



On Top of the World: Five Women Explorers in Tibet

Luree Miller

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- * An astonishing tale of perseverance
- * Wonderful insight into 19th century Tibet
- * A moving tale of adventure and discovery

In the late 1800's, when women were bound by both cumbersome clothing and strict Victorian morals, a small band of astonishing women explorers burst forth to claim the adventurous life. What drew the five profiled in this book -- three British, one American, one French -- was Tibet, then the ultimate in exploration. **Nina Mazuchelli** organized a small expedition, urging the party on when they were lost on a glacier. **Annie Taylor**, a reckless, romantic missionary in China, knew her life was in danger the moment she crossed into Tibet. **Esabella Bird Bishop**, sickly while at home, was always robust on her adventures; she was nearly 60 when she went to Tibet. **Fanny Bullock Workman** plowed her way up Himalaya and Karakoram mountains, saying any woman could do so. **Alexandra David-Neel**, at 56, trekked for eight months through tropical lowlands and snow-covered passes with only a backpack and a begging bowl. Even by today's standards these women's accomplishments are remarkable.

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