

american prometheus chapters

american prometheus chapters offers a deep exploration into the structure and narrative flow of the acclaimed biography “American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer.” This article provides a comprehensive breakdown of the book’s chapters, revealing how its organization shapes the reader’s understanding of Oppenheimer’s life, legacy, and the historical context surrounding his contributions to science and society. Readers will find a detailed overview of each major chapter, thematic highlights, and the chronology presented in the book. Additionally, this guide delves into the importance of individual chapters, how they build upon each other, and their role in depicting the complex journey of Oppenheimer as the “father of the atomic bomb.” Whether you are a student, educator, or history enthusiast, this article will help you navigate the intricate chapters of “American Prometheus,” appreciate its narrative structure, and gain insights into its key themes and historical significance.

- Overview of “American Prometheus”
- Chapter Structure and Organization
- Detailed Breakdown of Major Chapters
- Thematic Highlights Across Chapters
- Chronological Progression in the Book
- Key Figures and Events in Chapters
- Impact of Chapter Arrangement on Narrative
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Overview of “American Prometheus”

“American Prometheus” is a Pulitzer Prize-winning biography that chronicles the life of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the scientist most famously known for leading the Manhattan Project and developing the atomic bomb. Written by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin, the book spans several decades, offering readers both an intimate and expansive portrait of Oppenheimer’s personal, professional, and political journey. The chapters are meticulously crafted to guide readers through the complexities of his character and the tumultuous times in which he lived, making the book a touchstone for anyone interested in twentieth-century history, science, and ethics.

Chapter Structure and Organization

The chapter structure of “American Prometheus” is designed to mirror the chronological and thematic evolution of Oppenheimer’s life. Each chapter focuses on distinct periods, events, or turning points, contributing to a cohesive narrative arc. The authors use detailed chapter titles and subheadings to orient readers, allowing for a clear progression from Oppenheimer’s early years through his scientific achievements, personal struggles, and ultimate legacy. Understanding the chapter organization is essential for grasping the biography’s methodical approach and the interconnectedness of its themes.

How Chapters Are Divided

The book is divided into several main parts, each containing multiple chapters. These divisions reflect key stages in Oppenheimer’s life and career, such as his formative years, his ascent in the scientific community, the Manhattan Project era, and his post-war challenges. The chapter arrangement enables readers to follow Oppenheimer’s transformation over time, with each section serving as a building block for the next.

Purpose of Chapter Segmentation

Segmenting the biography into individual chapters allows the authors to explore specific themes, historical contexts, and character developments in detail. This structure also helps readers digest complex information, drawing connections between personal anecdotes and broader societal changes. By presenting Oppenheimer’s story in well-defined chapters, the authors ensure that readers can easily reference key events and themes throughout the book.

Detailed Breakdown of Major Chapters

The chapters of “American Prometheus” are crafted to provide a thorough account of Oppenheimer’s multifaceted life. Each chapter delves into unique aspects of his character, relationships, scientific work, and the historical forces that shaped his destiny. Below is a detailed breakdown of the major chapters found in the book:

Early Life and Education

- Explores Oppenheimer’s family background and childhood in New York City.
- Details his formative education, intellectual influences, and developing interest in physics.

- Highlights key mentors and the academic environment of the early 20th century.

Academic and Scientific Rise

- Focuses on Oppenheimer's university years and early research contributions.
- Examines his teaching roles, scientific collaborations, and reputation within the physics community.
- Discusses his work on quantum mechanics and theoretical physics.

Manhattan Project and World War II

- Covers Oppenheimer's recruitment and leadership during the Manhattan Project.
- Describes the scientific, logistical, and ethical challenges faced in developing the atomic bomb.
- Profiles key scientists and administrators involved in Los Alamos Laboratory.

Postwar Years and Political Turmoil

- Analyzes Oppenheimer's role in postwar nuclear policy and his advocacy for international control.
- Examines his relationships with political leaders and fellow scientists.
- Details the rise of anti-communist sentiment and its impact on Oppenheimer's career.

Security Hearings and Public Fallout

- Details the infamous security clearance hearings that questioned Oppenheimer's loyalty.
- Explores the personal and professional repercussions of the hearings.
- Highlights the media coverage and public perception during this period.

Legacy and Reflections

- Summarizes Oppenheimer's contributions to science and his philosophical reflections on his work.
- Discusses his later years, influence on future generations, and evolving legacy.
- Concludes with insights from colleagues, historians, and the authors themselves.

Thematic Highlights Across Chapters

Throughout its chapters, "American Prometheus" weaves together major themes that define both Oppenheimer's life and the era he helped shape. These themes are not confined to single chapters but recur and evolve, providing readers with a deeper understanding of the complexities at play.

Science and Ethics

A recurring theme is the tension between scientific advancement and ethical responsibility. Several chapters address Oppenheimer's internal struggles with the consequences of atomic research, the moral dilemmas faced by physicists, and the broader societal implications of nuclear technology.

Politics and Ideology

The biography's chapters frequently engage with the political atmosphere of the time, including the rise of McCarthyism, Cold War anxieties, and debates over national security. Oppenheimer's political affiliations, advocacy, and scrutiny by government agencies are explored in detail, revealing the intersection of science and politics.

Personal Growth and Relationships

Oppenheimer's relationships—with family, colleagues, students, and rivals—form a significant thread through the chapters. These personal connections shed light on his motivations, vulnerabilities, and the emotional toll exacted by his work and public controversies.

Chronological Progression in the Book

“American Prometheus” utilizes a chronological chapter progression to guide readers through the major events of Oppenheimer’s life. The timeline begins with his birth and early influences, continues through his academic pursuits and wartime achievements, and culminates in his later years and legacy. This linear approach allows readers to witness the evolution of both the man and his times, emphasizing cause-and-effect relationships and the impact of historical context on personal decisions.

Key Chronological Milestones

1. Oppenheimer’s childhood and formative education
2. Early scientific research and academic appointments
3. Leadership of the Manhattan Project
4. Postwar advocacy and government service
5. Security hearings and public scrutiny
6. Retirement and philosophical reflection

Key Figures and Events in Chapters

Each chapter introduces readers to a cast of influential figures and pivotal events that shaped Oppenheimer’s journey. These characters and historical moments are essential for understanding the biography’s depth and the multifaceted nature of Oppenheimer’s life.

Influential Scientists and Colleagues

Chapters highlight the roles of key scientists such as Enrico Fermi, Edward Teller, and Niels Bohr, whose collaborations and conflicts with Oppenheimer impacted the direction of atomic research. The narrative also features administrators like General Leslie Groves, who played a crucial role in managing the Manhattan Project.

Historical Events

Major historical events, including World War II, the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the onset of the Cold War, are interwoven throughout the chapters. These events provide

the backdrop for Oppenheimer's decisions and the shifting public perception of his work.

Impact of Chapter Arrangement on Narrative

The arrangement of chapters in "American Prometheus" is instrumental in shaping the narrative's flow, pacing, and emotional impact. By structuring the book around distinct periods and themes, the authors create a layered portrait of Oppenheimer, building suspense, empathy, and understanding as the story unfolds. The chapter organization allows for both broad historical analysis and intimate personal detail, ensuring readers remain engaged while absorbing significant historical information.

Reader Engagement and Accessibility

The careful segmentation and descriptive chapter titles enhance reader accessibility, making it easy to follow complex scientific and political developments. This structure also supports academic study and reference, as readers can locate specific events or themes with ease.

Building a Cohesive Narrative

By balancing chronological progression with thematic depth, the chapter arrangement offers a cohesive narrative that resonates with readers from diverse backgrounds. The interplay between chapters encourages reflection on the broader implications of Oppenheimer's life and legacy, reinforcing the biography's enduring relevance.

Frequently Asked Questions About Chapters

Q: How many chapters does "American Prometheus" contain?

A: The book contains over twenty chapters, divided into several major parts that reflect distinct periods in J. Robert Oppenheimer's life and career.

Q: What is the focus of the early chapters of "American Prometheus"?

A: Early chapters primarily focus on Oppenheimer's family background, education, and formative influences that shaped his intellectual development.

Q: Do the chapters cover Oppenheimer's role in the Manhattan Project in detail?

A: Yes, several chapters provide an in-depth account of Oppenheimer's leadership in the Manhattan Project, the development of the atomic bomb, and the challenges faced by his team.

Q: Are there chapters dedicated to the security hearings and political controversies?

A: The book features dedicated chapters that examine the security clearance hearings, the political climate of the era, and the impact on Oppenheimer's career and reputation.

Q: Is the chapter organization chronological or thematic?

A: The chapter organization is primarily chronological, following the progression of Oppenheimer's life, but also incorporates thematic exploration within specific periods.

Q: What key figures are highlighted in various chapters?

A: Major chapters highlight influential scientists, administrators, political leaders, and family members who played significant roles in Oppenheimer's life.

Q: Do the chapters include analysis of Oppenheimer's philosophical beliefs?

A: Yes, several chapters delve into Oppenheimer's philosophical reflections on science, ethics, and his personal responsibility regarding atomic weapons.

Q: How do the chapters contribute to understanding Oppenheimer's legacy?

A: The chapters collectively build a nuanced portrait of Oppenheimer, illustrating his scientific achievements, personal struggles, and the ongoing debate over his legacy.

Q: Can readers use the chapters for academic study?

A: The detailed chapter structure and clear organization make the book suitable for academic study, allowing readers to easily reference specific periods or themes.

Q: Are thematic highlights present across multiple chapters?

A: Yes, recurring themes such as science versus ethics, politics, and personal growth are woven throughout multiple chapters, enhancing the depth of the biography.

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American Prometheus Chapters: A Deep Dive into Oppenheimer's Life and Legacy

Are you captivated by the enigmatic figure of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the "father of the atomic bomb"? Have you read *American Prometheus*, the monumental biography by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin, and found yourself wanting a deeper understanding of its structure and thematic threads? This post serves as your comprehensive guide to the *American Prometheus* chapters, breaking down the book's key sections and highlighting the pivotal moments that shaped Oppenheimer's life and the course of history. We'll explore the narrative arc, thematic focus of each section, and offer insights to enhance your understanding of this compelling biographical masterpiece.

Part I: The Making of a Scientist (Chapters 1-8)

This initial section lays the groundwork for Oppenheimer's complex personality and intellectual development. We witness his privileged upbringing, his burgeoning scientific genius, and the influences that shaped his worldview.

Chapters 1-3: Early Life and Education: These chapters delve into Oppenheimer's childhood, highlighting his intellectual curiosity, his passion for science, and the formative experiences that ignited his scientific ambitions. His privileged background and exposure to diverse intellectual circles are meticulously detailed.

Chapters 4-6: European Influences and Scientific Breakthroughs: Oppenheimer's time in Europe, interacting with leading physicists and immersing himself in cutting-edge research, is vividly portrayed. This section underscores the intellectual climate of the time and the collaborative nature of scientific progress.

Chapters 7-8: Berkeley and the Rise of a Star: This section focuses on Oppenheimer's return to the United States and his ascension to prominence within the scientific community. His teaching at Berkeley, his research accomplishments, and his growing reputation as a brilliant and somewhat enigmatic figure are emphasized.

Part II: The Manhattan Project and the Atomic Bomb (Chapters 9-19)

This pivotal section focuses on Oppenheimer's involvement in the Manhattan Project, the top-secret effort to develop the atomic bomb during World War II.

Chapters 9-12: The Gathering Storm and the Decision to Build: These chapters detail the growing urgency surrounding the development of atomic weapons, the ethical dilemmas faced by the scientists involved, and Oppenheimer's critical role in leading the Los Alamos Laboratory. The political and scientific pressures are explored in detail.

Chapters 13-16: The Race Against Time and the Trinity Test: This section chronicles the intense pressure-cooker environment at Los Alamos, the challenges of collaborative scientific work under strict secrecy, and the culmination of the project in the Trinity test—a moment of both scientific triumph and profound moral ambiguity.

Chapters 17-19: Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and the Aftermath: The devastating consequences of the atomic bombings are explored, along with Oppenheimer's immediate reactions and the profound implications of his work on the world stage. The section tackles the ethical fallout and Oppenheimer's own internal struggle with the immense power he helped unleash.

Part III: Post-War Years and the Security Hearings (Chapters 20-28)

This section charts Oppenheimer's post-war life, his shifting political allegiances, and the infamous security hearings that would ultimately cost him his security clearance.

Chapters 20-23: The Atomic Age and Shifting Political Landscapes: This section covers Oppenheimer's post-war activities, his involvement in the burgeoning atomic age, and his shifting political stance, which drew increasing scrutiny from the government.

Chapters 24-27: McCarthyism and the Security Hearings: This section details the escalating political climate of McCarthyism, the accusations leveled against Oppenheimer, and the controversial security hearings that profoundly impacted his reputation and career.

Chapters 28: The Aftermath and Legacy: The final chapters explore the aftermath of the hearings, Oppenheimer's legacy, and the enduring impact of his life and work on science, politics, and the

human condition. His rehabilitation in later years and the continued relevance of his story are explored.

Conclusion

American Prometheus is more than just a biography; it's a sweeping historical narrative that explores the complexities of scientific progress, the ethical implications of technological advancement, and the human cost of war. By understanding the structure of the book and the thematic focus of each section, readers can fully appreciate the profound impact of J. Robert Oppenheimer's life and legacy on the 20th century and beyond. The book's careful sequencing of events allows for a deep understanding of Oppenheimer's character and the multifaceted nature of his contributions. Each chapter contributes to a larger, compelling story that continues to resonate today.

FAQs

1. How many chapters are in American Prometheus? There are 28 chapters in the complete edition.
2. What is the central theme of the book? The central theme explores the complex interplay between scientific genius, political maneuvering, and moral responsibility.
3. Is American Prometheus a difficult read? While detailed, the writing style is accessible and engaging, making it manageable for readers interested in history and biography.
4. What makes American Prometheus so significant? Its meticulous research and comprehensive coverage make it the definitive biography of J. Robert Oppenheimer.
5. Are there any film adaptations based on the book? Yes, the 2023 film *Oppenheimer*, directed by Christopher Nolan, is based on the biography.

american prometheus chapters: American Prometheus Kai Bird, Martin J. Sherwin, 2007-12-18 THE INSPIRATION FOR THE MAJOR MOTION PICTURE OPPENHEIMER • A riveting account of one of history's most essential and paradoxical figures."—Christopher Nolan #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • PULITZER PRIZE WINNER • The definitive biography of J. Robert Oppenheimer, one of the iconic figures of the twentieth century, a brilliant physicist who led the effort to build the atomic bomb for his country in a time of war, and who later found himself confronting the moral consequences of scientific progress. In this magisterial, acclaimed biography twenty-five years in the making, Kai Bird and Martin Sherwin capture Oppenheimer's life and times, from his early career to his central role in the Cold War. This is biography and history at its finest, riveting and deeply informative. "A masterful account of Oppenheimer's rise and fall, set in the context of the turbulent decades of America's own transformation. It is a tour de force." —Los Angeles Times Book Review "A work of voluminous scholarship and lucid insight, unifying its

multifaceted portrait with a keen grasp of Oppenheimer's essential nature.... It succeeds in deeply fathoming his most damaging, self-contradictory behavior." —The New York Times

american prometheus chapters: Oppenheimer Is Watching Me Jeff Porter, 2007-09 When he discovers that his father worked on missiles for a defense contractor, Jeff Porter is inspired to revisit America's atomic past and our fallen heroes, in particular J. Robert Oppenheimer, the father of the atomic bomb. The result, *Oppenheimer Is Watching Me*, takes readers back to the cold war, when men in lab coats toyed with the properties of matter and fears of national security troubled our sleep. With an eye for strange symmetries, Porter traces how one panicky moment shaped the lives of a generation.

american prometheus chapters: *The General and the Genius* James Kunetka, 2015-07-13 With a blinding flash in the New Mexico desert in the summer of 1945, the world was changed forever. The bomb that ushered in the atomic age was the product of one of history's most improbable partnerships. *The General and the Genius* reveals how two extraordinary men pulled off the greatest scientific feat of the twentieth century. Leslie Richard Groves of the Army Corps of Engineers, who had made his name by building the Pentagon in record time and under budget, was made overlord of the impossibly vast scientific enterprise known as the Manhattan Project. His mission: to beat the Nazis to the atomic bomb. So he turned to the nation's preeminent theoretical physicist, J. Robert Oppenheimer—the chain-smoking, martini-quaffing son of wealthy Jewish immigrants, whose background was riddled with communist associations—Groves's opposite in nearly every respect. In their three-year collaboration, the iron-willed general and the visionary scientist led a brilliant team in a secret mountaintop lab and built the fearsome weapons that ended the war but introduced the human race to unimaginable new terrors. And at the heart of this most momentous work of World War II is the story of two extraordinary men—the general and the genius.

american prometheus chapters: Robert Oppenheimer Ray Monk, 2014-03-11 An unforgettable story of discovery and unimaginable destruction and a major biography of one of America's most brilliant—and most divisive—scientists, *Robert Oppenheimer: A Life Inside the Center* vividly illuminates the man who would go down in history as "the father of the atomic bomb." "Impressive. . . . An extraordinary story."—The New York Times Book Review "Judicious, comprehensive and reliable. . . . By far the most thorough survey yet written of Oppenheimer's physics.—Washington Post Oppenheimer's talent and drive secured him a place in the pantheon of great physicists and carried him to the laboratories where the secrets of the universe revealed themselves. But they also led him to contribute to the development of the deadliest weapon on earth, a discovery he soon came to fear. His attempts to resist the escalation of the Cold War arms race—coupled with political leanings at odds with post-war America—led many to question his loyalties, and brought down upon him the full force of McCarthyite anti-communism. Digging deeply into Oppenheimer's past to solve the enigma of his motivations and his complex personality, Ray Monk uncovers the extraordinary, charming, tortured man—and the remarkable mind—who fundamentally reshaped the world.

american prometheus chapters: *109 East Palace* Jennet Conant, 2007-11-01 From the bestselling author of *Tuxedo Park*, the extraordinary story of the thousands of people who were sequestered in a military facility in the desert for twenty-seven intense months under J. Robert Oppenheimer where the world's best scientists raced to invent the atomic bomb and win World War II. In 1943, J. Robert Oppenheimer, the brilliant, charismatic head of the Manhattan Project, recruited scientists to live as virtual prisoners of the U.S. government at Los Alamos, a barren mesa thirty-five miles outside Santa Fe, New Mexico. Thousands of men, women, and children spent the war years sequestered in this top-secret military facility. They lied to friends and family about where they were going and what they were doing, and then disappeared into the desert. Through the eyes of a young Santa Fe widow who was one of Oppenheimer's first recruits, we see how, for all his flaws, he developed into an inspiring leader and motivated all those involved in the Los Alamos project to make a supreme effort and achieve the unthinkable.

american prometheus chapters: The Ruin of J. Robert Oppenheimer Priscilla J. McMillan,

2018 Draws from previously classified documents, unpublished manuscripts, private correspondence, and other sources to chronicle the events that surrounded the revocation of scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer's security clearance in 1954, discussing the roles of physicist Edward Teller, Republican businessman Lewis Strauss, congressional assistant William Borden, and President Eisenhower.

american prometheus chapters: *The Oppenheimer Alternative* Arc Manor, 2023-07-11 On the 75th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb, Hugo and Nebula-winning author Robert J. Sawyer takes us back in time to revisit history...with a twist. While J. Robert Oppenheimer and his Manhattan Project team struggle to develop the A-bomb, Edward Teller wants something even more devastating: a bomb based on nuclear fusion—the mechanism that powers the sun. Teller's research leads to a terrifying discovery: by the year 2030, the sun will eject its outermost layer, destroying the entire inner solar system—including Earth. As the war ends with the use of fission bombs against Japan, Oppenheimer's team, plus Albert Einstein and Wernher von Braun, stay together—the greatest scientific geniuses from the last century racing against time to save our future. Meticulously researched and replete with real-life characters and events, *The Oppenheimer Alternative* is a breathtaking adventure through both real and alternate history

american prometheus chapters: *A World Destroyed* Martin J. Sherwin, 2003 Sikkerhed og våbenmagt ; Manhattan-projektet; Diplomati, 1940'erne; Churchill, Rooservelt, Niels Bohr; Efterkrigstiden; Truman, Sovjetunionen, Den Kolde Krig; Potsdam-konferencen 1945.

american prometheus chapters: *Anthem* Ayn Rand, 2021-07-07 About this Edition This 2021-2022 Digital Student Edition of Ayn Rand's *Anthem* was created for teachers and students receiving free novels from the Ayn Rand Institute, and includes a historic Q&A with Ayn Rand that cannot be found in any other edition of *Anthem*. In this Q&A from 1979, Rand responds to questions about *Anthem* sent to her by a high school classroom. About *Anthem* *Anthem* is Ayn Rand's "hymn to man's ego." It is the story of one man's rebellion against a totalitarian, collectivist society. Equality 7-2521 is a young man who yearns to understand "the Science of Things." But he lives in a bleak, dystopian future where independent thought is a crime and where science and technology have regressed to primitive levels. All expressions of individualism have been suppressed in the world of *Anthem*; personal possessions are nonexistent, individual preferences are condemned as sinful and romantic love is forbidden. Obedience to the collective is so deeply ingrained that the very word "I" has been erased from the language. In pursuit of his quest for knowledge, Equality 7-2521 struggles to answer the questions that burn within him — questions that ultimately lead him to uncover the mystery behind his society's downfall and to find the key to a future of freedom and progress. *Anthem* anticipates the theme of Rand's first best seller, *The Fountainhead*, which she stated as "individualism versus collectivism, not in politics, but in man's soul."

american prometheus chapters: *The Color of Truth* Kai Bird, 2017-01-10 From the Pulitzer Prize-winning coauthor of *American Prometheus*—this biography of the Bundy Brothers inspired the Academy Award-winning film *Oppenheimer*. In this definitive biography of McGeorge Bundy and William Bundy, two of the best and the brightest who advised presidents about peace and war during the most dangerous years of the Cold War, Kai Bird pens a portrait of the fiercely patriotic, brilliant, and brazenly self-confident men who directed a steady escalation of a war they did not believe could be won. Drawing on seven years of research, nearly one hundred interviews, and scores of still-classified top secret documents in a masterful reevaluation of America's actions throughout the Cold War and Vietnam, *The Color of Truth* tells the tale of the anti-communist liberals who, despite their grave doubts about sending Americans to fight in Southeast Asia, became key architects of America's war in Vietnam. Like the bestselling *The Wise Men*, this dual biography is both an inside account of the making of US foreign policy in an era of nuclear weapons and a stunning group portrait of the heirs of the Wise Men—including Robert McNamara, George Ball, and Robert Kennedy—and the presidents they served.

american prometheus chapters: *Steve Jobs* Walter Isaacson, 2011 Based on more than 40 interviews with Jobs conducted over two years--as well as interviews with more than 100 family

members, friends, adversaries, competitors, and colleagues--Isaacson has written a riveting story of the roller-coaster life and searingly intense personality of a creative entrepreneur whose passion for perfection and ferocious drive revolutionized six industries: personal computers, animated movies, music, phones, tablet computing, and digital publishing.

american prometheus chapters: *The Wives of Los Alamos* TaraShea Nesbit, 2014-04-24 Their average age was twenty-five. They came from Berkeley, Cambridge, Paris, London and Chicago - and arrived in New Mexico ready for adventure or at least resigned to it. But hope quickly turned to hardship in the desolate military town where everything was a secret, including what their husbands were doing at the lab. They lived in barely finished houses with a P.O. Box for an address, in a town wreathed with barbed wire, all for the benefit of 'the project' that didn't exist as far as the greater world was concerned. They were constrained by the words they couldn't say out loud, the letters they couldn't send home, the freedom they didn't have. Though they were strangers, they joined together - babies were born, friendships were forged, children grew up. But then 'the project' was unleashed and even bigger challenges faced the women of Los Alamos, as they struggled with the burden of their contribution towards the creation of the most destructive force in mankind's history - the atomic bomb. Contentious, gripping and intimate, *The Wives of Los Alamos* is a personal tale of one of the most momentous events in our history.

american prometheus chapters: *Secret Path* Gord Downie, 2016-10-18 Gord Downie creates a concept album that tells the true story of Chanie Wenjack, an Indigenous boy who died in 1996, trying to escape one of Canada's residential schools.

american prometheus chapters: *The Chairman* Kai Bird, 2017-01-10 Against the backgrounds of World War II, the Cold War, the construction of Pax Americana, the Cuban missile crisis, the Kennedy assassination, and Vietnam, Bird shows us McCloy's astonishing rise from self-described "chore boy" to "chairman of the Establishment." His powerful circle shaped the postwar globe. But McCloy stood out among them as a towering figure of achievement: as a Wall Street lawyer who earned the confidence of captains of industry and presidents; as Henry Stimson's right-hand man at the War Department; as president of the World Bank and chairman of the Chase financial empire; and as presidential adviser. Bird captures every facet of this self-made man. We see McCloy's commercial acumen as the most in-demand lawyer of Wall Street; his dictatorial will as high commissioner of occupied Germany; and his stoic loyalty as adviser to Presidents FDR, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Carter, Ford, and Reagan. Bird brilliantly explores how McCloy came to epitomize the American Establishment and the values of a generation that led the United States through bitter war and unparalleled prosperity.

american prometheus chapters: *Ready Player One* Ernest Cline, 2011-08-16 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Now a major motion picture directed by Steven Spielberg. "Enchanting . . . Willy Wonka meets *The Matrix*."—USA Today • "As one adventure leads expertly to the next, time simply evaporates."—Entertainment Weekly A world at stake. A quest for the ultimate prize. Are you ready? In the year 2045, reality is an ugly place. The only time Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the OASIS, a vast virtual world where most of humanity spends their days. When the eccentric creator of the OASIS dies, he leaves behind a series of fiendish puzzles, based on his obsession with the pop culture of decades past. Whoever is first to solve them will inherit his vast fortune—and control of the OASIS itself. Then Wade cracks the first clue. Suddenly he's beset by rivals who'll kill to take this prize. The race is on—and the only way to survive is to win. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY Entertainment Weekly • San Francisco Chronicle • Village Voice • Chicago Sun-Times • iO9 • The AV Club "Delightful . . . the grown-up's Harry Potter."—HuffPost "An addictive read . . . part intergalactic scavenger hunt, part romance, and all heart."—CNN "A most excellent ride . . . Cline stuffs his novel with a cornucopia of pop culture, as if to wink to the reader."—Boston Globe "Ridiculously fun and large-hearted . . . Cline is that rare writer who can translate his own dorky enthusiasms into prose that's both hilarious and compassionate."—NPR "[A] fantastic page-turner . . . starts out like a simple bit of fun and winds up feeling like a rich and plausible picture of future friendships in a world not too distant from our

own.”—iO9

american prometheus chapters: Bomb (Graphic Novel) Steve Sheinkin, 2023-01-24 A riveting graphic novel adaptation of the award-winning nonfiction book, *Bomb*—the fascinating and frightening true story of the creation behind the most destructive force that birthed the arms race and the Cold War. In December of 1938, a chemist in a German laboratory made a shocking discovery: When placed next to radioactive material, a Uranium atom split in two. That simple discovery launched a scientific race that spanned three continents. In Great Britain and the United States, Soviet spies worked their way into the scientific community; in Norway, a commando force slipped behind enemy lines to attack German heavy-water manufacturing; and deep in the desert, one brilliant group of scientists, led by father of the atomic bomb J. Robert Oppenheimer, was hidden away at a remote site at Los Alamos. This is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon. This is the story of the atomic bomb. New York Times bestselling author Steve Sheinkin's award-winning nonfiction book is now available reimaged in the graphic novel format. Full color illustrations from Nick Bertozzi are detailed and enriched with the nonfiction expertise Nick brings to the story as a beloved artist, comic book writer, and commercial illustrator who has written a couple of his own historical graphic novels, including *Shackleton* and *Lewis & Clark*. Accessible, gripping, and educational, this new edition of *Bomb* is perfect for young readers and adults alike. Praise for *Bomb* (2012): “This superb and exciting work of nonfiction would be a fine tonic for any jaded adolescent who thinks history is 'boring.' It's also an excellent primer for adult readers who may have forgotten, or never learned, the remarkable story of how nuclear weaponry was first imagined, invented and deployed—and of how an international arms race began well before there was such a thing as an atomic bomb.” —The Wall Street Journal “This is edge-of-the seat material that will resonate with YAs who clamor for true spy stories, and it will undoubtedly engross a cross-market audience of adults who dozed through the World War II unit in high school.” —The Bulletin (starred review) Also by Steve Sheinkin: *Fallout: Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Showdown* *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights* *Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team* *Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War* *Born to Fly: The First Women's Air Race Across America* *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery* *Which Way to the Wild West?: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About Westward Expansion* *King George: What Was His Problem?: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About the American Revolution* *Two Miserable Presidents: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About the Civil War*

american prometheus chapters: The Meanings of J. Robert Oppenheimer Lindsey Michael Banco, 2016-05-15 He called the first atomic bomb “technically sweet,” yet as he watched its brilliant light explode over the New Mexico desert in 1945 in advance of the black horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he also thought of the line from the Hindu epic *The Bhagavad Gita*: “I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.” Physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, the scientific director of the Manhattan Project, the single most recognizable face of the atomic bomb, and a man whose name has become almost synonymous with Cold War American nuclear science, was and still is a conflicted, controversial figure who has come to represent an equally ambivalent technology. *The Meanings of J. Robert Oppenheimer* examines how he has been represented over the past seven decades in biographies, histories, fiction, comics, photographs, film, television, documentaries, theater, and museums. Lindsey Michael Banco gathers an unprecedented group of cultural texts and seeks to understand the multiple meanings Oppenheimer has held in American popular culture since 1945. He traces the ways these representations of Oppenheimer have influenced public understanding of the atomic bomb, technology, physics, the figure of the scientist, the role of science in war, and even what it means to pursue knowledge of the world around us. Questioning and unpacking both how and why Oppenheimer is depicted as he is across time and genre, this book is broad in scope, profound in detail, and offers unique insights into the rise of nuclear culture and how we think about the relationship between history, imagination, science, and nuclear weapons

today.

american prometheus chapters: An Atomic Love Story Shirley Streshinsky, Patricia Klaus, 2013-10-23 A gripping narrative of the love and betrayal of J. Robert Oppenheimer, told through the lives of three unique women. Set against a dramatic backdrop of war, spies, and nuclear bombs, *An Atomic Love Story* unveils a vivid new view of a tumultuous era and one of its most important figures. In the early decades of the 20th century, three highly ambitious women found their way to the West Coast, where each was destined to collide with the young Oppenheimer, the enigmatic physicist whose work in creating the atomic bomb would forever impact modern history. His first and most intense love was for Jean Tatlock, though he married the tempestuous Kitty Harrison—both were members of the Communist Party—and was rumored to have had a scandalous affair with the brilliant Ruth Sherman Tolman, ten years his senior and the wife of another celebrated physicist. Although each were connected through their relationship to Oppenheimer, their experiences reflect important changes in the lives of American women in the 20th century: the conflict between career and marriage; the need for a woman to define herself independently; experimentation with sexuality; and the growth of career opportunities. Beautifully written and superbly researched through a rich collection of firsthand accounts, this intimate portrait shares the tragedies, betrayals, and romances of an alluring man and three bold women, revealing how they pushed to the very forefront of social and cultural changes in a fascinating, volatile era.

american prometheus chapters: Take Us to Your Chief Drew Hayden Taylor, 2016-10-08 A forgotten Haudenosaunee social song beams into the cosmos like a homing beacon for interstellar visitors. A computer learns to feel sadness and grief from the history of atrocities committed against First Nations. A young Native man discovers the secret to time travel in ancient petroglyphs. Drawing inspiration from science fiction legends like Arthur C. Clarke, Isaac Asimov and Ray Bradbury, Drew Hayden Taylor frames classic science-fiction tropes in an Aboriginal perspective. The nine stories in this collection span all traditional topics of science fiction—from peaceful aliens to hostile invaders; from space travel to time travel; from government conspiracies to connections across generations. Yet Taylor's First Nations perspective draws fresh parallels, likening the cultural implications of alien contact to those of the arrival of Europeans in the Americas, or highlighting the impossibility of remaining a good Native in such an unnatural situation as a space mission. Infused with Native stories and variously mysterious, magical and humorous, *Take Us to Your Chief* is the perfect mesh of nostalgically 1950s-esque science fiction with modern First Nations discourse.

american prometheus chapters: Oppenheimer Jeremy Bernstein, 2005-08 As a former colleague of Oppenheimer's, Bernstein has composed a narrative that is both personal and historical, bringing the reader closer to the life and workings of an extraordinary and controversial man.

american prometheus chapters: The Bastard Brigade Sam Kean, 2019-07-09 From New York Times bestselling author Sam Kean comes the gripping, untold story of a renegade group of scientists and spies determined to keep Adolf Hitler from obtaining the ultimate prize: a nuclear bomb. Scientists have always kept secrets. But rarely have the secrets been as vital as they were during World War II. In the middle of building an atomic bomb, the leaders of the Manhattan Project were alarmed to learn that Nazi Germany was far outpacing the Allies in nuclear weapons research. Hitler, with just a few pounds of uranium, would have the capability to reverse the entire D-Day operation and conquer Europe. So they assembled a rough and motley crew of geniuses -- dubbed the Alsos Mission -- and sent them careening into Axis territory to spy on, sabotage, and even assassinate members of Nazi Germany's feared Uranium Club. The details of the mission rival the finest spy thriller, but what makes this story sing is the incredible cast of characters -- both heroes and rogues alike -- including: Moe Berg, the major league catcher who abandoned the game for a career as a multilingual international spy; the strangest fellow to ever play professional baseball. Werner Heisenberg, the Nobel Prize-winning physicist credited as the discoverer of quantum mechanics; a key contributor to the Nazi's atomic bomb project and the primary target of the Alsos mission. Colonel Boris Pash, a high school science teacher and veteran of the Russian Revolution who fled the Soviet Union with a deep disdain for Communists and who later led the Alsos mission.

Joe Kennedy Jr., the charismatic, thrill-seeking older brother of JFK whose need for adventure led him to volunteer for the most dangerous missions the Navy had to offer. Samuel Goudsmit, a washed-up physics prodigy who spent his life hunting Nazi scientists -- and his parents, who had been swept into a concentration camp -- across the globe. Irène and Frederic Joliot-Curie, a physics Nobel-Prize winning power couple who used their unassuming status as scientists to become active members of the resistance. Thrust into the dark world of international espionage, these scientists and soldiers played a vital and largely untold role in turning back one of the darkest tides in human history.

american prometheus chapters: Black Prometheus Jared Hickman, 2016-09-28 How did an ancient mythological figure who stole fire from the gods become a face of the modern, lending his name to trailblazing spaceships and radical publishing outfits alike? How did Prometheus come to represent a notion of civilizational progress through revolution--scientific, political, and spiritual--and thereby to center nothing less than a myth of modernity itself? The answer Black Prometheus gives is that certain features of the myth--its geographical associations, iconography of bodily suffering, and function as a limit case in a long tradition of absolutist political theology--made it ripe for revival and reinvention in a historical moment in which freedom itself was racialized, in what was the Age both of Atlantic revolution and Atlantic slavery. Contained in the various incarnations of the modern Prometheus--whether in Mary Shelley's esoteric novel, *Frankenstein*, Denmark Vesey's real-world recruitment of slave rebels, or popular travelogues representing Muslim jihadists against the Russian empire in the Caucasus-- is a profound debate about the means and ends of liberation in our globalized world. Tracing the titan's rehabilitation and unprecedented exaltation in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries across a range of genres and geographies turns out to provide a way to rethink the relationship between race, religion, and modernity and to interrogate the Eurocentric and secularist assumptions of our deepest intellectual traditions of critique.

american prometheus chapters: The Good Spy Kai Bird, 2014-05-20 The Good Spy is Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer Kai Bird's compelling portrait of the remarkable life and death of one of the most important operatives in CIA history -- a man who, had he lived, might have helped heal the rift between Arabs and the West. On April 18, 1983, a bomb exploded outside the American Embassy in Beirut, killing 63 people. The attack was a geopolitical turning point. It marked the beginning of Hezbollah as a political force, but even more important, it eliminated America's most influential and effective intelligence officer in the Middle East -- CIA operative Robert Ames. What set Ames apart from his peers was his extraordinary ability to form deep, meaningful connections with key Arab intelligence figures. Some operatives relied on threats and subterfuge, but Ames worked by building friendships and emphasizing shared values -- never more notably than with Yasir Arafat's charismatic intelligence chief and heir apparent Ali Hassan Salameh (aka "The Red Prince"). Ames' deepening relationship with Salameh held the potential for a lasting peace. Within a few years, though, both men were killed by assassins, and America's relations with the Arab world began heading down a path that culminated in 9/11, the War on Terror, and the current fog of mistrust. Bird, who as a child lived in the Beirut Embassy and knew Ames as a neighbor when he was twelve years old, spent years researching *The Good Spy*. Not only does the book draw on hours of interviews with Ames' widow, and quotes from hundreds of Ames' private letters, it's woven from interviews with scores of current and former American, Israeli, and Palestinian intelligence officers as well as other players in the Middle East "Great Game." What emerges is a masterpiece-level narrative of the making of a CIA officer, a uniquely insightful history of twentieth-century conflict in the Middle East, and an absorbing hour-by-hour account of the Beirut Embassy bombing. Even more impressive, Bird draws on his reporter's skills to deliver a full dossier on the bombers and expose the shocking truth of where the attack's mastermind resides today.

american prometheus chapters: The Outlier Kai Bird, 2021-06-15 "Important . . . [a] landmark presidential biography . . . Bird is able to build a persuasive case that the Carter presidency deserves this new look."—The New York Times Book Review An essential re-evaluation of the

complex triumphs and tragedies of Jimmy Carter's presidential legacy—from the expert biographer and Pulitzer Prize-winning co-author of *American Prometheus* Four decades after Ronald Reagan's landslide win in 1980, Jimmy Carter's one-term presidency is often labeled a failure; indeed, many Americans view Carter as the only ex-president to have used the White House as a stepping-stone to greater achievements. But in retrospect the Carter political odyssey is a rich and human story, marked by both formidable accomplishments and painful political adversity. In this deeply researched, brilliantly written account, Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer Kai Bird deftly unfolds the Carter saga as a tragic tipping point in American history. As president, Carter was not merely an outsider; he was an outlier. He was the only president in a century to grow up in the heart of the Deep South, and his born-again Christianity made him the most openly religious president in memory. This outlier brought to the White House a rare mix of humility, candor, and unnerving self-confidence that neither Washington nor America was ready to embrace. Decades before today's public reckoning with the vast gulf between America's ethos and its actions, Carter looked out on a nation torn by race and demoralized by Watergate and Vietnam and prescribed a radical self-examination from which voters recoiled. The cost of his unshakable belief in doing the right thing would be losing his re-election bid—and witnessing the ascendance of Reagan. In these remarkable pages, Bird traces the arc of Carter's administration, from his aggressive domestic agenda to his controversial foreign policy record, taking readers inside the Oval Office and through Carter's battles with both a political establishment and a Washington press corps that proved as adversarial as any foreign power. Bird shows how issues still hotly debated today—from national health care to growing inequality and racism to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict—burned at the heart of Carter's America, and consumed a president who found a moral duty in solving them. Drawing on interviews with Carter and members of his administration and recently declassified documents, Bird delivers a profound, clear-eyed evaluation of a leader whose legacy has been deeply misunderstood. *The Outlier* is the definitive account of an enigmatic presidency—both as it really happened and as it is remembered in the American consciousness.

american prometheus chapters: *The Unbound Prometheus* David S. Landes, 2003-06-26
Sample Text

american prometheus chapters: *Traitor to His Class* H. W. Brands, 2009-09-08 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • A brilliant evocation of one of the greatest presidents in American history by the two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, bestselling historian, and author of *Our First Civil War* It may well be the best general biography of Franklin Roosevelt we will see for many years to come." —The Christian Science Monitor Drawing on archival material, public speeches, correspondence and accounts by those closest to Roosevelt early in his career and during his presidency, H. W. Brands shows how Roosevelt transformed American government during the Depression with his New Deal legislation, and carefully managed the country's prelude to war. Brands shows how Roosevelt's friendship and regard for Winston Churchill helped to forge one of the greatest alliances in history, as Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin maneuvered to defeat Germany and prepare for post-war Europe. Look for H.W. Brands's other biographies: *THE FIRST AMERICAN* (Benjamin Franklin), *ANDREW JACKSON, THE MAN WHO SAVED THE UNION* (Ulysses S. Grant), and *REAGAN*.

american prometheus chapters: *Thirst* Scott Harrison, 2018-10-02 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • An inspiring personal story of redemption, second chances, and the transformative power within us all, from the founder and CEO of the nonprofit charity: water. At 28 years old, Scott Harrison had it all. A top nightclub promoter in New York City, his life was an endless cycle of drugs, booze, models—repeat. But 10 years in, desperately unhappy and morally bankrupt, he asked himself, What would the exact opposite of my life look like? Walking away from everything, Harrison spent the next 16 months on a hospital ship in West Africa and discovered his true calling. In 2006, with no money and less than no experience, Harrison founded charity: water. Today, his organization has raised over \$750 million to bring clean drinking water to more than 17.4 million people around the globe. In *Thirst*, Harrison recounts the twists and turns that built charity: water into one of the most trusted and admired nonprofits in the world. Renowned for its 100% donation model, bold

storytelling, imaginative branding, and radical commitment to transparency, charity: water has disrupted how social entrepreneurs work while inspiring millions of people to join its mission of bringing clean water to everyone on the planet within our lifetime. In the tradition of such bestselling books as *Shoe Dog* and *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, *Thirst* is a riveting account of how to build a better charity, a better business, a better life—and a gritty tale that proves it's never too late to make a change. 100% of the author's net proceeds from *Thirst* will go to fund charity: water projects around the world.

american prometheus chapters: *Cloud Atlas* (20th Anniversary Edition) David Mitchell, 2010-07-16 #1 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • A timeless, structure-bending classic that explores how actions of individual lives impact the past, present and future—from a postmodern visionary and one of the leading voices in fiction Featuring a new afterword by David Mitchell and a new introduction by Gabrielle Zevin, author of *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* One of the New York Times's 100 Best Books of the 21st Century • Shortlisted for the International Booker Prize *Cloud Atlas* begins in 1850 with Adam Ewing, an American notary voyaging from the Chatham Isles to his home in California. Ewing is befriended by a physician, Dr. Goose, who begins to treat him for a rare species of brain parasite. The novel careens, with dazzling virtuosity, to Belgium in 1931, to the West Coast in the 1970s, to an inglorious present-day England, to a Korean superstate of the near future where neocapitalism has run amok, and, finally, to a postapocalyptic Iron Age Hawaii in the last days of history. But the story doesn't end even there. The novel boomerangs back through centuries and space, returning by the same route, in reverse, to its starting point. Along the way, David Mitchell reveals how his disparate characters connect, how their fates intertwine, and how their souls drift across time like clouds across the sky. As wild as a video game, as mysterious as a Zen koan, *Cloud Atlas* is an unforgettable tour de force that, like its incomparable author, has transcended its cult classic status to become a worldwide phenomenon.

american prometheus chapters: *God Is Not Great* Christopher Hitchens, 2008-11-19 Christopher Hitchens, described in the *London Observer* as “one of the most prolific, as well as brilliant, journalists of our time” takes on his biggest subject yet—the increasingly dangerous role of religion in the world. In the tradition of Bertrand Russell's *Why I Am Not a Christian* and Sam Harris's recent bestseller, *The End Of Faith*, Christopher Hitchens makes the ultimate case against religion. With a close and erudite reading of the major religious texts, he documents the ways in which religion is a man-made wish, a cause of dangerous sexual repression, and a distortion of our origins in the cosmos. With eloquent clarity, Hitchens frames the argument for a more secular life based on science and reason, in which hell is replaced by the Hubble Telescope's awesome view of the universe, and Moses and the burning bush give way to the beauty and symmetry of the double helix.

american prometheus chapters: *Quartet for J. Robert Oppenheimer* Kelly Cherry, 2017-02 “Robert Oppenheimer was a complex human being. No biography yet written comes even close to this elegant skein of poems in capturing his life and character.”—Richard Rhodes, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Making of the Atomic Bomb* *Quartet for J. Robert Oppenheimer* records in poetry the life and times of one of America's best-known scientists, the father of the atomic bomb who later lobbied for containment of nuclear weaponry. In brief, elegant stanzas, Kelly Cherry examines Oppenheimer's inspirations, dreams, and values, visiting the events, places, and people that inspired him or led him to despair. She finds his place among scientists of his own time, such as Alan Turing and Albert Einstein, as well as his connections with historical and mythological figures from John Donne to Persephone. “Of course he had blood on his hands. Who did not?” says Cherry, in “The Nature of War.” Again and again in the course of this remarkable poem, Cherry's narration of Oppenheimer's life compels her readers to contemplate the vagaries of science, guilt, and our responsibilities to each other. “*Quartet for J. Robert Oppenheimer* is a book length poem in which the architect of the atom bomb comes to embody America and the West's Faustian control of nature and the paradoxical helplessness and guilt which that control entailed. Oppenheim is marvelous, complicated, flawed and admirable character, and these poems read like chapters in a novel without

in any way abandoning the intensities of feeling and image or delight in language we associate with lyric poetry. A terrific achievement and a compelling read.”—Alan Shapiro, author of *Life Pig* and *Reel to Reel*

american prometheus chapters: *The Pastoral Clinic* Angela Garcia, 2010-06-08 Lyrically evoking the Española Valley and its residents through conversations, encounters, and recollections, *The Pastoral Clinic* is at once a devastating portrait of addiction, a rich ethnography of place, and an eloquent call for a new ethics of care. --amazon.com.

american prometheus chapters: *Uncommon Sense* J. Robert Oppenheimer, 2013-11-09 J. Robert Oppenheimer, a leading physicist in the Manhattan Project, recognized that scientific inquiry and discovery could no longer be separated from their effect on political decision-making, social responsibility, and human endeavor in general. He openly addressed issues of common concern and as a scientist accepted the responsibility brought about by nuclear physics and the atom bomb. In this collection of essays and speeches, Oppenheimer discusses the shift in scientific awareness and its impact on education, the question of openness in a society forced to keep secrets, the conflict between individual concerns and public and political necessity, the future of science and its effects on future politics---in short, the common and uncommon sense we find in our modern day reality.

american prometheus chapters: *The Harmony of the World* Johannes Kepler, 1997 The authors have presented and interpreted Johannes Kepler's Latin text to English readers by putting it into the kind of clear but earnest language they suppose Kepler would have used if he had been writing today.

american prometheus chapters: *American Canopy* Eric Rutkow, 2013-04-02 In the bestselling tradition of Michael Pollan's *Second Nature*, this fascinating and unique historical work tells the remarkable story of the relationship between Americans and trees across the entire span of our nation's history.

american prometheus chapters: *Critical Assembly* Lillian Hoddeson, Paul W. Henriksen, Roger A. Meade, 2004-02-12 This 1993 book explores how the 'critical assembly' of scientists at Los Alamos created the first atomic bombs.

american prometheus chapters: *Breaking Protocol* Philip Nash, 2020-01-21 An in-depth history of the Big Six, the first six female ambassadors for the United States. “It used to be,” soon-to-be secretary of state Madeleine K. Albright said in 1996, “that the only way a woman could truly make her foreign policy views felt was by marrying a diplomat and then pouring tea on an offending ambassador’s lap.” This world of US diplomacy excluded women for a variety of misguided reasons: they would let their emotions interfere with the task of diplomacy, they were not up to the deadly risks that could arise overseas, and they would be unable to cultivate the social contacts vital to success in the field. The men of the State Department objected but had to admit women, including the first female ambassadors: Ruth Bryan Owen, Florence “Daisy” Harriman, Perle Mesta, Eugenie Anderson, Clare Boothe Luce, and Frances Willis. These were among the most influential women in US foreign relations in their era. Using newly available archival sources, Philip Nash examines the history of the “Big Six” and how they carved out their rightful place in history. After a chapter capturing the male world of American diplomacy in the early twentieth century, the book devotes one chapter to each of the female ambassadors and delves into a number of topics, including their backgrounds and appointments, the issues they faced while on the job, how they were received by host countries, the complications of protocol, and the press coverage they received, which was paradoxically favorable yet deeply sexist. In an epilogue that also provides an overview of the role of women in modern US diplomacy, Nash reveals how these trailblazers helped pave the way for more gender parity in US foreign relations. Praise for *Breaking Protocol* “Here at last is the long-neglected story of America's pioneering women diplomats. *Breaking Protocol* reveals the contributions of six trail-blazers who practiced innovative statecraft in order to surmount all kinds of obstacles?including many posed by their own employer, the U.S. State Department. Philip Nash's illuminating study offers an invaluable foundation for our understanding of contemporary foreign policy decision-makers.” —Sylvia Bashevkin, author of *Women as Foreign Policy Leaders: National*

Security and Gender Politics in Superpower America “Diplomacy is the one field of public political life that has been relatively open to women?we need only think of Hillary Clinton, Condoleeza Rice, and Madeleine Albright. In *Breaking Protocol*, Philip Nash reminds us of the history of their achievements with an enduring and enticing record of the much longer, surprising history of female diplomats and their individual efforts to shape American and international politics.” —Glenda Sluga, University of Sydney

american prometheus chapters: *BioShock: Rapture* John Shirley, 2011-07-19 The prequel story to the award-winning and bestselling video game franchise. How the majesty of Rapture, the shining city below the sea, became an instant dystopia It's the end of World War II. FDR's New Deal has redefined American politics. Taxes are at an all-time high. The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has brought a fear of total annihilation. The rise of secret government agencies and sanctions on business has many watching their backs. America's sense of freedom is diminishing...and many are desperate to take that freedom back. Among them is a great dreamer, an immigrant who pulled himself from the depths of poverty to become one of the wealthiest and admired men in the world. That man is Andrew Ryan, and he believed that great men and women deserve better. And so he set out to create the impossible, a utopia free from government, censorship, and moral restrictions on science—where what you give is what you get. He created Rapture—the shining city below the sea. But as we all know, this utopia suffered a great tragedy. This is the story of how it all came to be...and how it all ended. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

american prometheus chapters: *Life 3.0* Max Tegmark, 2017-08-29 New York Times Best Seller How will Artificial Intelligence affect crime, war, justice, jobs, society and our very sense of being human? The rise of AI has the potential to transform our future more than any other technology—and there's nobody better qualified or situated to explore that future than Max Tegmark, an MIT professor who's helped mainstream research on how to keep AI beneficial. How can we grow our prosperity through automation without leaving people lacking income or purpose? What career advice should we give today's kids? How can we make future AI systems more robust, so that they do what we want without crashing, malfunctioning or getting hacked? Should we fear an arms race in lethal autonomous weapons? Will machines eventually outsmart us at all tasks, replacing humans on the job market and perhaps altogether? Will AI help life flourish like never before or give us more power than we can handle? What sort of future do you want? This book empowers you to join what may be the most important conversation of our time. It doesn't shy away from the full range of viewpoints or from the most controversial issues—from superintelligence to meaning, consciousness and the ultimate physical limits on life in the cosmos.

american prometheus chapters: *Fighting for Air* Eric Klinenberg, 2007-01-09 A groundbreaking investigative work by a critically acclaimed sociologist on the corporate takeover of local news and what it means for all Americans For the residents of Minot, North Dakota, Clear Channel Communications is synonymous with disaster. Early in the morning of January 18, 2002, a train derailment sent a cloud of poisonous gas drifting toward the small town. Minot's fire and rescue departments attempted to reach Clear Channel, which owned and operated all six local commercial radio stations, to warn residents of the approaching threat. But in the age of canned programming and virtual DJs, there was no one in the conglomerate's studio to take the call. The people of Minot were taken unawares. The result: one death and more than a thousand injuries. Opening with the story of the Minot tragedy, Eric Klinenberg's *Fighting for Air* takes us into the world of preprogrammed radio shows, empty television news stations, and copycat newspapers to show how corporate ownership and control of local media has remade American political and cultural life. Klinenberg argues that the demise of truly local media stems from the federal government's malign neglect, as the agencies charged with ensuring diversity and open competition have ceded control to the very conglomerates that consistently undermine these values and goals. Such big media may not be here to stay, however. Eric Klineberg's *Fighting for Air* delivers a call to action, revealing a rising generation of new media activists and citizen journalists—a coalition of

liberals and conservatives—who are demanding and even creating the local coverage they need and deserve.

american prometheus chapters: *The Strangest Man* Graham Farmelo, 2009-01-22 'A monumental achievement - one of the great scientific biographies.' Michael Frayn *The Strangest Man* is the Costa Biography Award-winning account of Paul Dirac, the famous physicist sometimes called the British Einstein. He was one of the leading pioneers of the greatest revolution in twentieth-century science: quantum mechanics. The youngest theoretician ever to win the Nobel Prize for Physics, he was also pathologically reticent, strangely literal-minded and legendarily unable to communicate or empathize. Through his greatest period of productivity, his postcards home contained only remarks about the weather. Based on a previously undiscovered archive of family papers, Graham Farmelo celebrates Dirac's massive scientific achievement while drawing a compassionate portrait of his life and work. Farmelo shows a man who, while hopelessly socially inept, could manage to love and sustain close friendship. *The Strangest Man* is an extraordinary and moving human story, as well as a study of one of the most exciting times in scientific history. 'A wonderful book . . . Moving, sometimes comic, sometimes infinitely sad, and goes to the roots of what we mean by truth in science.' Lord Waldegrave, Daily Telegraph

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