

# **a peoples history**

## **A People's History: An In-Depth Examination of Howard Zinn's Masterpiece**

**Author:** Howard Zinn (1922-2010) was a renowned American historian, playwright, and activist. His expertise lay in combining rigorous historical research with a passionate commitment to social justice. This perspective informed his seminal work, *A People's History of the United States*, fundamentally changing how many approached the study of American history. Zinn's background as a veteran of World War II and his long involvement in the civil rights movement profoundly shaped his approach, prioritizing the experiences of marginalized groups often overlooked in traditional historical narratives.

**Publisher:** HarperCollins Publishers, a major international publishing house, has a long and established history of publishing both academic and popular history books. Their credibility in the field is undeniable, lending significant weight to the publication and continued influence of *A People's History*. Their commitment to diverse voices and perspectives aligns with the core ethos of Zinn's work.

**Editor:** While *A People's History* doesn't have a single credited editor in the traditional sense, its impact has been shaped by the editorial choices of multiple publishers and reviewers over the decades. The lasting influence of the book suggests a consistent editorial support for its unique perspective, even amid critical discourse. The book's enduring popularity speaks to the effective editing and dissemination which facilitated its wide readership.

## **A People's History: Challenging the Dominant Narrative**

Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* is not merely a history book; it is a powerful intervention in the ongoing conversation about how we understand the past. It boldly challenges the traditional, often celebratory, narratives that dominate mainstream American history textbooks. Instead, *A People's History* prioritizes the voices and experiences of those historically marginalized—Native Americans, enslaved Africans, women, workers, and other oppressed groups. The book argues that a complete understanding of American history requires centering the perspectives of those who have been actively excluded from power structures.

## **The Methodology of A People's History**

Zinn's methodology is deliberate and purposeful. He doesn't shy away from presenting uncomfortable truths, highlighting the brutality and exploitation inherent in the construction of the American nation. He meticulously draws upon primary source materials – letters, diaries, speeches, and court records – to reconstruct the experiences of everyday people, allowing their stories to challenge the grand narratives of national progress. This bottom-up approach stands in stark contrast to top-down historical accounts that focus predominantly on presidents, politicians, and military leaders.

# Key Themes in A People's History

Several recurring themes shape A People's History:

**Resistance to Oppression:** The book emphasizes the constant struggle against injustice, highlighting numerous instances of rebellion, resistance, and protest throughout American history. From Native American resistance to colonization to the labor movements of the 19th and 20th centuries, Zinn portrays the continuous fight for equality and freedom as a defining characteristic of the American experience. This focus on resistance is crucial to understanding a people's history as a continuous struggle for justice.

**The Cost of Empire:** Zinn meticulously documents the expansionist policies of the United States, exposing the violence and exploitation inflicted upon Native Americans, Mexicans, and other conquered peoples. He argues that the wealth and power of the United States were built, in part, on the systematic dispossession and oppression of these groups. This critical examination of empire is a cornerstone of a people's history.

**Class Conflict:** The book underscores the ongoing struggle between the wealthy elite and the working class, illustrating how economic inequality has shaped American society. Zinn analyzes the historical patterns of exploitation and resistance, emphasizing the role of labor movements in fighting for better working conditions and social justice. This examination of class conflict is central to understanding a people's history and its ongoing relevance.

**The Importance of Dissent:** Zinn celebrates the role of dissenters and activists throughout American history, highlighting the individuals and groups who challenged the status quo and fought for a more just society. He argues that dissent is essential for social progress and that a vibrant democracy requires the continuous questioning of power. This celebration of dissent is fundamental to a people's history and its enduring message.

## Data and Research Findings Supporting Zinn's Claims

While A People's History is not a purely quantitative work, Zinn substantiates his claims with extensive citations from primary and secondary sources. His focus on primary sources, such as personal accounts from marginalized groups, gives voice to those often silenced in conventional historical narratives. His meticulous research supports his central argument that a balanced understanding of American history requires a comprehensive look at the experiences of all its people, not just the powerful elite. Numerous academic works have since built upon and expanded the research Zinn presented, validating many of his claims and further illuminating the historical injustices he detailed. For example, the ongoing research on the impact of colonialism on Native American populations directly corroborates aspects of Zinn's narrative.

## Summary of Major Points and Conclusions

A People's History concludes that the dominant narrative of American history often obscures the realities of oppression, exploitation, and resistance. It argues that a complete understanding of the past requires centering the voices and experiences of those historically marginalized. The book offers a powerful counter-narrative, emphasizing the ongoing struggle for social justice and challenging readers to engage critically with the complexities of American history. It ultimately

urges readers to actively participate in shaping a more just and equitable future. The enduring popularity of *A People's History* demonstrates its ongoing power to challenge conventional understandings and inspire critical reflection.

## Conclusion

*A People's History of the United States* remains a landmark work, profoundly shaping how many approach the study of American history. Zinn's powerful and accessible prose, combined with his meticulous research and unwavering commitment to social justice, has made the book a cornerstone of critical historical scholarship and a vital resource for anyone seeking a more complete and nuanced understanding of the American past. It's a testament to the importance of centering marginalized voices in historical narratives and a call to action for a more just and equitable future.

## FAQs

1. Is *A People's History* biased? Yes, it is consciously biased towards the experiences of marginalized groups. However, this bias is a deliberate methodological choice designed to counter the biases present in traditional historical narratives that often privilege the perspectives of the powerful.
1. Is *A People's History* academically rigorous? Yes, despite its accessibility, the book is grounded in extensive research and utilizes primary source material to support its claims. While it's not a purely academic treatise, its research is nonetheless robust.
1. What are the main criticisms of *A People's History*? Critics argue that Zinn overemphasizes conflict and underplays instances of progress and consensus. Others criticize the book for its selective use of evidence and its sometimes polemical tone.
1. How has *A People's History* influenced historical scholarship? The book has spurred increased attention to marginalized voices and perspectives in historical research and contributed to a more inclusive understanding of the American past.
1. Who is the intended audience for *A People's History*? The book is accessible to a wide audience, including students, general readers, and anyone interested in a critical examination of American history.

1. Why is A People's History still relevant today? The themes of inequality, oppression, and resistance remain highly relevant, making the book's message even more pertinent in the contemporary context of ongoing struggles for social justice.
1. What are some alternative perspectives on American history? Many historians offer alternative perspectives that complement or contrast with Zinn's approach, offering diverse interpretations of historical events and experiences.
1. How can I engage with A People's History critically? Read the book with a critical eye, comparing its claims with other historical accounts and considering multiple perspectives on the events described.
1. Where can I find additional resources to learn more about A People's History and related topics? Consult academic journals, university libraries, and reputable online resources for further research on American history and the themes explored in Zinn's work.

## Related Articles

1. "The Limits of A People's History": This article examines the criticisms leveled against Zinn's work, analyzing its strengths and weaknesses in relation to contemporary historical scholarship.
1. "Native American Resistance in the 19th Century": Focuses on specific examples of Native American resistance to expansion and explores the historical context of these conflicts.
1. "The Labor Movement and the Struggle for Workers' Rights": Examines the historical development of the American labor movement, analyzing its successes and challenges.
1. "The Civil Rights Movement: A People's History": Offers a detailed account of the Civil Rights movement from the perspective of activists and participants.

1. "The Impact of Colonialism on Indigenous Populations": This article examines the lasting effects of colonization on indigenous communities in the Americas, both culturally and economically.
1. "The History of Slavery in the United States": A comprehensive examination of the history of slavery in the US, examining its economic, social, and political implications.
1. "Women's Suffrage: A Century of Struggle": Focuses specifically on the fight for women's right to vote in the US and the challenges women faced.
1. "The Vietnam War: A People's History": A perspective on the Vietnam War from the viewpoint of those directly affected by the conflict, both in the US and Vietnam.
1. "The Rise of the American Empire": This piece explores the expansionist policies of the US and their impact on both domestic and international relations.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of the United States* Howard Zinn, 2003-02-04 Since its original landmark publication in 1980, *A People's History of the United States* has been chronicling American history from the bottom up, throwing out the official version of history taught in schools -- with its emphasis on great men in high places -- to focus on the street, the home, and the workplace. Known for its lively, clear prose as well as its scholarly research, *A People's History* is the only volume to tell America's story from the point of view of -- and in the words of -- America's women, factory workers, African-Americans, Native Americans, the working poor, and immigrant laborers. As historian Howard Zinn shows, many of our country's greatest battles -- the fights for a fair wage, an eight-hour workday, child-labor laws, health and safety standards, universal suffrage, women's rights, racial equality -- were carried out at the grassroots level, against bloody resistance. Covering Christopher Columbus's arrival through President Clinton's first term, *A People's History of the United States*, which was nominated for the American Book Award in 1981, features insightful analysis of the most important events in our history. Revised, updated, and featuring a new afterword by the author, this special twentieth anniversary edition continues Zinn's important contribution to a complete and balanced understanding of American history.

**a peoples history:** *Voices of a People's History of the United States* Howard Zinn, Anthony Arnove, 2011-01-04 Here in their own words are Frederick Douglass, George Jackson, Chief Joseph, Martin Luther King Jr., Plough Jogger, Sacco and Vanzetti, Patti Smith, Bruce Springsteen, Mark Twain, and Malcolm X, to name just a few of the hundreds of voices that appear in *Voices of a*

People's History of the United States, edited by Howard Zinn and Anthony Arnove. Paralleling the twenty-four chapters of Zinn's *A People's History of the United States*, *Voices of a People's History* is the long-awaited companion volume to the national bestseller. For *Voices*, Zinn and Arnove have selected testimonies to living history—speeches, letters, poems, songs—left by the people who make history happen but who usually are left out of history books—women, workers, nonwhites. Zinn has written short introductions to the texts, which range in length from letters or poems of less than a page to entire speeches and essays that run several pages. *Voices of a People's History* is a symphony of our nation's original voices, rich in ideas and actions, the embodiment of the power of civil disobedience and dissent wherein lies our nation's true spirit of defiance and resilience.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of American Empire* Howard Zinn, Mike Konopacki, Paul Buhle, 2008-04 Adapted from the critically acclaimed chronicle of U.S. history, a study of American expansionism around the world is told from a grassroots perspective and provides an analysis of important events from Wounded Knee to Iraq.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History for the Classroom* Bill Bigelow, Howard Zinn, 2008 Presents a collection of lessons and activities for teaching American history for students in middle school and high school.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of the Civil War* David Williams, 2011-05-10 "Does for the Civil War period what Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* did for the study of American history in general." —Library Journal Historian David Williams has written the first account of the American Civil War as viewed through the eyes of ordinary people—foot soldiers, slaves, women, prisoners of war, draft resisters, Native Americans, and others. Richly illustrated with little-known anecdotes and firsthand testimony, this path-breaking narrative moves beyond presidents and generals to tell a new and powerful story about America's most destructive conflict. *A People's History of the Civil War* is a "readable social history" that "sheds fascinating light" on this crucial period. In so doing, it recovers the long-overlooked perspectives and forgotten voices of one of the defining chapters of American history (Publishers Weekly). "Meticulously researched and persuasively argued." —The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**a peoples history:** *Voices of A People's History of the United States* Howard Zinn, Anthony Arnove, 2009 This updated companion to Howard Zinn's classic *A People's History of the United States* (Harper Perennial, 2005) brings together the powerful words and actions of women and men of all races and creeds who, though mostly powerless themselves, have made change in America across the centuries. The original source book for Matt Damon's 'The People Speak' series on The History Channel, this classic work from Zinn is a major new release.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of Poverty in America* Stephen Pimpare, 2011-06-07 In *A People's History of Poverty in America*, political scientist Stephen Pimpare brings the human lives and real-life stories of those who struggle with poverty in America to the foreground, vividly describing life as poor and welfare-reliant Americans experience it, from the big city to the rural countryside. Prodigious research, *A People's History of Poverty in America* unearths rich, poignant, and often surprising testimonies—both heart-wrenching and humorous—that range from the early days of the United States to the present day. Pimpare shows us how the poor have found food, secured shelter, and created community, and, most important, he illuminates their battles for dignity and respect in the face of the judgment, control, and disdain that are all too often the price they must pay for charity and government aid. In telling these hidden stories, Pimpare argues eloquently for a fundamental rethinking of poverty, one that includes both a more nuanced understanding of the history of the American welfare state, and a meaningful—and truly accurate—new definition of the poverty line. Hailed by Kirkus Reviews as an "illuminating history of America's poor" and a "useful counter against those who blame the poor for their bad luck," *A People's History of Poverty in America* reminds us that poverty is not in itself a moral failure, but our failure to understand it may well be.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of the World* Chris Harman, 2017-05-02 Building on *A People's History of the United States*, this radical world history captures the broad sweep of human

history from the perspective of struggling classes. An "indispensable volume" on class and capitalism throughout the ages—for readers reckoning with the history they were taught and history as it truly was (Howard Zinn) From the earliest human societies to the Holy Roman Empire, from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment, from the Industrial Revolution to the end of the twentieth century, Chris Harman provides a brilliant and comprehensive history of the human race. Eschewing the standard accounts of "Great Men," of dates and kings, Harman offers a groundbreaking counter-history, a breathtaking sweep across the centuries in the tradition of "history from below." In a fiery narrative, he shows how ordinary men and women were involved in creating and changing society and how conflict between classes was often at the core of these developments. While many scholars see the victory of capitalism as now safely secured, Harman explains the rise and fall of societies and civilizations throughout the ages and demonstrates that history moves ever onward in every age. A vital corrective to traditional history, *A People's History of the World* is essential reading for anyone interested in how society has changed and developed and the possibilities for further radical progress.

**a peoples history: An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States (10th Anniversary Edition)** Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, 2023-10-03 New York Times Bestseller Now part of the HBO docuseries *Exterminate All the Brutes*, written and directed by Raoul Peck Recipient of the American Book Award The first history of the United States told from the perspective of indigenous peoples Today in the United States, there are more than five hundred federally recognized Indigenous nations comprising nearly three million people, descendants of the fifteen million Native people who once inhabited this land. The centuries-long genocidal program of the US settler-colonial regimen has largely been omitted from history. Now, for the first time, acclaimed historian and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz offers a history of the United States told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples and reveals how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the US empire. With growing support for movements such as the campaign to abolish Columbus Day and replace it with Indigenous Peoples' Day and the Dakota Access Pipeline protest led by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* is an essential resource providing historical threads that are crucial for understanding the present. In *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, Dunbar-Ortiz adroitly challenges the founding myth of the United States and shows how policy against the Indigenous peoples was colonialist and designed to seize the territories of the original inhabitants, displacing or eliminating them. And as Dunbar-Ortiz reveals, this policy was praised in popular culture, through writers like James Fenimore Cooper and Walt Whitman, and in the highest offices of government and the military. Shockingly, as the genocidal policy reached its zenith under President Andrew Jackson, its ruthlessness was best articulated by US Army general Thomas S. Jesup, who, in 1836, wrote of the Seminoles: "The country can be rid of them only by exterminating them." Spanning more than four hundred years, this classic bottom-up peoples' history radically reframes US history and explodes the silences that have haunted our national narrative. *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* is a 2015 PEN Oakland-Josephine Miles Award for Excellence in Literature.

**a peoples history: A People's History of the United States** Howard Zinn, 1999-12-01 Presents the history of the United States from the point of view of those who were exploited in the name of American progress

**a peoples history: *What's My Name, Fool?*** Dave Zirin, 2011-02 In *Whats My Name, Fool?* sports writer Dave Zirin shows how sports express the worst - and at times the most creative, exciting, and political - features of our society. Zirins sharp and insightful commentary on the personalities, politics, and history of American sports is unlike any sports writing being done today. Zirin explores how NBA brawls highlight tensions beyond the arena, how the bold stances taken by sports unions can chart a path for the entire labor movement, and the unexplored political stirrings of a new generation of athletes who are no longer content to just "play one game at a time." *Whats My Name, Fool?* draws on original interviews with former heavyweight champ George Foreman, Olympic athlete John Carlos, NBA player and anti-death penalty activist Etan Thomas, antiwar

womens college hoopster Toni Smith, Olympic Project for Human Rights leader Lee Evans and many others. It also unearths a history of athletes ranging from Jackie Robinson to Muhammad Ali to Billie Jean King, who charted a new course through their athletic ability and their outspoken views.

**a peoples history: A People's History of the Supreme Court** Peter Irons, 2006-07-25 A comprehensive history of the people and cases that have changed history, this is the definitive account of the nation's highest court featuring a forward by Howard Zinn Recent changes in the Supreme Court have placed the venerable institution at the forefront of current affairs, making this comprehensive and engaging work as timely as ever. In the tradition of Howard Zinn's classic *A People's History of the United States*, Peter Irons chronicles the decisions that have influenced virtually every aspect of our society, from the debates over judicial power to controversial rulings in the past regarding slavery, racial segregation, and abortion, as well as more current cases about school prayer, the Bush/Gore election results, and enemy combatants. To understand key issues facing the supreme court and the current battle for the court's ideological makeup, there is no better guide than Peter Irons. This revised and updated edition includes a foreword by Howard Zinn. A sophisticated narrative history of the Supreme Court . . . [Irons] breathes abundant life into old documents and reminds readers that today's fiercest arguments about rights are the continuation of the endless American conversation. -Publisher's Weekly (starred review)

**a peoples history: A People's History of England** Arthur Leslie Morton, 2014

**a peoples history: A People's History of the United States** Howard Zinn, 2012-11 The Abridged Teaching Edition of *A People's History of the United States* has made Howard Zinn's original text available specifically for classroom use. With exercises and teaching materials to accompany each chapter, this edition spans American Beginnings, Reconstruction, the Civil War and through to the present, with new chapters on the Clinton Presidency, the 2000 elections, and the War on Terrorism.

**a peoples history: Celebrate People's History!** Josh MacPhee, 2010-11-09 The best way to learn history is to visualize it! Since 1998, Josh MacPhee has commissioned and produced over one hundred posters by over eighty artists that pay tribute to revolution, racial justice, women's rights, queer liberation, labor struggles, and creative activism and organizing. *Celebrate People's History!* presents these essential moments—acts of resistance and great events in an often hidden history of human and civil rights struggles—as a visual tour through decades and across continents, from the perspective of some of the most interesting and socially engaged artists working today. *Celebrate People's History* includes artwork by Cristy Road, Swoon, Nicole Schulman, Christopher Cardinale, Sabrina Jones, Eric Drooker, Klutch, Carrie Moyer, Laura Whitehorn, Dan Berger, Ricardo Levins Morales, Chris Stain, and more.

**a peoples history: A People's History of Detroit** Mark Jay, Philip Conklin, 2020-04-17 Recent bouts of gentrification and investment in Detroit have led some to call it the greatest turnaround story in American history. Meanwhile, activists point to the city's cuts to public services, water shutoffs, mass foreclosures, and violent police raids. In *A People's History of Detroit*, Mark Jay and Philip Conklin use a class framework to tell a sweeping story of Detroit from 1913 to the present, embedding Motown's history in a global economic context. Attending to the struggle between corporate elites and radical working-class organizations, Jay and Conklin outline the complex sociopolitical dynamics underlying major events in Detroit's past, from the rise of Fordism and the formation of labor unions, to deindustrialization and the city's recent bankruptcy. They demonstrate that Detroit's history is not a tale of two cities—one of wealth and development and another racked by poverty and racial violence; rather it is the story of a single Detroit that operates according to capitalism's mandates.

**a peoples history: Truth Has a Power of Its Own** Howard Zinn, 2019-09-03 American history told from the bottom up by Howard Zinn himself—and the perfect all-ages introduction to his eye-opening viewpoint, published on Zinn's hundredth birthday *Truth Has a Power of Its Own* is an engrossing collection of conversations with the late Howard Zinn and “an eloquently hopeful introduction for those who haven't yet encountered Zinn's work” (Booklist). Here is an unvarnished,

yet ultimately optimistic, tour of American history—told by someone who was often an active participant in it. Viewed through the lens of Zinn’s own life as a soldier, historian, and activist and using his paradigm-shifting *A People’s History of the United States* as a point of departure, these conversations explore the American Revolution, the Civil War, the labor battles of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, U.S. imperialism from the Indian Wars to the War on Terrorism, World Wars I and II, the Cold War, and the fight for equality and immigrant rights—all from an unapologetically radical standpoint. Longtime admirers and a new generation of readers alike will be fascinated to learn about Zinn’s thought processes, rationale, motivations, and approach to his now-iconic historical work. Zinn’s humane (and often humorous) voice—along with his keen moral vision—shine through every one of these lively and thought-provoking conversations. Battles over the telling of our history still rage across the country, and there’s no better person to tell it than Howard Zinn.

**a peoples history: *A Young People's History of the United States*** Howard Zinn, 2011-01-04 *A Young People's History of the United States* brings to US history the viewpoints of workers, slaves, immigrants, women, Native Americans, and others whose stories, and their impact, are rarely included in books for young people. *A Young People's History of the United States* is also a companion volume to *The People Speak*, the film adapted from *A People's History of the United States* and *Voices of a People's History of the United States*. Beginning with a look at Christopher Columbus’s arrival through the eyes of the Arawak Indians, then leading the reader through the struggles for workers’ rights, women’s rights, and civil rights during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and ending with the current protests against continued American imperialism, Zinn in the volumes of *A Young People’s History of the United States* presents a radical new way of understanding America’s history. In so doing, he reminds readers that America’s true greatness is shaped by our dissident voices, not our military generals.

**a peoples history: *A People's History of the U.S. Military*** Michael A. Bellesiles, 2012-09-11 In *A People's History of the U.S. Military*, historian Michael A. Bellesiles draws from three centuries of soldiers' personal encounters with combat—through fascinating excerpts from letters, diaries, and memoirs, as well as audio recordings, film, and blogs—to capture the essence of the American military experience firsthand, from the American Revolution to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Military service can shatter and give meaning to lives; it is rarely a neutral encounter, and has contributed to a rich outpouring of personal testimony from the men and women who have literally placed their lives on the line. The often dramatic and always richly textured first-person accounts collected in this book cover a wide range of perspectives, from ardent patriots to disillusioned cynics; barely literate farm boys to urbane college graduates; scions of founding families to recent immigrants, enthusiasts, and dissenters; women disguising themselves as men in order to serve their country to African Americans fighting for their freedom through military service. A work of great relevance and immediacy—as the nation grapples with the return of thousands of men and women from active military duty—*A People's History of the U.S. Military* will become a major new touchstone for our understanding of American military service.

**a peoples history: *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People*** Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, 2019-07-23 2020 American Indian Youth Literature Young Adult Honor Book 2020 Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People, selected by National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) and the Children’s Book Council 2019 Best-Of Lists: Best YA Nonfiction of 2019 (Kirkus Reviews) · Best Nonfiction of 2019 (School Library Journal) · Best Books for Teens (New York Public Library) · Best Informational Books for Older Readers (Chicago Public Library) Spanning more than 400 years, this classic bottom-up history examines the legacy of Indigenous peoples’ resistance, resilience, and steadfast fight against imperialism. Going beyond the story of America as a country “discovered” by a few brave men in the “New World,” Indigenous human rights advocate Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz reveals the roles that settler colonialism and policies of American Indian genocide played in forming our national identity. The original academic text is fully adapted by renowned curriculum experts Debbie Reese and Jean Mendoza, for middle-grade and young adult

readers to include discussion topics, archival images, original maps, recommendations for further reading, and other materials to encourage students, teachers, and general readers to think critically about their own place in history.

**a peoples history: The Southern Mystique** Howard Zinn, 2012-06-04 Howard Zinn examines the politics of the South and his own experiences there. The South has long been surrounded in mystique. In this powerful volume, drawing on Zinn's own experiences teaching in the South and working within the Southern civil rights movement, Zinn challenges the stereotypes surrounding the South, race relations, and how change happens in history. With a new introduction from the author.

**a peoples history: A People's History of Baseball** Mitchell Nathanson, 2012-03-30 Baseball is much more than the national pastime. It has become an emblem of America itself. From its initial popularity in the mid-nineteenth century, the game has reflected national values and beliefs and promoted what it means to be an American. Stories abound that illustrate baseball's significance in eradicating racial barriers, bringing neighborhoods together, building civic pride, and creating on the field of play an instructive civics lesson for immigrants on the national character. In *A People's History of Baseball*, Mitchell Nathanson probes the less well-known but no less meaningful other side of baseball: episodes not involving equality, patriotism, heroism, and virtuous capitalism, but power--how it is obtained, and how it perpetuates itself. Through the growth and development of baseball Nathanson shows that, if only we choose to look for it, we can see the petty power struggles as well as the large and consequential ones that have likewise defined our nation. By offering a fresh perspective on the firmly embedded tales of baseball as America, a new and unexpected story emerges of both the game and what it represents. Exploring the founding of the National League, Nathanson focuses on the newer Americans who sought club ownership to promote their own social status in the increasingly closed caste of nineteenth-century America. His perspective on the rise and public rebuke of the Players Association shows that these baseball events reflect both the collective spirit of working and middle-class America in the mid-twentieth century as well as the countervailing forces that sought to beat back this emerging movement that threatened the status quo. And his take on baseball's racial integration that began with Branch Rickey's "Great Experiment" reveals the debilitating effects of the harsh double standard that resulted, requiring a black player to have unimpeachable character merely to take the field in a Major League game, a standard no white player was required to meet. Told with passion and occasional outrage, *A People's History of Baseball* challenges the perspective of the well-known, deeply entrenched, hyper-patriotic stories of baseball and offers an incisive alternative history of America's much-loved national pastime.

**a peoples history: A People's History of Modern Europe** William A. Pelz, 2016 From the monarchical terror of the Middle Ages to the mangled Europe of the twenty-first century, *A People's History of Modern Europe* tracks the history of the continent through the deeds of those whom mainstream history tries to forget. Europe provided the perfect conditions for a great number of political revolutions from below. The German peasant wars of Thomas Muntzer, the bourgeois revolutions of the eighteenth century, the rise of the industrial worker in England, the turbulent journey of the Russian Soviets, the role of the European working class throughout the Cold War, student protests in 1968 and through to the present day, when we continue to fight to forge an alternative to the barbaric economic system. With sections focusing on the role of women, this history sweeps away the tired platitudes of the privileged upon which our current understanding is based, and provides an opportunity to see our history differently.

**a peoples history: A People's History of Science** Clifford Conner, 2005-11-08 Challenges popular beliefs that credit such figures as Galileo, Newton, and Einstein with bringing about modern science, explaining how everyday laborers participated in creating science and continue to do so today, in an account that also documents how the development of science affects ordinary people. Original.

**a peoples history: Debunking Howard Zinn** Mary Grabar, 2019-08-20 Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* has sold more than 2.5 million copies. It is pushed by Hollywood

celebrities, defended by university professors who know better, and assigned in high school and college classrooms to teach students that American history is nothing more than a litany of oppression, slavery, and exploitation. Zinn's history is popular, but it is also massively wrong. Scholar Mary Grabar exposes just how wrong in her stunning new book *Debunking Howard Zinn*, which demolishes Zinn's Marxist talking points that now dominate American education. In *Debunking Howard Zinn*, you'll learn, contra Zinn: How Columbus was not a genocidal maniac, and was, in fact, a defender of Indians Why the American Indians were not feminist-communist sexual revolutionaries ahead of their time How the United States was founded to protect liberty, not white males' ill-gotten wealth Why Americans of the "Greatest Generation" were not the equivalent of Nazi war criminals How the Viet Cong were not well-meaning community leaders advocating for local self-rule Why the Black Panthers were not civil rights leaders Grabar also reveals Zinn's bag of dishonest rhetorical tricks: his slavish reliance on partisan history, explicit rejection of historical balance, and selective quotation of sources to make them say the exact opposite of what their authors intended. If you care about America's past—and our future—you need this book.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of World War II* Marc Favreau, 2011 Presents interviews, photographs, letters, oral histories, stories, eyewitness accounts, and excerpts from historical writings from different perspectives on a wide variety of topics related to the Second World War.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of the United States* Howard Zinn, Kathy Emery, Ellen Reeves, 2003 This brilliant and moving history of the American people (*Library Journal*) presents more than 500 years of American social and cultural history, going well beyond the wars and presidencies contained in traditional texts to tell the stories of working men and women. Abridged for use in the classroom.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of London* Lindsey German, John Rees, 2012-06-19 In the eyes of Britain's heritage industry, London is the traditional home of empire, monarchy and power, an urban wonderland for the privileged, where the vast majority of Londoners feature only to applaud in the background. Yet, for nearly 2000 years, the city has been a breeding ground for radical ideas, home to thinkers, heretics and rebels from John Wycliffe to Karl Marx. It has been the site of sometimes violent clashes that changed the course of history: the Levellers' doomed struggle for liberty in the aftermath of the Civil War; the silk weavers, match girls and dockers who crusaded for workers' rights; and the Battle of Cable Street, where East Enders took on Oswald Mosley's Black Shirts. *A People's History of London* journeys to a city of pamphleteers, agitators, exiles and revolutionaries, where millions of people have struggled in obscurity to secure a better future.

**a peoples history:** *A Patriot's History of the United States* Larry Schweikart, Michael Patrick Allen, 2004-12-29 For the past three decades, many history professors have allowed their biases to distort the way America's past is taught. These intellectuals have searched for instances of racism, sexism, and bigotry in our history while downplaying the greatness of America's patriots and the achievements of "dead white men." As a result, more emphasis is placed on Harriet Tubman than on George Washington; more about the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II than about D-Day or Iwo Jima; more on the dangers we faced from Joseph McCarthy than those we faced from Josef Stalin. *A Patriot's History of the United States* corrects those doctrinaire biases. In this groundbreaking book, America's discovery, founding, and development are reexamined with an appreciation for the elements of public virtue, personal liberty, and private property that make this nation uniquely successful. This book offers a long-overdue acknowledgment of America's true and proud history.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of Computing in the United States* Joy Lisi Rankin, 2018-10-08 Silicon Valley gets all the credit for digital creativity, but this account of the pre-PC world, when computing meant more than using mature consumer technology, challenges that triumphalism. The invention of the personal computer liberated users from corporate mainframes and brought computing into homes. But throughout the 1960s and 1970s a diverse group of teachers and students working together on academic computing systems conducted many of the activities we now recognize as personal and social computing. Their networks were centered in New Hampshire,

Minnesota, and Illinois, but they connected far-flung users. Joy Rankin draws on detailed records to explore how users exchanged messages, programmed music and poems, fostered communities, and developed computer games like *The Oregon Trail*. These unsung pioneers helped shape our digital world, just as much as the inventors, garage hobbyists, and eccentric billionaires of Palo Alto. By imagining computing as an interactive commons, the early denizens of the digital realm seeded today's debate about whether the internet should be a public utility and laid the groundwork for the concept of net neutrality. Rankin offers a radical precedent for a more democratic digital culture, and new models for the next generation of activists, educators, coders, and makers.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of the New Boston* Jim Vrabel, 2014 Although Boston today is a vibrant and thriving city, it was anything but that in the years following World War II. By 1950 it had lost a quarter of its tax base over the previous twenty-five years, and during the 1950s it would lose residents faster than any other major city in the country. Credit for the city's turnaround since that time is often given to a select group of people, all of them men, all of them white, and most of them well off. In fact, a large group of community activists, many of them women, people of color, and not very well off, were also responsible for creating the Boston so many enjoy today. This book provides a grassroots perspective on the tumultuous 1960s and 1970s, when residents of the city's neighborhoods engaged in an era of activism and protest unprecedented in Boston since the American Revolution. Using interviews with many of those activists, contemporary news accounts, and historical sources, Jim Vrabel describes the demonstrations, sit-ins, picket lines, boycotts, and contentious negotiations through which residents exerted their influence on the city that was being rebuilt around them. He includes case histories of the fights against urban renewal, highway construction, and airport expansion; for civil rights, school desegregation, and welfare reform; and over Vietnam and busing. He also profiles a diverse group of activists from all over the city, including Ruth Batson, Anna DeFronzo, Moe Gillen, Mel King, Henry Lee, and Paula Oyola. Vrabel tallies the wins and losses of these neighborhood Davids as they took on the Goliaths of the time, including Boston's mayors. He shows how much of the legacy of that activism remains in Boston today.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of Latin America* Hernán Horna, 2014-02 Original title: *A history of Latin America*.

**a peoples history:** *A People's History of the Portuguese Revolution* Raquel Varela, 2019 On April 25, 1974, a coup destroyed the ranks of Estado Novo's fascist government in Portugal. Ordinary people flooded the streets of Lisbon, placing red carnations in the barrels of guns and demanding a land for those who work in it. This spontaneous revolt placed power in the hands of the working classes, trade unions, and women. In order to understand the Carnation Revolution, we must recognize it as an international coalition of social movements, comprised of struggles for independence in Portugal's African colonies, the rebellion of the young military captains of the Armed Forces Movement, and the uprising of Portugal's long-oppressed working classes. Cutting against the grain of mainstream accounts, Raquel Cardeira Varela shows how it was through the organizing power of these diverse movements that a popular-front government was instituted along with the nation's withdrawal from its overseas colonies. Offering a rich account of the challenges these coalitions faced and the victories they won through revolutionary means, this book tells the tumultuous history behind the Carnation Revolution.

**a peoples history:** *U.S. History* P. Scott Corbett, Volker Janssen, John M. Lund, Todd Pfannestiel, Sylvie Waskiewicz, Paul Vickery, 2024-09-10 *U.S. History* is designed to meet the scope and sequence requirements of most introductory courses. The text provides a balanced approach to U.S. history, considering the people, events, and ideas that have shaped the United States from both the top down (politics, economics, diplomacy) and bottom up (eyewitness accounts, lived experience). *U.S. History* covers key forces that form the American experience, with particular attention to issues of race, class, and gender.

**a peoples history:** *These Truths: A History of the United States* Jill Lepore, 2018-09-18 "Nothing short of a masterpiece." —NPR Books A New York Times Bestseller and a Washington Post

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**a peoples history:** *A People's History of Tennis* David Berry, 2020 Tennis is much more than Wimbledon! This story reveals the hidden history of the sport.

**a peoples history: The Immigrants** Howard Fast, 2010-03-01 A most wonderful book...there hasn't been a novel in years that can do a job on readers' emotions that the last fifty pages of *The Immigrants* does.—Los Angeles Times The first book in bestselling author Howard Fast's beloved family saga, *The Immigrants* is a transcendent work of historical fiction. In this sweeping journey of love and fortune, master storyteller Howard Fast recounts the family saga of roughneck immigrants determined to make their way in America at the turn of the century. Quick to ascend from the tragic depths of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, Dan Lavette becomes the head of a powerful shipping empire and establishes himself among the city's cultural elite. But when he finds himself caught in a loveless marriage to the daughter of San Francisco's richest family, a scandalous love affair threatens to destroy the empire Dan has built for himself. The first novel of a compelling family saga, *The Immigrants* is fast-paced, emotional historical fiction that captures the wide range of relationships across Immigrant America during the tumultuous defining events of the early twentieth century. NOW A MOTION PICTURE

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