

# THE WASHERWOMANS DREAM Read Free

The Washerwoman's Dream: The Extraordinary Life Of Winifred Steger 1882 - 1981. Jane Winifred Steger. The washerwoman's dream of coming east and happiness..



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Hilarie Lindsay  
356 pages  
01 Feb 2018  
Simon & Schuster Australia  
9781925685596  
English  
East Roseville, Australia



## **The Washerwoman's Dream, Hilarie Lindsay - Shop Online for Books in New Zealand**

**Wonderful to have such knowledge about my family history. Gave me a whole new perspective on the trials and tribulations of life today, compared to back then. Parts of it made me very angry and upset, other parts were very enjoyable - it was well-written, gripping rollercoaster ride. An amazing story. Jun 07, Donna Birrell rated it it was amazing. This is the story of my grandmothers auntie. What a brilliant lady, so inspirational. Her trials and tribulations made me laugh with joy and cry with anguish. Such a hard life yet such an inspiring woman. Sep 08, Jennifer Rolfe added it. This books was a surprise. I read that her story was criticised by some who claimed a lot of it was fantasy, but it was her story and what a story. Of course she received a lot of criticism for abandoning her family but that's what happened!! Aug 12, Jan Q rated it really liked it. A fantastic book. Now this is a book that should be a school novel. A real taste of life that we almost never hear about.**

**Jun 29, Tricia rated it liked it Shelves: reading-challenges. For me the book kind of lost me in the second half of the book and I found my mind wandering. Having said that Winefred was an amazing woman and the book is worth a read just for that. I'm an Australian, but I've never heard of Winifred Steger or this book, which I stumbled across by chance on a library shelf. Steger led a pretty extraordinary life, and the book was well worth the read. As an emigrant English woman in early twentieth century Australia, her choice to marry a Muslim and to convert to Islam was highly unusual. Her children were regarded as 'half-castes' 3. Her children were regarded as 'half-castes', and she lived between two worlds. But Steger was clearly a woman of great personal strength.**

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I am not going to spoil the story, but she had to eventually marry an older Indian man and insisted to going to Mecca with him. After penning various articles for newspapers, she was dismissed. She had always had the ability to write, even though Winifred had only received 3 years formal schooling. I loved this story and found myself absorbed. Now, there is a personal connection for me with this book. It is indeed a small world. I recommend this book as a wonderful read, and informative into the life of an indomitable Australian woman, even though she always referred to herself as English just the same as my grandmother. Jun 27, Pharlap rated it liked it.

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**When she was barely in her teens father frequently was going for work in towns leaving daughter alone in charge of a farm. When she was 16 she got pregnant with an itinerant shearer. Winifred's father reacted to this with anger and contempt. When a baby was due he delivered his daughter to child's father's household and forced him to marry her. Then left her there. Again she was received by her parents in law with contempt and hostility. In next years she delivered 4 children. She was living separately in a metal shed, her children taken for care in in-laws home.**

**Her husband visited her irregularly not showing any concern about her or their children. At some stage he threatened her with gun so she ran away from home and ended close to Toowoomba where she worked 7 years as a barmaid. There she met Ali Acka Nuby, who was running a general store. He was a great love of her life. They had 3 children together, she registered them under her first and only husband name. During this relationship Winifred converted to Islam. She realized that this religion imposes many restrictions on women and she tried to moderate them and give women more rights. Her partner started working as a camel driver and Winifred proved to be very useful in sorting out paperwork for camel trains. After some 7 years Ali Nuby traveled to India to visit his family and there he died of cholera. Winifred had no share in her estate as they were never married and the only source of her income was backbreaking work as a washerwoman.**

**Mullah in the local mosque found her a husband - Karum Bux - to provide some stability for her and her children. Again this marriage of convenience was not officially registered. Karum Bux was a very devoted Muslim, very often disappointed, sometimes scared with Winifred's liberated approach to religion. After 2 years of relation he got idea to make a pilgrimage, Hadj, to Mecca, holy place of Islam. Winifred forced him to take her for a trip and during very demanding and dangerous journey she proved that a woman can win a respectful place in Islam. Winifred bore him children, and the family moved to outback Australia, where they ran a camel line. A new phase began in Winifred's life, taking her to places she had only ever dreamed of. The Washerwoman's Dream is the story of an extraordinary woman with an**

**indomitable spirit and is now an enduring Australian classic. Pieced together by Hilarie Lindsay from Winifred's memoirs, short stories, letters and unpublished novels, this is an account of the amazing life of a forgotten Australian writer.**

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**The Washerwoman's Dream Audiobook | Hilarie Lindsay |**

**Fleeing an abusive marriage also meant the heartbreak of abandoning her four children — but then miraculously she found love with an Indian trader, Ali. Together with their children, they moved to outback Australia where they ran a camel line. A new phase began in Winifred's life, taking her to places she had only ever dreamed of. The Washerwoman's Dream is the story of a remarkable woman with a tenacious spirit, and is now an enduring Australian classic. Get our latest book recommendations, author news, and competitions right to your inbox. Tell us what you like and we'll recommend books you'll love. Join our mailing list! Trade Paperback eBook. About The Book. About The Author. Hilarie Lindsay. Product Details. Feb 22, Julie-ann James rated it it was ok. It felt very rushed towards the end and could have been a story in itself. Enjoyed reading something I would not ever choose for myself as it was my book clubs selection. Go Rabbit Readers. Dec 30, Jen rated it liked it. The true story of a distant relative.**

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Bux was a very devoted Muslim, very often disappointed, sometimes scared with Winifred's liberated approach to religion. After 2 years of relation he got idea to make a pilgrimage, Hadj, to Mecca, holy place of Islam. Winifred forced him to take her for a trip and during very demanding and dangerous journey she proved that a woman can win a respectful place in Islam. Years later the relation broke, Winifred got a post of governess at the court of royal family of Afghanistan. This job not lasted long due to cruel power struggle in Afghanistan and after few months stay in India she returned to Australia where she started running a mess for miners in Tenant Creek.

At the same time she became a regular contributor to newspapers in Adelaide where she published stories from her life. In her ties she moved to Adelaide where she spent last years of her life in age-care home. Jan

26, Amelia rated it really liked it Shelves: nonfiction. I found this when I was searching for books with "Dream" in the title, to read for the Jan Buzzwordathon, and although I'd never heard of Winifred Steger I decided to pick this up because I'm fascinated by Australia. Although billed as nonfiction, the author makes it clear in the introduction that she has fleshed out some characters and added things where necessary to provide a more flowing narrative. Usually this would put me off, but in practice it worked well, and it seems that Steger her I found this when I was searching for books with "Dream" in the title, to read for the Jan Buzzwordathon, and although I'd never heard of Winifred Steger I decided to pick this up because I'm fascinated by Australia.

Usually this would put me off, but in practice it worked well, and it seems that Steger herself sometimes told different versions of her life. The narrative flowed really well but still felt like a true story, and the thoughts, emotions and opinions attributed to the characters felt right. The author obviously had a lot of admiration for Steger and she portrayed all the characters in a sensitive way. Steger's life truly was extraordinary, taking her from working class London life to farming in the Australian outback to travelling through rural India as part of a medical team. She seems to have always viewed herself as a person of little note, taking the most pride in her writing rather than in her adventures, although she was thrilled by her travels in India and Arabia and treasured her memories of those places. Sometimes I found it hard to warm to her personality, but she was clearly a courageous and resilient woman, who endured a lot of hardships without becoming bitter, and who wasn't afraid to defend others even at risk of her own safety.

I learned a lot about Australia, India and what is now Saudi Arabia, not just geographically but culturally, which I thoroughly enjoyed, and which added to Steger's personal journey. The ending was really moving. I didn't expect to like this quite so much as I did. Dec 28, AngelaC rated it liked it. A lot of readers think very highly of this book and the research that went into it is quite amazing.

The conditions in which people lived a relatively short time ago only just over one hundred years are horrifying. This is a tough country and people had to be tough and resourceful to survive, often in grinding poverty. However, like others, I became slightly bored with the book towards the end, finding the section about the King and Queen of Afghanistan rather rushed and lacking the detail that A lot of readers think very highly of this book and the research that went into it is quite amazing. However, like others, I became slightly bored with the book towards the end, finding the section about the King and Queen of Afghanistan rather rushed and lacking the detail that would have made it more understandable to a modern-day reader.

Also, if an author feels they must use a foreign language to add to the atmosphere of the book, as here when Winifred is married to Charles and living on the property belonging to the German-speaking Stegers, then could they at least have the language checked by a linguist, please? It's das Brot not die Brot, for example, and the mistakes grate on the ears or eyes! Overall, I would recommend the book for the insight it gives into outback life in the late 19th and early 20th century but found it rather tedious in parts. Sep 21, Lynda rated it really liked it Shelves: adult. I can see why author Hilarie Lindsay wished to commemorate the life of the gifted but impoverished Winifred Steger.

It's a sobering story of incredible deprivation, hardship and suffering- and the indomitable human spirit and personal strength that Winifred Steger used to overcome her blighted circumstances. Early Australian settlement holds great tragedy for so many social groups - the First Peoples, but also the immigrant women and men who barely survived. Yet they, and the trailblazers, set t I can see why author Hilarie Lindsay



wished to commemorate the life of the gifted but impoverished Winifred Steger. Yet they, and the trailblazers, set the foundations of our lives today, and we owe them a debt of gratitude.

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The Washerwoman's Dream Books. How Fishpond Works. Fishpond works with suppliers all over the world to bring you a huge selection of products, really great prices, and delivery included on over 25 million products that we sell. We do our best every day to make Fishpond an awesome place for customers to shop and get what they want — all at the best prices online. About Fishpond. It's easy to get started - we will give you example code. After you're set-up, your website can earn you money while you work, play or even sleep! You should start right now! Sign up now. She lived to be 99 years old, so, there is a lot to be told. I felt the author did a very good job, she kept me engrossed from start to finish. It definitely held my interest. View all 4 comments. Oct 01, Jay rated it really liked it. I enjoyed this enough to do a little research into Winifred Steger.

This is taken from the Australian Women's Weekly, 19th December, One of the most delightful books of recent years was Winifred Steger's "Always Bells," an account of her early life in Asia, her marriage to a Moslem, their years in the outback with the camel teams, their pilgrimage to Mecca, and their return to Australia, which Winifred Steger regards as the heaven of our earthly life I enjoyed this enough to do a little research into Winifred Steger. One of the most delightful books of recent years was Winifred Steger's "Always Bells," an account of her early life in Asia, her marriage to a Moslem, their years in the outback with the camel teams, their pilgrimage to Mecca, and their return to Australia, which Winifred Steger regards as the heaven of our earthly life View 2 comments.

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Arriving in Australia, Winifred and her father find that their land grant is covered with a prison of prickly pear and is worthless. From skivvy in a bawdy house to loveless marriage, Winifred battles almost insurmountable odds to maintain her dignity and sanity, finding solace as she creates fictitious scenarios to ease her hardship. This is an account of the amazing life of a forgotten Australian writer and a woman with indomitable spirit. You must be logged in to post a review.