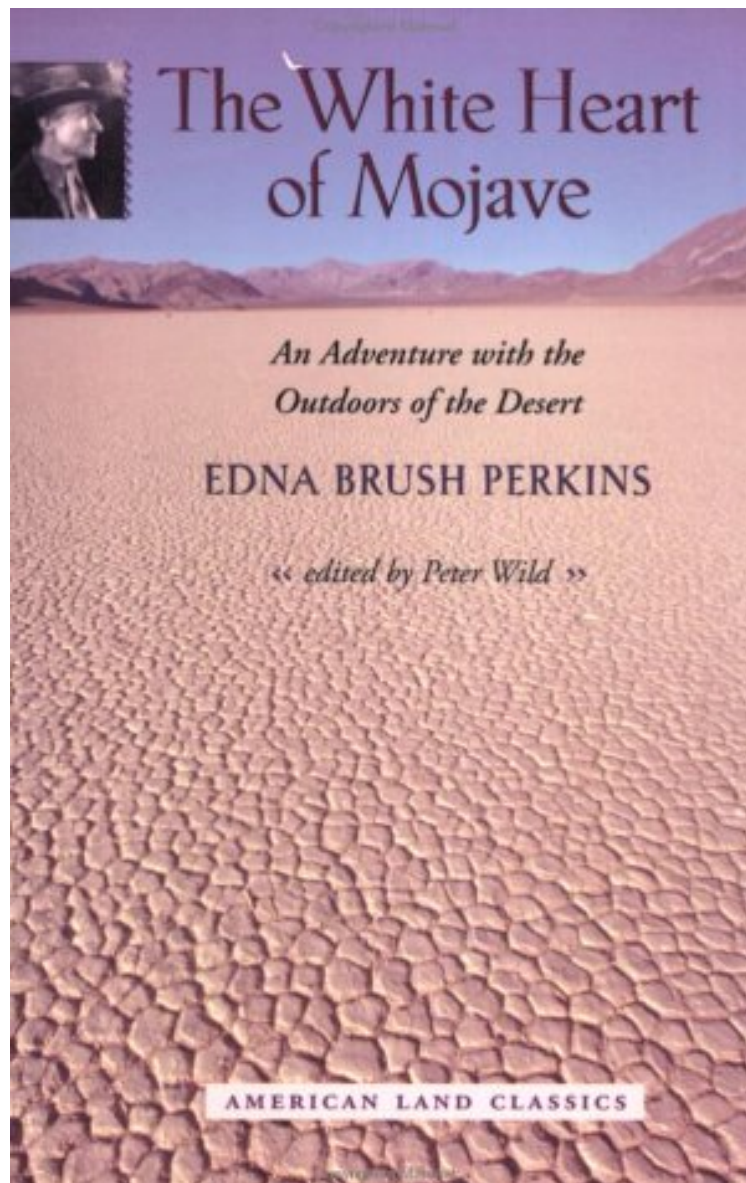


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The White Heart of Mojave: An Adventure with the Outdoors of the Desert (American Land Classics)

Edna Brush Perkins

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Edna Brush Perkins : The White Heart of Mojave: An Adventure with the Outdoors of the Desert (American Land Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The White Heart of Mojave: An Adventure with the Outdoors of the Desert (American Land Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Tantalizing, magical, well-written!By Gary J. GeorgeAn amazing trip by two hardy, determined women. If you love the desert, you will delight in this captivating book! Gary J. George author of "Mojave Desert Sanctuary."0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good TravelogueBy Benjamin DouglassTwo women who hire a guide with a wagon and horses in 1922 to find the heart of the Mojave Desert. Extremely well written and doesn't get bogged down in minutiae like some travelogues. The writing is rather poetic and gives you the "feel of the desert" in all of its glory.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A Fascinating Tale of Old Death ValleyBy A CustomerThe White Heart of Mojave is an old classic of desert literature, recently brought back into print as part of the American Land Classics series. Centered around an adventurous trip through Death Valley by two women in the 1920s, it gives a fascinating glimpse into the region and some of its eccentric inhabitants before it became a National Park and popular tourist destination. The book was written at a time when real American wilderness was beginning to disappear, and the deserts were first coming to be appreciated for their remoteness and solitude and austere beauty, rather than as simply wastelands to be exploited for mineral resources. Edna Brush Perkins, along with a few other desert pioneers like Mary Austen and John Van Dyke, was among the first to contribute to a greater understanding and appreciation of the great American deserts. Aside from its historical significance, though, the book is well written and is sure to be enjoyed by anyone with an interest in this harsh but fascinating region.

An ardent early suffragette, Edna Brush Perkins set out in 1920 with her friend, Charlotte Hannahs Jordan, to journey into the Mojave, both women seeking to escape civilization and their struggle to secure voting rights for women. The Mojave at that time was considered to be a desolate, inaccessible regionpart of the fading American frontier. Originally published in 1922, *The White Heart of Mojave* is Perkins' account of this journey.Perkins' evocative writing describes the landscape and the people she encounters. As editor Peter Wild writes, this is ultimately the story of two wealthy women who enter Death Valley "as a sort of middle-aged lark" and "emerge from the trip profoundly changed."

The White Heart of Mojave demonstrates the intrepid spirit of adventuring women in the 1920s, especially those who worked so hard to achieve the vote. It gives readers a chance to see the Mojave and Death Valley as it was in the years between the early mineral exploitation and the current tourist exploitation. For feminist scholars, Perkins's tone and attitude toward her subject matter will be fascinating. (Ann Ronald, University of Nevada, Reno)About the AuthorEdna Brush Perkins (1880-1930), author of *A Red Carpet on the Sahara*, was deeply involved in women's causes and related issues of social reform. She traveled widely, climbed the Jungfrau, painted, and promoted the arts. Peter Wild, a professor of English at the University of Arizona, is one of the foremost poets of the American West.