



PRODUCER: The Evergreen State College, Women's History Project with funding from:

TIMECODE	VISUALS	AUDIO
00:01:02	Woman rock climbing	Voice Over Woman 1: I started climbing in eighth grade. My mom was my biggest influence on me. She was climbing a lot when we were living in Alaska.
	Interview with young woman in pink shirt	Woman 1: In eighth grade I took the climbing course at the Tacoma Mountaineers.
00:01:16	Woman climbing rock Sign: "Spire Rock"	Voice Over Woman 1: The Tacoma Mountaineers stress safety as the biggest part of their basic climbing course. It's really important that you know all your knots, and you give the climbing signals to the people above who are belaying you, who are, you know, taking you up the mountain. That's the biggest part of the Tacoma Mountaineers is the stress for safety.
00:01:46	Woman climbing back down the rock	Woman 1: I think I'll always be climbing. It's-- I, myself, think it was something bred into me somehow. Maybe I was born to climb. I don't know, but it excites me. It gives me a chance to get out, get on my own. I've climbed MultiTouch Rainier, which is probably the biggest thing I've ever done. And one of the reasons, probably one of the biggest reasons is because that mountain is so beautiful!
00:02:15	Interview with young woman in pink Mount Rainier	Woman 1: Living in Tacoma, I see it every day on a good day, and I remembered driving with my mother along the freeway looking at this mountain, and I would say, "That's-- I want to climb that." It sends out something like a-- I don't know, something that says, "C'mon, visit me." It's a beautiful mountain.
00:02:39	Woman sitting by tent putting on blackface	Voice Over Woman 2: Mount Rainier has attracted generations of climbers. A hundred years ago when it was still called Mount Tacoma, Fay Fuller found inspiration at its summit.
00:02:52	Re-enactment of Fay Fuller	Voice Over



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		Fay Fuller: I drove long cots [ph?] and brads into my shoes, blacked my face with charcoal to modify the sun's glare, donned heavy woolen clothes and goggles, chilled the canteen, strapped two blankets containing provisions under my arm, grasped my Openstock [ph?], and at 4:30 in the morning I was ready to climb!
	Fay Fuller preparing to climb	Fay Fuller: Among us we had cold meat and eggs, sardines, bread and butter, cheese, chocolate and dried fruit. Reverend Smith was the guide, and we were joined by three other men.
00:03:21	Fay Fuller in her office reading the Tacoma Daily Ledger newspaper	Fay Fuller: "And that was the beginning of my first climb to the summit of Mount Tacoma!" I was just rereading the story I wrote about that trip. I'm a reporter here on the Tacoma Ledger. And I'm writing up my firsthand account of our most recent ascent to the summit. Oh, but it does bring back memories of my first climb. Do you know, I was very nearly an outcast around here because of that trip? Yes! I've been seven years living it down! Even my friends were shocked that my mother would let me do such a thing!
00:03:57	Fay reads a letter written by one of her friends A photo of Fay in her climbing suit	Fay Fuller: "A lone woman and four men climbing a mountain! And in that immodest costume! Bloomers, boys' boots, short skirt." <laughs> Well, I didn't consider it immodest. I could hardly climb a mountain in my regular street dress with that long skirt dragging all the way!
00:04:19	Fay continues to recount her story	Fay Fuller: Anyway, it was 1890 that I first reached the summit. Oh, I had tried three years earlier, but I was allowed to go only so far, and then since I was a young lady I was expected to return to camp. It had been a great disappointment to me. Yes, and one that made me resolve that sometime I would go to the top.
00:04:45	Fay still in office telling her story	Fay Fuller: You see, that mountain had become a challenge. Oh, it is- it is so majestic! Well, of course, it had been a god to the natives here! We newcomers of paler skin are great record-keepers, and back in 1890 before I made that first climb, our records show that since Mr. Van Trump and



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		General Stevens had first stood on the summit, 21 men had followed. But no women.
00:05:11	Fay continues	Fay Fuller: Oh, ho, I was determined to stand on the top! And not quietly either! As a newspaper reporter, I covered my own story. Yes, I uh.. wrote it up while I was still in camp.
	<p>Re-enactment back at camp in Fay's voice</p> <p>Fay stirring a fire and reading her account</p> <p>Close-up of Fay's face as she remembers the moment at the top</p>	<p>Voice Over</p> <p>Fay Fuller: "We have seen the summit of the mountain. As I sit here in camp and consider our feat, I'm still moved by the experience. Of course, all want to know what it feels like to stand on the tip-top of "the" mountain. IT was a heavenly moment. Nothing was said. Such sensations can be known to only those who reach the heights. But these emotions were balanced by the bitter cold, so we soon descended to the shelter of the crater, and the relative warmth of an ice cave with its steam jets. There to contemplate the recent dangers of the climb."</p>
00:05:56	Fay still reading, but back in her office	Fay Fuller: "Oh, yes, and when I closed my eyes, what did I see but Gibraltar Cliff! One of the most dangerous and difficult points of the journey." For you see, time was precious. For that part of the climb had to be made before the sun got too warm and loosened the rocks. Now let me see.
00:06:23	Continues to read	Fay Fuller: "We were tied with a rope. Two men ahead of me, and two behind. Suddenly, one man's bundle went whirling through space down the glacier out of sight! Only one wrong step and that would be the end. Already the sun was melting the snow, and the rocks coming down. Mr. Smith being hit twice, but able to keep his footing. But though we thought the danger was over when we reached the top of Gibraltar, the crevices ahead looked broken and numerous.
00:06:48	Fay still reading the account	Fay Fuller: "And piece after piece of snow gave way to Mr. Smith's probing, and crashed down to the bottomless depths. He scrambled over and holding the rope, we followed." Of course, the



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		danger of the climb is intensified by fatigue. Oh, it is a long, long way!
00:07:05	Continues recounting her tale	Fay Fuller: But the great trouble as you climb higher and higher is the thin atmosphere, which makes it so hard to breathe. Anyway, as I rested in that ice cave, where we were forced to spend the night, since we'd reached the summit so late, I could hear avalanches roaring down the mountainside. Oh, and those two blankets seemed little protection for the night.
00:07:32	Fay continuing her story Fay goes back to reading from the Ledger	Fay Fuller: However, despite these discomforts, I didn't really want the night to end! For you see, I knew that the descent the next day would be as full of dangers as was the climb up! But finally, morning came. "When we awoke, our shoes were frozen stiff, and had to be melted in the steam before we could put them on. The wind was blowing so that several times I fell on the ice, and even with woolen mittens, nearly froze the fingers of one hand. The descent had to be made very rapidly to reach Gibraltar at an early hour.
00:08:06	Fay continues reading	Fay Fuller: "And it seemed even more dangerous descending along the cliff, the parties behind loosening rocks which might roll on the others. After Gibraltar, we toiled down the ledges, and reached camp that afternoon!" Oh, we felt marvelous that night! Thrilled by our accomplishment, and full of stories for our friends, who had remained at the camp.
00:08:28	Fay Fuller continues to tell her tale	Fay Fuller: But the next morning told the tale. The guide and myself were pitiable sights! Our lips, noses, and almost all our faces swollen out of proportion. Our eyes sore, wrists peeling. Oh! For several days the pain was intense. But we didn't care. Oh, that whole trip had been worth it from the very beginning! Yes, with the three day horse trip to the camp through beautiful meadows and woods, fording rushing rivers!
00:09:00	Fay continues her story	Fay Fuller: The setting of the camp itself. For look which way you like, your eye rested on a wonderful picture. And the hardships of the climb, which perhaps even intensified the pleasure of the



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		accomplishment. Oh, for whatever reason, I don't think I've ever enjoyed writing up a story more! Well, you can see here that I felt warm towards the whole world!
	Re-enactment of Fay Fuller at the camp on the mountain writing	Voice Over Fay Fuller: "I have accomplished what I've always dreamed of, and feared impossible. And for my experience nothing would be taken. To the four gentlemen who so kindly guided me, I owe the deepest gratitude. It is a trip never to be forgotten, and it has been my happiest experience! I expect to have my example followed by a good many women. What one woman has done, women can do."
00:09:49	Back to Fay in her office	Fay Fuller: And my example has been followed. Yes. Oh, my photo went its way all over the country, and the patent insides of weeklies.
00:10:00	Photos of other women preparing to climb, or at camps on various mountains	Voice Over Fay Fuller: Yes, and that immodest costume now appears a great deal on the mountains of the Northwest. We women have become enthusiastic partners of male climbers and have climbed many peaks. We helped to found and are officers in the Muzama [ph?] Society, which was the organizer of the most recent ascent to the summit. On this trip, 60 people made it to the top, including 12 women! Oh, I'm sure it is just the beginning.
00:10:28		Fay Fuller: All people who live within the sight of these lofty pinnacles should really spend a couple of weeks on their hillsides. Oh, I know that despite dangers and hardships, we shall want to visit the mountain again. Yes, when that fascination for one more day on the summit will return!
00:10:52	More photos of climbers and mountain views	Voice Over Woman 2: Succeeding generations have been fascinated by the grandeur of the mountain, and



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	<p>Joan Fiery climbing the mountain</p>	<p>women, indeed, have followed the early example of climbers like Fay Fuller. Today, women, like Joan Fiery [ph?] find a similar satisfaction from meeting the challenge of the mountain. And a spirit of comradeship prevails as she shares her skills with those who are just learning. Joan Fiery was a member of the 1978 All Woman Annapurna expedition. The first American group to reach the summit of this Himalayan peak.</p>
<p>00:11:21</p>	<p>Joan Fiery climbing the mountain</p>	<p>Woman 2: Her reputation as a serious climber also grows from the number of original climbs she has made in Alaska.</p>
	<p>Joan Fiery interview</p> <p>Lower Third:</p> <p>Joan Fiery Mountain Climber</p>	<p>Joan Fiery: Well, climbing is exciting in itself, but the exploratory climbing, which means doing a new route, or a new peak, a peak that has not been climbed every before by something is to me one of the most exciting things to do, because you don't know whether you're going to get up it. You sometimes-- I have had the good fortune to be in an area that nobody has ever been before. There's not many places left like that, but there are some in Alaska.</p>
<p>00:11:54</p>	<p>Photos of Joan Fiery on a mountain</p>	<p>Voice Over</p> <p>Joan Fiery: And there's just nothing more exciting to feel that no one has been there, no one has climbed that particular peak, no one has done that particular route. And you have to find your own way, and use the judgment that it takes to find your way up that mountain, and you may not get up. Or you may not get up the way that you first try.</p>
<p>00:12:18</p>	<p>More photos of Joan climbing</p> <p>Joan climbing real time</p>	<p>Joan Fiery: A Himalayan peak is sort of the ultimate for many climbers. Those that are interested in climbing mountains, because it's a very involving enterprise. The reason for going with a group of women is because of part of the history of climbing in the United States. This is not quite true in other countries. There have been other countries that have mounted women's expeditions, but this is not true here in</p>



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		the US.
00:12:49	Joan continuing to climb	Joan Fiery: Only in the last few years, in fact, have women even been invited on major expeditions. And I mean, just like the last two years. So we decided we would put together our own trip. I'd like to speak about what climbing means in the terms of personal growth and experience, which is an important part about climbing.
00:13:15	More scenes of Joan climbing	Joan Fiery: And I think those people who seek climbing wish to develop their own self-confidence; and only people that have considerable self-confidence, I believe, can be good climbers. In other words, you have to believe that you can do it. You have developed the skills, you know what equipment you need. You have the strength, you know what your body can do. And you go out on a climb and feel that you are capable of doing that climb.
00:13:53	Joan climbing outcroppings	Joan Fiery: But if you reach a point where it's too difficult, you will also know that, and you will turn around so that you will not hazard yourself or the people that are with you. To go out into the mountains and experience the out-of-doors and nature is the marvelous or rejuvenating experience, and you enjoy doing it with your friends.
	Interview with Joan Fiery	Joan Fiery: Climbing adds a bit of excitement to that, and that if you're in a challenging situation with friends, it really brings you very close together.
00:14:29	Photos of Joan with friends on mountains	Voice Over Joan Fiery: And it's a tremendous experience. A much bigger experience say than going to a movie with a friend. If you go climb a mountain, it becomes very meaningful, and you're both thrown, or several of you are thrown together in a trying situation that could be dangerous.
00:14:46	Closing credits over shots of woman climbing a cliff face	

SHOW: The Co-Respondents: *Spire Rock: Fay Fuller* [First woman to climb Mount Rainier]

Version: Disc 3 Track 4



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