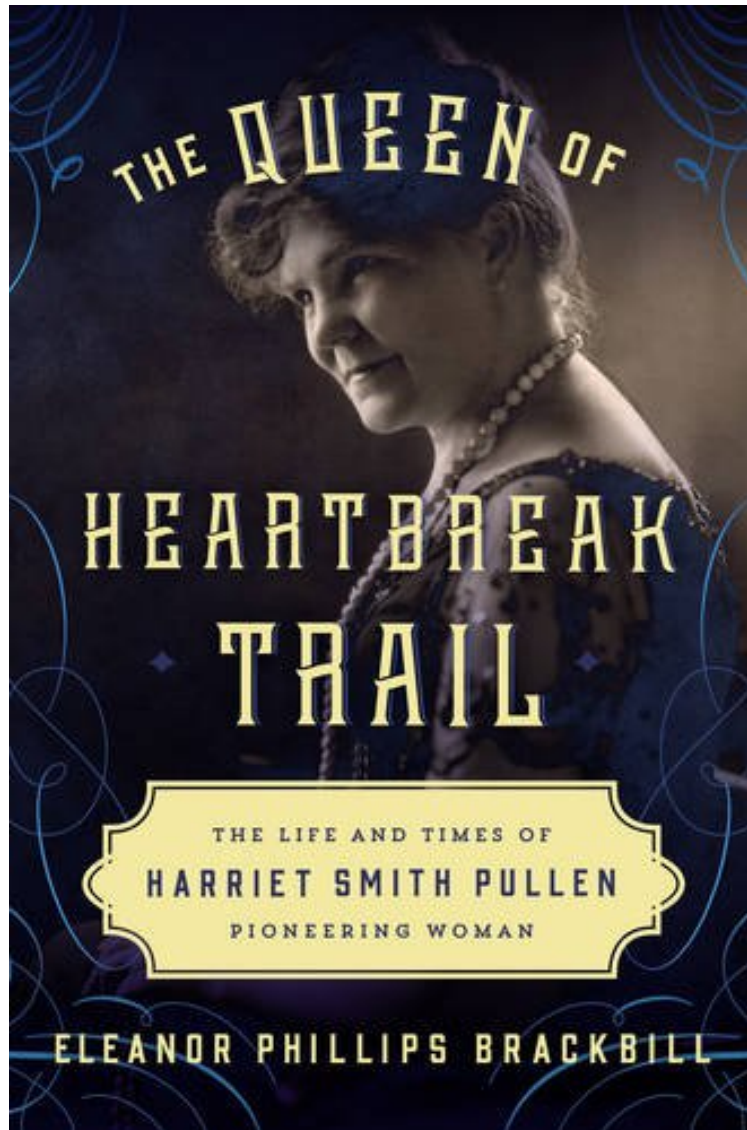


(Download free pdf) The Queen of Heartbreak Trail: The Life and Times of Harriet Smith Pullen, Pioneering Woman

The Queen of Heartbreak Trail: The Life and Times of Harriet Smith Pullen, Pioneering Woman

Eleanor Phillips Brackbill
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Eleanor Phillips Brackbill : The Queen of Heartbreak Trail: The Life and Times of Harriet Smith Pullen, Pioneering Woman before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Queen of Heartbreak Trail: The Life and Times of Harriet Smith Pullen, Pioneering Woman:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Great American Tale, A Great Tale of AmericaBy Charles

BrackbillExcellent history of a time when Americans did things that required courage and ingenuity, made things, invented things, discovered things and built a Super Power on the North American continent. Harriett Smith Pullen was a very remarkable woman who made it on her own with no help from the government, other than the provision of minimal law and order, with the emphasis on minimal. She was born well within living memory of the Civil War and lived to see the dawn of the Atomic Age. She, one way or another, overcame every significant obstacle that confronted her. The "spine" of this story is the building of America from a weak primarily agrarian nation into a leader of the ongoing fight for freedom and human dignity. This book is about American pride and American accomplishment. If that vision of what America was appeals to you, you owe it to yourself and your family to buy and read this book. If you think of America as a nation of victims, this book is not for you.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This book is well-written and exhaustively researched. I haven't ...By Donald P. JenkinsThis book is well-written and exhaustively researched. I haven't quite finished it yet, but was most interested in the Skagway era of Harriet Pullen's life, having visited the site of her former boarding house.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Well worthy of a read . . .By CustomerWell written. Reads like a novel but based on family records and historical facts. A page turner documenting the life of a courageous woman.

The story of Harriet Smith Pullen's early life, from her childhood journeys by covered wagon to her family's subsistence in sod houses on the Dakota prairie where they survived grasshopper plagues, floods, fires, blizzards, and droughts is a narrative of American migration and adventure that still resonates today. But there is much more to the legendary woman's life, revealed here for the first time by Eleanor Phillips Brackbill, her great-granddaughter, who has traveled the path of her ancestor, delving into unpublished material, as well as sharing family stories in this American story that will capture the imagination of a new generation. After migrating by emigrant train to Washington Territory, Harriet endured typhoid fever and a shipwreck, then homesteaded among the Quileute people on the coast of Washington, where she married Dan Pullen, with whom she was an equal partner in ranching and managing an Indian fur-trading post before a life-changing series of events caused her to strike out for the north. In 1897, she landed in Skagway, Alaska, broke and alone after leaving her husband and four children in Washington, determined to make a fresh start and to reunite with her sons and daughter. Newly independent and empowered, she became an entrepreneur, single-handedly hauling prospectors' provisions into the mountains where gold beckoned and then starting the Pullen House, an acclaimed hotel. Later in life, Harriet would entertain her guests with fabulous stories about the gold rush and her renowned collection of Alaskan Native artifacts and gold rush relics. She achieved near-legendary status in Alaska during her lifetime and *The Queen of Heartbreak Trail* brings to life moments that are well known and moments that have never before been published: her arrest for holding a claim jumper at gunpoint, her grueling courtroom testimony defending herself against the spurious accusations of a malevolent employer, and, how, in her father's words, she turned out her husband of twenty years.

About the AuthorFormer director of education at the Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, State University of New York, and author of *An Uncommon Cape: Researching the Histories and Mysteries of a Property*, Eleanor Phillips Brackbill graduated from Antioch College, earned an MA in art history at Boston University, completed a curatorial fellowship in the Whitney Museum of American Arts Independent Study Program, and studied in the art history doctoral program at City University of New York. Following twenty-five years as an educator, she embarked on a second career writing about history. She lives with her husband in Portland, Maine, and is currently working on her next book, another story steeped in the history of the American West.