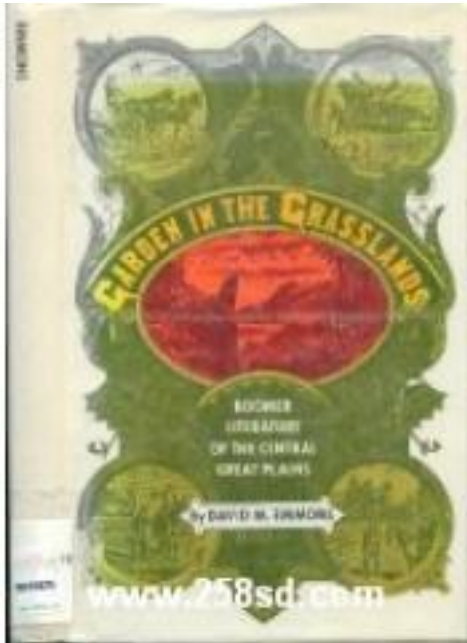


# Garden in the Grasslands: Boomer Literature of the Central Great Plains



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The American people had always expected much of their frontiers  
> These outlying regions whether located in the Connecticut River valley  
> or in the blue grass hills of Kentucky served as a constant pull upon  
> the American imagination Their challenges and promises supplied a  
> part of the generative energy that propelled the settlers westward It  
> was little wonder that a grateful people invested their frontiers with hazy  
> images of the garden regained describing them in language reserved  
> for Edenic landscapes only The people who lived within them were  
> thought to enjoy the favors only an Eden could supply > The vast material wealth the frontier offered the fertile soil and  
> benign and productive climate afforded

predictable and conventional  
> rewardsthere a man could make a decent livingSimilarlyas the  
> number of settlers increasednew resources and markets would be  
> made available to the more developed regions farther eastA nation  
> constantly growingit was thoughtwas a nation constantly prospering  
> and tiffs growththis westeringwas central to the thinking of those  
> who envisioned a powerful and self-sufficient nationBut economic  
> prosperity was not the only benefit Americans could expect to receive  
> from their frontiersThere were political and spiritual rewards as well  
> A frontierby definitionwould be settled by agriculturalistsand most  
> Americans shared JefiersonS belief that these were the chosen of GodS  
> peopleThe American agriculturistthe yeomanhad been selected as  
> the standard-bearer of American cultureSimple in his tastesfrugal  
> jn habitshe was the ideal republicanand upon him rested much of this  
> nationS cultural and political identityA constant supply of frontiers  
> must be provided for his occupation1  
> 1The literature of the garden and the yeoman is vast and extensive The seminal  
> work is Henry Nash SmithVirgin LandThe American West as Symbol and My th  
> (New YorkVintage Books1962)but see also Leo MarxThe Machine in the  
> Garden(New YorkOxford University Press1964)Charles SanfordThe Quest  
> J

作者介绍:

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