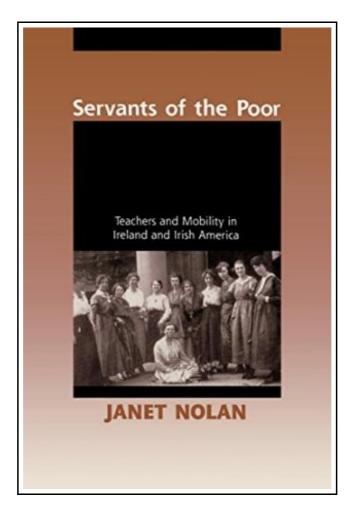
Servants of the Poor: Teachers and Mobility in Ireland and Irish America



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Reviews

This publication is fantastic. We have read through and i am certain that i will planning to read yet again yet again down the road. You wont feel monotony at at any time of your respective time (that's what catalogs are for concerning when you request me).

(Alec Langosh)

SERVANTS OF THE POOR: TEACHERS AND MOBILITY IN IRELAND AND IRISH AMERICA



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University of Notre Dame Press, United States, 2004. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In the late nineteenth century, an era in which social mobility was measured almost exclusively by the success of men, Irish-American women were leading their ethnic group into the lower-middle-class occupations of civil service, teaching, and health care. Unlike their immigrant mothers who became servants of the rich, Irish-American daughters became servants of the poor by teaching in public school classrooms. The remarkable success of Irish-American women was tied to their educational achievements. Unlike many of their contemporaries, the daughters of Irish America attended four-year academic programs in high schools, followed by two to three years of normal school training. By the first decade of the twentieth century, Irish-American women were the largest single ethnic group among public elementary school teachers in cities such as Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco. Janet Nolan argues that the roots of this female-driven mobility can be traced to immigrant women s education in Ireland. Armed with the literacy and numeracy learned in Irish schools, Irish immigrant women in America sent their daughters, more than their sons, to school in preparation for professional careers. As a result, Nolan contends, Irish-American women entered white-collar work at least a generation before their brothers. Servants of the Poor is a pioneering work which looks at the teaching profession at the turn of the century from the perspective of the women who taught in Irish and American classrooms. Drawing on previously unpublished archival and manuscript sources, including memoirs and letters, Servants of the Poor will be of considerable value to those interested in Irish, Irish-American, educational, and women s history.

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