

jill lepore the name of war

jill lepore the name of war is a compelling exploration of the complex dimensions surrounding King Philip's War, a pivotal conflict in early American history. This article delves into Jill Lepore's acclaimed book, "The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity," providing an insightful summary of its major themes, historical context, and the significance of its scholarship. Readers will discover how Lepore unpacks the war's causes, consequences, and the profound impact on cultural identity and memory. The analysis covers Lepore's approach to narrative, her examination of violence, language, and representation, and the ways in which the war's legacy continues to shape American historical understanding. By the end, you will gain a comprehensive understanding of Jill Lepore's contributions to early American studies, the importance of King Philip's War, and why "The Name of War" remains a touchstone for historians and readers alike.

- Overview of "The Name of War" by Jill Lepore
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- The Role of Language and Representation
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Overview of "The Name of War" by Jill Lepore

Jill Lepore's "The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity" is a groundbreaking work of historical scholarship. Published in 1998, the book investigates the causes, course, and aftermath of King Philip's War (1675-1676), a devastating conflict between Native Americans and English colonists in New England. Lepore's analysis goes beyond traditional military history, focusing instead on the ways in which the war was written about, remembered, and interpreted. She emphasizes the importance of language, storytelling, and cultural representation in shaping how societies understand and memorialize violence. By examining sources from both Native and colonial perspectives, Lepore reveals the war's lasting impact on American identity, literature, and historical consciousness.

Historical Context: King Philip's War

Origins and Causes of the Conflict

King Philip's War erupted in the late seventeenth century as tensions mounted between English settlers and the Wampanoag people led by Metacom, known to the English as King Philip. The friction arose from disputes over land, resources, and the increasing encroachment of colonial settlements. Lepore provides a detailed account of the political, economic, and cultural factors that contributed to the outbreak of hostilities, noting the deep-seated mistrust and misunderstandings between the two societies. The conflict was one of the bloodiest per capita in American history, resulting in massive casualties and the destruction of entire communities.

Major Events and Outcomes

- Destruction of Native villages and colonial towns
- Death or displacement of thousands of Native Americans
- Strengthening of colonial government and military
- Enduring trauma and resentment between cultures
- Transformation of the New England landscape

The war led to the collapse of Native power in southern New England and the expansion of colonial settlements. Lepore examines how these events were chronicled and how they contributed to the formation of a distinct colonial identity, often at the expense of Native voices and histories.

Lepore's Approach to History and Narrative

Analyzing Stories and Sources

Jill Lepore's methodology sets "The Name of War" apart from other historical accounts. She interrogates traditional narratives by investigating who controls the telling of history and how stories influence collective memory. Lepore draws on a wide array of sources, including official records, personal diaries, letters, oral traditions, and contemporary literature. Her approach highlights the importance of narrative in shaping perceptions of violence, authority, and belonging.

Multiple Perspectives and Voices

Central to Lepore's work is her commitment to presenting both Native and colonial viewpoints. She challenges readers to consider the silenced voices and marginalized accounts that often go unrecorded in mainstream histories. By reconstructing the experiences of individuals on both sides

of the conflict, Lepore demonstrates the complexity of identity formation and the role of memory in constructing historical meaning.

The Role of Language and Representation

Language as a Tool of Power

“The Name of War” emphasizes the profound impact of language on the representation and remembrance of King Philip’s War. Lepore explores how words, names, and labels were used to assert dominance and define cultural boundaries. The act of naming the war after Metacom—calling him “King Philip”—is examined as a symbolic gesture that reflects colonial attitudes and strategies of control. Language, Lepore argues, is both a weapon and a record, shaping how violence is understood and remembered.

Constructing Historical Narratives

Lepore scrutinizes the ways in which colonial authors depicted Native Americans and justified the war’s brutality. She reveals how written accounts framed the conflict in moral and religious terms, often portraying Native resistance as savage and illegitimate. This process of representation not only influenced contemporary attitudes but also affected future generations’ understanding of American identity and history.

Violence, Identity, and Cultural Memory

Interpreting Violence and Trauma

Jill Lepore’s analysis of violence in King Philip’s War extends beyond physical conflict to examine psychological and cultural trauma. She investigates how memories of violence are transmitted through stories, rituals, and commemorations, arguing that these processes are critical to the construction of collective identity. Lepore’s work demonstrates that the legacy of King Philip’s War persists in American culture, shaping attitudes toward outsiders, “others,” and the meaning of citizenship.

Origins of American Identity

“The Name of War” ultimately contends that the conflict and its representation played a formative role in the creation of American identity. Lepore shows how colonists sought to differentiate themselves from Native peoples, constructing a narrative of survival, victory, and legitimacy. This process involved the selective remembering and forgetting of events, as well as the reinterpretation of trauma to serve evolving social and political purposes.

Critical Reception and Legacy

Scholarly Responses and Impact

Jill Lepore's *"The Name of War"* has received widespread acclaim from historians, literary scholars, and general readers. The book is praised for its interdisciplinary approach, innovative analysis, and eloquent prose. Scholars highlight Lepore's ability to connect the past with present-day issues of identity, race relations, and historical memory. Her work is frequently cited in studies of early America, Native history, and the power of language in shaping narratives.

Influence on Historical Studies

"The Name of War" has become a foundational text for understanding the complexities of colonial history and intercultural conflict. Lepore's emphasis on narrative, representation, and trauma has influenced subsequent scholarship and inspired new research on memory, violence, and the origins of national identity. The book remains a vital resource for students, educators, and anyone interested in the enduring legacies of America's formative wars.

Key Takeaways from *"The Name of War"*

- King Philip's War was a defining moment in early American history, with lasting effects on culture and identity.
- Jill Lepore's approach highlights the significance of storytelling, language, and representation in shaping historical memory.
- The war's legacy continues to inform contemporary discussions of identity, violence, and cultural boundaries.
- *"The Name of War"* is a touchstone for historical scholarship, offering nuanced interpretations and interdisciplinary insights.
- Lepore's work encourages critical engagement with sources and challenges readers to consider multiple perspectives.

Jill Lepore's *"The Name of War"* stands as a masterful examination of how a single conflict can transform the course of history and the ways in which it is remembered. Through her probing analysis, Lepore invites readers to reconsider the meaning of war, identity, and the power of stories in shaping our understanding of the past and its ongoing influence on American society.

Q: What is the central argument of Jill Lepore's "The Name of War"?

A: The central argument is that King Philip's War was not only a military conflict but also a cultural and linguistic battle that shaped American identity through its representation and memory.

Q: How does Jill Lepore approach the study of King Philip's War differently from other historians?

A: Lepore focuses on narrative, language, and representation, analyzing how stories and written accounts influenced perceptions of the war and its legacy, rather than solely examining military events.

Q: Why is language important in "The Name of War"?

A: Language is important because Lepore argues that words, names, and storytelling were used to assert power, define boundaries, and shape historical memory about the war and its participants.

Q: What were the main causes of King Philip's War according to Lepore?

A: The main causes included land disputes, resource competition, cultural misunderstandings, and growing tensions between English colonists and Native American societies.

Q: How did the outcome of King Philip's War affect Native American communities?

A: The war resulted in the death, displacement, and destruction of many Native communities, leading to the loss of land, autonomy, and cultural influence in New England.

Q: What impact did "The Name of War" have on historical scholarship?

A: The book influenced the study of American history by emphasizing the importance of narrative, trauma, and representation, and inspiring further research on memory and identity.

Q: What role does cultural memory play in Lepore's analysis?

A: Cultural memory is central; Lepore examines how memories of violence and conflict are created, transmitted, and transformed to shape collective identities and attitudes.

Q: Why is King Philip called by that name in colonial records?

A: Colonists named Metacom "King Philip" to impose European labels and assert dominance, reflecting broader cultural strategies of control and representation.

Q: Who should read "The Name of War"?

A: Students, educators, historians, and anyone interested in early American history, intercultural conflict, and the power of narrative should read "The Name of War."

Q: What are the lasting legacies of King Philip's War explored in the book?

A: Lasting legacies include the shaping of American identity, ongoing cultural boundaries, and the ways in which stories and memories of violence continue to influence society.

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Jill Lepore's "The Name of War": Unpacking the History of American Exceptionalism

Are you fascinated by the complexities of American history and its self-mythologizing narrative? Then Jill Lepore's *The Name of War* is a must-read. This compelling work doesn't shy away from the uncomfortable truths behind America's self-proclaimed exceptionalism, offering a nuanced and deeply researched examination of how the nation has constructed its identity through the lens of war. This post will delve into the core arguments of Lepore's book, explore its key themes, and analyze its lasting impact on our understanding of American history and its relationship with conflict.

The Central Thesis: Mythmaking and the American War Narrative

Lepore's central argument in *The Name of War* centers on the persistent and powerful mythmaking surrounding American warfare. She argues that the American narrative of war, consistently portraying the nation as a righteous actor fighting for freedom and democracy, obscures the complex realities of its military engagements. This idealized narrative, she contends, has been meticulously crafted over centuries, shaping national identity and justifying often controversial actions. The book expertly unravels this carefully constructed myth, revealing the often-contradictory and morally ambiguous history behind the heroic facade.

Deconstructing the "Good War" Myth: A Case Study of World War II

Lepore doesn't shy away from confronting the most hallowed of American war narratives: World War II. While acknowledging the undeniable evils of Nazism and the ultimate necessity of American intervention, she meticulously dismantles the simplistic "good war" narrative. She highlights the often-overlooked complexities, including the internment of Japanese Americans, the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the post-war occupation's impact on Japan. By presenting these uncomfortable truths, Lepore forces readers to confront a more nuanced understanding of America's role in this pivotal conflict.

The Atomic Bomb: A Moral Quandary

Lepore's examination of the atomic bombings serves as a powerful case study in the moral ambiguities of war. She doesn't advocate for pacifism, but rather insists on a critical examination of the decision-making processes that led to the use of such devastating weapons. She challenges readers to consider the long-term consequences and the ethical implications of such choices, pushing them to move beyond simplistic narratives of victory and defeat.

Beyond WWII: Examining Other Conflicts Through the Lens of Mythmaking

Lepore's analysis extends far beyond World War II. She masterfully weaves together narratives from various conflicts, including the Vietnam War, the War on Terror, and earlier conflicts, highlighting the recurring patterns of mythmaking and the ways in which these narratives have shaped American foreign policy. Each conflict examined adds another layer to her central thesis, revealing a consistent tendency towards self-justification and the selective presentation of historical events.

The Vietnam War: A Turning Point in the American Narrative?

The Vietnam War presents a critical juncture in Lepore's analysis. The widespread disillusionment and anti-war sentiment that followed this conflict challenged the previously unquestioned narrative

of American exceptionalism and military invincibility. Lepore expertly analyzes how this era exposed the cracks in the carefully constructed myth, leading to a period of reevaluation and introspection within American society.

The Power of Historical Context: Understanding the "Name of War"

The "name of war," as Lepore articulates, isn't merely a label; it is a powerful instrument of shaping public opinion and justifying political actions. The book's strength lies in its detailed exploration of how this "name" – the language used to describe wars, the justifications offered, and the narratives constructed – has been strategically employed throughout American history to legitimize military interventions and consolidate national identity.

The Enduring Legacy of "The Name of War"

The Name of War is not simply a historical account; it's a call for critical engagement with the past. By unpacking the myths surrounding American warfare, Lepore provides a framework for a more honest and nuanced understanding of the nation's history. Her work challenges readers to question accepted narratives, to examine the motivations behind military interventions, and to consider the long-term consequences of war on both American society and the global community. It remains a crucial text for anyone seeking a deeper understanding of American history and its complex relationship with conflict.

Conclusion:

Jill Lepore's *The Name of War* is a masterful exploration of American exceptionalism and the role of mythmaking in shaping national identity. It's a rigorous and compelling read that challenges preconceived notions and compels readers to engage critically with the narratives surrounding American military history. Its enduring relevance lies in its ability to illuminate the ongoing tensions between national identity and the realities of war.

FAQs:

1. Is *The Name of War* a purely anti-war book? No, it's not a pacifist manifesto. Lepore engages critically with the complexities of war, acknowledging the sometimes necessary role of military intervention, but emphasizing the importance of critically examining the justifications and narratives surrounding these actions.
2. Who is the intended audience for this book? The book appeals to a broad audience, including those interested in American history, political science, military history, and anyone interested in critical analyses of national identity and mythmaking.
3. What makes Lepore's approach unique? Lepore's strength lies in her interdisciplinary approach,

weaving together historical analysis, literary criticism, and political commentary to create a compelling and nuanced narrative.

4. How does the book relate to contemporary issues? The themes explored in *The Name of War*, such as the manipulation of narratives to justify military action and the complexities of national identity, remain highly relevant to contemporary geopolitical discussions.

5. Where can I find more information about Jill Lepore's work? You can explore her website or delve into her other published works, which often grapple with similar themes of history, culture, and American identity.

jill lepore the name of war: *The Name of War* Jill Lepore, 2009-09-23 BANCROFF PRIZE WINNER • King Philip's War, the excruciating racial war—colonists against Indigenous peoples—that erupted in New England in 1675, was, in proportion to population, the bloodiest in American history. Some even argued that the massacres and outrages on both sides were too horrific to deserve the name of a war. The war's brutality compelled the colonists to defend themselves against accusations that they had become savages. But Jill Lepore makes clear that it was after the war—and because of it—that the boundaries between cultures, hitherto blurred, turned into rigid ones. King Philip's War became one of the most written-about wars in our history, and Lepore argues that the words strengthened and hardened feelings that, in turn, strengthened and hardened the enmity between Indigenous peoples and Anglos. Telling the story of what may have been the bitterest of American conflicts, and its reverberations over the centuries, Lepore has enabled us to see how the ways in which we remember past events are as important in their effect on our history as were the events themselves.

jill lepore the name of war: The Name of War Jill Lepore, 1999-04-27 BANCROFF PRIZE WINNER • King Philip's War, the excruciating racial war—colonists against Indigenous peoples—that erupted in New England in 1675, was, in proportion to population, the bloodiest in American history. Some even argued that the massacres and outrages on both sides were too horrific to deserve the name of a war. The war's brutality compelled the colonists to defend themselves against accusations that they had become savages. But Jill Lepore makes clear that it was after the war—and because of it—that the boundaries between cultures, hitherto blurred, turned into rigid ones. King Philip's War became one of the most written-about wars in our history, and Lepore argues that the words strengthened and hardened feelings that, in turn, strengthened and hardened the enmity between Indigenous peoples and Anglos. Telling the story of what may have been the bitterest of American conflicts, and its reverberations over the centuries, Lepore has enabled us to see how the ways in which we remember past events are as important in their effect on our history as were the events themselves.

jill lepore the name of war: The Name of War Jill Lepore, 1999-04-27 Skillfully interpreting reactions to the war on both sides, the historian author reveals the crucial role the conflict played in shaping the adversaries' ideas of themselves and to each other. 34 illustrations, 2 maps.

jill lepore the name of war: These Truths: A History of the United States Jill Lepore, 2018-09-18 “Nothing short of a masterpiece.” —NPR Books A New York Times Bestseller and a Washington Post Notable Book of the Year In the most ambitious one-volume American history in decades, award-winning historian Jill Lepore offers a magisterial account of the origins and rise of a divided nation. Widely hailed for its “sweeping, sobering account of the American past” (New York Times Book Review), Jill Lepore’s one-volume history of America places truth itself—a devotion to facts, proof, and evidence—at the center of the nation’s history. The American experiment rests on three ideas—“these truths,” Jefferson called them—political equality, natural rights, and the sovereignty of the people. But has the nation, and democracy itself, delivered on that promise? *These Truths* tells this uniquely American story, beginning in 1492, asking whether the course of

events over more than five centuries has proven the nation's truths, or belied them. To answer that question, Lepore wrestles with the state of American politics, the legacy of slavery, the persistence of inequality, and the nature of technological change. "A nation born in contradiction... will fight, forever, over the meaning of its history," Lepore writes, but engaging in that struggle by studying the past is part of the work of citizenship. With *These Truths*, Lepore has produced a book that will shape our view of American history for decades to come.

jill lepure the name of war: New York Burning Jill Lepore, 2007-12-18 Pulitzer Prize Finalist and Anisfield-Wolf Award Winner In *New York Burning*, Bancroft Prize-winning historian Jill Lepore recounts these dramatic events of 1741, when ten fires blazed across Manhattan and panicked whites suspecting it to be the work a slave uprising went on a rampage. In the end, thirteen black men were burned at the stake, seventeen were hanged and more than one hundred black men and women were thrown into a dungeon beneath City Hall. Even back in the seventeenth century, the city was a rich mosaic of cultures, communities and colors, with slaves making up a full one-fifth of the population. Exploring the political and social climate of the times, Lepore dramatically shows how, in a city rife with state intrigue and terror, the threat of black rebellion united the white political pluralities in a frenzy of racial fear and violence.

jill lepure the name of war: The Story of America Jill Lepore, 2012 Harvard historian and New Yorker staff writer Jill Lepore investigates American origin stories -- from John Smith's account of the founding of Jamestown in 1607 to Barack Obama's 2009 inaugural address -- to show how American democracy is bound up with the history of print.

jill lepure the name of war: Book of Ages Jill Lepore, 2014-07-01 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR NPR • Time Magazine • The Washington Post • Entertainment Weekly • The Boston Globe A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK From one of our most accomplished and widely admired historians—a revelatory portrait of Benjamin Franklin's youngest sister, Jane, whose obscurity and poverty were matched only by her brother's fame and wealth but who, like him, was a passionate reader, a gifted writer, and an astonishingly shrewd political commentator. Making use of an astonishing cache of little-studied material, including documents, objects, and portraits only just discovered, Jill Lepore brings Jane Franklin to life in a way that illuminates not only this one extraordinary woman but an entire world.

jill lepure the name of war: The Secret History of Wonder Woman Jill Lepore, 2014-10-28 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • Within the origin of one of the world's most iconic superheroes hides a fascinating family story—and a crucial history of feminism in the twentieth-century. "Everything you might want in a page-turner...skeletons in the closet, a believe-it-or-not weirdness in its biographical details, and something else that secretly powers even the most "serious" feminist history—fun." —Entertainment Weekly *The Secret History of Wonder Woman* is a tour de force of intellectual and cultural history. *Wonder Woman*, Jill Lepore argues, is the missing link in the history of the struggle for women's rights—a chain of events that begins with the women's suffrage campaigns of the early 1900s and ends with the troubled place of feminism a century later. Lepore, a Harvard historian and New Yorker staff writer, has uncovered an astonishing trove of documents, including the never-before-seen private papers of *Wonder Woman*'s creator, William Moulton Marston. The Marston family story is a tale of drama, intrigue, and irony. In the 1920s, Marston and his wife brought into their home Olive Byrne, the niece of Margaret Sanger, one of the most influential feminists of the twentieth century. Even while celebrating conventional family life in a regular column that Marston and Byrne wrote for *Family Circle*, they themselves pursued lives of extraordinary nonconformity. Marston, internationally known as an expert on truth—he invented the lie detector test—lived a life of secrets, only to spill them on the pages of *Wonder Woman*. Includes a new afterword with fresh revelations based on never before seen letters and photographs from the Marston family's papers, and 161 illustrations and 16 pages in full color.

jill lepure the name of war: King Philip's War: The History and Legacy of America's Forgotten Conflict Eric B. Schultz, Michael J. Tougas, 2000-12-01 *King Philip's War*--one of America's first and costliest wars--began in 1675 as an Indian raid on several farms in Plymouth

Colony, but quickly escalated into a full-scale war engulfing all of southern New England. At once an in-depth history of this pivotal war and a guide to the historical sites where the ambushes, raids, and battles took place, King Philip's War expands our understanding of American history and provides insight into the nature of colonial and ethnic wars in general. Through a careful reconstruction of events, first-person accounts, period illustrations, and maps, and by providing information on the exact locations of more than fifty battles, King Philip's War is useful as well as informative. Students of history, colonial war buffs, those interested in Native American history, and anyone who is curious about how this war affected a particular New England town, will find important insights into one of the most seminal events to shape the American mind and continent.

jill lepore the name of war: This America: The Case for the Nation Jill Lepore, 2019-05-28 A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice Selection One of President Bill Clinton's "Best Things I've Read This Year" From the acclaimed historian and New Yorker writer comes this urgent manifesto on the dilemma of nationalism and the erosion of liberalism in the twenty-first century. At a time of much despair over the future of liberal democracy, Jill Lepore makes a stirring case for the nation in *This America*, a follow-up to her much-celebrated history of the United States, *These Truths*. With dangerous forms of nationalism on the rise, Lepore, a Harvard historian and New Yorker staff writer, repudiates nationalism here by explaining its long history—and the history of the idea of the nation itself—while calling for a "new Americanism": a generous patriotism that requires an honest reckoning with America's past. Lepore begins her argument with a primer on the origins of nations, explaining how liberalism, the nation-state, and liberal nationalism, developed together. Illiberal nationalism, however, emerged in the United States after the Civil War—resulting in the failure of Reconstruction, the rise of Jim Crow, and the restriction of immigration. Much of American history, Lepore argues, has been a battle between these two forms of nationalism, liberal and illiberal, all the way down to the nation's latest, bitter struggles over immigration. Defending liberalism, as *This America* demonstrates, requires making the case for the nation. But American historians largely abandoned that defense in the 1960s when they stopped writing national history. By the 1980s they'd stopped studying the nation-state altogether and embraced globalism instead. "When serious historians abandon the study of the nation," Lepore tellingly writes, "nationalism doesn't die. Instead, it eats liberalism." But liberalism is still in there, Lepore affirms, and *This America* is an attempt to pull it out. "In a world made up of nations, there is no more powerful way to fight the forces of prejudice, intolerance, and injustice than by a dedication to equality, citizenship, and equal rights, as guaranteed by a nation of laws." A manifesto for a better nation, and a call for a "new Americanism," *This America* reclaims the nation's future by reclaiming its past.

jill lepore the name of war: University, Court, and Slave Alfred L. Brophy, 2016-07-18 *University, Court, and Slave* reveals long-forgotten connections between pre-Civil War southern universities and slavery. Universities and their faculty owned people—sometimes dozens of people—and profited from their labor while many slaves endured physical abuse on campuses. As Alfred L. Brophy shows, southern universities fought the emancipation movement for economic reasons, but used their writings on history, philosophy, and law in an attempt to justify their position and promote their institutions. Indeed, as the antislavery movement gained momentum, southern academics and their allies in the courts became bolder in their claims. Some went so far as to say that slavery was supported by natural law. The combination of economic reasoning and historical precedent helped shape a southern, pro-slavery jurisprudence. Following Lincoln's November 1860 election, southern academics joined politicians, judges, lawyers, and other leaders in arguing that their economy and society was threatened. Southern jurisprudence led them to believe that any threats to slavery and property justified secession. Bolstered by the courts, academics took their case to the southern public—and ultimately to the battlefield—to defend slavery. A path-breaking and deeply researched history of southern universities' investment in and defense of slavery, *University, Court, and Slave* will fundamentally transform our understanding of the institutional foundations of pro-slavery thought.

jill lepore the name of war: The Whites of Their Eyes Jill Lepore, 2011-08-08 From acclaimed

bestselling historian Jill Lepore, the story of the American historical mythology embraced by the far right Americans have always put the past to political ends. The Union laid claim to the Revolution—so did the Confederacy. Civil rights leaders said they were the true sons of liberty—so did Southern segregationists. This book tells the story of the centuries-long struggle over the meaning of the nation's founding, including the battle waged by the Tea Party, Glenn Beck, Sarah Palin, and evangelical Christians to take back America. Jill Lepore, Harvard historian and New Yorker staff writer, offers a careful and concerned look at American history according to the far right, from the rant heard round the world, which launched the Tea Party, to the Texas School Board's adoption of a social-studies curriculum that teaches that the United States was established as a Christian nation. Along the way, she provides rare insight into the eighteenth-century struggle for independence, a history of the Revolution, from the archives. Lepore traces the roots of the far right's reactionary history to the bicentennial in the 1970s, when no one could agree on what story a divided nation should tell about its unruly beginnings. Behind the Tea Party's Revolution, she argues, lies a nostalgic and even heartbreaking yearning for an imagined past—a time less troubled by ambiguity, strife, and uncertainty—a yearning for an America that never was. *The Whites of Their Eyes* reveals that the far right has embraced a narrative about America's founding that is not only a fable but is also, finally, a variety of fundamentalism—anti-intellectual, antihistorical, and dangerously antipluralist. In a new afterword, Lepore addresses both the recent shift in Tea Party rhetoric from the Revolution to the Constitution and the diminished role of scholars as political commentators over the last half century of public debate.

jill lepure the name of war: Memory Lands Christine M. DeLucia, 2018-01-09 Noted historian Christine DeLucia offers a major reconsideration of the violent seventeenth-century conflict in northeastern America known as King Philip's War, providing an alternative to Pilgrim-centric narratives that have conventionally dominated the histories of colonial New England. DeLucia grounds her study of one of the most devastating conflicts between Native Americans and European settlers in early America in five specific places that were directly affected by the crisis, spanning the Northeast as well as the Atlantic world. She examines the war's effects on the everyday lives and collective mentalities of the region's diverse Native and Euro-American communities over the course of several centuries, focusing on persistent struggles over land and water, sovereignty, resistance, cultural memory, and intercultural interactions. An enlightening work that draws from oral traditions, archival traces, material and visual culture, archaeology, literature, and environmental studies, this study reassesses the nature and enduring legacies of a watershed historical event.

jill lepure the name of war: The Mansion of Happiness Jill Lepore, 2013-03-26 Renowned Harvard scholar and New Yorker staff writer Jill Lepore has written a strikingly original, ingeniously conceived, and beautifully crafted history of American ideas about life and death from before the cradle to beyond the grave. How does life begin? What does it mean? What happens when we die? "All anyone can do is ask," Lepore writes. "That's why any history of ideas about life and death has to be, like this book, a history of curiosity." Lepore starts that history with the story of a seventeenth-century Englishman who had the idea that all life begins with an egg, and ends it with an American who, in the 1970s, began freezing the dead. In between, life got longer, the stages of life multiplied, and matters of life and death moved from the library to the laboratory, from the humanities to the sciences. Lately, debates about life and death have determined the course of American politics. Each of these debates has a history. Investigating the surprising origins of the stuff of everyday life—from board games to breast pumps—Lepore argues that the age of discovery, Darwin, and the Space Age turned ideas about life on earth topsy-turvy. "New worlds were found," she writes, and "old paradises were lost." As much a meditation on the present as an excavation of the past, *The Mansion of Happiness* is delightful, learned, and altogether beguiling.

jill lepure the name of war: Extraordinary Canadians: Big Bear Rudy Wiebe, 2008-12-02 Big Bear (1825-1888) was a Plains Cree chief in Saskatchewan at a time when aboriginals were confronted with the disappearance of the buffalo and waves of European settlers that seemed destined to destroy the Indian way of life. In 1876 he refused to sign Treaty No. 6, until 1882, when

his people were starving. Big Bear advocated negotiation over violence, but when the federal government refused to negotiate with aboriginal leaders, some of his followers killed 9 people at Frog Lake in 1885. Big Bear himself was arrested and imprisoned. Rudy Wiebe, author of a Governor General's Award-winning novel about Big Bear, revisits the life of the eloquent statesman, one of Canada's most important aboriginal leaders.

jill lepure the name of war: Our Beloved Kin Lisa Tanya Brooks, 2018-01-01 With rigorous original scholarship and creative narration, Lisa Brooks recovers a complex picture of war, captivity, and Native resistance during the First Indian War (later named King Philip's War) by relaying the stories of Weetamoo, a female Wampanoag leader, and James Printer, a Nipmuc scholar, whose stories converge in the captivity of Mary Rowlandson. Through both a narrow focus on Weetamoo, Printer, and their network of relations, and a far broader scope that includes vast Indigenous geographies, Brooks leads us to a new understanding of the history of colonial New England and of American origins. In reading seventeenth-century sources alongside an analysis of the landscape and interpretations informed by tribal history, Brooks's pathbreaking scholarship is grounded not just in extensive archival research but also in the land and communities of Native New England.--Jacket flap.

jill lepure the name of war: Crucible of War Fred Anderson, 2007-12-18 In this engrossing narrative of the great military conflagration of the mid-eighteenth century, Fred Anderson transports us into the maelstrom of international rivalries. With the Seven Years' War, Great Britain decisively eliminated French power north of the Caribbean — and in the process destroyed an American diplomatic system in which Native Americans had long played a central, balancing role — permanently changing the political and cultural landscape of North America. Anderson skillfully reveals the clash of inherited perceptions the war created when it gave thousands of American colonists their first experience of real Englishmen and introduced them to the British cultural and class system. We see colonists who assumed that they were partners in the empire encountering British officers who regarded them as subordinates and who treated them accordingly. This laid the groundwork in shared experience for a common view of the world, of the empire, and of the men who had once been their masters. Thus, Anderson shows, the war taught George Washington and other provincials profound emotional lessons, as well as giving them practical instruction in how to be soldiers. Depicting the subsequent British efforts to reform the empire and American resistance — the riots of the Stamp Act crisis and the nearly simultaneous pan-Indian insurrection called Pontiac's Rebellion — as postwar developments rather than as an anticipation of the national independence that no one knew lay ahead (or even desired), Anderson re-creates the perspectives through which contemporaries saw events unfold while they tried to preserve imperial relationships. Interweaving stories of kings and imperial officers with those of Indians, traders, and the diverse colonial peoples, Anderson brings alive a chapter of our history that was shaped as much by individual choices and actions as by social, economic, and political forces.

jill lepure the name of war: A Is for American Jill Lepore, 2003-02-04 What ties Americans to one another? What unifies a nation of citizens with different racial, religious and ethnic backgrounds? These were the dilemmas faced by Americans in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as they sought ways to bind the newly United States together. In *A is for American*, award-winning historian Jill Lepore portrays seven men who turned to language to help shape a new nation's character and boundaries. From Noah Webster's attempts to standardize American spelling, to Alexander Graham Bell's use of "Visible Speech" to help teach the deaf to talk, to Sequoyah's development of a Cherokee syllabary as a means of preserving his people's independence, these stories form a compelling portrait of a developing nation's struggles. Lepore brilliantly explores the personalities, work, and influence of these figures, seven men driven by radically different aims and temperaments. Through these superbly told stories, she chronicles the challenges faced by a young country trying to unify its diverse people.

jill lepure the name of war: The History of King Philip's War; Also, A History of the Same War Increase Mather, 1862

jill lepure the name of war: Encounters in the New World Associate Professor of History and American Studies Jill Lepore, *Jill Lepore*, 2002-01-01 Jill Lepore, winner of the distinguished Bancroft Prize for history, brings to life in exciting, first-person detail some of the earliest events in American history. Pages From History.

jill lepure the name of war: Joe Gould's Teeth Jill Lepore, 2016-05-17 From New Yorker staff writer and Harvard historian Jill Lepore, the dark, spellbinding tale of her restless search for the long-lost, longest book ever written, a century-old manuscript called "The Oral History of Our Time." Joe Gould, a madman, believed he was the most brilliant historian of the twentieth century. So did some of his friends, a group of modernist writers and artists that included E. E. Cummings, Marianne Moore, William Carlos Williams, John Dos Passos, and Ezra Pound. Gould began his life's work before the First World War, announcing that he intended to write down nearly everything anyone ever said to him. "I am trying to preserve as much detail as I can about the normal life of every day people," he explained, because "as a rule, history does not deal with such small fry." By 1942, when *The New Yorker* published a profile of Gould written by the reporter Joseph Mitchell, Gould's manuscript had grown to more than nine million words. But when Gould died in 1957, in a mental hospital, the manuscript was nowhere to be found. Then, in 1964, in "Joe Gould's Secret," a second profile, Mitchell claimed that "The Oral History of Our Time" had been, all along, merely a figment of Gould's imagination. Lepore, unpersuaded, decided to find out. *Joe Gould's Teeth* is a Poe-like tale of detection, madness, and invention. Digging through archives all over the country, Lepore unearthed evidence that "The Oral History of Our Time" did in fact once exist. Relying on letters, scraps, and Gould's own diaries and notebooks—including volumes of his lost manuscript—Lepore argues that Joe Gould's real secret had to do with sex and the color line, with modernists' relationship to the Harlem Renaissance, and, above all, with Gould's terrifying obsession with the African American sculptor Augusta Savage. In ways that even Gould himself could not have imagined, what Gould wrote down really is a history of our time: unsettling and ferocious.

jill lepure the name of war: Changes in the Land William Cronon, 2011-04-01 The book that launched environmental history, William Cronon's *Changes in the Land*, now revised and updated. Winner of the Francis Parkman Prize In this landmark work of environmental history, William Cronon offers an original and profound explanation of the effects European colonists' sense of property and their pursuit of capitalism had upon the ecosystems of New England. Reissued here with an updated afterword by the author and a new preface by the distinguished colonialist John Demos, *Changes in the Land*, provides a brilliant inter-disciplinary interpretation of how land and people influence one another. With its chilling closing line, The people of plenty were a people of waste, Cronon's enduring and thought-provoking book is ethno-ecological history at its best.

jill lepure the name of war: The Earth Is Weeping Peter Cozzens, 2016-10-25 Bringing together Custer, Sherman, Grant, and other fascinating military and political figures, as well as great native leaders such as Crazy Horse, Sitting Bull, and Geronimo, this "sweeping work of narrative history" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) is the fullest account to date of how the West was won—and lost. After the Civil War the Indian Wars would last more than three decades, permanently altering the physical and political landscape of America. Peter Cozzens gives us both sides in comprehensive and singularly intimate detail. He illuminates the intertribal strife over whether to fight or make peace; explores the dreary, squalid lives of frontier soldiers and the imperatives of the Indian warrior culture; and describes the ethical quandaries faced by generals who often sympathized with their native enemies. In dramatically relating bloody and tragic events as varied as Wounded Knee, the Nez Perce War, the Sierra Madre campaign, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn, we encounter a pageant of fascinating characters, including Custer, Sherman, Grant, and a host of officers, soldiers, and Indian agents, as well as great native leaders such as Crazy Horse, Sitting Bull, Geronimo, and Red Cloud and the warriors they led. *The Earth Is Weeping* is a sweeping, definitive history of the battles and negotiations that destroyed the Indian way of life even as they paved the way for the emergence of the United States we know today.

jill lepure the name of war: Blindspot Jane Kamensky, Jill Lepore, 2008-12-09 BONUS: This

edition contains a Blindspot discussion guide. Stewart Jameson, a Scottish portrait painter fleeing his debtors in Edinburgh, has washed up on the British Empire's far shores—in the city of Boston, lately seized with the spirit of liberty. Eager to begin anew, he advertises for an apprentice, but the lad who comes knocking is no lad at all. Fanny Easton is a fallen woman from Boston's most prominent family who has disguised herself as a boy to become Jameson's defiant and seductive apprentice. Written with wit and exuberance by accomplished historians, *Blindspot* is an affectionate send-up of the best of eighteenth-century fiction. It celebrates the art of the Enlightenment and the passion of the American Revolution by telling stories of ordinary people caught up in an extraordinary time.

jill lepure the name of war: *Metamora, Or, the Last of the Wampanoags* John Augustus Stone, 1996

jill lepure the name of war: *From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime* Elizabeth Hinton, 2016-05-02 Co-Winner of the Thomas J. Wilson Memorial Prize A New York Times Notable Book of the Year A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice A Wall Street Journal Favorite Book of the Year A Choice Outstanding Academic Title of the Year A Publishers Weekly Favorite Book of the Year In the United States today, one in every thirty-one adults is under some form of penal control, including one in eleven African American men. How did the "land of the free" become the home of the world's largest prison system? Challenging the belief that America's prison problem originated with the Reagan administration's War on Drugs, Elizabeth Hinton traces the rise of mass incarceration to an ironic source: the social welfare programs of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society at the height of the civil rights era. "An extraordinary and important new book." —Jill Lepore, *New Yorker* "Hinton's book is more than an argument; it is a revelation...There are moments that will make your skin crawl...This is history, but the implications for today are striking. Readers will learn how the militarization of the police that we've witnessed in Ferguson and elsewhere had roots in the 1960s." —Imani Perry, *New York Times Book Review*

jill lepure the name of war: *Travels with George* Nathaniel Philbrick, 2021-09-14 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "Travels with George . . . is quintessential Philbrick—a lively, courageous, and masterful achievement." —The Boston Globe Does George Washington still matter? Bestselling author Nathaniel Philbrick argues for Washington's unique contribution to the forging of America by retracing his journey as a new president through all thirteen former colonies, which were now an unsure nation. *Travels with George* marks a new first-person voice for Philbrick, weaving history and personal reflection into a single narrative. When George Washington became president in 1789, the United States of America was still a loose and quarrelsome confederation and a tentative political experiment. Washington undertook a tour of the ex-colonies to talk to ordinary citizens about his new government, and to imbue in them the idea of being one thing—Americans. In the fall of 2018, Nathaniel Philbrick embarked on his own journey into what Washington called "the infant woody country" to see for himself what America had become in the 229 years since. Writing in a thoughtful first person about his own adventures with his wife, Melissa, and their dog, Dora, Philbrick follows Washington's presidential excursions: from Mount Vernon to the new capital in New York; a monthlong tour of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island; a venture onto Long Island and eventually across Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. The narrative moves smoothly between the eighteenth and twenty-first centuries as we see the country through both Washington's and Philbrick's eyes. Written at a moment when America's founding figures are under increasing scrutiny, *Travels with George* grapples bluntly and honestly with Washington's legacy as a man of the people, a reluctant president, and a plantation owner who held people in slavery. At historic houses and landmarks, Philbrick reports on the reinterpretations at work as he meets reenactors, tour guides, and other keepers of history's flame. He paints a picture of eighteenth-century America as divided and fraught as it is today, and he comes to understand how Washington compelled, enticed, stood up to, and listened to the many different people he met along the way—and how his all-consuming belief in the union helped to forge a nation.

jill lepure the name of war: *King Philip's War 1675-76* Gabriele Esposito, 2020-10-29 King

Philip's War was the result of over 50 years' tension between the native inhabitants of New England and its colonial settlers as the two parties competed for land and resources. A coalition of Native American tribes fought against a force of over 1,000 men raised by the New England Confederation of Plymouth, Connecticut, New Haven and Massachusetts Bay, alongside their Indian allies the Mohegans and Mohawks. The resultant fighting in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and later Maine and New Hampshire, resulted in the destruction of 12 towns, the death of between 600-800 colonists and 3,000 Indians, making it the deadliest war in the history of American colonization. Although war resulted in victory for the colonists, the scale of death and destruction led to significant economic hardship. This new study reveals the full story of this influential conflict as it raged across New England. Packed with maps, battle scenes, and bird's-eye-views, this is a comprehensive guide to the war which determined the future of colonial America.

jill lepre the name of war: The American Political Tradition Richard Hofstadter, 2011-12-21 The American Political Tradition is one of the most influential and widely read historical volumes of our time. First published in 1948, its elegance, passion, and iconoclastic erudition laid the groundwork for a totally new understanding of the American past. By writing a kind of intellectual history of the assumptions behind American politics, Richard Hofstadter changed the way Americans understand the relationship between power and ideas in their national experience. Like only a handful of American historians before him—Frederick Jackson Turner and Charles A. Beard are examples—Hofstadter was able to articulate, in a single work, a historical vision that inspired and shaped an entire generation.

jill lepre the name of war: Alain Elkann Interviews, 2017-09-15 Alain Elkann has mastered the art of the interview. With a background in novels and journalism, and having published over twenty books translated across ten languages, he infuses his interviews with innovation, allowing them to flow freely and organically. Alain Elkann Interviews will provide an unprecedented window into the minds of some of the most well-known and -respected figures of the last twenty-five years.

jill lepre the name of war: This Land Is Their Land David J. Silverman, 2019-11-05 Ahead of the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving, a new look at the Plymouth colony's founding events, told for the first time with Wampanoag people at the heart of the story. In March 1621, when Plymouth's survival was hanging in the balance, the Wampanoag sachem (or chief), Ousamequin (Massasoit), and Plymouth's governor, John Carver, declared their people's friendship for each other and a commitment to mutual defense. Later that autumn, the English gathered their first successful harvest and lifted the specter of starvation. Ousamequin and 90 of his men then visited Plymouth for the "First Thanksgiving." The treaty remained operative until King Philip's War in 1675, when 50 years of uneasy peace between the two parties would come to an end. 400 years after that famous meal, historian David J. Silverman sheds profound new light on the events that led to the creation, and bloody dissolution, of this alliance. Focusing on the Wampanoag Indians, Silverman deepens the narrative to consider tensions that developed well before 1620 and lasted long after the devastating war—tracing the Wampanoags' ongoing struggle for self-determination up to this very day. This unsettling history reveals why some modern Native people hold a Day of Mourning on Thanksgiving, a holiday which celebrates a myth of colonialism and white proprietorship of the United States. This Land Is Their Land shows that it is time to rethink how we, as a pluralistic nation, tell the history of Thanksgiving.

jill lepre the name of war: Revolutionary Founders Ray Raphael, 2012-04-17 In twenty-two original essays, leading historians reveal the radical impulses at the founding of the American Republic. Here is a fresh, new reading of the American Revolution that gives voice and recognition to a generation of radical thinkers and doers whose revolutionary ideals outstripped those of the "Founding Fathers." While the Founding Fathers advocated a break from Britain and espoused ideals of republican government, none proposed significant changes to the fabric of colonial society. Yet during this "revolutionary" period some people did believe that "liberty" meant "liberty for all" and that "equality" should be applied to political, economic, and religious spheres. Here are the stories of individuals and groups who exemplified the radical ideals of the American Revolution more

in keeping with our own values today. This volume helps us to understand the social conflicts unleashed by the struggle for independence, the Revolution's achievements, and the unfinished agenda it left to future generations to confront.

jill lepure the name of war: Toy Wars G. Wayne Miller, 2012-11-21 This is the real toy story, an unprecedented behind-the-scenes journey through a world of influence, fantasy, and multimillion-dollar Hollywood deals, a world where the whims of children make millionaires and topple titans. This is also the story of an unusual man. Alan Hassenfeld, the chief executive officer of Hasbro, never intended to run a Fortune 500 company. A free spirit who dreamed of being a writer and exploring Asia, he was content to remain in the shadow of his older brother Stephen, a marketing genius who transformed a family firm established by immigrant Jews into powerhouse and Wall Street darling. Then tragedy struck. Stephen, and intensely private man, died of AIDS, a disease he had not acknowledged he had, even to his family. Alan Hassenfeld was named CEO, just as Hasbro was facing a daunting onslaught of challenges. Toy Wars is about Alan's struggle to balance the demands of the bottom line with his ideals about the kind of toys children deserve, as well as the ethical obligations of management. Wayne Miller, an award-winning journalist and novelist, was granted unprecedented access to Hasbro, the maker of G.I. Joe, Star Wars toys, Mr. Potato Head, Batman, Monopoly, Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, and countless other favorites. For five years, he sat in on design sessions, marketing meetings, and focus groups, and interviewed employees in every part of the company. He witnessed a major corporate restructuring; crucial deal with Dreamworks SKG; a hostile takeover bid by archrival Mattel; the collapse of a \$45 million virtual reality game; and the company makeover of G.I. Joe, Hasbro's flagship product and one of the most popular toys of all time. Toy Wars is filled with many colorful characters, including: Hollywood moguls Steven Spielberg and George Lucas, whose kid-friendly movies can translate into licensing gold for toymakers Mighty Morphin Power Rangers creator Haim Saban, who tapped into a popular Japanese TV series and made it a worldwide television and merchandising phenomenon Mattel CEO Jill Barad, the second-highest-paid woman in corporate America, who promotes and defends Barbie with the zeal of a religious crusader Hasbro executive Al Verrecchia, the loyal second in command who did not let friendship or tradition stand in the way of a dramatic restructuring Larry Bernstein, arguably the best toy salesman ever, a riotous raconteur whose divisional presidency crumbled when he was unable to meet Hasbro's profit goals Rich in family drama and written with sly wit, Toy Wars is a deeply compelling business story, a fascinating tour through a billion-dollar industry that exerts tremendous influence on the lives of children everywhere.

jill lepure the name of war: The Mourner's Song James Tatum, 2004-05 No matter when or where they are fought, all wars have one thing in common: a relentless progression to monuments and memorials for the dead. Likewise all art made from war begins and ends in mourning and remembrance. In The Mourner's Song, James Tatum offers incisive discussions of physical and literary memorials constructed in the wake of war, from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to the writings of Stephen Crane, Edmund Wilson, Tim O'Brien, and Robert Lowell. Tatum's touchstone throughout is the Iliad, not just one of the earliest war poems, but also one of the most powerful examples of the way poetry can be a tribute to and consolation for what is lost in war. Reading the Iliad alongside later works inspired by war, Tatum reveals how the forms and processes of art convert mourning to memorial. He examines the role of remembrance and the distance from war it requires; the significance of landscape in memorialization; the artifacts of war that fire the imagination; the intimate relationship between war and love and its effects on the ferocity with which soldiers wage battle; and finally, the idea of memorialization itself. Because all survivors suffer the losses of war, Tatum's is a story of both victims and victors, commanders and soldiers, women and men. Photographs of war memorials in Vietnam, France, and the United States beautifully augment his testimonials. Eloquent and deeply moving, The Mourner's Song will speak to anyone interested in the literature of war and the relevance of the classics to our most pressing contemporary needs.

jill lepure the name of war: The Autobiography and Other Writings Benjamin Franklin,

2008-04-29 This authoritative Bantam Classic edition presents readers with a wide-ranging selection of Benjamin Franklin's most important writings, illuminating the complex and appealing character of this quintessential American who rose to fame as a publisher, inventor, educator, bon vivant, and statesman. Here are selections from Franklin's newspaper articles, from the sage wisdom of Poor Richard's Almanac, from his entertaining letters, from his scientific essays, from his political and revolutionary writings, plus a generous sampling of his famous aphorisms, poems, and humor. And, most important, here is a newly edited text of one of the most vital and important works of American literature, the Autobiography. As fascinating and as relevant as ever, this timeless collection of writings reveals an extraordinary man whose mind was always curious, always questioning, and who forever remained dedicated to the principles of truth and liberty.

jill lepure the name of war: Soldiers in King Philip's War George Madison Bodge, 1906

jill lepure the name of war: Straight, No Chaser Jill Nelson, 1999 The author of the acclaimed bestseller *Volunteer Slavery* bluntly addresses the needs of the two most loathed groups in America--blacks and females.

jill lepure the name of war: Ages of American Capitalism Jonathan Levy, 2022-04-05 A leading economic historian traces the evolution of American capitalism from the colonial era to the present—and argues that we've reached a turning point that will define the era ahead. "A monumental achievement, sure to become a classic."—Zachary D. Carter, author of *The Price of Peace* In this ambitious single-volume history of the United States, economic historian Jonathan Levy reveals how capitalism in America has evolved through four distinct ages and how the country's economic evolution is inseparable from the nature of American life itself. The Age of Commerce spans the colonial era through the outbreak of the Civil War, and the Age of Capital traces the lasting impact of the industrial revolution. The volatility of the Age of Capital ultimately led to the Great Depression, which sparked the Age of Control, during which the government took on a more active role in the economy, and finally, in the Age of Chaos, deregulation and the growth of the finance industry created a booming economy for some but also striking inequalities and a lack of oversight that led directly to the crash of 2008. In *Ages of American Capitalism*, Levy proves that capitalism in the United States has never been just one thing. Instead, it has morphed through the country's history—and it's likely changing again right now. "A stunning accomplishment . . . an indispensable guide to understanding American history—and what's happening in today's economy."—*Christian Science Monitor* "The best one-volume history of American capitalism."—Sven Beckert, author of *Empire of Cotton*

jill lepure the name of war: The Barbarous Years Bernard Bailyn, 2013-08-13 Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize A compelling, fresh account of the first great transit of people from Britain, Europe, and Africa to British North America, their involvements with each other, and their struggles with the indigenous peoples of the eastern seaboard. The immigrants were a mixed multitude. They came from England, the Netherlands, the German and Italian states, France, Africa, Sweden, and Finland, and they moved to the western hemisphere for different reasons, from different social backgrounds and cultures. They represented a spectrum of religious attachments. In the early years, their stories are not mainly of triumph but of confusion, failure, violence, and the loss of civility as they sought to normalize situations and recapture lost worlds. It was a thoroughly brutal encounter—not only between the Europeans and native peoples and between Europeans and Africans, but among Europeans themselves, as they sought to control and prosper in the new configurations of life that were emerging around them.

jill lepure the name of war: Land of Hope Wilfred M. McClay, 2020-09-22 For too long we've lacked a compact, inexpensive, authoritative, and compulsively readable book that offers American readers a clear, informative, and inspiring narrative account of their country. Such a fresh retelling of the American story is especially needed today, to shape and deepen young Americans' sense of the land they inhabit, help them to understand its roots and share in its memories, all the while equipping them for the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship in American society The existing texts simply fail to tell that story with energy and conviction. Too often they reflect a fragmented

outlook that fails to convey to American readers the grand trajectory of their own history. This state of affairs cannot continue for long without producing serious consequences. A great nation needs and deserves a great and coherent narrative, as an expression of its own self-understanding and its aspirations; and it needs to be able to convey that narrative to its young effectively. Of course, it goes without saying that such a narrative cannot be a fairy tale of the past. It will not be convincing if it is not truthful. But as *Land of Hope* brilliantly shows, there is no contradiction between a truthful account of the American past and an inspiring one. Readers of *Land of Hope* will find both in its pages.

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