

Hope Leslie



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Set in seventeenth-century New England, *Hope Leslie* (1827) is a rich, fast-paced frontier romance, complete with bloody massacres, daring prison escapes, and alliances that violate the strictures of both white and Indian societies. A counterpoint to the novels of James Fenimore Cooper, it is also a revolutionary portrait of early American life, one that challenges the conventional view of Indians, tackles interracial marriage and cross-cultural friendship, and, most strikingly, claims for women their rightful place in our nation's history. At the center of the novel are two friends whose actions and attitudes illustrate female strengths and values. Hope Leslie, a spirited thinker in a repressive Puritan society, fights for justice for the Indians and asserts the equality of the sexes by defying the patriarchs and choosing her own husband. Magawisca, the daughter of a Pequot chief, braves her father's wrath to save a white man and risks her freedom to reunite Hope with her sister, who as a child was captured by the Pequots and has chosen to remain with them. The American ideal of giving everyone a voice is reflected in the very form of the novel. Letters throughout the book reveal the opinions of various characters, and the nonliterate Magawisca articulates her point of view in an impassioned speech before a Puritan tribunal. Their voices address still unresolved questions about the place of women, of Native Americans, and of dissenters of all kinds, in an American utopia.

作者介绍:

目录:

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标签

美国文学

评论

读完了我的第一本19世纪英文原版。很感动！顺带着了解了一下清教的历史。其实读进去之后还挺好看的，就是剧情实在过于曲折，有点审美疲劳。书的最后一段在当时应该可以说是振聋发聩了：“Marriage is not essential to the contentment, the dignity, or the happiness of woman.”

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书评

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