



INTERTWINED
LIVES

*Margaret Mead,
Ruth Benedict,
and
Their Circle*

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LOIS W. BANNER

"REMARKABLE... BOTH
CULTURAL STUDY
AND CAPTIVATING ROMANCE."

—Los Angeles Magazine

Intertwined Lives: Margaret Mead, Ruth Benedict, and Their Circle, Lois W. Banner, Random House LLC, 2010, 030777340X, 9780307773401, 576 pages. A uniquely revealing biography of two eminent twentieth century American women. Close friends for much of their lives, Ruth Benedict and Margaret Mead met at Barnard College in 1922, when Mead was a student, Benedict a teacher. They became sexual partners (though both married), and pioneered in the then male-dominated discipline of anthropology. They championed racial and sexual equality and cultural relativity despite the generally racist, xenophobic, and homophobic tenor of their era. Mead's best-selling *Coming of Age in Samoa* (1928) and *Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies* (1935), and Benedict's *Patterns of Culture* (1934), *Race* (1940), and *The Chrysanthemum and the Sword* (1946), were landmark studies that ensured the lasting prominence and influence of their authors in the field of anthropology and beyond. With unprecedented access to the complete archives of the two women—including hundreds of letters opened to scholars in 2001—Lois Banner examines the impact of their difficult childhoods and the relationship between them in the context of their circle of family, friends, husbands, lovers, and colleagues, as well as the calamitous events of their time. She shows how Benedict inadvertently exposed Mead to charges of professional incompetence, discloses the serious errors New Zealand anthropologist Derek Freeman made in his famed attack on Mead's research on Samoa, and reveals what happened in New Guinea when Mead and colleagues engaged in a ritual aimed at overturning all gender and sexual boundaries. In this illuminating and innovative work, Banner has given us the most detailed, balanced, and informative portrait of Mead and Benedict—individually and together—that we have had. From the Hardcover edition..

Blackberry winter; my earlier years, Margaret Mead, 1972, , 305 pages. The autobiography of a pioneer, this is Margaret Mead's story of her life as a woman and as an anthropologist. An enduring cultural icon, she came to represent the new woman

Margaret Mead A Portrait, Edward Rice, 1979, *Biography & Autobiography*, 204 pages. A biography of Margaret Mead as seen through her work..

Ruth Benedict Beyond Relativity, Beyond Pattern, Virginia Heyer Young, 2005, *Social Science*, 379 pages. Benedict's work, in fact, anticipated trends in anthropology in the decades to come by projecting a framework of individuals not only shaped by their culture but also using

Scientists and Storytellers Feminist Anthropologists and the Construction of the American Southwest, Catherine Jane Lavender, 2006, *Social Science*, 248 pages. The work of four early women ethnographers--Elsie Clews Parsons, Ruth Benedict, Gladys Reichard, and Ruth Underhill--and their emphases on women's roles in Southwestern Indian

Patterns of Culture, Ruth Benedict, 1934, *Social Science*, 290 pages. Offers an analysis of three strongly contrasting primitive civilizations, showing how behavior is influenced by custom and tradition..

Margaret Mead A Biography, Mary Bowman-Kruhm, 2003, *Biography & Autobiography*, 160 pages. Describes the life and career the the anthropologist, including her childhood in Pennsylvania, her tutelage under Franz Boas, and her fieldwork in the South Pacific..

The Nation's Crucible The Louisiana Purchase and the Creation of America, Peter J. Kastor, 2004, *History*, 311 pages. Publisher description: In 1803 the United States purchased Louisiana from France. This seemingly simple acquisition brought with it an enormous new territory as well as the

Prostitution, Race, and Politics Policing Venereal Disease in the British Empire, Philippa Levine, 2003, *History*, 480 pages. From the 1850s until the 1880s, British Colonial administrators across the globe established wide-ranging legislation aimed principally at slowing the spread of venereal

American beauty, Lois W. Banner, 1983, *Health & Fitness*, 369 pages. A social history of the American ideal of feminine beauty chronicles changes in taste, fashion, attitudes, morality, style, and

behavior from the eighteenth century to the present.

Ruth Benedict A Humanist in Anthropology, Margaret Mead, 2005, Biography & Autobiography, 180 pages. Few aspects of American military history have been as vigorously debated as Harry Truman's decision to use atomic bombs against Japan. In this carefully crafted volume, Michael

Return from the Natives , Peter Mandler, May 7, 2013, Biography & Autobiography, 384 pages. DIV Celebrated anthropologist Margaret Mead, who studied sex in Samoa and child-rearing in New Guinea in the 1920s and '30s, was determined to show that anthropology could

Scenes from the High Desert Julian Steward's Life and Theory, Virginia Kerns, 2003, Social Science, 414 pages. "Through her exploration of Steward's career and his particular interest in men's labor, Kerns illustrates how Steward's concept of the patrilineal band was central to his

Margaret Mead a voice for the century, Robert Cassidy, 1982, , 176 pages. .

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