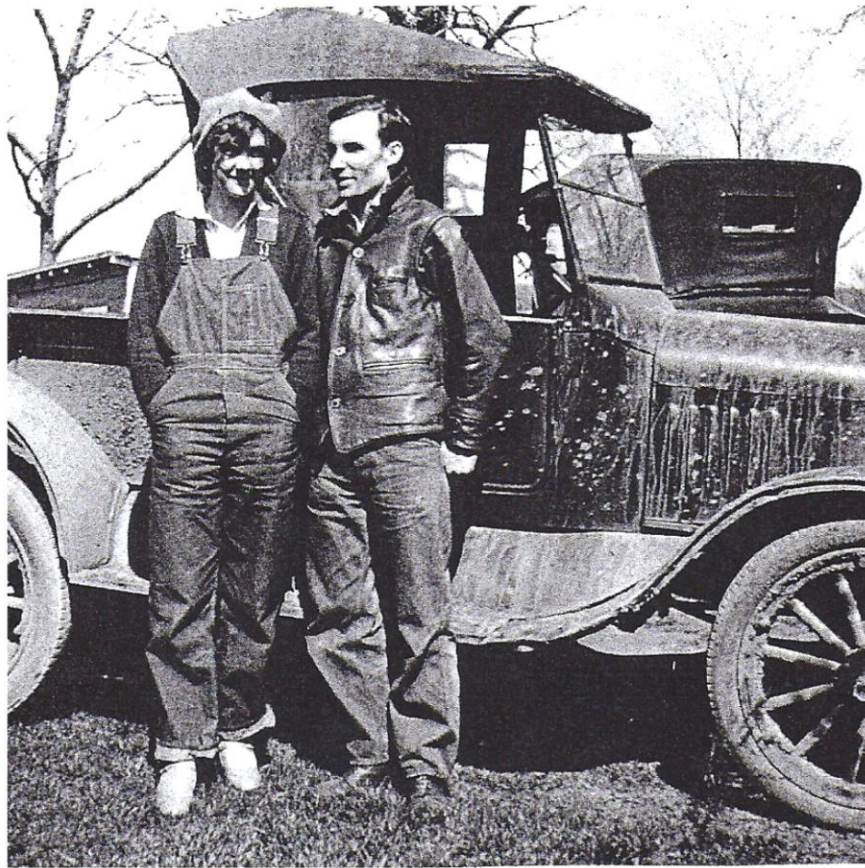


HONEYMOON HITCHHIKERS: ARCHIVAL LETTERS TO CREATIVE NONFICTION

Kate Hauge



MILDRED LA DUE MEAD

La Dues were one of the founding families of Fertile, MN.

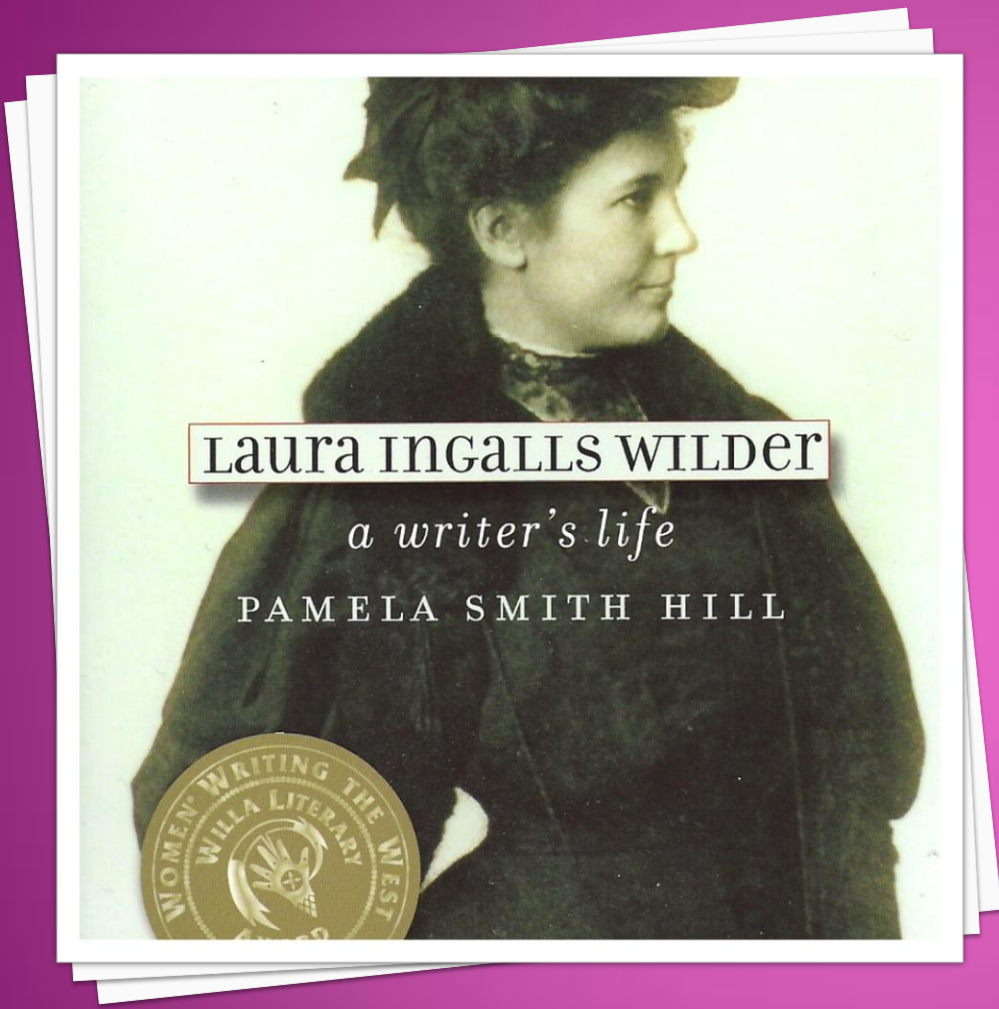
Mildred and Sidney elope and hitchhike to California in 1929.

WHAT IS CREATIVE NONFICTION?

- ◉ “What I did this Summer”
- ◉ Columnists
- ◉ College Application Essays
- ◉ Letters, Journal Entries, Memoirs
- ◉ Personal Essays
- ◉ Travel Essays
- ◉ Or “nearly anything you want it to be”
 - Carol Bly

CONVENTIONS

- ⦿ First Person
- ⦿ Imparts Wisdom
 - Writing as a process to find truth/Truth
- ⦿ Accuracy/Truthfulness



Laura INGALLS WILDER

a writer's life

PAMELA SMITH HILL

LAURA INGALLS WILDER

Creative Nonfiction or not?

PLACE IN ACADEMIA

- ◉ Content vs. Form
- ◉ Composition vs. Creative Writing
- ◉ Lack of Theoretical Guidelines

CREATING A NARRATIVE ARC

- ◉ Mildred and Sidney arrive in Oakland the day the stock market crashed.
- ◉ They find a joint job as caretaker and cook and they nurture dreams of going to college.
- ◉ They are let go from their job and hitchhike heading south.

POINTS OF CONSIDERATION

- ◉ Historical Context
- ◉ True to Mildred's voice
- ◉ Scenes Directly from the Letters
- ◉ But There are Still Gaps

BUT . . .

◉ Unwritten Rule:

- First person narrative therefore firsthand experiences.