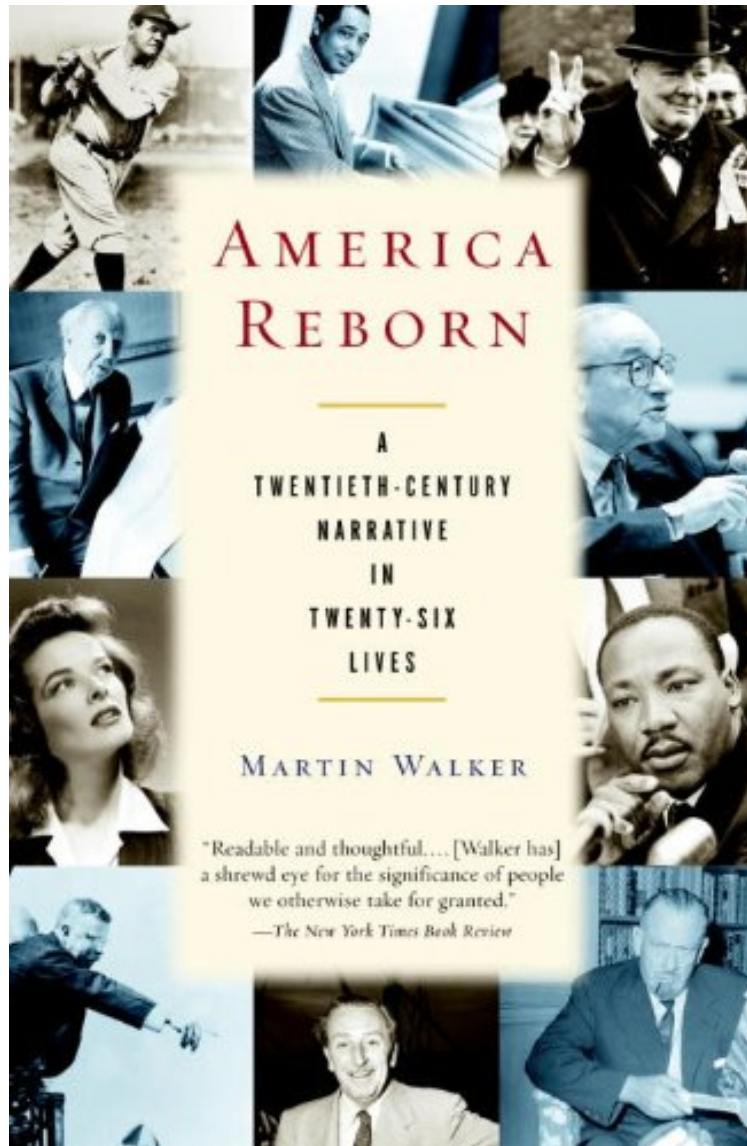


(Read ebook) America Reborn: A Twentieth-Century Narrative in Twenty-six Lives

America Reborn: A Twentieth-Century Narrative in Twenty-six Lives

Von Martin Walker

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



 Download

 Read Online

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrank: #955923 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2011-03-02Erscheinungsdatum: 2011-03-02File Name: B004G60158 | File size: 47.Mb

Von Martin Walker : America Reborn: A Twentieth-Century Narrative in Twenty-six Lives before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised America Reborn: A Twentieth-Century Narrative in Twenty-six Lives:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The

most inviting and readable insight into America. Von Ein Kunde This book gets my vote as the best single history of 20th century America, simply because it is so readable. History is not about great sweeping flows and the tidal forces of social and economic change but about people, about individuals, and what they made of the world they encountered. This book explores the American century through a thoughtfully-chosen group of individuals: the film stars and criminals, the spies and generals, the preachers and bankers, the dreamers and the dissidents. And the author takes us from the particular to the general, putting those deeper social forces into the background where they belong. I never knew that modern US aviation depended on William Boeing not only for his airplanes, but because he also founded United Airlines. I never knew that evangelist Billy Graham was such an intense political animal, or that John Steinbeck was suspected of communist subversion by the FBI, or that Richard Nixon was by most counts a liberal politician, or that Emma Goldman tried to raise funds for the revolutionary cause as a prostitute. I had also never thought about Bill Clinton in such historical terms before, nor realised that the real revolution for American women was economic rather than erotic. Beautifully written, this is a book full of delights and information, that will make you think about America while it keeps you greatly entertained. 0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

unbalanced Von Ein Kunde The promise of this book is captivating: America's 20th Century achievement chronicled through the lives of 26 distinguished Americans: from Theodore Roosevelt to Martin Luther King; Henry Ford to Alan Greenspan. What's delivered, however, is the 20th Century seen through a liberal-left prism. The author makes no pretense to objectivity or balance in his reporting of events. Nixon is roundly (and rightly) criticized for contributing to the economic debacle that afflicted this country after he left office. However, Johnson and Carter -- equally culpable -- shoulder little blame. The author is rightly critical of the excesses of McCarthyism. But he fails to address at all legitimate (documented) instances of subversion. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg merit not even a mention. We learn only that Alger Hiss was "persecuted" by Nixon, but hear nothing about his nefarious activities. The CIA is portrayed as modern day Keystone Cops, bumbler whose every success is the result of fortuity or happenstance. Somehow, President Kennedy skirts any blame for the Bay of Pigs fiasco. Bill Buckley's Conservative Revolution is basically cast as a failure, despite the fact that most of its main precepts have been co-opted by Clinton and a Conservative majority governs the Congress at Century's end for the first time since the 1920s. The Sixties counter culture is lauded, with nary a mention of any unintended consequences (rampant drug use, unwanted pregnancies, demise of authority) that it unleashed. The encomium to President Clinton is almost laughable. 0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Fascinating look at 20th Century America Von JRK In America Reborn, British writer Martin Walker assumes the unique perspective of examining quintessentially "American" attributes through retrospectives of twenty-six individuals. For anyone with an interest in American history, this book provides clear and interesting essays that reach from the depths of American politics (FDR and an exceptionally harsh view of Nixon), American economics (Alan Greenspan), and American international intrigue (Richard Bissell and George Marshall) to the heights of American leisure activities (Duke Ellington, Katharine Hepburn, and Walt Disney). The approximately fifteen page, tidy chapters devoted to each individual fly by with interesting tidbits of historical information and clear explanation. This British writer has provided an introspective and fascinating look into America and its personality, matching up attributes to individuals that would be, in most cases, proud to claim them.

Kurzbeschreibung Here is the story of America in the twentieth century as told through the lives of twenty-six of its most remarkable and historically crucial men and women. The people Martin Walker has chosen to portray are presidents, industrialists, artists, thinkers, entertainers, soldiers, spies, criminals, and evangelists, among others, and he makes the life of each individual serve as a framework for a discussion of the nation as a whole in a century when it was reinventing itself. Through Theodore Roosevelt, Walker examines America's ambition; through Woodrow Wilson, our idealism; through FDR, our triumph on the world stage; through Richard Nixon, our retreat into cynicism; through Bill Clinton, globalization and controversy about the right way to use America's unprecedented power. In Henry Ford he finds the creator of both the mass-market product and the mass-market consumer, and in Walt Disney, the revolutionizer not only of America's entertainment but also of the world's. William Boeing is the innovator who spurs the behemoth of American aviation; Walter Reuther defines labor's struggles; George C. Marshall represents the spread of America's economic genius in a war-ravaged Europe. In the lives of Duke Ellington, Frank Lloyd Wright, Katharine Hepburn, and John Steinbeck, Walker traces America's far-reaching cultural influences. Babe Ruth leads to a consideration of the role of sports in our society; William F. Buckley, Jr., to a discussion of conservatism; Martin Luther King, Jr., to matters of race; Betty Friedan to the shifting role of women; Billy Graham to an examination of religion; Emma Goldman to minority viewpoints and dissent; Black Jack Pershing to the place of the military; Lucky Luciano to crime and corruption; Albert Einstein to immigration; Richard Bissell to spies and the intelligence network; Alan Greenspan to finance and banking; and Winston Churchill to the American diaspora. At once intimate and wide-ranging, America Reborn is an altogether engrossing work of narrative history. From the Hardcover edition. de With the detailed expertise of a historian and the insight of a contemporary, Martin Walker presents a narrative of the outgoing

American century through individual portraits of 26 of its most influential participants. Beginning with Teddy Roosevelt and concluding with Bill Clinton, Walker's portraits are less biographical than they are temporal; he brings to life particular moments in the 1900s that his subjects helped shape. For example, his narrative of William Boeing traces the history of American aviation from its origins to the present. After World War I, Boeing, Martin, Loughhead, Northrop, and Douglas recognized the potential for commercial aviation, and the industry was born. Walker then outlines the shift into aerospace when President Kennedy pledged to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade, and the industry's present contraction into two conglomerates, competing with Europe's Airbus consortium. Former bureau chief of The Guardian and author of several critically acclaimed books, Walker is a seasoned, skilled writer. His portraits read easily. Averaging 15 pages, they can be read individually or as part of the larger narrative. Each of them illustrates the "primacy of the individual" and the powerful "cult of the winner," unique characteristics of American society that lead the author to consider the 20th century the "American century" and America the cultural, economic, and political world leader. --Bertina Loeffler Sedlack .com

With the detailed expertise of a historian and the insight of a contemporary, Martin Walker presents a narrative of the outgoing American century through individual portraits of 26 of its most influential participants. Beginning with Teddy Roosevelt and concluding with Bill Clinton, Walker's portraits are less biographical than they are temporal; he brings to life particular moments in the 1900s that his subjects helped shape. For example, his narrative of William Boeing traces the history of American aviation from its origins to the present. After World War I, Boeing, Martin, Loughhead, Northrop, and Douglas recognized the potential for commercial aviation, and the industry was born. Walker then outlines the shift into aerospace when President Kennedy pledged to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade, and the industry's present contraction into two conglomerates, competing with Europe's Airbus consortium. Former bureau chief of The Guardian and author of several critically acclaimed books, Walker is a seasoned, skilled writer. His portraits read easily. Averaging 15 pages, they can be read individually or as part of the larger narrative. Each of them illustrates the "primacy of the individual" and the powerful "cult of the winner," unique characteristics of American society that lead the author to consider the 20th century the "American century" and America the cultural, economic, and political world leader. --Bertina Loeffler Sedlack