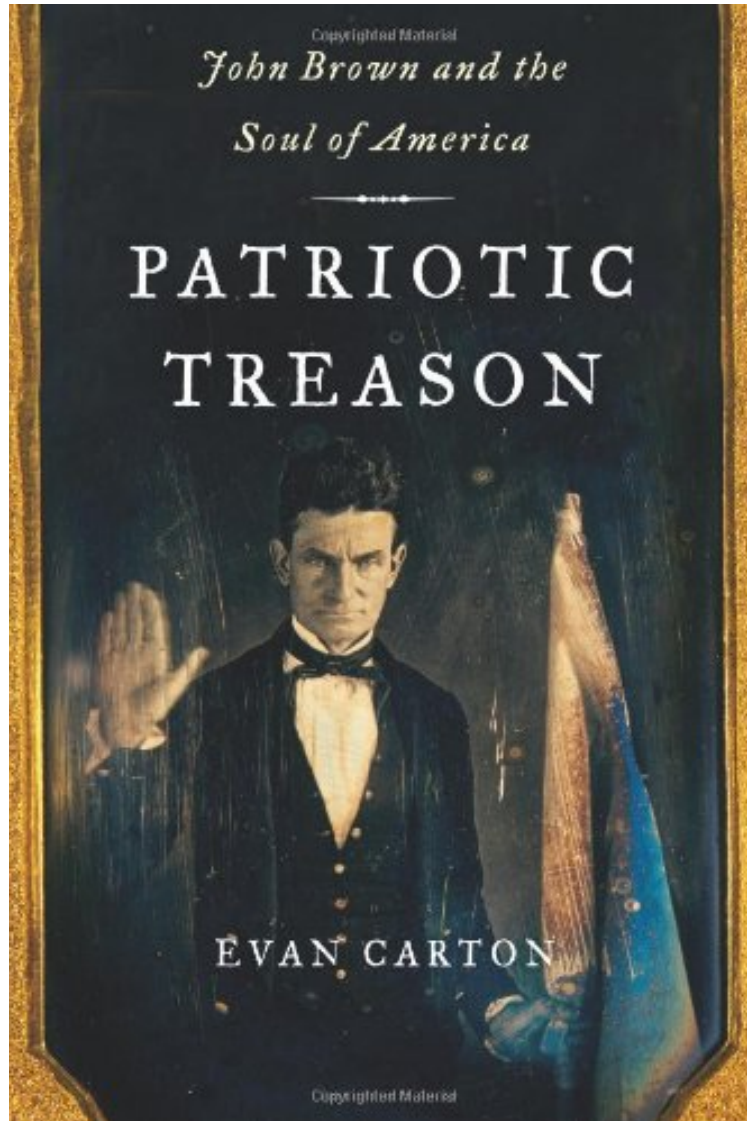


[Read free] Patriotic Treason: John Brown and the Soul of America

Patriotic Treason: John Brown and the Soul of America

Evan Carton

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1119985 in Books Free Press 2006-08-29 2006-08-29 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.02 x 1.06 x 5.981, 1.59 #File Name: 074327136X400 pages | File size: 33.Mb

Evan Carton : Patriotic Treason: John Brown and the Soul of America before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Patriotic Treason: John Brown and the Soul of America:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An important antidote to Government brainwashing. By Walter D. Teague Patriotic Treason John Brown and the Soul of America by Evan Carton is particularly good for understanding the relationships between John Brown and his children as they struggled to stand up to slavery. Therefore as many of the prior reviews point out, not only was John Brown not a mad man or fanatic, but he and his family and compatriots

were incredibly brave and principled. This book shares the human side of this family and friends. This book's approach can help counter the propaganda of the U.S. government and our school system, which since those days has painted John Brown as "mad" in order to dissuade all those who might admire Brown and want to stand up to slavery or its descendent oppressions. Empire's official histories have long tried to convince us that rebels are all misguided nuts. I so enjoyed this book that I bought many copies to give to friends who I thought might read it. See [...] Also [...] 16 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Splendid Book By PJ This is the first book that I've read about John Brown and I'm glad that I waited. Brown's story is a simply amazing one and Carton is the master of every detail. He writes very well, is excellent at telling a story, and, most significantly for me, he is well-versed in the historical period. He has deep knowledge about pre-Civil-War politics, intellectual life and social relations. And he integrates what he knows brilliantly into John Brown's story. Brown emerges as more than the leader of the raid at Harper's Ferry; in this book we come to understand his Christianity, his early life, his family, his values and most particularly his relations with black people, which were perhaps without precedent in America. The book is very moving, though quietly so: Carton doesn't shy away from being critical of John Brown, but eventually his esteem for Brown comes through and it's tough not to be sympathetic. The book was a great pleasure and I felt that I learned a lot from it about race relations past--and present, too. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. John Brown -hero bar none. By B. Lesta John Brown who gave his all in order to make his point that all men are created equal is a hero who many over look . I searched for literature that would be easy reading and at the same time do justice to this man and Evan Carton's book 'Patriotic Treason' did just that . American's owe him a great debt for his committment to making all men free in the face of a government that condoned slavery. I loved this book and recommend it highly. It's a story of family life and of a man who was color blind to the bitter end. So well written that it reads almost like a novel .

John Brown is a lightning rod of history. Yet he is poorly understood and most commonly described in stereotypes -- as a madman, martyr, or enigma. Not until *Patriotic Treason* has a biography or history brought him so fully to life, in scintillating prose and moving detail, making his life and legacy -- and the staggering sacrifices he made for his ideals--fascinatingly relevant to today's issues of social justice and to defining the line between activism and terrorism. Vividly re-creating the world in which Brown and his compatriots lived with a combination of scrupulous original research, new perspectives, and a sensitive historical imagination, *Patriotic Treason* narrates the dramatic life of the first U.S. citizen committed to absolute racial equality. Here are his friendships (Brown lived, worked, ate, and fought alongside African Americans, in defiance of the culture around him), his family (he turned his twenty children by two wives into a dedicated militia), and his ideals (inspired by the Declaration of Independence and the Golden Rule, he collaborated with black leaders such as Frederick Douglass, Martin Delany, and Harriet Tubman to overthrow slavery). Evan Carton captures the complex, tragic, and provocative story of Brown the committed abolitionist, Brown the tender yet demanding and often absent father and husband, and Brown the radical American patriot who attacked the American state in the name of American principles. Through new research into archives, attention to overlooked family letters, and reinterpretation of documents and events, Carton essentially reveals a missing link in American history. A wrenching family saga, *Patriotic Treason* positions John Brown at the heart of our most profound and enduring national debates. As definitions of patriotism and treason are fiercely contested, as some criticize religious extremism while others mourn religion's decline, and as race relations in America remain unresolved, John Brown's story speaks to us as never before, reminding us that one courageous individual can change the course of history.

From Publishers Weekly Carton has written an absorbing and inspiring, though not wholly innovative, biography of abolitionist firebrand John Brown. A historian of American culture, Carton (*The Marble Faun: Hawthorne's Transformations*) centers this portrait on Brown's ceaseless efforts to end slavery. From the earliest days, Brown's abolitionism was grounded in Christianity: for him, the biblical call to love thy neighbor trumped any argument a proslavery theologian could make. As for what Brown accomplished in the climactic 1859 raid at Harpers Ferry, Carton quotes, and seems to share, the assessment of Brown's contemporary Wendell Phillips that Brown "loosened the roots of the slave system" and can be credited with ending slavery in Virginia. Carton usefully sets Brown's abolitionism against the backdrop of a larger American story—the increased radicalism of black abolitionists beginning in the 1840s; the Compromise of 1850 (which admitted California to the union as a free state while passing the Fugitive Slave Act); and ongoing debates about whether slavery should be legal in western territories. Like Brown's other recent biographer, David Reynolds (*John Brown, Abolitionist*), Carton writes with great admiration for his subject. His Brown is a hero who set the nation on a road to justice that we are traveling still. Bw photos. (Sept. 6) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Carton has penned an intriguing portrait of abolitionist Brown. He grounds this biography firmly in historical context by providing a digestible overview of the politically tumultuous mid-nineteenth century, and his admiration for the courage of Brown's convictions in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds shines through the compelling narrative. Although Brown was often portrayed as a crackpot or an unstable zealot, his abolitionist ideals were a natural by-product of both his Christian beliefs and his dedication to the letter and the spirit of the Declaration of Independence.

Carton also poses an interesting question: Can one be a treasonous patriot? The answer is a resounding yes, when, as in the case of Brown, one sacrifices one's self and the law for the greater good. Crediting his subject with exposing the hypocrisy of democracy and unleashing the forces that led directly to the Civil War and the contemporary civil rights movement, Carton embraces Brown as a significant cultural beacon. Margaret Flanagan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "A dramatic, expertly paced biography of American history's most problematic figure." ---Kirkus Starred