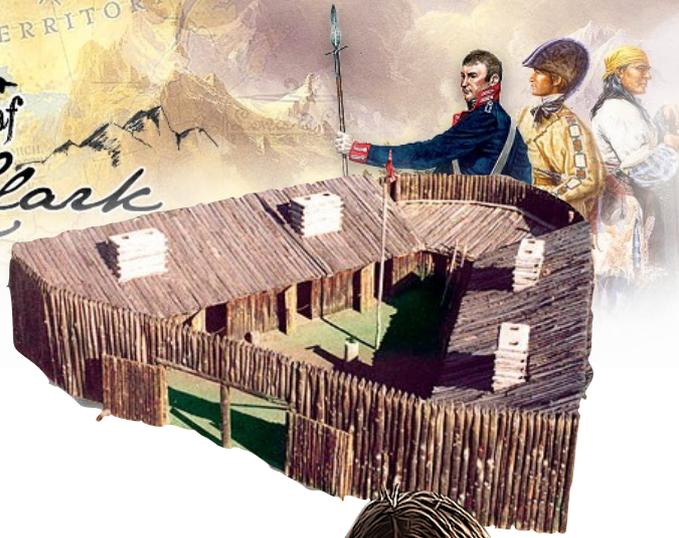




FORT MANDAN



Meet Sacagawea

It is Sunday, 11 November 1804. As the men of the Corps of Discovery work steadily to complete the construction of Fort Mandan before the coming Northern Plains winter — heralded by the cacophony of two flocks of southbound Canada geese — Toussaint Charbonneau and his two wives, both of the Snake (Shoshone) nation, come to call. While Lewis's Newfoundland dog, Seaman, looks on, Charbonneau presents "4 buffalo Robes" as gifts, according to Sergeant Ordway's journal for the day.

This most likely was Lewis and Clark's first encounter with the woman who was to play a significant role in the success of the Expedition, not as a guide, as the old legend has it, but as an interpreter — with Charbonneau's help — between the captains and her people.

Her name is Sacagawea, a teenage girl about 17 years of age who was captured by Hidatsa warriors at the Three Forks of the Missouri when she was about 12, and raised through puberty in Metaharta, a Hidatsa village at the mouth of the Knife River.

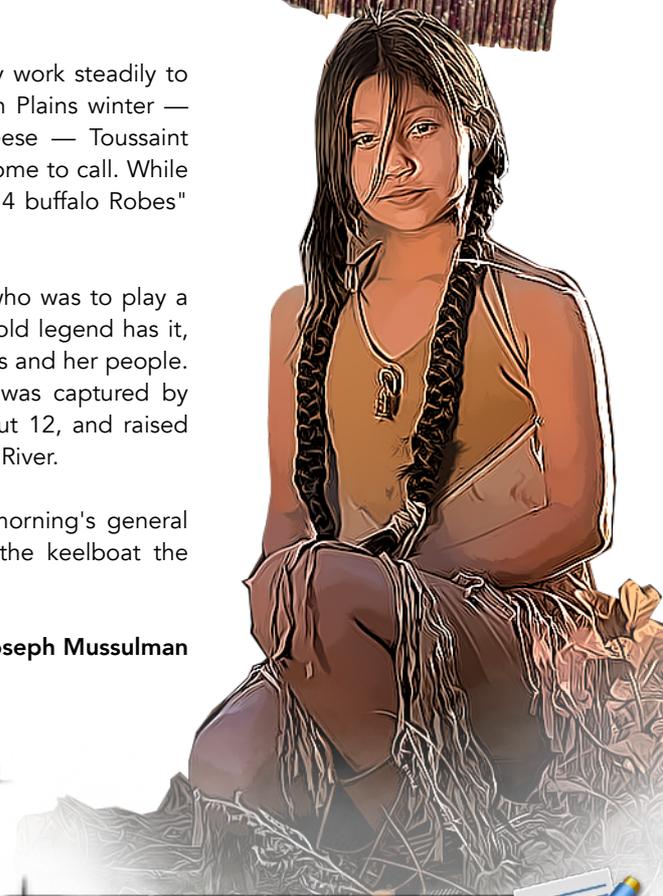
In the cage at Lewis's right a magpie adds its raucous voice to the morning's general clatter and chatter. Lewis will ship it back to President Jefferson on the keelboat the following spring.

Joseph Mussulman

A young mother

About five O'clock this evening one of the wives of Charbonneau was delivered of a fine boy. it is worthy of remark that this was the first child which this woman had borne, and as is common in such cases her labour was tedious and the pain violent; Mr. Jessome informed me that he had frequently administered a small portion of the rattle of the rattle-snake, which he assured me had never failed to produce the desired effect, that of hastening the birth of the child; having the rattle of a snake by me I gave it to him and he administered two rings of it to the woman broken in small pieces with the fingers and added to a small quantity of water. Whether this medicine was truly the cause or not I shall not undertake to determine, but I was informed that she had not taken it more than ten minutes before she brought forth perhaps this remedy may be worthy of future experiments, but I must confess that I want faith as to it's efficacy.

February 11, 1805
M. Lewis



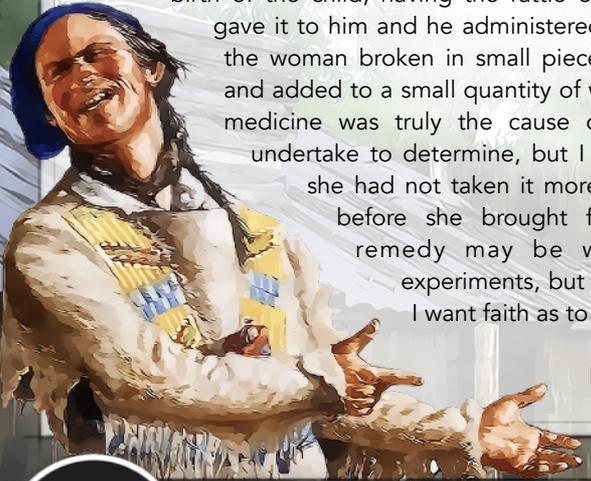
FORT MANDAN

Meet Sacagawea

1. Who did Lewis and Clark meet during their stay at the Mandan's?
2. Explain Sacagawea's story.
3. What did Lewis do to keep Jefferson informed about their journey?

A young mother

4. What happened to Sacagawea on February 11th 1805?
5. Did it go well? Explain.
6. Finally, who came to help?



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