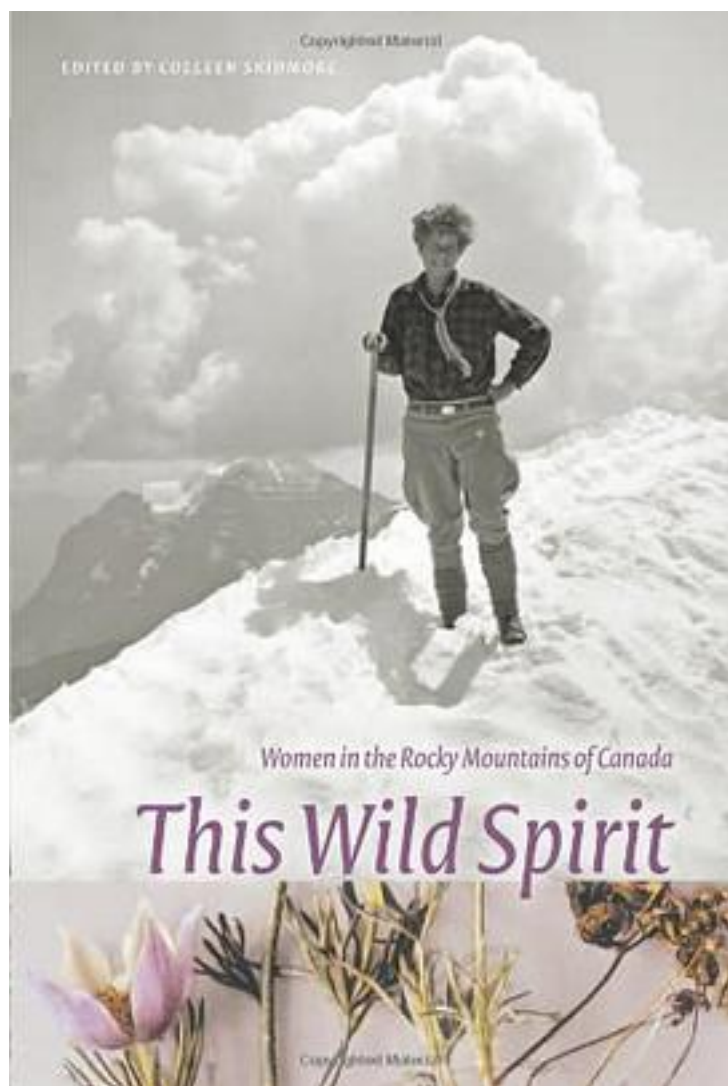


This Wild Spirit



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In 1912, Mary Vaux, a botanist, glaciologist, painter, and photographer, wrote about her mountain adventures: "A day on the trail, or a scramble over the glacier, or even with a quiet day in camp to get things in order for the morrow's conquests? Some how when once this wild spirit enters the blood...I can hardly wait to be off again". Vaux's compulsion was shared by many women whose intellects, imaginations, and spirits rose to the challenge of the mountains between the late-nineteenth and mid-twentieth centuries. This "Wild Spirit" explores a sampling of women's creative responses - in fiction and travel writing, photographs and paintings, embroidery and beadwork, letters and diaries, poetry and posters - to their experiences in the Rocky Mountains of Canada.

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