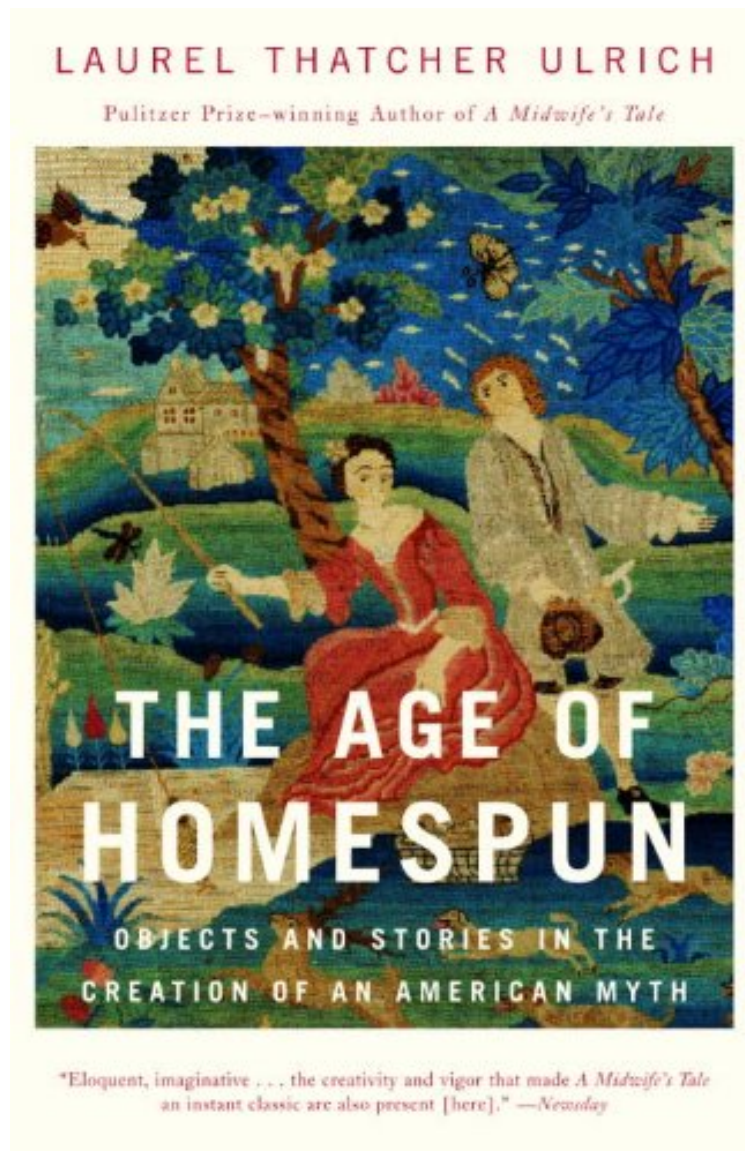


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The Age of Homespun: Objects and Stories in the Creation of an American Myth

Laurel Thatcher Ulrich

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Laurel Thatcher Ulrich : The Age of Homespun: Objects and Stories in the Creation of an American Myth
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Age of Homespun: Objects and Stories in the Creation of an American Myth:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. How Woman Clothed America By Fierce Fond Reader One stitch at a time, one woven inch a day. It's hard for us nowadays when every piece of clothing from our skin to winter hats gloves

come from every country in the world, made on machines. My kind of history book: it takes a handstitched/woven relic expands on its past future, reminding us that after the War for Independence, America headed straight into the Industrial Revolution which had historic life-changing influences on the family unit. Imagine how treadle sewing machines changed women's clothes. Have given a copy to all the women in my life whether they sew or not, we talk/email about it. Amazing the attitudes: One of the first reactions was from a friend 16 years older: "Women were such slaves then!" I reminded her that her husband still labors for hours every single day in the fields of their farm. 30 years ago this would have fed the Feminist Fire, today, Feminist though I be, I'm old enough to read it for the information, vision wisdom it transfers. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Every Artifact Has a Story By Sabrina Peters-Whitehead In the Age of Homespun, Ulrich examines "homespun" artifacts or artifacts relating to the creation and storage of homespun goods in early colonial America. Each chapter of her text is devoted to a particular artifact, such as an Indian basket, spinning wheels, a Niddy-Noddy, a chimneypiece, a pocketbook, linens, and a cupboard. However, the chapters are not merely about these artifacts. Instead, Ulrich uses the artifacts as a lens or a vehicle through which she examines the complex social, cultural, economic, and political dynamics of the time period the artifact stems from. Further, Ulrich uses these articles to "write" history--women's history--that has largely been unwritten in history texts. Each chapter of her text really undermines the myth of an idyllic and pastoral society and provides a fascinating look at the complexity of the times. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. These books for charming! By Kathryn These books for charming!

They began their existence as everyday objects, but in the hands of award-winning historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, fourteen domestic items from preindustrial America--ranging from a linen tablecloth to an unfinished sock--relinquish their stories and offer profound insights into our history. In an age when even meals are rarely made from scratch, homespun easily acquires the glow of nostalgia. The objects Ulrich investigates unravel those simplified illusions, revealing important clues to the culture and people who made them. Ulrich uses an Indian basket to explore the uneasy coexistence of native and colonial Americans. A piece of silk embroidery reveals racial and class distinctions, and two old spinning wheels illuminate the connections between colonial cloth-making and war. Pulling these divergent threads together, Ulrich demonstrates how early Americans made, used, sold, and saved textiles in order to assert their identities, shape relationships, and create history. From the Trade Paperback edition.