



Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different

By Gordon S. Wood

Download now

Read Online ➔

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood

In this brilliantly illuminating group portrait of the men who came to be known as the Founding Fathers, the incomparable Gordon Wood has written a book that seriously asks, "What made these men great?" and shows us, among many other things, just how much character did in fact matter. The life of each—Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Franklin, Hamilton, Madison, Paine—is presented individually as well as collectively, but the thread that binds these portraits together is the idea of character as a lived reality. They were members of the first generation in history that was self-consciously self-made men who understood that the arc of lives, as of nations, is one of moral progress.

📄 [Download Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders D ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders ...pdf](#)

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different

By Gordon S. Wood

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood

In this brilliantly illuminating group portrait of the men who came to be known as the Founding Fathers, the incomparable Gordon Wood has written a book that seriously asks, "What made these men great?" and shows us, among many other things, just how much character did in fact matter. The life of each—Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Franklin, Hamilton, Madison, Paine—is presented individually as well as collectively, but the thread that binds these portraits together is the idea of character as a lived reality. They were members of the first generation in history that was self-consciously self-made men who understood that the arc of lives, as of nations, is one of moral progress.

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #91656 in Books
- Brand: Wood, Gordon S.
- Published on: 2007-05-29
- Released on: 2007-05-29
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .70" w x 5.50" l, .68 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages

 [Download Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders D ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Bancroft and Pulitzer Prize–winner Wood suggests that behind America's current romance with the founding fathers is a critique of our own leaders, a desire for such capable and disinterested leadership as was offered by George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. Provocatively, Wood argues that the very egalitarian democracy Washington and Co. created all but guarantees that we will "never again replicate the extraordinary generation of the founders." In 10 essays, most culled from the *New York Review of Books* and the *New Republic*, Wood offers miniature portraits of James Madison, Aaron Burr, Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Paine. The most stimulating chapter is devoted to John Adams, who died thinking he would never get his due in historians' accounts of the Revolution; for the most part, he was right. This piece is an important corrective; Adams, says Wood, was not only pessimistic about the greed and scrambling he saw in his fellow Americans, he was downright prophetic—and his countrymen, then and now, have never wanted to reckon with his critiques. Wood is an elegant writer who has devoted decades to the men about whom he is writing, and taken together, these pieces add perspective to the founding fathers cottage industry. (May 22) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School—There is no shortage of new titles assessing the character and contributions of America's founders, but this excellent book is particularly well suited to high school students. Wood has selected eight remarkable men to profile: George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Adams, Thomas Paine, and Aaron Burr. After describing how their reputations have undergone changes through the years, sometimes honored, sometimes reviled, the author discusses the men in terms of their own times. A chapter is devoted to each one, but these essays are not simple biographical sketches. Wood establishes his subjects' social and economic backgrounds, but then focuses on their personalities and philosophies, revealed through their correspondence. Trying to establish a meritocracy during an age of aristocracy was a daunting process, and the founders often became one another's adversaries. Their shrewd and sometimes caustic observations showed the difficulties involved in coming to a consensus on vital issues. Insecurities, humor, brilliance, and bewilderment abounded, all described in a flowing, lively style. Readers will gain a new understanding and appreciation of these men, and may even be inspired to read some of the comprehensive biographies recommended by the author.—Kathy Tewell, Chantilly Regional Library, Fairfax County, VA

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Distinguished Brown University historian Gordon S. Wood has examined Revolutionary politics in *The Creation of the American Republic* (Bancroft Prize, 1970) and *The Radicalism of the American Revolution* (Pulitzer Prize, 1993). Collected from writing he did for the *New York Review of Books* and the *New Republic*, this latest compilation covers the same turf, but, as his title suggests, Wood emphasizes the moral and philosophical underpinnings of the founding fathers' beliefs. Reviewers concur with the *Los Angeles Times*, which calls *Revolutionary Characters* "a 'greatest hits' of energetically reworked, previously published essays that should be required summer reading for all elected officials."

Copyright © 2004 Phillips & Nelson Media, Inc.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nancy Kline:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be revise about what going on or info even knowledge to make them keep up with the era which can be always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what type you should start with. This Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and want in this era.

Stanley Torres:

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or 15 minute in your day to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book when compared with can satisfy your limited time to read it because this time you only find guide that need more time to be go through. Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different can be your answer given it can be read by you who have those short free time problems.

Rose Hilton:

A lot of reserve has printed but it is unique. You can get it by online on social media. You can choose the very best book for you, science, comic, novel, or whatever simply by searching from it. It is referred to as of book Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different. You can add your knowledge by it. Without causing the printed book, it might add your knowledge and make anyone happier to read. It is most critical that, you must aware about e-book. It can bring you from one spot to other place.

Jacob Gray:

E-book is one of source of knowledge. We can add our expertise from it. Not only for students and also native or citizen need book to know the revise information of year to be able to year. As we know those textbooks have many advantages. Beside all of us add our knowledge, can also bring us to around the world. From the book Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different we can have more advantage. Don't someone to be creative people? Being creative person must prefer to read a book. Just choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't be doubt to change your life with this book Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different. You can more appealing than now.

Download and Read Online Revolutionary Characters: What Made

the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood #7OKVQS63BMF

Read Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood for online ebook

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood books to read online.

Online Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood ebook PDF download

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood Doc

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood Mobipocket

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different By Gordon S. Wood EPub