



A Short History of the United States: From the Arrival of Native American Tribes to the Obama Presidency

Robert V. Remini

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In *A Short History of the United States*, National Book Award winner Robert V. Remini offers a much-needed, concise history of our country. This accessible and lively volume contains the essential facts about the discovery, settlement, growth, and development of the American nation and its institutions, including the arrival and migration of Native Americans, the founding of a republic under the Constitution, the emergence of the United States as a world power, the outbreak of terrorism here and abroad, the Obama presidency, and everything in between.

A Short History of the United States: From the Arrival of Native American Tribes to the Obama Presidency Details

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From Reader Review A Short History of the United States: From the Arrival of Native American Tribes to the Obama Presidency for online ebook

Ryan Shelton says

Remini is an enjoyable narrator and provides a fast paced overview of US History with enough detail to create memorable scenes. I was annoyed at times by the lack of any citations or notes, especially on some more contestable passages. His political biases (left) are apparent from even the earliest chapters, and spoil the final chapters from being much more than macro op eds.

Barawe says

Rychle, jasn? stru?n?...co jiného k tomu ?íct

Albert says

Gearing up for my naturalization next year -- even though I've known US history for a while now. This book is a nice helping in a short time, plus with insights about our present situation -- for example, on just how bad the Dubya administration was when you look at it in the context of previous administrations and previous wars we had fought. This book should be required reading for those idiots on "Jaywalking".

Jay Crawford says

I loved this book!! Very interesting! It does not bore you with needless statistics. It gives a great overview of the history of the US and in pretty much chronological order that really made it easy to follow!!

Yi Yang says

A reasonably well written book. I like how the events are laid out according to chronological order. One certainly need read other books for detail related to specific part of American history.

Brad says

In reading this book, I was looking for a decent survey that I could recommend to those interested. I have mixed thoughts. Obviously, as an avid reader of American History, anything promoted as "short" will ultimately be unsatisfying. But that is not a fair judgment; short is simply this books point. It starts off very

choppy and does not really hit its stride until the Jacksonian Era - of which Mr. Remini is a renowned scholar. From there, things pick up. The book ends, unfortunately, on a real downer, with the atrocities of the Bush Administration still recent to look back on with the distance of time. The book, published prior to the 2008 election, wisely gives no thoughts on the future. It is a history only.

Those who read history will be disappointed; everything is brief, quick, short. There are, however, things worth revisiting: the Gilded Age, Prohibition, the New Deal. And the 20th century read well. All told, for those who don't read much history but are interested in a brief primer, you may indeed find what you're looking for here...400 years of American colonization/civilization in 300 short pages...

Josh says

I was looking for a book that briefly gave the history of the U.S. This book was just that. If you're looking for something that gets down into the details of particular eras though, this one isn't for you. More of a summary.

Donald Powell says

Franklin Pierce was not even mentioned in this book.

It is a great history book because while it is quite inclusive it is very concise. It was a very unbiased view of the events. A history writer must necessarily try to connect events with events and this requires judgments. It was a very balanced presentation. There are always many lessons from history. A profound one is the need for the electorate to be more informed, more aware of how events are connected to events (study history) and to be less focused on personality and more on principles/policy. No human endeavor will be perfect or result in its intended effect. That is proven by this book. If people in governance could share their perspectives (listening and understanding are a part of that), find solutions, educate the public about the compromises necessary for solutions, and then enact them in that same spirit of common purpose, everything would work better. Governance never works when it empowers the few at the expense of the many. It was on this basis that this experiment in government was created from the 1760's to the 1790's. The battle to progress to more freedom, more justice, more fairness continues and history tells us there is always greed, selfishness, and fear to overcome before overcoming the next hurdle.

Marc says

Robert Remini is an expert on internal American politics of the early 19th Century, and it shows. I learned a lot about the interesting power struggle between president and Congress, shortly after the creation of the United States and well into the period before the Civil War. But that's it: the pre-US-period and especially the post-World-War 2 period are handled in a really superficial way (there's even nothing on the presidency of J.F. Kennedy!). And then again, the years from 1970 up until 2008 are again treated in detail. In short: an unbalanced book, also by its stress on institutional debates. And then there some pretty nasty comments on indian mentality, on president Jimmy Carter and on the moral permissivity of the sixties and seventies. Definitely not recommended.

Tpinetz says

I have learned about american history in school, but that is quite long ago and I wanted something to refresh my mind before a vacation to the state and for this purpose this book is quite good. It is concise and lists all the important events in the short history of the states, from the settlements to the independence war to the johnson era and construction of the senate and keeps going until and excluding the obama election.

Maan Toor says

Remini or the book publishers mistakenly named it A Short History Of United States when in fact it was A Short Political History of United States!

The book was all about Bills and Amendments and Senate and Elections! It is a history of American politics not the History of United States i was looking for! Now someone suggested me Paul Johnson and i hope he writes all of American history not just political boredom!

Is Politics boring? Yes yes yes! Is there any rational way to defend if its not boring? No no no!

There were lot of lot of great chapters too in book! I like how Remini makes less judgments from his own thoughts but whatever he makes, its worth reading. I like how US politics is mix of bad and evil things not just how lot of people imagine it as FOUNDING FATHERLY type! Thats not! Theres also Filth, Jackson, Henry Clay and than the king of juggernauts, Mr Junior Bush! Internets!

I am not a very eclectic type of reviewer just a ordinary Indian reading US history. So i am sorry if i do not stand up on your page! But it is what it is. When you are right you are right

Scott says

A fantastic 350 pg history of our great country. Truly an amazing story.

Colin says

I am very much not a 'Murican. I've seen 'Murica on the news, and even visited there several times, but never really felt that I understood the country. In many ways, I've felt more at home in other European countries, despite the different languages. This book provided some really useful insights as to why America is the way it is today.

Remini's prose works hard to convey a lot of information. It frequently comes across as almost scientific, but is occasionally punctuated by sudden bursts of enthusiasm.

However, it isn't perfect. Whilst trying to produce a short an accessible history is a worthy goal, I felt that if

the book were to be twice as long, it might have actually benefitted significantly. Many events could have borne a more nuanced analysis, rather than just being presented, before being brushed aside for in favour of the next big event.

Additionally, this a book by an American, for an American. Remini does a good job of remaining objective on some very contentious issues, but still comes across as being broadly in favour of the right to bear arms, for example. Although maybe that's just America. Additionally, the treatment of the natives by settlers is rather swept aside. This might be because the focus is on the States themselves, and also due to the length requirements, but this is an issue that I felt deserved more coverage.

Nevertheless, the is a fact-filled, and extremely readable summary of what is still probably the most powerful country in the world. It does a very good job of showing why America is the way it is, and I recommend it.

Billie Pritchett says

Robert Remini's *Short History of the United States* is a great story, retelling American history largely through the machinations of the executive and legislative branches (as they develop). Remini's history is quite opinionated, and it will not be difficult for the reader to discern some of his political allegiances. Nevertheless, this book is indispensable for the purpose of learning American history, and a great reference book.

Should the reader think that this book focuses too much on the executive and legislative branches, then perhaps *A People's History of the United States* by Howard Zinn would be a good supplement.

Helen Damnation says

A good starting place for those who don't know much about US history beyond the obvious.
