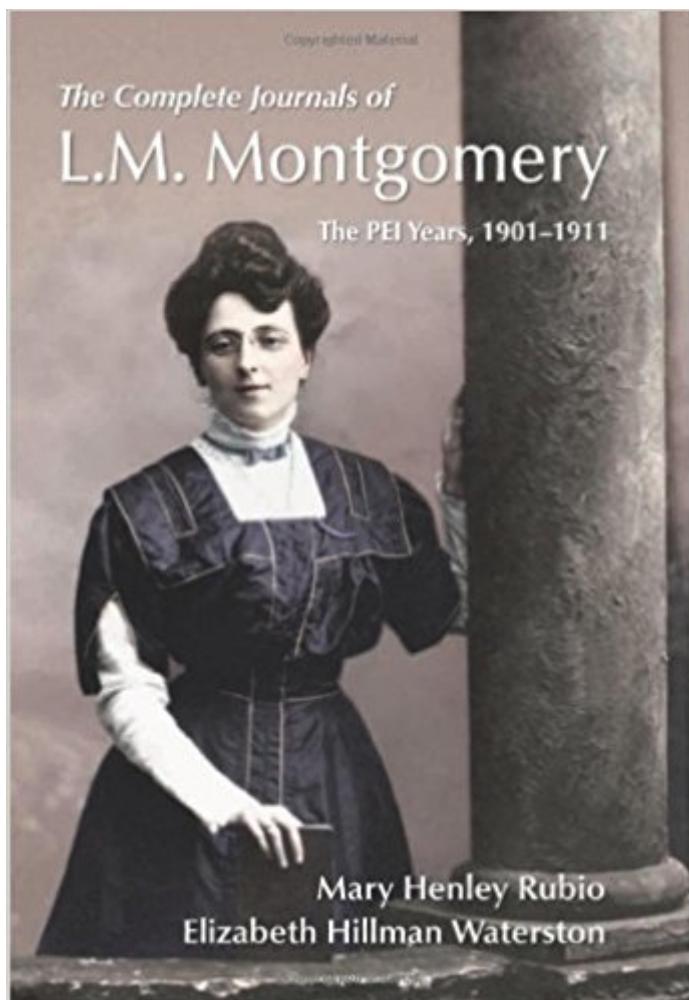


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The Complete Journals Of L.M. Montgomery: The PEI Years, 1901-1911



Synopsis

L.M. Montgomery (1874-1942) had begun keeping a private journal before she turned fifteen. From 1918 onward, she had carefully copied out her entries. She intended this detailed life record to be published posthumously. Montgomery's long-hidden version of her early life emerged as the bestselling Selected Journals of L.M. Montgomery, Volumes I-V, first published in 1985. Twenty-five years ago, it seemed prudent to offer a tightly organized book with a strong central narrative, but this decision meant setting aside many entries on her personal tastes, her effusions over landscape, and her increasing bouts of depression. L.M. Montgomery's record of her life is published now for the first time without abridgement. The Complete Journals of L.M. Montgomery: The P.E.I. Years, 1889-1900 was published in early 2012 to much acclaim. This second book, covering the years 1901 to 1911, continues to provide a more comprehensive portrait of Montgomery's life in PEI than has ever been available before. This publication covers Montgomery's early adult years, including her work as a newspaper editor in Halifax, Nova Scotia; her publishing career taking flight; the death of her grandmother; and her forthcoming marriage to a local clergyman. It also documents her own reflections on writing, her increasingly problematic mood swings and feelings of isolation, and her changing relationship with the world around her, particularly that of Prince Edward Island. This new edition recreates the format Montgomery herself devised. Over 300 of her photographs, newspaper clippings, postcards, and professional portraits are reproduced, all with Montgomery's original placement and captions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is volume two of Montgomery's Complete PEI Years journal, and it, like its predecessor, offers a much more complex portrait of the author's earliest journaling and inner life. While casual fans and readers might find too much detail about the landscapes, the weather, the neighbors, or her memories, long-term followers and scholars of Montgomery will appreciate the detail with which she observes herself, her communities, her work, and her world. Editors Mary Henley Rubio and Elizabeth Hillman Waterston thoroughly and respectfully introduce and annotate the journals, identifying public figures, Montgomery's personal friends and acquaintances, places, and current events, offering the journal entries context within the larger world of Montgomery's lifetime and publications. I noticed several typos and wasn't sure if they were reproduced from the originals, or simply typesetting errors that occurred in the haste for publication. These are an essential addition to the world of Montgomery scholarship.

If you like Anne of Green Gables, you will appreciate Ms Montgomery's diaries; she embodies the same spirit of Anne (or is it the way around?) I do have one gripe, and this is in many published diaries I have read - footnotes mentioning that "such and such corrected this as the author was mistaken". How can a person not there at the time of writing correct someone's diary - if Einstein said he visited his paramour on a Monday, who is his grandson to say "he actually visited her on a Thursday."? Even if other documentation suggests such - I am reading the thoughts of Einstein not his grandson.

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