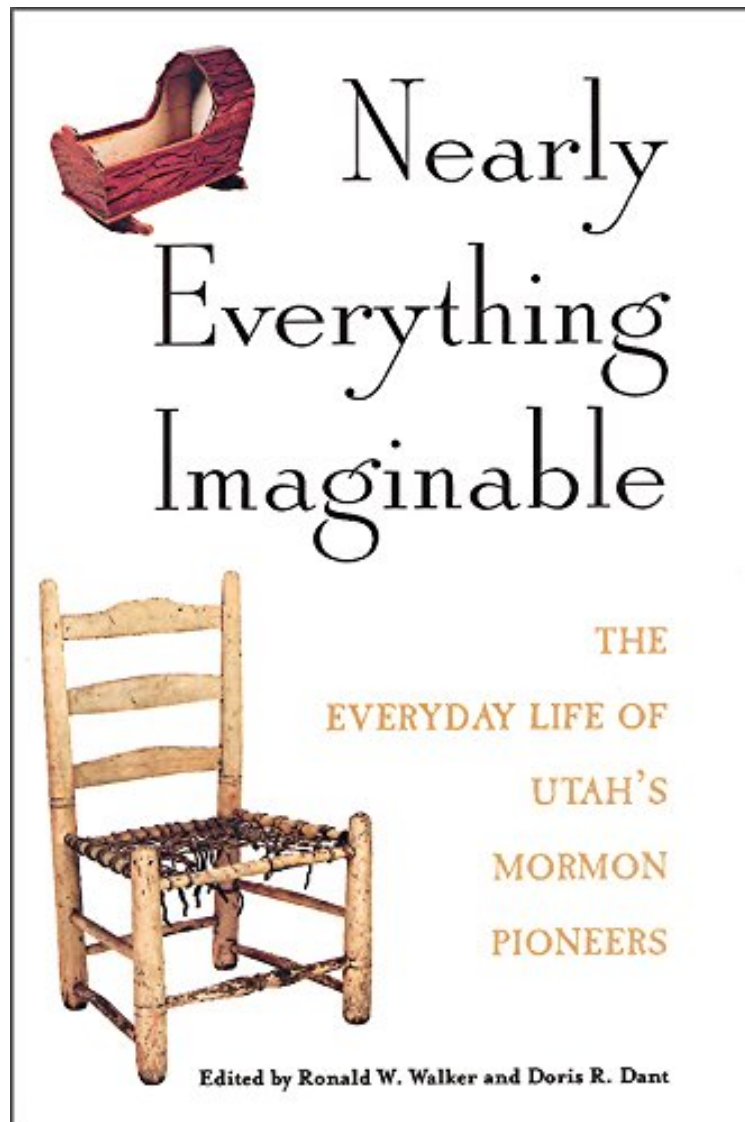


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## Nearly Everything Imaginable

*Ronald W. Walker*

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meet the Mormon legacy. One of the contributing authors, Richard Oman is a curator at the Museum of Church History and Art in Salt Lake City, where I am a docent. His chapter titled "The Homemade Kingdom; Mormom Regional Furniture" revisits very closely the exhibit of the same name installed in the museum a couple of years ago and is thoroughly enjoyable. All of these contributors are accomplished writers in addition to their scholarly pursuits so the book is an enjoyable read. Each chapter is self contained and lends itself to interrupted reading. It has been a useful and valuable addition to my personal library. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Window into Mormon History By A Customer I really enjoyed this book. I gave it five stars because it would be appealing to even the casual reader. Each of it's chapters are written by eminent Mormon (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) scholars. Each chapter was originally a presentation at a symposium given at BYU. Any one interested in the Mormon faith can get an insight into its pioneering history and anyone interested in history can meet the Mormon legacy. It has been a useful and valuable addition to my personal library. One of the contributing authors, Richard Oman is a curator at the Museum of Church History and Art in Salt Lake City, where I am a docent. His chapter titled "The Homemade Kingdom; Mormom Regional Furniture" revisits very closely the exhibit of the same name installed in the museum a couple of years ago and is thoroughly enjoyable. All of these contributors are accomplished writers in addition to their scholarly pursuits so the book is an enjoyable read. Each chapter is self contained and lends itself to interrupted reading.

From living in a dugout called the Castle of Spiders to eating so many weeds their skin took on a green cast to losing four children in just a few weeks to diphtheria, nearly everything imaginable happened to the Mormon settlers of Utah Territory. Here are the details of the lives of the common people—what they ate, wore, lived in, and celebrated, how they worshipped, and why they endured. In *Nearly Everything Imaginable*, you'll find hundreds of vignettes from Utah's early settlers, including: "Old and young would gather for dancing; everybody came early and left about the midnight hour. The bedrooms opening from the hall were generally filled with babies snugly tucked away, while the mothers enjoyed the dance. The huge fireplaces at either end of the hall were piled high with dry cedar fagots, the flames from which leaped and danced up the chimneys. Candles held in place by three nails driven into wooden brackets were ranged high along the walls. Tickets were paid for in any kind of produce that the fiddlers could be induced to accept. Usually a couple of two-bushel sacks could be seen near the door, into which the dancers deposited their contributions."

About the Author Ronald W. Walker is the author of *Wayward Saints: The Godbeites and Brigham Young and Mountain Meadows Massacre: The Andrew Jenson and David H. Morris Collections*. Doris R. Dant is a former executive editor of *BYU Studies*, an academic LDS journal.