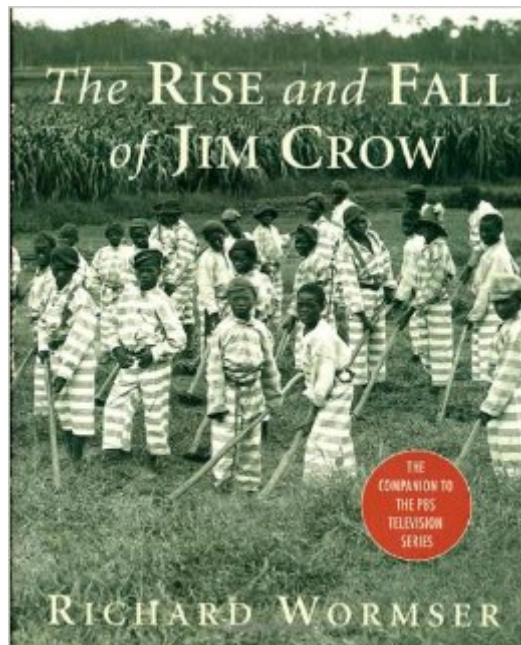


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The Rise And Fall Of Jim Crow



Synopsis

Between 1880 and 1954, African Americans dedicated their energies, and sometimes their lives, to defeating segregation. During these times, characterized by some as worse than slavery, African Americans fought the status quo, acquiring education and land and building businesses, churches, and communities, despite laws designed to segregate and disenfranchise them. White supremacy prevailed, but did not destroy the spirit of the black community. Incorporating anecdotes, the exploits of individuals, first-person accounts, and never-before-seen images and graphics, *The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow* is the story of the African American struggle for freedom following the end of the Civil War. A companion volume to the four-part PBS television series, which took seven years to write, research, and edit, the book documents the work of such figures as the activist and separatist Benjamin "Pap" Singleton, anti-lynching crusader Ida B. Wells, and W.E.B. Du Bois and Booker T. Washington. It examines the emergence of the black middle class and intellectual elite, and the birth of the NAACP. *The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow* also tells the stories of ordinary heroes who accomplished extraordinary things: Charlotte Hawkins Brown, a teacher who founded the Palmer Memorial Institute, a private black high school in North Carolina; Ned Cobb, a tenant farmer in Alabama who became a union organizer; Isaiah Montgomery, who founded Mound Bayou, an all-black town in Mississippi; Charles Evers, brother of civil rights leader Medgar Evers, who fought for voter registration in Mississippi in the 1940s. And Barbara Johns, a sixteen-year-old Virginia student who organized a student strike in 1951. The strike led to a lawsuit that became one of the five cases the United States Supreme Court reviewed when it declared segregation in education illegal. As the twenty-first century rolls forward, we are losing the remaining survivors of this pivotal era. Rich in historical commentary and eyewitness testimony by blacks and whites who lived through the period, *The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow* is a poignant record of a time when indignity and terror constantly faced off against courage and accomplishment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The period of Reconstruction is much, much more than the story of former slaves, however one of the core themes of Reconstruction is the withdrawal of Union troops by President Hayes and the subsequent implementation of Jim Crow in the late 19th century and early 20 century South. This is a shameful, compelling story of physical violence, wilful denial of voting rights, and subjugation of former slaves to the lowest economic levels of society. Even FDR was indifferent to the lynching problems in the South, in the greater interest of not antagonizing the Southern Democrats. But thankfully Eleanor R. had the generosity and understanding of the situation to constantly hound her husband into paying attention. This is an excellent coffee table book, and more.

I lived in Gary when I was a child and I saw first hand how hard it was for negroes (what they were called at that time) were treated. We whites were generally bused to the better schools and the Negroes lived in the areas that had assisted living for families. When desegregation was applied to our areas, we learned a great deal about the life and history of a black person. My only contention is how little the blacks have done for themselves. They live in a reasonable area and tear it up by turning into a slum. Then they turn on the police when their children are given guns to supposedly protect themselves. Sorry but we have police in the area to protect our citizens not to have to protect themselves. The worse part of all is whenever there's trouble Al Sharpton and his daughter turn up. Then they leave when there is no long any money to make. Why do you think they don't stay around? Because they're super rich and they wouldn't be there unless there's money for them. The African people have to wake up and smell the coffee. They have a great history, go back and be proud of where they came from and do better for themselves.

This book absolutely breaks my heart. The total disregard of human life. It astonishes me that this country is still standing with all the turmoil and violence that has filled the fields and streets of this country. I wonder, where did I grow up to not know the history of my part of the country or this nation. How could we hide such horrible secrets and act like they did not happen? I got a very

narrow education growing up. I have worked to broaden my education. I have bought quiet a few books to teach myself about american history. I have only begun to tap the deep secretive barrel of southern history.

Learned so much that I did not know. High School should cover some of this but they don't.

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