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Chapter 1 : Northwest Passage (novel) - Wikipedia

Major Robert Rogers organized "Rogers Rangers" to search for the alleged waterway across the United States during the French and Indian War (). Helping Rogers, an experienced explorer and Indian fighter, were Hunk Marriner, another experienced Indian fighter, and Langdon Towne, a Harvard.

Arthur Browne of nearby Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Towne wants to become an artist, a goal which he has kept secret from even Elizabeth. Upon his return to Portsmouth, he incautiously insults Benning Wentworth, the governor of the Province of New Hampshire, and he and Hunk flee arrest and head to Crown Point to join the volunteers fighting the French and Indian War. Setting out with a force of Rangers, Stockbridge Indians and Mohawk Indians, the troops are not told their destination. Hunk and McNott, among others, are critically injured when the Mohawks detonate gunpowder after failing to steal it and have to be left behind. The rest of the Rangers are then informed that their destination is the Abenaki town of Saint Francis, a center for hostile native raiding parties into New England. In a predawn attack, the Rangers annihilate the town and kill about a quarter of the population. However, to prevent capture, the Rangers choose to return across Quebec and northern Vermont, through the forests along the eastern shore of Lake Memphremagog. The harrowing journey creates dissension, and some Rangers who choose to separate from the main body are massacred by pursuing French and Indian troops. The starving troops eventually make it safely to the planned meeting point, Fort Wentworth on the Connecticut River, where reinforcements and supplies were supposed to be waiting for them. A group of four men, including Rogers and Towne, make the arduous raft trip down the Connecticut to the Fort at Number 4 to get food for the rest of the company. They barely make it, but they succeed in saving the company. Towne now openly works at painting, and Copley helps get him a small commission and points him toward a trip to England to study art. Towne, however, wants to stay in Portsmouth, paint natives and the West, and marry Elizabeth. When Rogers comes to town in the summer of, he greets Towne as a long-lost friend. Browne, and she has accepted. Instead, a crushed Towne tells Rogers that he is going to England, as Copley had urged. Book 2[edit] In London, Towne learns that no one can achieve success except through "preferment", usually through a sponsor. His search for sponsorship leads him to Benjamin Franklin, who arranges for him to get a commission for a panel of Jeffery Amherst at Vauxhall Gardens that brings him other work, more than enough to prevent him from having to return home broke. In early, Towne, now 26, finds out that Rogers minus Elizabeth has arrived in London. Rogers has decided to mount an expedition to find the Northwest Passage and has come to England both to collect his back pay and to win appointment as the royal governor of Fort Michilimackinac, the farthest west of the British forts on the Great Lakes, and he offers to include Towne in the expedition. Rogers has a personal secretary named Natty Potter, who helps him write two books and a play while in London. Potter recruits Towne to find his daughter Ann. Ann proves to be a gifted mimic and quickly picks up "proper" behavior from the tutor Towne hires for her. With the help of Charles Townshend, Rogers is appointed governor of Michilimackinac over the objections of General Thomas Gage and Sir William Johnson, who had monopolized trade with the natives. When Towne finishes his series of paintings, he and Ann return with Rogers and Potter to Portsmouth in. Rogers has arranged for several of his former Rangers to join the journey, including McNott who lost a leg from the gunpowder explosion, Jonathan Carver, and James Tute; Elizabeth, Potter and Ann also accompany the group to Michilimackinac. Rogers expects to receive orders that permit him to appoint a deputy governor so that he can lead the search for the Northwest Passage himself, but such orders are not included with the authorization for the expedition, so the group leaves without Rogers or Elizabeth, Potter and Ann, with Tute and a trader named Stanley Goddard in command. In the spring, when they reunite with Tute, Goddard and Carver, they find that the rest of the group is out of supplies. Towne and McNott then learn that the other three have used their supplies to purchase a large parcel of land from the Dakota which the Yankton Dakota inform McNott that the Dakota do not actually own, because it is contested by the Chippewa and have abandoned their

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mission. McNott and Towne travel up the Missouri River on the route to the Northwest Passage without them, but a serious injury to McNott forces them to head back to Michilimackinac. When they arrive, in the spring of , they learn that Charles Townshend has died, that Rogers has been arrested by Gage and Johnson for exceeding his authority, and that Ann has returned to England after Rogers tried to take improper liberties with her. When the ice on the Great Lakes breaks, Towne, who realizes that he has fallen in love with Ann, returns to England himself, where he finds and marries Ann, who has just opened a one-woman play about life on the frontier. She has taken some of his sketches to a royal society that commissions him to paint a series of pictures based on native mythology. At the end, Towne and Ann decide to return to America and side with the American Revolution, although they know Rogers has sided with the British. Impact[edit] Northwest Passage was first published in serial form in the Saturday Evening Post , in one of the last decisions made by George Horace Lorimer before his retirement as editor of the Post, with Book 1 running in and Book 2 in . The story became a national sensation and was the second best-selling novel in the U. Roberts wrote the novel in close collaboration with his neighbor Booth Tarkington , and dedicated the novel to him. As a result, Roberts became discouraged during the writing process. When he worked up the courage to ask Tarkington whether his writing had become so much worse that the book needed so much more substantial editing, Tarkington told him that the opposite was true€”the book was so much better than its predecessors that Tarkington thought it could become a smash hit with such editing. To that end, he hired a full-time English researcher to hunt for the transcripts. The transcripts were published as part of a special two-volume first edition of Northwest Passage. However, Roberts fell behind in writing the book as a result of the inability to find the transcripts, and he had to finish the last part of the story beginning with the journey from Michilimackinac while on holiday in Italy, without the help of Tarkington. Another friend of Roberts, novelist A. Hamilton Gibbs author of the number one bestseller of , Soundings , performed an editing function similar to Tarkington for the last section. Filmed versions[edit] Because of the success of the novel, a bidding war arose over the movie rights. MGM purchased the rights for an undisclosed "record sum. Francis raid , depicted in the first half of the novel, inspired the movie with the same title, starring Spencer Tracy. Roberts, however, intensely disliked the movie, which had the Rogers character burst into tears upon a disappointment while the historic Rogers had rallied his force to remain strong despite the disappointment , completely omitted the harrowing but pivotal journey to the Fort at Number 4, and ignored the Towne-Rogers-Elizabeth romantic triangle going so far as to have Elizabeth end up with Towne. Roberts resolved to refuse to sell any more of his works to Hollywood as a result.

Chapter 2 : Northwest Passage - Vol. 1 - Video Dailymotion

The Northwest Passage t.v. series Volume 3 was filmed in color at the MGM Studios in Hollywood in and stars Keith Larsen, Buddy Ebsen, and Don Burnett and was directed by Jacques Tourneur, Alan Grosland, Jr. and George Waggner.

Chapter 3 : Northwest Passage Vol. 1 Review - IGN

Northwest Passage Volume 1, Issue 4 - March/April Cover Take It Outside! www.nxgvision.com The Bureau of Land Management Magazine for Oregon and Washington.

Chapter 4 : Northwest Passage () - IMDb

Northwest Passage Volume 4, Issue 1 - Spring Page 5 Best in the West Our contributors to the Pacific Northwest [Five Photos of Contributors - Derrick Henry, Tony Kerwin, Michael Mascari, Kevin Abel, Jeff Clark].

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