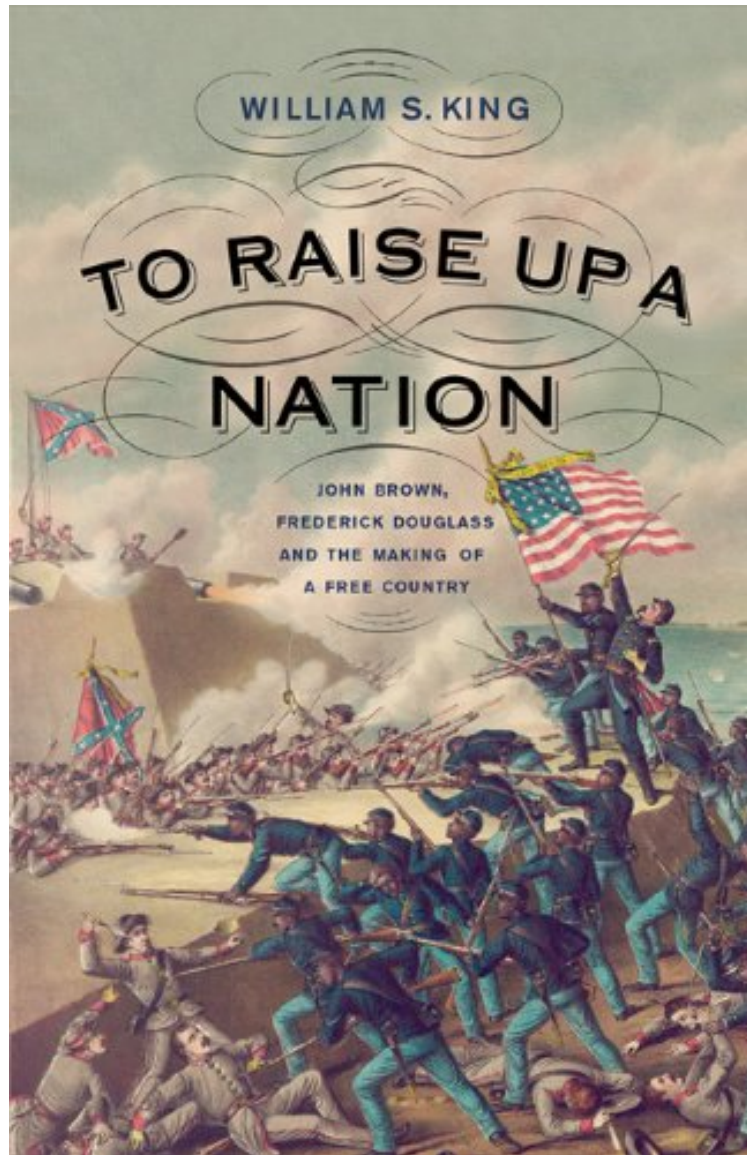


(Free read ebook) To Raise Up a Nation: John Brown, Frederick Douglass, and the Making of a Free Country

To Raise Up a Nation: John Brown, Frederick Douglass, and the Making of a Free Country

William S. King

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William S. King : To Raise Up a Nation: John Brown, Frederick Douglass, and the Making of a Free Country before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised To Raise Up a Nation: John Brown, Frederick Douglass, and the Making of a Free Country:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended!By VisitorA superb work for any student of

the American Civil War. Highly recommended! 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A great read for persons from all regions and political persuasions. By Jim Bradley. Engaging prose and meticulous scholarship about events and persons in our nation's history that are not widely understood or appreciated-- "To Raise Up a Nation" has all of that and more. It is the perfect gift for persons with inquiring minds and interested in U.S. history and the ongoing evolution/revolution in our collective social values, especially justice.

The Sweeping Story of the Men and Women Who Fought to End Slavery in America "In his fast-paced and deeply researched *To Raise Up a Nation*, William S. King narrates the coming of the Civil War, the war itself, and the emancipation process, through the intertwined lives of John Brown and Frederick Douglass. King's stimulating, well-written account draws upon telling anecdotes and pen portraits to document America's dramatic story from Harper's Ferry to Appomattox, a drama personified by the lives of Brown and Douglass."—John David Smith, Charles H. Stone Distinguished Professor of American History, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and author of *Lincoln and the U.S. Colored Troops* Drawing on decades of research, and demonstrating remarkable command of a great range of primary sources, William S. King has written an important history of African Americans' own contributions and points of crossracial cooperation to end slavery in America. Beginning with the civil war along the border of Kansas and Missouri, the author traces the life of John Brown and the personal support for his ideas from elite New England businessmen, intellectuals such as Emerson and Thoreau, and African Americans, including his confidant, Frederick Douglass, and Harriet Tubman. Throughout, King links events that contributed to the growing antipathy in the North toward slavery and the South's concerns for its future, including Nat Turner's insurrection, the Amistad affair, the Fugitive Slave law, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, and the Dred Scott decision. The author also effectively describes the debate within the African American community as to whether the U.S. Constitution was colorblind or if emigration was the right course for the future of blacks in America. Following Brown's execution after the failed raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859, King shows how Brown's vision that only a clash of arms would eradicate slavery was set into motion after the election of Abraham Lincoln. Once the Civil War erupted on the heels of Brown's raid, the author relates how black leaders, white legislators, and military officers vigorously discussed the use of black manpower for the Union effort as well as plans for the liberation of the "veritable Africa" within the southern United States. Following the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1863, recruitment of black soldiers increased and by war's end they made up nearly ten percent of the Union army, and contributed to many important victories. *To Raise Up a Nation: John Brown, Frederick Douglass, and the Making of a Free Country* is a sweeping history that explains how the destruction of American slavery was not directed primarily from the counsels of local and national government and military men, but rather through the grassroots efforts of extraordinary men and women. As King notes, the Lincoln administration ultimately armed black Americans, as John Brown had attempted to do, and their role was a vital part in the defeat of slavery.

From Booklist Independent scholar King has written an ambitious, wide-ranging account of the struggle against slavery waged from the bottom up by abolitionists, white and black, and a variety of activities by committed citizens and nongovernmental organizations. The early part of the narrative emphasizes the relationship between John Brown and Frederick Douglass, and King's portrayal of Brown is particularly sympathetic, depicting him as a passionate fighter more complex than the wild-eyed fanatic described by his enemies. As expected, Douglass is seen as brilliant, dedicated, and most important, effective. King views the recruitment and fighting prowess of black regiments as critical to the Union victories in the closing years of the Civil War. This rambling and sometimes uneven saga succeeds in paying tribute to those men, some of whom labored in obscurity, who helped purge the nation of its "original sin." --Jay Freeman About the Author WILLIAM S. KING is an independent scholar. Son of noted translator Martha King, he lives in New Jersey with his wife.