



A Short History of Reconstruction

By Eric Foner

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An abridged version of *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution*, the definitive study of the aftermath of the Civil War, winner of the Bancroft Prize, Avery O. Craven Prize, *Los Angeles Times* Book Award, Francis Parkman Prize, and Lionel Trilling Prize.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is history written on a grand scale, a masterful treatment of one of the most complex periods of American history." -- David Herbert Donald, "The New Republic"

"Eric Foner has put together this terrible story with greater cogency and power, I believe, than has been brought to the subject heretofore. He avoids ideological skids, freeloading hindsight, and mirages of certitude . . . Foner's book brings to distinguished fruition one great cycle of Reconstruction historiography." -- C. Vann Woodward, "New York Review of Books"

"A heroic synthesis that should dominate the field--much like C. Vann Woodward's interpretation of the new South . . . It gives nearly equal time to all the protagonists in the Reconstruction drama and recognizes how inextricably economic, political, social and ideological issues are bound." -- Thomas C. Holt, "Washington Post Book World"

"A remarkable clarity is one of the many beauties of this book that dwells on so many conflicts and ambiguities . . . Foner's "Reconstruction" is a smart book of enormous strengths." -- Neil Irvin Painter, "Boston Globe"

"Foner's book traces in rich detail the bitter course of the history of the South's failure to adjust to the revolution that brought the Civil War. Only by tracing that history and understanding can the region disentrall itself even today. No book could be more timely."-- William Kovach, "Atlanta Constitution"

From the Back Cover

From the "preeminent historian of Reconstruction" (*New York Times Book Review*), a newly updated AND abridged edition of the prizewinning classic on the post-Civil War period that shaped modern America

In this updated edition of the abridged *Reconstruction*, Eric Foner redefines how the post-Civil War period was viewed.

Reconstruction chronicles the way in which Americans—black and white—responded to the unprecedented changes unleashed by the war and the end of slavery. It addresses the quest of emancipated slaves searching for economic autonomy and equal citizenship, and describes the remodeling of Southern society, the evolution of racial attitudes and patterns of race relations, and the emergence of a national state possessing vastly expanded authority and committed, for a time, to the principle of equal rights for all Americans.

This "masterful treatment of one of the most complex periods of American history" (*New Republic*) remains the standard work on the wrenching post-Civil War period—an era whose legacy still reverberates in the United States today.

About the Author

Eric Foner is DeWitt Clinton Professor of History at Columbia University and the author of several books. In 2006 he received the Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching at Columbia University. He has served as president of the Organization of American Historians, the American Historical Association, and the Society of American Historians. He lives in New York City.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joan Cross:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or maybe read a book entitled A Short History of Reconstruction? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have various other opinion?

Ida Resler:

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Donald Oakes:

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