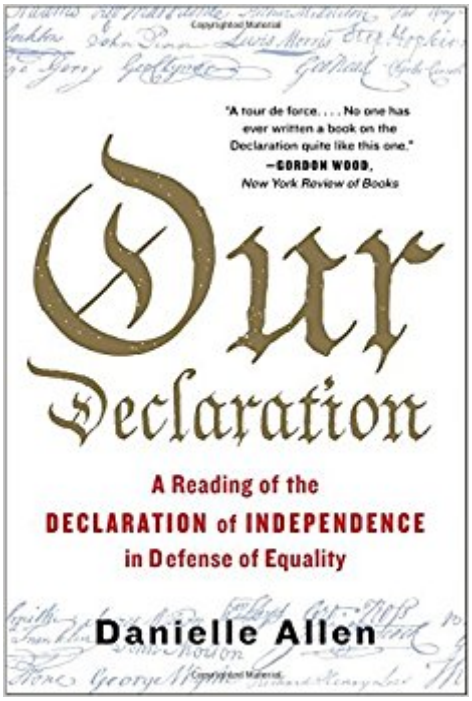
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Our Declaration: A Reading Of The Declaration Of Independence In Defense Of Equality



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Synopsis

Winner of the Francis Parkman Prize, Society of American Historians Ã¢â ¬Å“A tour de force. . . . No one has ever written a book on the Declaration quite like this one.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â ¢Gordon Wood, New York Review of Books Featured on the front page of the New York Times, Our Declaration is already regarded as a seminal work that reinterprets the promise of American democracy through our founding text. Combining a personal account of teaching the Declaration with a vivid evocation of the colonial world between 1774 and 1777, Allen, a political philosopher renowned for her work on justice and citizenship reveals our nationÃ¢â ¬â„¢s founding text to be an animating force that not only changed the world more than two-hundred years ago, but also still can. Challenging conventional wisdom, she boldly makes the case that the Declaration is a document as much about political equality as about individual liberty. Beautifully illustrated throughout, Our Declaration is an Ã¢â ¬Å“uncommonly elegant, incisive, and often poetic primer on AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s cardinal textÃ¢â ¬Â• (David M. Kennedy). 35 illustrations

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Liveright; 1 edition (May 4, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1631490443

ISBN-13: 978-1631490446

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 70 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #26,660 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 inÃ Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Political #77 inÃ Â Books > History > Americas > United States > Revolution & Founding #215 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > United States

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“The book is a tour de force of close textual analysis.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Gordon S. Wood, New York Review of BooksÃ¢â ¬Å“Our Declaration is an artful, often elegiac meditation on the meaning of Jefferson's famous words for our time. Allen brings the analytical skills of a philosopher, the voice of a gifted memorialist, and the spirit of a soulful humanist to the task at hand, and manages to do something quite rare, find new meaning in JeffersonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s understanding of equality.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Joseph J. Ellis, author of Revolutionary Summer: The Birth of American IndependenceÃ¢â ¬Å“Our

Declaration sets forth a bold thesisÃ¢â ¬Â| AllenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s passion for each of the DeclarationÃ¢â ¬â„¢s 1,337 words is admirable.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Steven B. Smith, New York Times Book ReviewÃ¢â ¬Å“This wise and rich book is what we need in these troubled timesÃ¢â ¬â ¢a robust and persuasive defense of equality and liberty grounded in our national scripture. Danielle Allen is a towering political philosopher of the democratic art of being and a force for good!Ã¢â ¬Â• - Cornel West, author of Democracy Matters: Winning the War on ImperialismÃ¢â ¬Å“Danielle Allen celebrates the Declaration of Independence by reading it closelyÃ¢â ¬â ¢line by line, comma by commaÃ¢â ¬â ¢and invites her fellow citizens to do the same. The result is a richly rewarding book that demonstrates the pleasures of slow reading, the power of words to shape events, and the importance of equality to democratic life.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Michael Sandel, author of What Money CanÃ¢â ¬â„¢t Buy: The Moral Limits of MarketsÃ¢â ¬Å“Danielle Allen's poignant and personal reflection on the Declaration of Independence is a rare and singular workÃ¢â ¬Â|[S]he has written a book that throws open a door to a large circle of readers: anyone with a stake in democracy. Her observations about the importance of language in building and sustaining a republic are especially resonant and worthy of the towering rhetoric of the Declaration. Our Declaration holds the promise of both discovery and rediscovery whether you've never read the Declaration or have memorized each of its 1,337 words.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Ann Marie Lipinski, curator, Nieman Foundation for Journalism, Harvard UniversityÃ¢â ¬Å“Our Declaration is a primer on all that we have been missingÃ¢â ¬Â| Not just an invaluable civics lesson but also a poignant personal memoirÃ¢â ¬Â| Allen is an evangelist for this romantic moment in American history when men of uncommon vision and political deftness stated their case and listed their grievances against the most powerful nation on Earth.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Thane Rosenbaum, The Washington PostÃ¢â ¬Å“An astounding new book that should reinvigorate public understanding of the founding document of the United StatesÃ¢â ¬Â| Reading Ms. Allen makes reading the Declaration meaningful and enjoyableÃ¢â ¬â ¢a powerful enough lesson it is't own right.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Sarah J. Purcell, Pittsburgh Post-GazetteÃ¢â ¬Å“At once simple, sharp and deftly executed.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Kirkus Reviews

Danielle Allen is the James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard University and author of Cuz and Our Declaration, winner of the Parkman Prize. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Great background if you are serious about understanding the DI. Not hard to read, but a detailed description. Well worth your time. An important document which has influenced people and governments around the world. The book is used in college classes and could be used in high

school. I taught U.S. Gov't in HS for 35 years. You don't need to be a scholar to read this book, but it's quality reaches that level.

An excellent read. This book is a wonderful discussion on the importance of equality in our understanding of American democracy. This is a great book to read deeper into our cultural foundation as a nation and reminded me of how much work we have to reclaim the Declaration today.

Quality of the book was as described and sent timely as promised. Thank you...

A timely, important and useful work. I especially enjoyed the author's personal notes as they illuminated otherwise tenuous and vague insights, opinions and ideas, she brought the topic alive and into our own day and age. I recommend this book. My singular disappointment was the chapter that dealt with "Nature's God". The god of the Declaration was in fact not the Christian God, it was the god of Spinoza, Nature. I recommend the following book to those who want to follow up. Nature's God, by Matthew Stewart.

Great product and service.

Awesome book!

Great book!

it is ok.

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