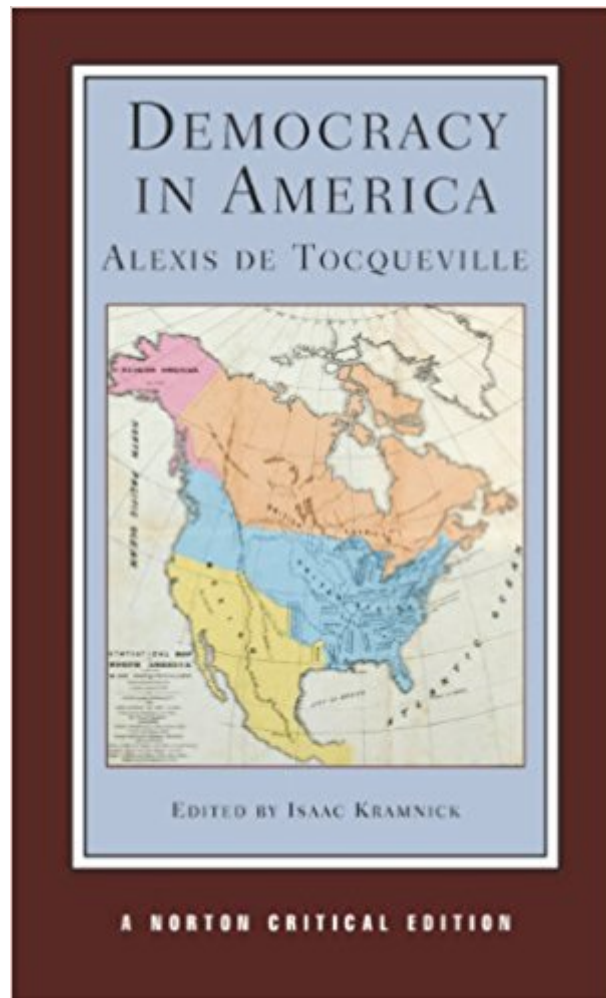




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Democracy In America (Norton Critical Editions)



Synopsis

The Norton Critical Edition presents Tocqueville's classic text in the Henry Reeves translation. It is accompanied by detailed explanatory annotations and an introduction addressing Democracy in America's canonic and iconic place in American life.

"Backgrounds" includes seven letters offering Tocqueville's impressions of his nine-and-a-half month journey through the United States. Nine contemporary reviews, both American and European, trace Democracy in America's varied initial reception. Thirteen "Interpretations" gauge Tocqueville's influence on American political thought and on democracy's legacy. Contributors include David Riesman, Max Lerner, Robert Nisbet, James T. Schleifer, Catherine Zuckert, Sheldon S. Wolin, Edward C. Banfield, Daniel T. Rodgers, Arthur Schlesinger Jr., Sean Wilentz, Henry Steele Commager, James T. Kloppenberg, and Tamara M. Teale.

Book Information

Series: Norton Critical Editions

Paperback: 896 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 1st edition (August 21, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393929868

ISBN-13: 978-0393929867

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 1.1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Isaac Kramnick is the Richard J. Schwartz Professor of Government at Cornell University. His many books include Bolingbroke and His Circle, The Rage of Edmund Burke, Republicanism and Bourgeois Radicalism, Harold Laski: A Life on the Left, and most recently, with R. Laurence Moore, The Godless Constitution: A Moral Defense of the Secular State.

While I can't claim to discuss the merits of a plethora of newer translations, I have always liked this one, feeling the author was well-versed in the the political vocabulary and understandings of the time, and since I am, trust it even if it may contain some errors. This work has unfortunately suffered from historical revisionism.

I love this book! it is a great book by a great thinker! we should look back on the history of the world to understand the world today!

Excellent. To know America from an objective observer. Much to be extrapolated and learned for the wise. Read and re read.

A classic of its kind--beyond compare--a book large enough to wander in for a lifetime. Alas, perhaps, I no longer have an objective opinion: an essay I wrote is reprinted at the end of the section of analytical essays (on Tocqueville's view of President Jackson's "Indian Removal Act" of 1830). And to think that Tocqueville might not written his masterpiece! He nearly died in Memphis, Tennessee, from a bout with the illness which eventually killed him twenty years later (see Beaumont's journal notes).

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