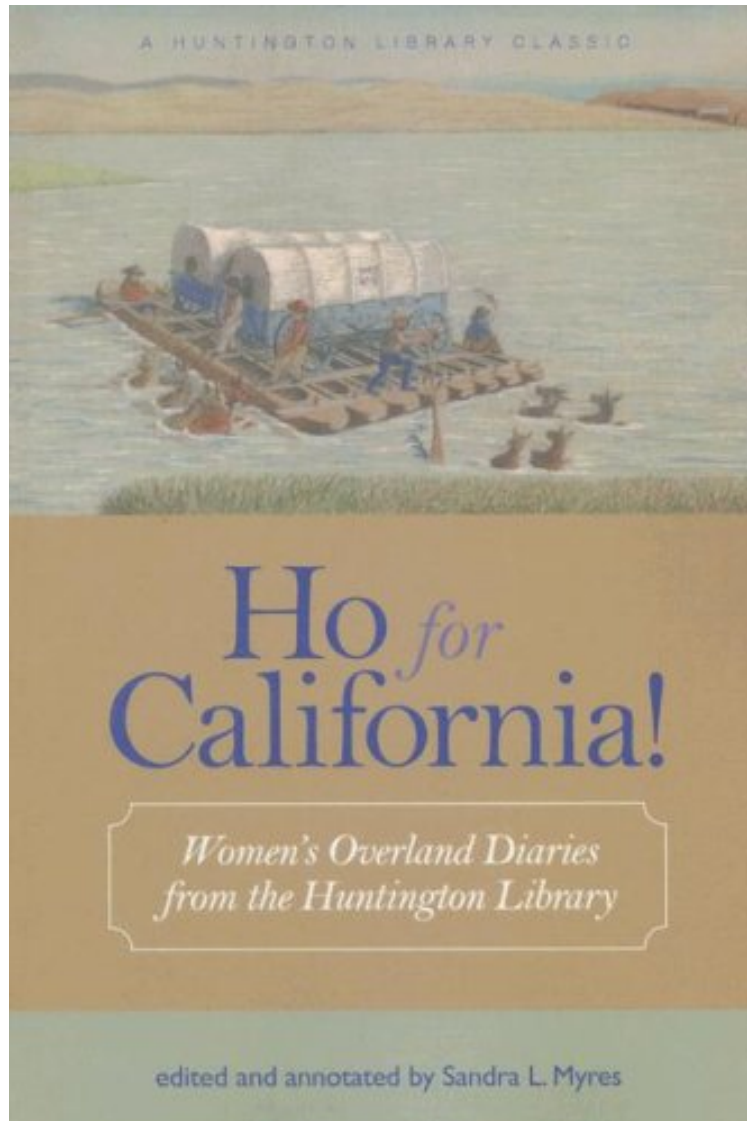


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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. RecommendedBy Stacy A. Winn A collection of journals and diaries from women traveling on three different trails before the trans-continental railroad. You will get the feeling of

traveling right along with them. I found the different writing techniques and grammar interesting. The reader will have an insight as to the diversified background and education of the wagon train population.

The five diaries presented here reflect the experiences of five different women, on three of the major westward routes in the middle of the nineteenth century across Panama in 1849, the California or northern route in the 1850s, and the Gila or southern trail in the post-Civil War period. The reader will find neither the sunbonnet saint, striding grimly forward undaunted by the dangers ahead, nor the timorous and reluctant voyager living in dread of Indians and wild beasts. The self-perceptions of these women are as varied as those of male writers, as these diaries vividly illustrate. Women's diaries are comparatively rare, and this book includes five of unusual interest.

About the Author Sandra L. Myres (1933-1991) was professor of history at the University of Texas, Arlington.