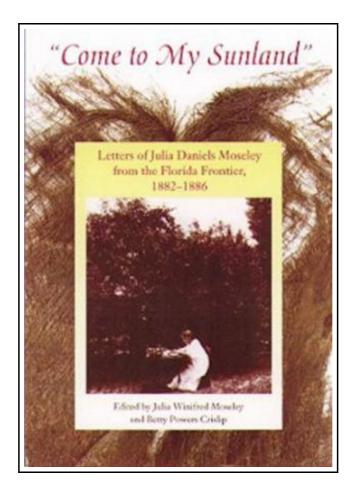
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(Kristy Hermann)

COME TO MY SUNLAND: LETTERS OF JULIA DANIELS MOSELEY FROM THE FLORIDA FRONTIER, 1882-1886 (FLORIDA HISTORY AND CULTURE)



University Press of Florida, 1998. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: Like so many Midwesterners since, Julia Daniels & Charles Scott Moseley moved to Florida in the 1880s seeking a warmer climate. This collection of Julia's letters - mainly to her husband, who made frequent business trips north, & to her close friend Eliza Slade - reveals the struggle of a cultured, urban woman adjusting to the hardship & isolation of life in pioneer Florida. And then coming to love it. Tramping through the unsullied land surrounding the Limona community near Tampa, where they settled, she glorified in her "neglected corner in the Garden of Eden," where she "could look up fifty feet & see air plants growing on the branches of great oaks & hundreds of ferns nodding in the sunlight & gray moss moving through the trees like mist." "Think of me gazing up among crane's nests with redbirds in my own oaks," she wrote. "Even in the nighttime, a mocking bird often sings to me of all the beautiful things I love." Julia (herself a published writer) selected these unedited letters & copied them for her family into a thick leather book. Like characters in a novel, the friends & relatives she describes crackle with personality: a flamboyant Russian proclaims his version of communism, a New England spinster counters with Utopian visions, & a university professor retreats from the ivory tower to agricultural experimentation. Readers observe Julia's flair for making daily life cheerful & they meet the couple's two adored sons & Scott's children by an earlier marriage, as well as Cracker settlers, cattle runners, & assorted seekers of health or wealth.

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