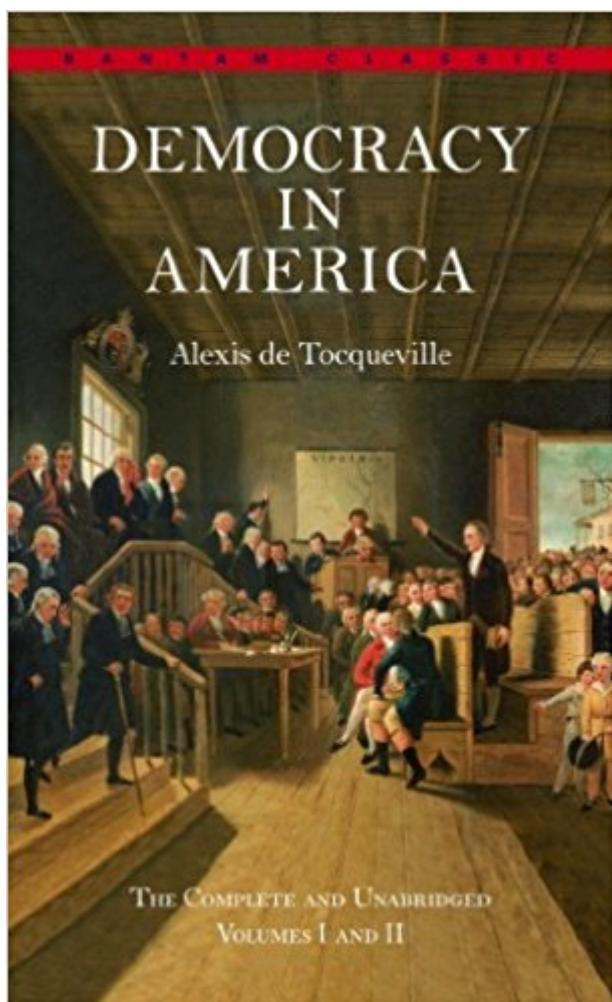


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Democracy In America: The Complete And Unabridged Volumes I And II (Bantam Classics)



Synopsis

From America's call for a free press to its embrace of the capitalist system, Democracy in America--first published in 1835--enlightens, entertains, and endures as a brilliant study of our national government and character. Philosopher John Stuart Mill called it "among the most remarkable productions of our time." Woodrow Wilson wrote that de Tocqueville's ability to illuminate the actual workings of American democracy was "possibly without rival." For today's readers, de Tocqueville's concern about the effect of majority rule on the rights of individuals remains deeply meaningful. His shrewd observations about the "almost royal prerogatives" of the president and the need for virtue in elected officials are particularly prophetic. His profound insights into the great rewards and responsibilities of democratic government are words every American needs to read, contemplate, and remember. From America's call for a free press to its embrace of the capitalist system Democracy in America enlightens, entertains, and endures as a brilliant study of our national government and character. De Tocqueville's concern about the effect of majority rule on the rights of individuals remains deeply meaningful. His insights into the great rewards and responsibilities of democratic government are words every American needs to read, contemplate, and remember.

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Customer Reviews

"No better study of a nation's institutions and culture than Tocqueville's Democracy in America has ever been written by a foreign observer; none perhaps as good."--The New York TimesPraise for

the work of Joseph Epstein: "Epstein is one of the premier contemporary American essayists...What is so remarkable about Epstein as an essay writer is that he'll begin a discussion at some personal place...and end up in another place relevant to us all. He enjoys making language work, not making it jump through hoops for show." --Booklist "Joseph Epstein is an essayist in the brilliant tradition of Charles Lamb. He moves so effortlessly from the amusingly personal to the broadly philosophical that it takes a moment before you realize how far out into the intellectual cosmos you've been taken." --Tom Wolfe "Joseph Epstein's essays no more need his identifying byline than Van Gogh's paintings need his signature. Epstein's style--call it learned whimsy--is unmistakable; for Epstein addicts, indispensable." --George Will "Joseph Epstein is the liveliest, most erudite and engaging essayist we have." --James Atlas "If Epstein's ultimate ancestor is Montaigne, his more immediate master is Mencken. Like Mencken, he has fashioned a style that successfully combines elegance and even bookishness with street-smart colloquial directness. And there is nothing remote or aloof about him." --John Gross, Chicago Tribune

From America's call for a free press to its embrace of the capitalist system, Democracy in America--first published in 1835--enlightens, entertains, and endures as a brilliant study of our national government and character. Philosopher John Stuart Mill called it "among the most remarkable productions of our time." Woodrow Wilson wrote that de Tocqueville's ability to illuminate the actual workings of American democracy was "possibly without rival." For today's readers, de Tocqueville's concern about the effect of majority rule on the rights of individuals remains deeply meaningful. His shrewd observations about the "almost royal prerogatives" of the president and the need for virtue in elected officials are particularly prophetic. His profound insights into the great rewards and responsibilities of democratic government are words every American needs to read, contemplate, and remember. From America's call for a free press to its embrace of the capitalist system Democracy in America enlightens, entertains, and endures as a brilliant study of our national government and character. De Tocqueville's concern about the effect of majority rule on the rights of individuals remains deeply meaningful. His insights into the great rewards and responsibilities of democratic government are words every American needs to read, contemplate, and remember.

Extremely interesting look at our fledgling beginnings, IF you can force yourself to plow through it. Written as if from a Frenchman of the early 1800's, it gets pretty slow at times, but the information is worth the effort. If you're a true American and have interests in how 'things' were when our nation

was born, read it. This happens to be a very important work.

A must read for every American. A good, detailed outside view of our early growing pains.

The study guides do not give Alexis De Tocqueville the credit of foreshadowing the upheavals of the complex social landscape of America. His work is larger considering the environment of limited news media and communications of his times (1830's). Long and in many places boring, if you are a historian or just interested in how this great country evolved to world leadership in the twenty-first century, this is a must read.

Very well written and easy reading!

Wonderful, I'm still reading this book. After viewing the movie "America" by Dinesh D'Souza; I could really understand better Alex De Tocqueville's love and admiration of this country's greatest achievement and American experiment. In achieving Democracy sealed by the Constitution and guaranteed with a Bill of Rights. Benjamin Franklin's dire warning to one woman, and for all future Americans to be remembered ["A Republic, madam, if you can keep it"?] before it's too late.

Fascinating and well written. Meant to read this in my teens and never got around to it until now. Glad I was finally able to partake of this insightful work.

Every American citizen ought to be well schooled in how our government works, how it is constructed, and what we can learn from our own history. Alexis De Tocqueville does just that in this book. The best thing you can do for your country is to be a well informed citizen, and this book does an excellent job of educating the reader on the workings of our government, how it is constructed and the lessons we should be taking from our own history. A must read for citizens who wish to be better informed about our government, how it works, and why it is in a state of chaos today.

When De Tocqueville wrote this, most of America and the world had not known that America was as it actually was. He appreciated the "American Spirit" of individual independence and the entrepreneurial spirit, but forwarned of the dangers from two very different societies (north and south). He nailed it with his assessment of the armed camp the south had become (to maintain it's slave system), and the north's complicity in allowing it to continue. A must read for all buffs of

American history.

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