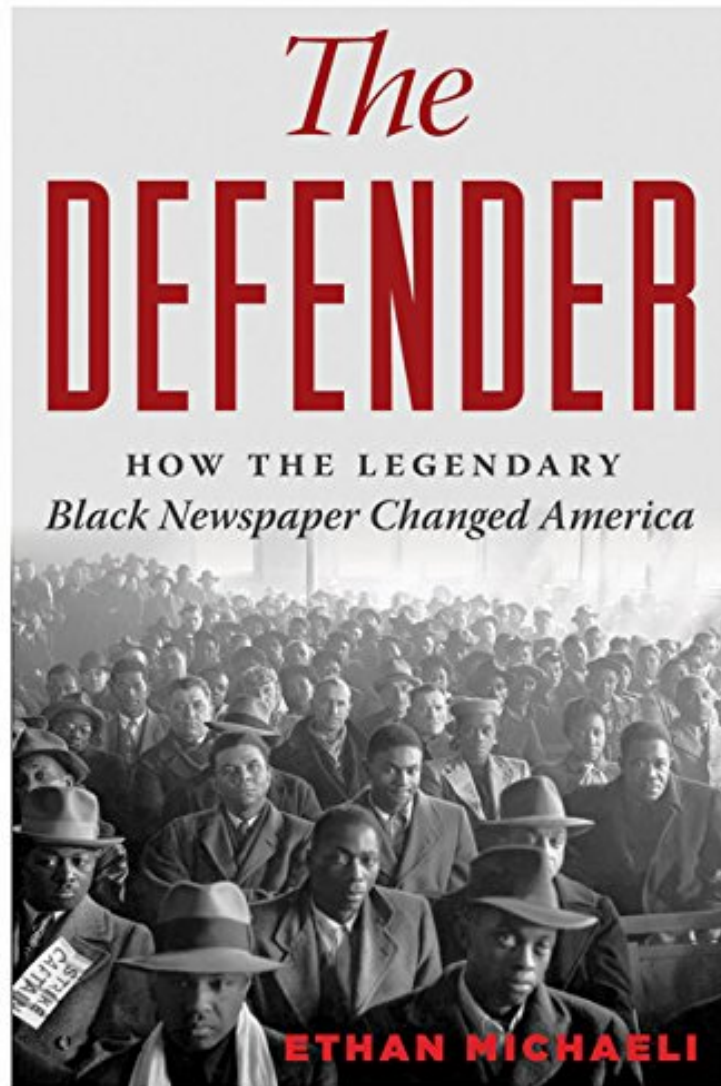


(Free and download) The Defender: How the Legendary Black Newspaper Changed America

The Defender: How the Legendary Black Newspaper Changed America

Ethan Michaeli

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Ethan Michaeli : The Defender: How the Legendary Black Newspaper Changed America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Defender: How the Legendary Black Newspaper Changed America:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An in-depth history of Black Culture By Maria GA must read those who wish to understand, not just Chicago, but the entirety of 20th-mid 21st Century Black/White race relations in the

US. Ethan Michaeli's gripping historical account of the impact of the preeminent Black newspaper, *The Chicago Defender*, is not an easy read, but a thoughtful, carefully crafted one. Michaeli's brief report on his own tenure at the press as a young Jewish journalist is written with a clarity and modesty that other authors could (and should) emulate. The fact that he was assigned to report on the early activities of Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam, and was accepted by them to cover their stories lets us know that he is a reliable (and courageous!) author. For important economic and social insights into the history of our American racial disconnection, look no further than "The Defender." 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Compelling perspective on Black journalism By P. Gaitens This is a rare journey through the history of Black journalism in America. It's revealing, detailed and forthright, a credit to the author's insight and his dedication to giving the reader a complete picture of the fascinating evolution and influence of *The Defender*. The story of America is often the story of race and this is an important chapter in that continuing saga. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Worthwhile Reading By Charlotte G Steeh This book was very well researched and was extremely interesting and informative for the first half. The story became less focused after that, probably because the *Defender* was in decline and the events of those years were much more familiar to me.

"An extraordinary history...Deeply researched, elegantly written...a towering achievement that will not be soon forgotten." —Brent Staples, *New York Times Book Review* NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY *The New York Times Book Review* • *The Washington Post* • Amazon Giving voice to the voiceless, the *Chicago Defender* condemned Jim Crow, catalyzed the Great Migration, and focused the electoral power of black America. Robert S. Abbott founded *The Defender* in 1905, smuggled hundreds of thousands of copies into the most isolated communities in the segregated South, and was dubbed a "Modern Moses," becoming one of the first black millionaires in the process. His successor wielded the newspaper's clout to elect mayors and presidents, including Harry S. Truman and John F. Kennedy, who would have lost in 1960 if not for *The Defender's* support. Along the way, its pages were filled with columns by legends like Ida B. Wells, Langston Hughes, and Martin Luther King. Drawing on dozens of interviews and extensive archival research, Ethan Michaeli constructs a revelatory narrative of race in America and brings to life the reporters who braved lynch mobs and policemen's clubs to do their jobs, from the age of Teddy Roosevelt to the age of Barack Obama.

"An extraordinary history...Deeply researched, elegantly written...a towering achievement that will not be soon forgotten." —Brent Staples, *New York Times Book* "Conscientiously researched and fluent, *The Defender* is essentially a record of the African-American struggle in our times." —*Wall Street Journal* "Ethan Michaeli's epic, meticulously detailed account not only reminds its readers that newspapers matter, but so do black lives, past and present." —*USA Today* "This prodigiously researched work is a testament to the courage of *Defender* writers through the century, a chronicle of the influence of an important institution -- and a sweeping history of black America." —*National Book* "A fascinating account of the legendary black newspaper that spoke truth to power, fought for equality and made history." —*Minneapolis Star Tribune* "A captivating read." —*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* "A sprawling, well-researched panoramic with surprisingly fluid prose." —*In These Times* "This is history at its best -- engagingly written, meticulously researched, and infused with fascinating characters and vivid scenes. Ethan Michaeli tells an important American story, and tells it with style and remarkable attention to detail." —Dean Jobb, author of *Empire of Deception*, writing for the judges of the Chicago Writers Association, from whom *The Defender* received the 2016 Award for Non-Fiction (Traditionally Published) "Ethan Michaeli's *The Defender* is a rich, majestic, sweeping history, both of a newspaper and of a people. In these pages, Michaeli captures the degradation and exhilaration of black America in the twentieth century, and driving this story are a handful of men and women infused with incredible courage and a deep faith in journalism's power to seek justice." —Alex Kotlowitz, author of *There Are No Children Here*. "In the spring of 1905 Robert Abbott sat at a card table squeezed into a corner of a realtor's office on Chicago's South Side to put together the first issue of a newspaper he called *The Defender*. In the 110 years since it has more than lived up to its name, its pages filled with searing reports of racial injustice and fierce editorials in support of its readers' rights. Now Ethan Michaeli has recreated *The Defender's* remarkable history—and reminded us of the power of the press at its courageous best." —Kevin Boyle, author of the National Book Award-winning *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age* "This is a major work of American history—the compelling and richly-researched story of the legendary newspaper and the astonishing collection of history-makers whose lives are forever intertwined." —Jonathan Alter, author of *The Center Holds: Obama and his Enemies* "Here, at long last, is the story that needed to be told. In *The Defender*, Ethan Michaeli has laid out the power and importance of a fearless newspaper in the struggle for black equality. Meticulously researched, engagingly written, Michaeli's landmark history of this storied institution, which has served at key moments as lens, interpreter, catalyst or voice for blacks' full citizenship rights, will become an essential resource in African American cultural and political studies." —Carol Anderson, Professor of African American Studies at Emory University, author of *White Rage* "The story of the *Chicago Defender* is one of the great untold stories of black America ? if not the great story. At every crucial

juncture, from the northern migration, to Pullman strikes to civil rights right up to Barack Obama, the Defender was there chronicling, advocating and building an entire civic, political and intellectual universe. It is remarkable to me that this book wasn't written until now and an absolute god-send that Ethan Michaeli has stepped in to fill the void.” —Chris Hayes, author of *Twilight of the Elites*, host of MSNBC's "All In with Chris Hayes." "Ethan Michaeli's compelling book represents social history at its finest. The Defender explores America's long struggle with race through the unique lens of an essential and underappreciated Chicago newspaper at the center of it all." —David Maraniss, author of *Once in a Great City: A Detroit Story*