Book Review, Sharon Hatfield, *Never Seen the Moon: The Trials of Edith Maxwell*.

**Tracy A. Thomas, 1877**

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Abstract
In Never Seen the Moon, journalist Sharon Hatfield chronicles the story of school teacher Edith Maxwell accused of murdering her coal-miner father in depression-era Appalachia. Detective work brings together the threads of this story to provide a mystery novel using the headlines and trial transcripts from real life. There are surprises to as Hatfield tells the legal tale of the young and vibrant Edith battling journeys through the trials and appeals as two juries of twelve men sentence her to a lifetime in prison. Never Seen the Moon seeks to integrate this account of Edith’s trials into a social commentary on Appalachia, yellow journalism, and women’s rights. Hatfield’s book offers an interesting foray into the newspapers of ye difficult questions of battered women’s self-defense and media invo continue to plague the legal profession today. However, the review disappoints in its claim to analyze the gender issues of this era. The strategic failure to focus her criminal appeals on the jury question what impact a “jury of her peers” might have had for Edith.

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First Page
695

Last Page
696

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