civil war and reconstruction answer key

civil war and reconstruction answer key is an essential resource for students, educators, and history enthusiasts seeking to understand the pivotal events, major figures, and complex changes that defined America during the mid-19th century. This comprehensive guide covers key facts and frequently asked questions about the Civil War and Reconstruction era, including causes, major battles, influential leaders, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the transformative amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Readers will also find explanations about the challenges faced during Reconstruction, the legacy of this era, and detailed answer keys to common exam questions. By the end of this article, you'll have a clear and concise overview of the Civil War, the Reconstruction period, and the essential topics often included in educational assessments. The following sections will provide you with the knowledge you need to excel in your studies or teaching about this transformative period in American history.

- Understanding the Civil War: Causes and Key Events
- Major Battles and Strategies of the Civil War
- Important Figures in the Civil War and Reconstruction
- Reconstruction Era: Goals, Amendments, and Outcomes
- Challenges and Impacts of Reconstruction
- Common Civil War and Reconstruction Exam Questions
- Comprehensive Civil War and Reconstruction Answer Key

Understanding the Civil War: Causes and Key Events

The Civil War was a defining conflict in American history, lasting from 1861 to 1865. The main causes of the Civil War were rooted in longstanding tensions over slavery, states' rights, economic differences, and political disputes. The Southern states depended heavily on slave labor for their agricultural economy, while the Northern states moved toward industrialization and opposed the expansion of slavery into new territories. The election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860, who was seen as an opponent of slavery's expansion, led several Southern states to secede from the Union,

forming the Confederate States of America. The war officially began with the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter in April 1861. Over the next four years, the nation was torn apart by brutal conflict, resulting in significant social, political, and economic changes.

Main Causes of the Civil War

- Slavery and its expansion into new territories
- States' rights vs. federal authority
- Economic differences between North and South
- The election of Abraham Lincoln
- Secession of Southern states

Key Events Leading Up to the Civil War

Several historical events set the stage for the Civil War. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 and the Compromise of 1850 attempted to balance the interests of slave and free states. The Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Dred Scott decision, and violent confrontations like "Bleeding Kansas" further heightened tensions. The formation of the Republican Party and the publication of Uncle Tom's Cabin galvanized anti-slavery sentiment, while John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry intensified fears of abolitionist violence in the South.

Major Battles and Strategies of the Civil War

The Civil War saw numerous significant battles and military campaigns, each influencing the war's outcome. Both the Union and the Confederacy developed military strategies to achieve their objectives. The Union aimed to blockade Southern ports, control the Mississippi River, and capture the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia. The Confederacy sought to defend its territory, gain international recognition, and wear down Northern resolve.

Notable Civil War Battles

• Battle of Fort Sumter (1861) — The war's opening engagement

- First Battle of Bull Run (1861) First major battle, Confederate victory
- Battle of Antietam (1862) Bloodiest single-day battle, Union strategic victory
- Battle of Gettysburg (1863) Turning point, major Union victory
- Siege of Vicksburg (1863) Gave Union control of the Mississippi River
- Appomattox Court House (1865) General Robert E. Lee's surrender

Union and Confederate Strategies

The Union's "Anaconda Plan" aimed to suffocate the South economically through blockades and control of key rivers. The Confederacy relied on defensive tactics and hoped to secure European support by leveraging their cotton exports. Both sides faced logistical challenges, high casualties, and shifting public support throughout the war.

Important Figures in the Civil War and Reconstruction

A number of influential leaders shaped the course of the Civil War and the era of Reconstruction. These individuals made critical decisions, led armies, and influenced the direction of American society during and after the conflict.

Union Leaders

- Abraham Lincoln President of the United States
- Ulysses S. Grant Leading Union general
- William Tecumseh Sherman Noted for his "March to the Sea"
- Frederick Douglass Abolitionist and advisor to Lincoln

Confederate Leaders

- Jefferson Davis President of the Confederate States
- Robert E. Lee Commanding general of the Confederate Army
- Stonewall Jackson Renowned Confederate general

Key Figures in Reconstruction

- Andrew Johnson 17th President, oversaw early Reconstruction
- Thaddeus Stevens Leader in Congress, supported Radical Reconstruction
- Hiram Revels First African American U.S. Senator

Reconstruction Era: Goals, Amendments, and Outcomes

The Reconstruction era (1865—1877) sought to restore the Union, rebuild the South, and secure rights for the newly freed African Americans. This period saw major legislative changes, including the ratification of three significant amendments to the Constitution. The government faced the challenge of reintegrating the Southern states and transforming Southern society while dealing with resistance from former Confederates.

Major Goals of Reconstruction

- Reunite the nation and readmit Southern states into the Union
- Rebuild Southern infrastructure and economy
- Secure civil rights and political participation for freedmen

Reconstruction Amendments

1. 13th Amendment — Abolished slavery (1865)

- 2. 14th Amendment Granted citizenship and equal protection (1868)
- 3. 15th Amendment Guaranteed voting rights regardless of race (1870)

Outcomes and Legacies

While Reconstruction brought significant progress, including the establishment of public schools and the election of African Americans to public office, it also faced violent backlash. The rise of groups like the Ku Klux Klan and implementation of Black Codes and later Jim Crow laws undermined many Reconstruction gains. By 1877, federal troops withdrew from the South, marking the end of Reconstruction and the beginning of a new era of segregation.

Challenges and Impacts of Reconstruction

Reconstruction faced numerous challenges, including economic devastation in the South, resistance from former Confederates, and political divisions in Washington. Efforts to rebuild the South and ensure rights for African Americans met with both progress and fierce opposition. The Freedmen's Bureau provided assistance to former slaves, but funding and support were limited. Sharecropping became widespread, trapping many freedmen in cycles of poverty.

Long-Term Impacts of Reconstruction

- Expanded federal power and civil rights legislation
- Set the stage for the later Civil Rights Movement
- Created lasting economic and social divisions

Common Civil War and Reconstruction Exam Questions

Educational assessments often focus on key topics from the Civil War and Reconstruction. Understanding these questions and their answer keys is vital for academic success. Common questions cover causes, important events, influential leaders, and the constitutional changes of the era.

Sample Civil War Exam Questions

- What were the main causes of the Civil War?
- Which battle is considered the turning point of the Civil War?
- Who issued the Emancipation Proclamation?
- What was the Anaconda Plan?

Sample Reconstruction Exam Questions

- What were the goals of Reconstruction?
- Name the three Reconstruction Amendments.
- What was the Freedmen's Bureau?
- How did Reconstruction end?

Comprehensive Civil War and Reconstruction Answer Key

A reliable civil war and reconstruction answer key is invaluable for reviewing important facts and ensuring accuracy in essays and tests. Below are concise, fact-based answers to the most frequently asked questions about the Civil War and Reconstruction.

- Main causes of the Civil War: Slavery, states' rights, economic differences, and the election of Abraham Lincoln.
- Turning point battle: The Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863.
- Emancipation Proclamation: Issued by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, it declared slaves in Confederate states to be free.
- Anaconda Plan: The Union strategy to blockade Southern ports and control the Mississippi River to squeeze the Confederacy.
- **Goals of Reconstruction:** Reunite the country, rebuild the South, and secure rights for freedmen.

- Reconstruction Amendments: The 13th (abolished slavery), 14th (citizenship and equal protection), and 15th (voting rights) Amendments.
- Freedmen's Bureau: A federal agency providing aid to former slaves and poor whites in the South.
- End of Reconstruction: Marked by the Compromise of 1877 and withdrawal of federal troops from the South.

Understanding the civil war and reconstruction answer key provides a solid foundation for mastering this critical era in American history. With accurate facts, clear explanations, and a grasp of the era's main themes, readers are equipped to tackle exams or discussions with confidence.

0: What were the main causes of the Civil War?

A: The main causes were slavery, states' rights, economic differences between North and South, and the election of Abraham Lincoln, which led Southern states to secede.

Q: Which battle marked the turning point of the Civil War?

A: The Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863 is widely considered the turning point due to the significant Confederate defeat.

Q: What were the three Reconstruction Amendments and their significance?

A: The 13th Amendment abolished slavery, the 14th granted citizenship and equal protection, and the 15th guaranteed voting rights regardless of race.

Q: Who were the most important leaders during the Civil War?

A: Key leaders included Abraham Lincoln (Union), Ulysses S. Grant (Union general), Jefferson Davis (Confederate president), and Robert E. Lee (Confederate general).

Q: What was the purpose of the Freedmen's Bureau?

A: The Freedmen's Bureau was established to assist freed slaves and poor

whites in the South by providing food, housing, education, and legal support.

Q: How did Reconstruction end?

A: Reconstruction ended with the Compromise of 1877, which led to the withdrawal of federal troops from the South and the return of "home rule" by Southern states.

Q: What challenges did African Americans face during Reconstruction?

A: African Americans faced discrimination, violence from groups like the Ku Klux Klan, restrictive Black Codes, and economic hardship due to sharecropping systems.

Q: What was the Emancipation Proclamation and why was it important?

A: The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by Abraham Lincoln in 1863, declared freedom for slaves in Confederate states and shifted the war's focus to ending slavery.

Q: What was the Anaconda Plan?

A: The Anaconda Plan was the Union's military strategy to blockade Southern ports and control the Mississippi River to cut off and defeat the Confederacy.

Q: How did the Civil War and Reconstruction impact the United States long-term?

A: The Civil War ended slavery and preserved the Union, while Reconstruction expanded civil rights but also left unresolved issues of segregation and racial inequality.

Civil War And Reconstruction Answer Key

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Civil War and Reconstruction Answer Key: Unlocking the Mysteries of America's Past

Are you wrestling with Civil War and Reconstruction study questions? Feeling overwhelmed by the complexities of this pivotal period in American history? You've come to the right place! This comprehensive guide serves as your ultimate "Civil War and Reconstruction answer key," providing not just answers, but a deeper understanding of the key events, figures, and lasting impacts of this transformative era. We'll delve into critical topics, providing context and clarifying oftenmisunderstood aspects, helping you ace your exams and truly grasp the significance of this period. Forget rote memorization; let's unlock the story behind the answers.

H2: Understanding the Causes of the Civil War: More Than Just Slavery

While slavery undeniably fueled the Civil War, understanding its complexities requires a nuanced approach. It wasn't simply about morality; economic disparities, states' rights debates, and differing visions for the nation's future all played significant roles.

H3: Economic Disparities: The North vs. the South

The North's industrial economy contrasted sharply with the South's agrarian society heavily reliant on enslaved labor. This fundamental difference created conflicting interests and fueled sectional tensions.

H3: States' Rights vs. Federal Authority: A Clash of Ideologies

The debate over states' rights versus federal authority was a constant source of conflict. Southern states fiercely defended their right to govern themselves, including the right to maintain slavery, while the federal government sought to assert its authority.

H3: The Abolitionist Movement: A Catalyst for Change

The growing abolitionist movement, advocating for the end of slavery, further exacerbated tensions between the North and South, ultimately contributing to the outbreak of war.

H2: Key Battles and Turning Points of the Civil War: Shaping the Nation's Destiny

The Civil War wasn't a single conflict but a series of crucial battles that dramatically shaped its outcome. Understanding these pivotal moments provides insight into the strategic decisions and

military leadership that defined the war.

H3: Gettysburg and Vicksburg: Decisive Victories for the Union

The battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg in 1863 are widely considered turning points. Gettysburg halted Lee's invasion of the North, while Vicksburg's fall granted the Union control of the Mississippi River, effectively splitting the Confederacy in two.

H3: Sherman's March to the Sea: Total War Strategy

General Sherman's "March to the Sea" exemplified the Union's strategy of total war, targeting civilian infrastructure and resources to cripple the Confederate war effort. This controversial strategy significantly contributed to the Confederacy's ultimate defeat.

H3: Appomattox Courthouse: The End of the War

The surrender of General Robert E. Lee at Appomattox Courthouse in 1865 marked the end of the Civil War, although pockets of resistance continued for a short time.

H2: Reconstruction: Rebuilding a Nation After War

Reconstruction, the period following the Civil War, aimed to rebuild the South and reintegrate it into the Union. However, this process was fraught with challenges and complexities.

H3: Presidential vs. Radical Reconstruction: Conflicting Visions

Presidential Reconstruction, under President Andrew Johnson, prioritized a lenient approach, while Radical Reconstruction, championed by Republicans in Congress, aimed for a more thorough transformation of the South, including securing civil rights for African Americans.

H3: The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments: Landmark Legislation

The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution abolished slavery, granted citizenship to African Americans, and guaranteed voting rights regardless of race. These amendments represent significant legislative achievements of the Reconstruction era, though their full implementation remained a long-term struggle.

H3: The Rise of Jim Crow Laws: Undoing Progress

Despite the progress made during Reconstruction, the rise of Jim Crow laws in the late 19th and early 20th centuries systematically disenfranchised African Americans and undermined their civil rights, demonstrating the incomplete nature of Reconstruction's goals.

H2: Long-Term Impacts of the Civil War and Reconstruction: Shaping Modern America

The Civil War and Reconstruction had profound and lasting impacts on American society, politics, and culture, shaping the nation we know today.

H3: The Legacy of Racial Inequality: An Ongoing Struggle

The legacy of racial inequality, deeply rooted in slavery and perpetuated by Jim Crow, continues to affect American society. Understanding this legacy is crucial to addressing ongoing issues of racial injustice.

H3: The Transformation of the Federal Government: Expanded Power

The Civil War significantly expanded the power and authority of the federal government, a shift that continues to shape the relationship between the states and the federal government.

H3: Economic Transformation: Industrialization and Growth

The Civil War spurred industrial growth in the North, accelerating the nation's economic transformation and setting the stage for future industrial expansion.

Conclusion

This "Civil War and Reconstruction answer key" aims to provide more than just answers; it provides a framework for a deeper understanding of a critical period in American history. By exploring the complexities of the causes, key events, and lasting impacts of this era, you can develop a more nuanced and informed perspective on the shaping of modern America. Remember, understanding history requires critical thinking and analysis, going beyond simple answers to grasping the broader context and significance of events.

FAQs

- 1. What was the most significant cause of the Civil War? While slavery was a central issue, it's more accurate to say it was a complex interplay of factors including economic disparities, states' rights debates, and differing visions for the nation's future.
- 2. What were the main goals of Reconstruction? Reconstruction aimed to rebuild the South, reintegrate it into the Union, and establish civil rights for African Americans.
- 3. What were Jim Crow laws, and how did they impact Reconstruction's legacy? Jim Crow laws were

state and local laws enacted in the Southern and border states of the United States that enforced racial segregation. They largely reversed the progress made during Reconstruction.

- 4. How did the Civil War impact the role of the federal government? The Civil War significantly strengthened the power of the federal government over the states, a shift that continues to have implications today.
- 5. What are some primary sources historians use to study the Civil War and Reconstruction? Historians rely on letters, diaries, newspapers, official government documents, photographs, and oral histories to study this period.

civil war and reconstruction answer key: The Reconstruction Era and the Fragility of Democracy Facing History and Ourselves, 2017-11-22 provides history teachers with dozens of primary and secondary source documents, close reading exercises, lesson plans, and activity suggestions that will push students both to build a complex understanding of the dilemmas and conflicts Americans faced during Reconstruction.

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each chapter. This classic of American literature, a dramatic autobiography of the early life of an American slave, was first published in 1845, when its author had just achieved his freedom. Its shocking first-hand account of the horrors of slavery became an international best seller. His eloquence led Frederick Douglass to become the first great African-American leader in the United States. • Douglass rose through determination, brilliance and eloquence to shape the American Nation. • He was an abolitionist, human rights and women's rights activist, orator, author, journalist, publisher and social reformer • His personal relationship with Abraham Lincoln helped persuade the President to make emancipation a cause of the Civil War.

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shades of gray rather than black and white or heroes and villains. Since neutrality appeared virtually impossible, the vast majority of territory residents chose a side, doing so for myriad reasons and not necessarily out of affection for either the Union or the Confederacy. Indigenous residents found themselves fighting to protect their unusual dual status as communities distinct from the American citizenry yet legal wards of the federal government. The Civil War and Reconstruction in Indian Territory is a nuanced and authoritative examination of the layers of conflicts both on and off the Civil War battlefield. It examines the military front and the home front; the experiences of the Five Nations and those of the agency tribes in the western portion of the territory; the severe conflicts between Native Americans and the federal government and between Indian nations and their former slaves during and beyond the Reconstruction years; and the concept of memory as viewed through the lenses of Native American oral traditions and the modern evolution of public history. These carefully crafted essays by leading scholars such as Amanda Cobb-Greetham, Clarissa Confer, Richard B. McCaslin, Linda W. Reese, and F. Todd Smith will help teachers and students better understand the Civil War, Native American history, and Oklahoma history.

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and determination that marked his successes on the battlefield; Robert E. Lee, a brilliant general and a true gentleman, yet still a product of his time and place; and Abraham Lincoln, the leader and orator whose mythical figure still looms large over our cultural landscape. And McPherson discusses often-ignored issues such as the development of the Civil War into a modern total war against both soldiers and civilians, and the international impact of the American Civil War in advancing the cause of republicanism and democracy in countries from Brazil and Cuba to France and England. Of special interest is the final essay, entitled What's the Matter With History?, a trenchant critique of the field of history today, which McPherson describes here as more and more about less and less. He writes that professional historians have abandoned narrative history written for the greater audience of educated general readers in favor of impenetrable tomes on minor historical details which serve only to edify other academics, thus leaving the historical education of the general public to films and television programs such as Glory and Ken Burns's PBS documentary The Civil War. Each essay in Drawn With the Sword reveals McPherson's own profound knowledge of the Civil War and of the controversies among historians, presenting all sides in clear and lucid prose and concluding with his own measured and eloquent opinions. Readers will rejoice that McPherson has once again proven by example that history can be both accurate and interesting, informative and well-written. Mark Twain wrote that the Civil War wrought so profoundly upon the entire national character that the influence cannot be measured short of two or three generations. In Drawn With the Sword, McPherson gracefully and brilliantly illuminates this momentous conflict.

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civil war and reconstruction answer key: Stony the Road Henry Louis Gates, Jr., 2019-04-02 "Stony the Road presents a bracing alternative to Trump-era white nationalism. . . . In our current politics we recognize African-American history—the spot under our country's rug where the terrorism and injustices of white supremacy are habitually swept. Stony the Road lifts the rug. —Nell Irvin Painter, New York Times Book Review A profound new rendering of the struggle by African-Americans for equality after the Civil War and the violent counter-revolution that resubjugated them, by the bestselling author of The Black Church. The abolition of slavery in the aftermath of the Civil War is a familiar story, as is the civil rights revolution that transformed the nation after World War II. But the century in between remains a mystery: if emancipation sparked a new birth of freedom in Lincoln's America, why was it necessary to march in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s America? In this new book, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., one of our leading chroniclers of the African-American experience, seeks to answer that question in a history that moves from the Reconstruction Era to the nadir of the African-American experience under Jim Crow, through to World War I and the Harlem Renaissance. Through his close reading of the visual culture of this tragic era, Gates reveals the many faces of Jim Crow and how, together, they reinforced a stark color line between white and black Americans. Bringing a lifetime of wisdom to bear as a scholar, filmmaker, and public intellectual, Gates uncovers the roots of structural racism in our own time, while showing how African Americans after slavery combatted it by articulating a vision of a New Negro to force the nation to recognize their humanity and unique contributions to America as it hurtled toward the modern age. The story Gates tells begins with great hope, with the Emancipation Proclamation, Union victory, and the liberation of nearly 4 million enslaved African-Americans. Until 1877, the federal government, goaded by the activism of Frederick Douglass and many others, tried at various turns to sustain their new rights. But the terror unleashed by white paramilitary groups in the former Confederacy, combined with deteriorating economic conditions and a loss of Northern will, restored home rule to the South. The retreat from Reconstruction was followed by one of the most violent periods in our history, with thousands of black people murdered or lynched and many more afflicted by the degrading impositions of Jim Crow segregation. An essential tour through one of America's fundamental historical tragedies, Stony the Road is also a story of heroic resistance, as figures such as W. E. B. Du Bois and Ida B. Wells fought to create a counter-narrative, and culture, inside the lion's mouth. As sobering as this tale is, it also has within it the inspiration that comes with encountering the hopes our ancestors advanced against the longest odds.

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dissent and anti-war opposition in the North and the South, and the reasons for the Union's victory. The book's title refers to the sentiments that informed both the Northern and Southern views of the conflict: the South seceded in the name of that freedom of self-determination and self-government for which their fathers had fought in 1776, while the North stood fast in defense of the Union founded by those fathers as the bulwark of American liberty. Eventually, the North had to grapple with the underlying cause of the war--slavery--and adopt a policy of emancipation as a second war aim. This new birth of freedom, as Lincoln called it, constitutes the proudest legacy of America's bloodiest conflict. This authoritative volume makes sense of that vast and confusing second American Revolution we call the Civil War, a war that transformed a nation and expanded our heritage of liberty.

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civil war and reconstruction answer key: Encyclopedia of American History Richard Brandon Morris, Jeffrey Brandon Morris, 1982 This study assesses the extent to which African decolonization resulted from deliberate imperial policy, from the pressures of African nationalism, or from an international situation transformed by superpower rivalries. It analyzes what powers were transferred and to whom they were given.Pan-Africanism is seen not only in its own right but as indicating the transformation of expectations when the new rulers, who had endorsed its geopolitical logic before taking power, settled into the routines of government.

civil war and reconstruction answer key: *Our Documents* The National Archives, 2006-07-04 Our Documents is a collection of 100 documents that the staff of the National Archives has judged most important to the development of the United States. The entry for each document includes a short introduction, a facsimile, and a transcript of the document. Backmatter includes further reading, credits, and index. The book is part of the much larger Our Documents initiative sponsored by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), National History Day, the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the USA Freedom Corps.

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Johnson, in whose impeachment they played a leading role. Although they succeeded in initiating congressional Reconstruction and adding the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, the Radicals lost power after the failure of the Johnson impeachment. Mr. Trefousse shows how, despite their declining influence throughout the 1870s, their accomplishments helped make possible—a century later—the resumption of the struggle for civil rights.

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civil war and reconstruction answer key: After Appomattox Gregory P. Downs, 2019-08-13 "Original and revelatory." —David Blight, author of Frederick Douglass Avery O. Craven Award Finalist A Civil War Memory/Civil War Monitor Best Book of the Year In April 1865, Robert E. Lee wrote to Ulysses S. Grant asking for peace. Peace was beyond his authority to negotiate, Grant replied, but surrender terms he would discuss. The distinction proved prophetic. After Appomattox reveals that the Civil War did not end with Confederate capitulation in 1865. Instead, a second phase of the war began which lasted until 1871—not the project euphemistically called Reconstruction, but a state of genuine belligerence whose mission was to shape the peace. Using its war powers, the U.S. Army oversaw an ambitious occupation, stationing tens of thousands of troops in outposts across the defeated South. This groundbreaking history shows that the purpose of the occupation was to crush slavery in the face of fierce and violent resistance, but there were limits to its effectiveness: the occupying army never really managed to remake the South. "The United States Army has been far too neglected as a player—a force—in the history of Reconstruction... Downs wants his work to speak to the present, and indeed it should." —David W. Blight, The Atlantic "Striking... Downs chronicles...a military occupation that was indispensable to the uprooting of slavery." -Boston Globe "Downs makes the case that the final end to slavery, and the establishment of basic civil and voting rights for all Americans, was 'born in the face of bayonets.' ... A remarkable, necessary book." —Slate

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great human images for our contemplation.

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