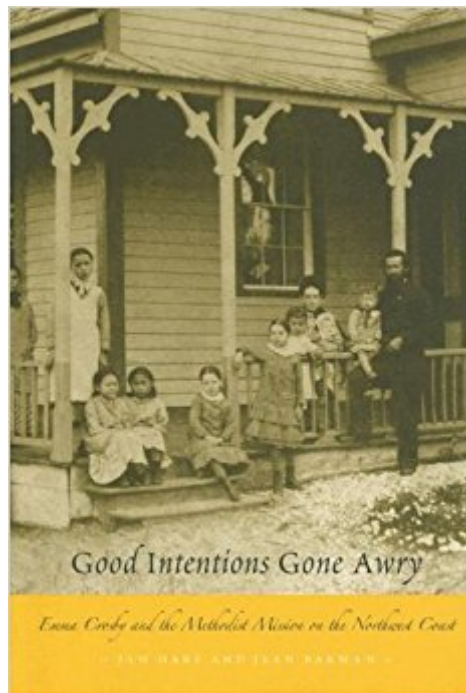


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# Good Intentions Gone Awry: Emma Crosby And The Methodist Mission On The Northwest Coast



## Synopsis

Unlike most missionary scholarship that focuses on male missionaries, *Good Intentions Gone Awry* chronicles the experiences of a missionary wife. It presents the letters of Emma Crosby, wife of the well-known Methodist missionary Thomas Crosby, who came to Fort Simpson, near present-day Prince Rupert, in 1874 to set up a mission among the Tsimshian people. Emma Crosby's letters to family and friends in Ontario shed light on a critical era and bear witness to the contribution of missionary wives. They mirror the hardships and isolation she faced as well as her assumptions about the supremacy of Euro-Canadian society and of Christianity. The authors critically represent Emma's sincere convictions towards mission work and the running of the Crosby Girl's Home (later to become a residential school), while at the same time exposing them as a product of the times in which she lived. They also examine the roles of Native and mixed-race intermediaries who made possible the feats attributed to Thomas Crosby as a heroic missionary persevering on his own against tremendous odds.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*Good Intentions Gone Awry* offers insight into the previously underemphasized role of women in all aspects of missionary life - both as an exploration of the gendered practices within the missionary project that regimented Emma Crosby's life and the results of the imposition of such practices on Aboriginal girls. The authors... offer interpretative tools to make sense of [Emma] within her times without excusing her complacency in the colonialism inherent to Aboriginal missions.

Good Intentions Gone Awry offers insight into the previously underemphasized role of women in all aspects of missionary life – both as an exploration of the gendered practices within the missionary project that regimented Emma Crosby’s life and the results of the imposition of such practices on Aboriginal girls. The authors invite the reader to accept Emma on her own terms, and offer interpretative tools to make sense of her within her times, without excusing her complacency in the colonialism inherent to Aboriginal missions. (Susan Neylan, author of *The Heavens Are Changing: Nineteenth-Century Protestant Missions and Tsimshian Christianity*)

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