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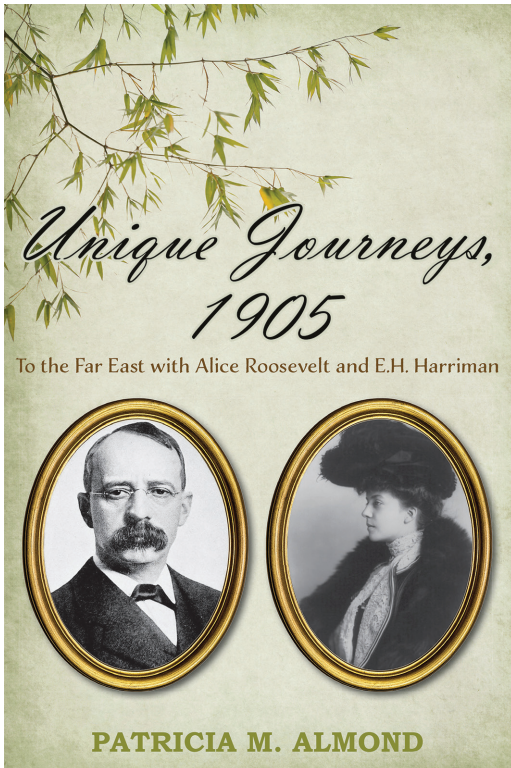
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Unique Journeys, 1905

To the Far East with Alice Roosevelt and E.H. Harriman

Patricia M. Almond



Inspired by the letters and journals of her grandfather, John Calvin McKnight, Almond's *Unique Journeys* explores the adventures of two highly prominent Americans as they traveled to countries throughout East Asia during the end of the Russo-Japanese War and negotiations for the Treaty of Portsmouth.

As part of a congressional mission led by the Secretary of War, William Howard Taft, President Theodore Roosevelt sent his daughter, Alice, in hopes she would serve as a goodwill ambassador during meetings with heads of state in East Asia. Accompanying them was Edward Henry Harriman, who employed McKnight as his personal secretary. The owner of both the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Railroads, as well as a continent-wide network of connecting railroads and a steamship line, Harriman traveled in pursuit of the missing link in his vision for extending the reach of American railroads far beyond the United States.

The travelers were transported by private railway car, steamer, chartered freighter, sailboat, jin rickshaw, horseback, small boat, and the US battleship *Ohio*. They encountered heads of state in Japan, China, and Korea, and cruised to some of the most remote islands in the Philippines.

Through the pages of this riveting narrative, readers will join the profound experiences that made Alice and Edward's journeys truly unique.

About the Author



Pat was born in Brooklyn and married a Virginian, and claimed she was still adjusting to the ways of living in the South. When she was fifty-three, she finally graduated from college, but before that, she had acquired a Coast Guard license to captain boats of fifty tons or less, and with a friend, produced a syndicated newspaper column on flower arranging. She spent ten years as a freelance writer for Richmond and Virginia publications. After retirement to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, she served as a hospice volunteer, working with patients and their families in three counties. She was the mother of three, grandmother of four, and great-grandmother of four. She and her tail-less cat (Bob) lived within sight of the Piankatank River in Virginia's tidewater region.

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