



The Tin Ticket: The Heroic Journey of Australia's Convict Women

By Deborah J. Swiss

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The convict women who built a continent..."A moving and fascinating story." -Adam Hochschild, author of *King Leopold's Ghost*

The Tin Ticket takes readers to the dawn of the nineteenth century and into the lives of three women arrested and sent into suffering and slavery in Australia and Tasmania-where they overcame their fates unlike any women in the world. It also tells the tale of Elizabeth Gurney Fry, a Quaker reformer who touched all their lives. Ultimately, this is a story of women who, by sheer force of will, became the heart and soul of a new nation.

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Editorial Review

Review

"The Irish feature in disproportionate numbers among the convicts transported to Australia. The number of female Irish convicts rose considerably in the aftermath of the great Irish Famine, a period which also saw the transportation of more than 4,000 Irish orphans girls as "breeding stock" for the new colony. Deborah Swiss brings new light and insight into the story of female convicts transported to Australia and in telling this story through the lives of a number of individual women brings home to us both the tragedy and the triumph of these resilient women."

-Mírtn + Fainfn, Ambassador of Ireland

"Deborah Swiss eloquently and engagingly uncovers a buried and important piece of Australian "herstory," convicted women who endured injustice, cruelty, and hardship. Even more than that, Swiss skillfully illuminates their essence in their extraordinary resilience, determination, and courage. An inspiration to all."

-Birute Regine, author of *Iron Butterflies: Women Transforming Themselves and the World*.

"*The Tin Ticket* powerfully illustrates the unimaginable vulnerability and desperation that came with being poor and female two hundred years ago in Britain. But the stories of the women in this book are not too different from those of the millions who are trafficked across continents even today for cheap labor or sex. And like these women, the founding mothers of Australia exemplify the same remarkable resilience and resourcefulness that women show to pull themselves and their families out of adversity. *The Tin Ticket* tells their story, and enriches our shared history as women and as human beings."

-Ritu Sharma, Co-Founder and President, Women Thrive Worldwide

"History books far too often scant the stories of women, of the poor, and of those swallowed up in the prison system. Deborah Swiss has broken this triple barrier to bring us a moving and fascinating story -- both of forgotten people who were ruthlessly exploited, and of a remarkable woman who did much to help them."

-Adam Hochschild, author of *King Leopold's Ghost* and *Bury the Chains*, co-founder of *Mother Jones*.

About the Author

Deborah J. Swiss received her Ed.D. from Harvard University, and is the author of *Women and the Work/Family Dilemma*, *Women Breaking Through*, and *The Male Mind at Work*. She lives in Lexington, Massachusetts.

Users Review

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