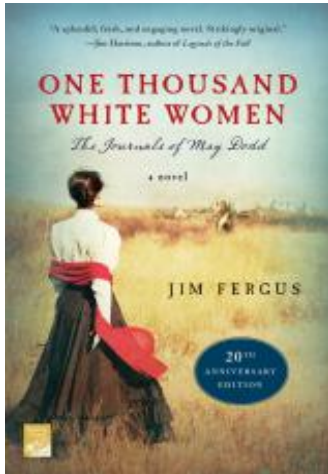


# One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd (20th Anniversary Edition)

by Jim Fergus



## About the Book

**One Thousand White Women** begins with May Dodd's journey west into the unknown. A government program, in which women are brought west as brides for the Cheyenne, is her vehicle. What follows is the story of May's adventures: her marriage to Little Wolf, chief of the Cheyenne nation, and her conflict of being caught between two worlds, loving two men, living two lives. Jim Fergus has so vividly depicted the American West that it is as if these diaries are a capsule in time.

## Discussion Guide

1. **One Thousand White Women** was written by a man, but in a woman's point of view. Did you find this convincing?
2. In 1875, rebellious or unorthodox women were sometimes considered "hysterical" or insane. Is this still true in some circumstances today?
3. Does May Dodd remind you of a modern-day woman?
4. What would be today's equivalent of traveling west to an unknown part of the country with a group of strangers?
5. Did you feel the Native Americans were accurately portrayed in the novel?
6. If the "Brides for Indians" program were actually put into effect in 1875, do you feel it would have been effective?
7. What circumstances would prompt you to undergo a journey like the one May Dodd took?

8. Do you consider **One Thousand White Women** a tragic story? If so, why? If not, why not?

9. Of the supporting female characters, who did you find the most likeable?

10. Were any of May Dodd's actions unsympathetic? Would you find it difficult to leave your children behind in order to escape a horrendous situation?

## Author Bio

Jim Fergus is the author of ONE THOUSAND WHITE WOMEN, THE SPORTING ROAD, A HUNTER'S ROAD and WILD GIRL. His articles and essays have appeared in a wide variety of national magazines and newspapers, including *Newsweek*, *Newsday*, *The Paris Review*, *Esquire*, *Sports Afield* and *Field & Stream*. Fergus was born in Chicago and attended Colorado College. He worked as a teaching tennis professional before becoming a full-time freelance writer. He lives in southern Arizona.

## Critical Praise

"An impressive historical, terse, convincing, and affecting."

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