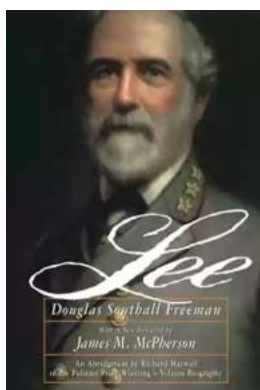


Uncovering the Untold Story of Lee Douglas Southall Freeman - A Historian Ahead of His Time



When it comes to American historians, names like David McCullough and Doris Kearns Goodwin come to mind. However, there is one historian whose impact on our understanding of American history cannot be overstated - Lee Douglas Southall Freeman.

Alt attribute: Lee Douglas Southall Freeman - A Historian Ahead of His Time



Lee by Douglas Southall Freeman(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Born on October 31, 1918, in Richmond, Virginia, Freeman displayed an insatiable curiosity about the past from a young age. This fascination would shape his life and lead him on a remarkable journey through the annals of American history.

The Early Years and Education

Freeman's road to becoming a renowned historian began at the University of Richmond, where he studied history and graduated with honors in 1935. It was during his time at the university that he developed his unique approach to historical research, integrating primary sources and personal narratives to provide a comprehensive understanding.

After completing his undergraduate studies, Freeman pursued a master's degree in literature at the University of Richmond, further solidifying his passion for storytelling and its intrinsic connection to history.

From Writing to Teaching

Following the completion of his master's degree, Freeman embarked on a career as a journalist, working first as a reporter for the Richmond News Leader and later as an editor at the Richmond Times-Dispatch. During this period, Freeman honed his writing skills and developed a keen understanding of the power of narrative.

However, his true calling lay in academia, and in 1942, Freeman joined the faculty of his alma mater, the University of Richmond, as an assistant professor of English and history. Over the years, he became a beloved and respected figure, captivating students with his distinctive style of teaching that combined storytelling, analytical rigor, and a genuine love for the subject matter.

The Journey into Historical Writing

While teaching, Freeman continued his exploration of historical writing, transforming his extensive research into captivating books and essays that shed light on lesser-known aspects of American history. His first major work, "Prelude to Civil War: The Nullification Controversy in South Carolina," published in 1965, garnered critical acclaim for its meticulous research, in-depth analysis, and engaging storytelling.

Freeman's breakthrough came with the publication of "R.E. Lee: A Biography" in 1935. It was an instant success, catapulting him into the limelight and establishing his reputation as one of the foremost historians of his time. The meticulous research, alongside Freeman's ability to decipher complex historical events and present them in a relatable manner, set him apart from his contemporaries.

In the years that followed, Freeman continued to produce groundbreaking works, including "George Washington: A Biography," which earned him the Pulitzer Prize

for History in 1948. His extensive research and dedication to portraying historical figures as multifaceted human beings further solidified his place in the pantheon of American historians.

Legacy and Impact

Throughout his career, Freeman left an indelible mark on the field of American history. His storytelling prowess, attention to detail, and the ability to make the past come alive fueled a new generation of historical writers and researchers.

Freeman's unique approach to history resonated with readers and scholars alike, transforming the way we understand and appreciate the complexities of our nation's past. His works have stood the test of time, finding a place on countless bookshelves and in the curriculum of history classrooms across the country.

Lee Douglas Southall Freeman was more than just a historian. He was a master storyteller, a meticulous researcher, and a guardian of forgotten narratives. Through his works, Freeman opened doors to unexplored aspects of American history, inspiring future generations to dig deeper and challenge conventional wisdom.

As we reflect on his remarkable legacy, let us not forget the countless stories he unraveled, giving a voice to those who were silenced by time. Lee Douglas Southall Freeman left an indelible mark, forever enriching our understanding of the nation's past and, in turn, shaping our future.

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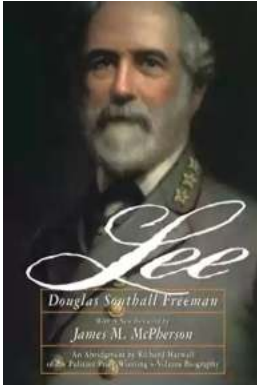
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Douglas Southall Freeman's Pulitzer Prize–winning biography of Robert E. Lee was greeted with critical acclaim when it was first published in 1935. This reissue chronicles all the major aspects and highlights of the general's military career, from his stunning accomplishments in the Mexican War to the humbling surrender at Appomattox.

More than just a military leader, Lee embodied all the conflicts of his time. The son of a Revolutionary War hero and related by marriage to George Washington, he was the product of young America's elite. When Abraham Lincoln offered him command of the United States Army, however, he choose to lead the confederate ranks, convinced that his first loyalty lay with his native Virginia. Although a member of the planter class, he felt that slavery was "a moral and political evil." Aloof and somber, he nevertheless continually inspired his men by his deep concern for their personal welfare.

Freeman's biography is the full portrait of a great American—a distinguished, scholarly, yet eminently readable classic that has linked Freeman to Lee as irrevocably as Boswell to Dr. Johnson.



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