxes and the mortgage when she learned that a mysterious sponsor would pay \$10,000 to a woman who walked across America. Hoping to win the wager and save her familys farm, Helga and her teenaged daughter Clara, armed with little more than a compass, red-pepper spray, a revolver, and Claras curling iron, set out on foot from Eastern Washington. Their route would pass through 14 states, but they were not allowed to carry more than five dollars each. As they visited Indian reservations, Western boomtowns, remote ranches and local civic leaders, they confronted snowstorms, hunger, thieves and mountain lions with equal aplomb. Their treacherous and inspirational journey to New York challenged contemporary notions of femininity and captured the public imagination. But their trip had such devastating consequences that the Estby women's achievement was blanketed in silence until, nearly a century later, Linda Lawrence Hunt encountered their extraordinary story.

Surprising, inspiring. . . . Hunt skillfully brings this story alive. The *Seattle Times*"Allows us to follow Helga Estby not only across the physical landscape of 1896 America . . . but across the country's social, political, economic, and cultural landscape as well. . . . Fascinating." --Linda Peavy and Ursula Smith, authors of *Pioneer Women: The Lives of Women on the Frontier*  
A heroic forgotten first . . . a new womens history classic has emerged. *Foreword Magazine*A thoughtful discussion of the social and psychological factors that often silence family stories. . . . Fortunately [Hunt] has broken the silence of Helgas story to embolden the spirits of future generations. --*Bloomsbury*  
From the Publisher  
This long forgotten story is an inspiring true tale of courage and determination set in a period where women didn't do such things. Helga's adventure and its sad conclusion is well captured in this beautifully designed book. An excellant selection for a book club.  
From the Inside Flap  
In 1896, a Norwegian immigrant and mother of eight children named Helga Estby was behind on taxes and the mortgage when she learned that a mysterious sponsor would pay \$10,000 to a woman who walked across America. Hoping to win the wager and save her family's farm, Helga and her teenaged daughter Clara, armed with little more than a compass, red-pepper spray, a revolver, and Clara's curling iron, set out on foot from Eastern Washington. Their route would pass through 14 states, but they were not allowed to carry more than five dollars each. As they visited Indian reservations, Western boomtowns, remote ranches and local civic leaders, they confronted snowstorms, hunger, thieves and mountain lions with equal aplomb. Their treacherous and inspirational journey to New York challenged contemporary notions of femininity and captured the public imagination. But their trip had such devastating consequences that the Estby women's achievement was blanketed in silence until, nearly a century later, Linda Lawrence Hunt encountered their extraordinary story.