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Wild Irish Women: Extraordinary Lives From History





Synopsis

From patriots to pirates, warriors to writers, and mistresses to male impersonators, this book looks at the unorthodox lives of inspiring Irish women. In times when women were expected to marry and have children, they travelled the world and sought out adventures; in times when women were expected to be seen and not heard, they spoke out in loud voices against oppression; in times when women were expected to have no interest in politics, literature, art, or the world outside the home, they used every creative means available to give expression to their thoughts, ideas and beliefs. In a series of succinct and often amusing biographies, Marian Broderick tells the life stories of these exceptional Irish women.

Book Information

Paperback: 368 pages Publisher: O'Brien Press Ltd (September 15, 2002) Language: English ISBN-10: 0862787807 ISBN-13: 978-0862787806 Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.9 x 7.7 inches Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #755,316 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #205 inà Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Irish #279 inà Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Reference & Collections #7045 inà Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies

Customer Reviews

Broderick, a freelance writer and editor of Irish heritage who resides in London, here profiles 71 Irishwomen, both well known and unknown and including writers, nuns, artists, warriors, killers, journalists, politicians, and many others. Although the women are grouped according to 11 categories (e.g., tough cookies, women on the front line, great pretenders), many of them could have been included in more than one category. Maud Gonne, for example, is categorized as a "political animal" but is also styled the "Princess Diana of her day." Unlike Edmund Lenihan's Ferocious Irish Women, this work defines women as wild only in the sense of their being unconventional for their time. Whether Irish-born but making their mark elsewhere (like Mother Jones), Irish by inclination (like Countess Markievicz), or possibly mythical (like the pre-Christian Queen Maeve), these women all fulfill the author's purpose of telling a good story and help to relieve what historian Margaret Ward has called our "collective amnesia" about women's place. Although interesting reading and a good introduction to the subject, this title will not replace a more comprehensive biographical dictionary and reference book like Kit and Cyril O'Ceirins's Women of Ireland. For Irish and women's collections in college and public libraries. Janice Dunham, John Jay Coll. Lib., CUNY Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

'Broderick's prose is simple and accessible ... and her fascination with her two favourite subjects -Irish history and women's studies - jumps out from every page' -- Sunday Business Post Sunday Business Post 'A rollicking read' -- Books Ireland Books Ireland 'Before reading this I hadn't heard of half the women, now I will dip into this book to read again and again about the remarkable women who helped to shape Eire' -- Women's News 'Marian Broderick should take a bow for resurrecting an eclectic body of Irish women's history -- the good, the bad and the ugly, as well as the international beauties' -- Justine McCarthy - Irish Independent Irish Independent 'After reading this book, one can never again ignore the role of Irishwomen' -- Dublin Historical Record Dublin Historical Record 'relieves what historian Margaret Ward has called our "collective amnesia" about women's place ... enjoyable' -- googlebooks.com

The gentlemen of the fierce or gentle writings of the Irish fall back on their history (very far back!) yet a similar history of their grandmothers, mothers, aunts, sisters and partners/spouses has a different influence. That this book focuses on the wild character demonstrates the wild leaders since it is always the leaders who require the energy of being "wild"!Read this book, ladies and gentlemen who are requested by partners. A different history always yields a different rhythm!Listen for the ddrum!

A friend gave me this book and I love it. It's a beautiful look into the toughness and courage of these Irish women.

A great book. Truly inspiration women during a wide range of history. Highly recommend reading whether you're Irish or not.

This is an interesting book about 75 women of Irish descent who either for personal gain, poverty or wanting to help people had very wild lives. So much poverty, jail time, death, starvation, and

constantly moving around. Most had several spouses, children(most didn't live) and lovers. They all had very hard lives. The book would've been better if there would have been a picture by each woman's story instead of grouped together.

This is an excellent jump start novel into Irish history. It has mini bios on several interesting people ranging from women who were originally from Ireland who emigrated to the USA and did some amazing work getting miners unionized and fighting corporate fat cats to authors to true warriors who fought for Ireland's freedom. This book is for people who are interested in the history of Ireland and would like to find out why you never fight an Irishman in his own house.

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