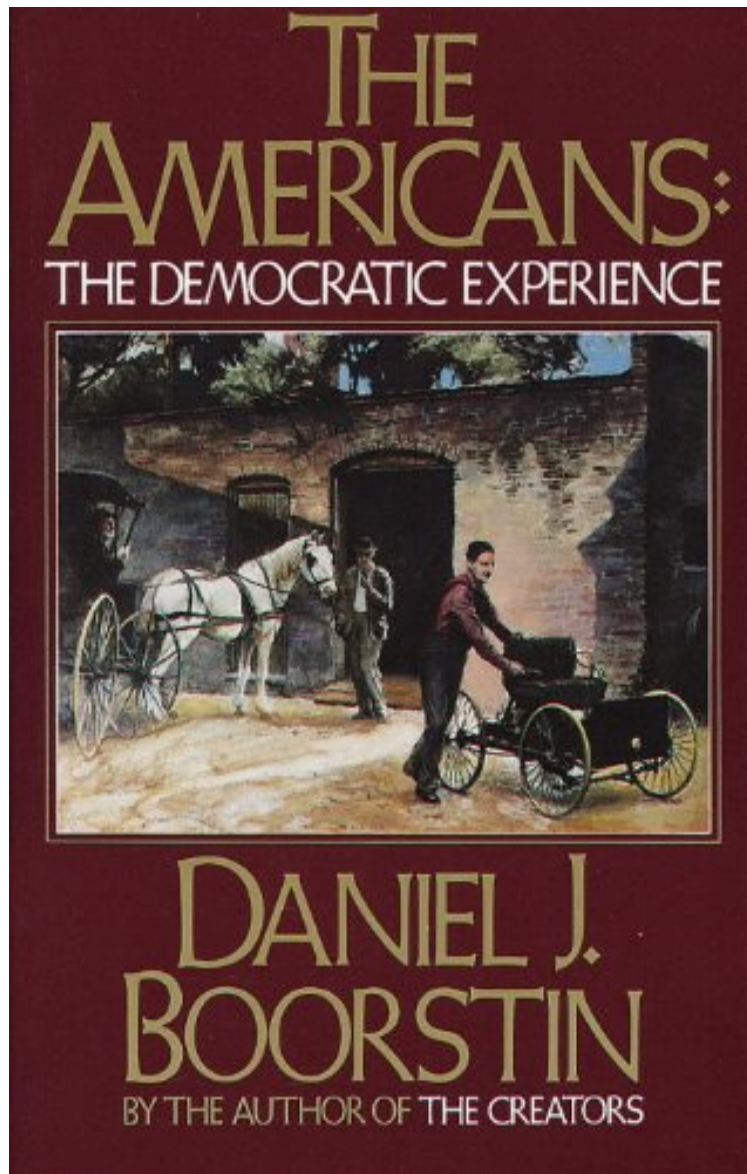


(Ebook free) The Americans: The Democratic Experience

The Americans: The Democratic Experience

Von Daniel J. Boorstin

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Von Daniel J. Boorstin : The Americans: The Democratic Experience before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Americans: The Democratic Experience:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interesting things you probably just took for grantedVon Ein KundeAside from the fact that Daniel Boorstin writes with real grace, which makes this final volume in his trilogy about American life a pleasure to read, it is filled with a

consideration of subjects that you most likely never thought about as being part of "American history"--at least as it's taught in school--yet these are the events and the people who made the world we actually LIVE in: the businessmen and idea people who created the mail-order catalogue, the department store, the oil industry, and even the divorce industry, which played a surprising commercial role in the American west. Boorstin tells about people whose names have become household words (like Sears Roebuck, or Dunn Bradstreet) and how their ideas helped build the country and the life we know today; he tells about the cattle drives and the range wars; about inventions, and business, and how the democratization of shopping in the big department stores was a quintessentially American development. Every chapter has its fascination for the reader--at least for THIS reader. Ideas or practices that I simply accepted as "the way things are" prove often to be unique American inventions, and knowing this helps us know more about who we are, and why we are seen as different from the rest of the world (even as they start to copy us in so many ways).

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Mostly fascinating
Von Ein Kunde
This is mostly a collection of mini-histories of the various American businesses and inventions that arose after the Civil War, which are often hugely fascinating on a purely factual level. Boorstin's big argument is that American life became more and more unmoored to local places and common bodies of knowledge, resulting in a disorienting and dispiriting world of mass marketing and suburbs, with gadgets that worked in ways no one can understand. There is a right-wing drift to his ideas, but the sureness of his opinions is nice to hear even if you don't agree.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A benchmark in macro history texts.
Von Ein Kunde
The author takes the reader to the heart of history; the people. He finds the people who may be obscure but their role in the story he tells serve to make us realize their really is an American spirit. Kudos to Boorstin and the people he portrays

Kurzbeschreibung
Winner of the Pulitzer Prize. A study of the last 100 years of American history.
From the Trade Paperback edition.
de
Daniel J. Boorstin describes a post-Civil War America united not by ideological conviction or religious faith but by common participation in ordinary living: "A new civilization found new ways of holding men together--less and less by creed or belief, by tradition or by place, more and more by common effort and common experience, by the apparatus of daily life, by their ways of thinking about themselves." This is not a familiar litany of names, dates, and places, but an anecdotal account that rises far above impressionism and paints a compelling portrait of the United States as it climbed to new heights. Sheer reading pleasure for lovers of history, this fittingly ambitious conclusion to the Americans trilogy won the Pulitzer Prize when it was first published in 1973. --John J. Miller

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