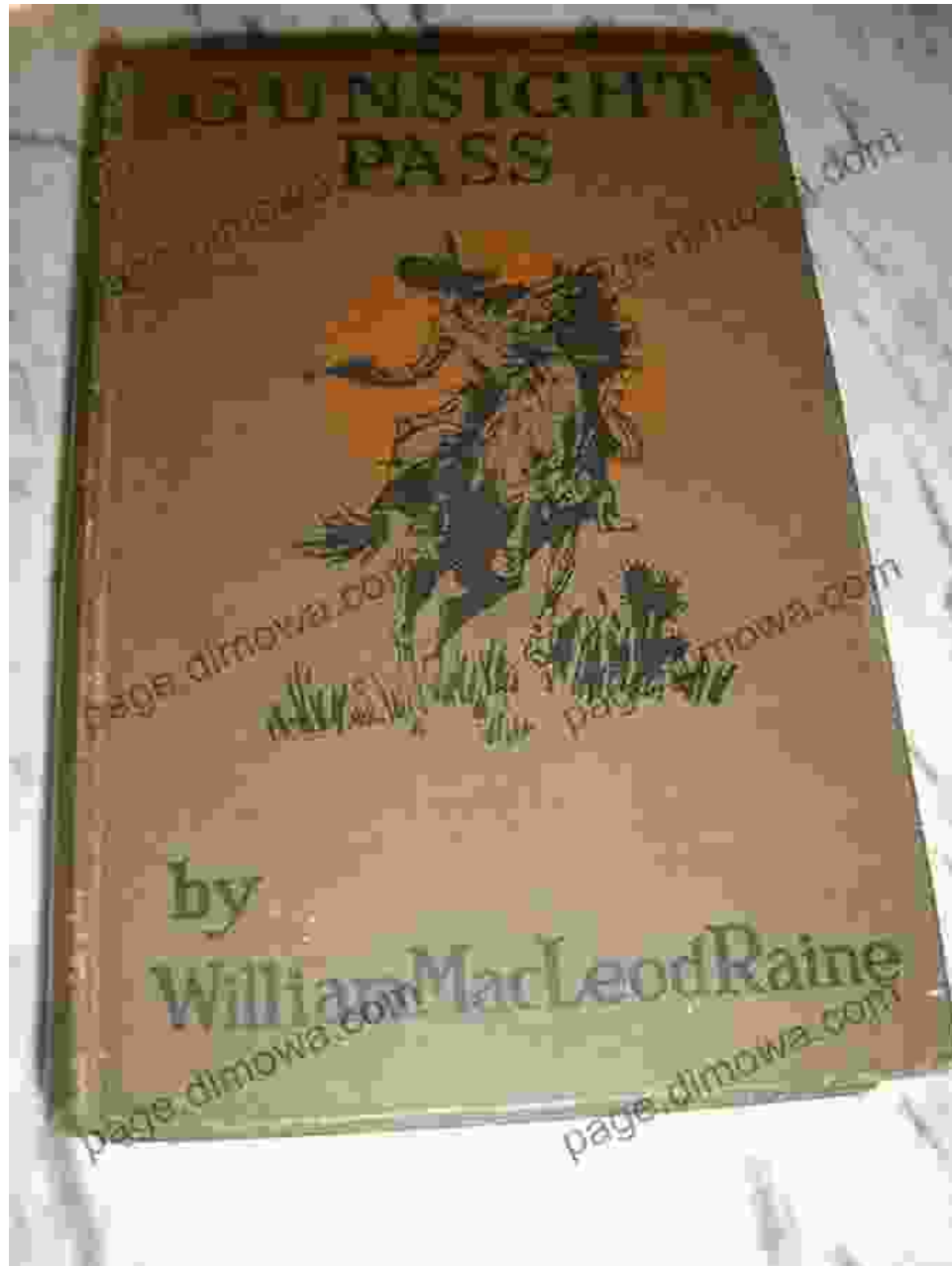


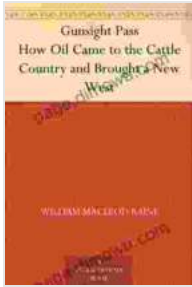
Gunsight Pass: How Oil Came to the Cattle Country and Brought the New West



Gunsight Pass How Oil Came to the Cattle Country and Brought a New West by William MacLeod Raine

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 579 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 232 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Paperback	: 184 pages
Item Weight	: 11.8 ounces
Dimensions	: 6 x 0.42 x 9 inches



Gunsight Pass tells the story of how the discovery of oil in the Texas Panhandle in the early 20th century transformed the region from a sparsely populated cattle country to a booming oilfield. The book traces the history of the oil industry in the Panhandle, from the early days of wildcatting to the development of major oil fields and the rise of oil companies such as ExxonMobil and Chevron. Gunsight Pass also explores the social and economic impact of the oil industry on the Panhandle, including the boomtowns that sprang up, the influx of new workers, and the changes in the local culture and economy.

The book is based on extensive research, including interviews with oil industry executives, historians, and local residents. It is a fascinating look at a pivotal moment in Texas history and a must-read for anyone interested in the history of the oil industry or the American West.

The Discovery of Oil

The first oil well in the Texas Panhandle was drilled in 1911 near the town of Burkburnett. The well produced a large amount of oil, and soon other

wells were drilled in the area. The discovery of oil in the Panhandle led to a boom in the region. New towns sprang up, and the population of the Panhandle increased rapidly. The oil industry also brought new wealth to the region, and the Panhandle became one of the richest areas in Texas.

The Development of the Oil Industry

The early days of the oil industry in the Panhandle were characterized by wildcatting. Wildcatters were independent oilmen who drilled wells in unproven areas. Many wildcatters failed, but some struck it rich. The development of new drilling technologies, such as the rotary drill, made it possible to drill deeper wells and to reach new oil reservoirs. This led to the discovery of major oil fields in the Panhandle, such as the Permian Basin and the Spraberry Trend.

The oil industry in the Panhandle also benefited from the development of new transportation technologies. The construction of pipelines made it possible to transport oil from the Panhandle to refineries in other parts of the country. The development of the automobile also increased the demand for oil, as gasoline became the primary fuel for cars and trucks.

The Social and Economic Impact of the Oil Industry

The oil industry had a profound social and economic impact on the Texas Panhandle. The boom in the oil industry led to a rapid increase in population. New towns sprang up, and the population of the Panhandle increased from 200,000 in 1900 to over 1 million in 1930. The oil industry also brought new wealth to the region. The oil companies paid high wages, and the royalties from oil production provided a steady income for landowners. The oil industry also led to the development of new infrastructure, such as roads, schools, and hospitals.

The oil industry also had a negative impact on the Panhandle. The boom in the oil industry led to a rapid increase in crime and violence. The oil fields were often lawless places, and there were frequent shootings and robberies. The oil industry also polluted the environment. The drilling of wells and the production of oil led to the release of harmful chemicals into the air and water.

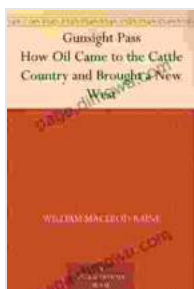
The Legacy of the Oil Industry

The oil industry has had a lasting impact on the Texas Panhandle. The oil industry brought new wealth and prosperity to the region, but it also led to social and environmental problems. The legacy of the oil industry is a complex one, but it is a legacy that has shaped the Panhandle in many ways.

Sidebar: The Boomtowns of the Panhandle

The discovery of oil in the Texas Panhandle led to a boom in the region. New towns sprang up overnight, and the population of the Panhandle increased rapidly. Some of the most famous boomtowns of the Panhandle include:

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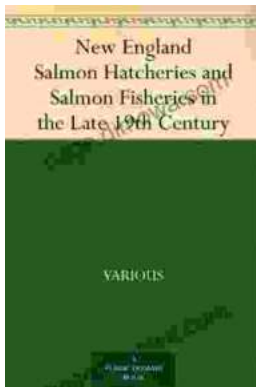
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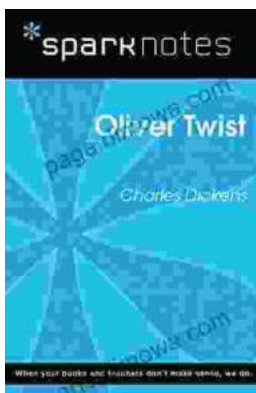
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