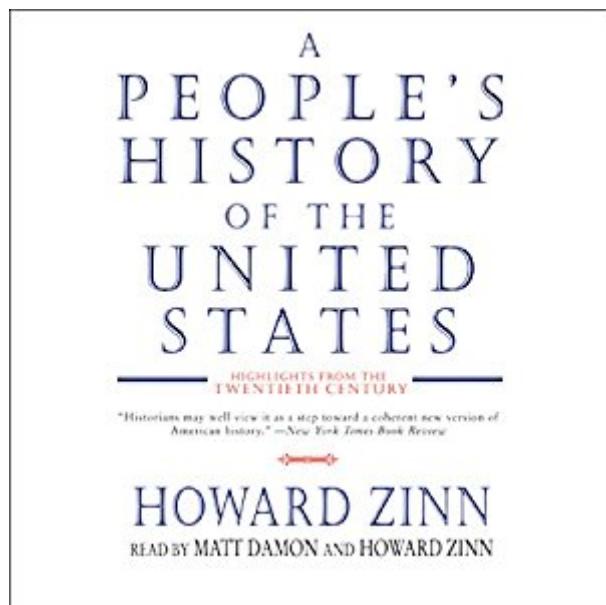


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# A People's History Of The United States: Highlights From The Twentieth Century



## **Synopsis**

For much of his life, historian Howard Zinn has been chronicling American history from the bottom up, throwing out the official version taught in schools -- with its emphasis on great men in high places -- to focus on the street, the home, and the workplace. Known for its lively, clear prose as well as its scholarly research, Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* is the only volume to tell America's story from the point of view of -- and in the words of -- its women, factory workers, African-Americans, Native Americans, working poor, and immigrant laborers. Here we learn that many of our country's greatest battles -- labor laws, women's rights, racial equality -- were carried out at the grassroots level, against steel-willed resistance. This edition of *A People's History of the United States* features insightful analysis of some of the most important events in this country in the past one hundred years.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 8 hours and 32 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Abridged

Publisher: HarperAudio

Audible.com Release Date: February 26, 2004

Language: English

ASIN: B0001O34CG

Best Sellers Rank: #57 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > United States & Canada  
#403 in Books > History > Americas > United States

## **Customer Reviews**

This book presents a decidedly bottom-up perspective on American history, and it'll make you question the motivations and hidden messages behind everything you learned in school. Zinn's book is particularly suited to book-on-tape - it's got a lot of detail, but the writing is clear and concise. You might be surprised at how great of a reader Matt Damon is! He brings just enough character to the voices of the primary sources. If you have a long road trip coming up, I would recommend this book to spark deep political thought and conversation.

I have a hard time not wanting to give this five stars. I LOVE this book, I truly do, and I wanted my hubby to be able to read it too. He drives a lot and so audio is the best way to go. He was thinking

Matt Damon? Cool!- We love his movies, BUT apparently poor Matt can't read with inflection to save his life. My husband has a very hard time staying focused on the narrative of the deadening voice. Sorry Matt, as picky as you can be in directing and acting, etc. . . you apparently are not so hot as a narrator.

Quite simply, this is a narrative that everyone should want to listen to or read. It reveals a view of history that is at best ignored and at worst, actively suppressed. I listen in my car on the way to and from work. It is informative and easy to listen to.

This professor tells our history in a way that is unpopular with most Americans so they label the truth as unpatriotic. But it is a truth that needs not be forgotten because it is constantly being repeated in different forms throughout America even now. We will not overcome the ugliness of our past until we face it as a nation and decide on the course we all want to walk together in the future.

Howard Zinn's A People's History of The United States is a fascinating book that reveals history from a unique standpoint. While many school text books sugar-coat American history and downplay the faults of many key figures in our past, Zinn is brutally honest and reflects the past through the eyes of those who lived it. The book is laced with eyewitness accounts and makes for an enjoyable and memorable read. While the vast amount of detail can make the text a bit tedious at times, this book is a treasure for anyone looking to increase their knowledge of the history of the United States.

Poor audio. Audio volume is irregular. The beginnings of chapters often boom out, but after a while fade to a lower volume. Also, Matt Damon didn't bother to get the pronunciation of various towns and names correct. Zinn is a historian of high integrity first, and honestly makes his choice in perspective explicit. Surprisingly, it was a joy to listen to Zinn's leftist People's History and Nial Ferguson's right-wing Civilization back to back, for the agreement more than for the contrast. Ferguson provides the wider context, that American exploitations and genocides were not unique in the colonial period. Both recommended. In his last chapter Zinn expresses wishful socialism without actual solutions.

I neglected to notice this language in the description: "Highlights from the 20th Century." The CD is far too limited in scope to be much value to a high school history teacher.

This is not as good as the text version. I didn't realize until after I bought it that it was selected

"highlights from the 20th century," even though so much more is covered in the book. I'd strongly recommend reading the text version instead of listening to the audio.

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