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# The Revolutionary John Adams

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Harlequin  
The  
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e of a  
Founding  
Father and his

brilliant wife  
The Letters of John and Abigail Adams provides an insightful record of American life before, during, and after the Revolution; the letters also reveal the intellectually and emotionally fulfilling relationship between John and Abigail that lasted fifty-four years and withstood historical upheavals, long periods apart, and personal tragedies. Covering key moments in American

history - the Continental Congress, the drafting of the Declaration of Independence, the Revolutionary War, and John Adams's diplomatic missions to Europe - the letters reveal the concerns of a couple living during a period of explosive change, from smallpox and British warships to raising children, paying taxes, the state of women, and the emerging concepts of American democracy.

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distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

### **Worst of Friends**

Library of America  
Chronicles the life of America's second president, including his youth, his career as a Massachusetts farmer and lawyer, his marriage to Abigail, his rivalry with Thomas Jefferson, and his influence on the birth of the United

States.

### **The Revolutionary John Adams**

Simon and Schuster  
In the first major work on Adams's political thought in over thirty years, C. Bradley Thompson takes issue with the notion that Adams's thought is irrelevant to the development of American ideas.

Focusing on Adams's major writings, Thompson elucidates and reevaluates his political

and constitutional thought by interpreting it within the tradition of political philosophy stretching from Plato to Montesquieu. Skillfully blending history and political science, Thompson's work shows how the spirit of liberty animated Adams's life and reestablishes this forgotten Revolutionary as an independent and important thinker.

**First Family**  
Penguin

In addition to being an uncompromising defender of liberty, esteemed diplomat, and successor to George Washington, John Adams was a passionate and prolific writer. Adams biographer John Patrick Diggins gathers an impressive variety of his works in this compact, original volume, including parts of his diary and autobiography, and selections from his rich

correspondence with this wife, Abigail, Thomas Jefferson, and others. The Portable John Adams also features his most important political works: "A Dissertation on Canon and Feudal Law," "Thoughts on Government," "A Defense of Constitutions," "Novanglus," and "Discourses in Davila." There is no finer introduction to the protean genius of this seminal American philosopher. For more than

seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished

scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators. *Samuel Adams* Penguin The correspondence of a Founding Father and his brilliant wife The Letters of John and Abigail Adams provides an insightful record of American life before, during, and after the Revolution; the letters also reveal the intellectually and emotionally fulfilling relationship between John and Abigail that lasted fifty-four years and withstood historical upheavals, long periods apart, and personal tragedies. Covering key moments in American history - the Continental Congress, the drafting of the Declaration of Independence, the Revolutionary War, and John Adams's diplomatic missions to Europe - the letters reveal the concerns of a couple living during a period of explosive change, from smallpox and British warships to raising children, paying taxes, the state of women, and the emerging concepts of American democracy. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a

global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators. [The Life of an American Revolutionary](#) CreateSpace The Revolutionary Writings of

John Adams presents the principal shorter writings in which Adams addresses the prospect of revolution and the form of government proper to the new United States. Though one of the principal framers of the American republic and the successor to Washington as president, John Adams receives remarkably little attention among many students of the early national period. This is especially true

in the case of the periods before and after the Revolution, in which the intellectual rationale for independence and republican government was given the fullest expression. The Revolutionary Writings of John Adams illustrates that it was Adams, for example, who before the Revolution wrote some of the most important documents on the nature of the British Constitution and the

meaning of rights, sovereignty, representation, and obligation. And it was Adams who, once the colonies had declared independence, wrote equally important works on possible forms of government in a quest to develop a science of politics for the construction of a constitution for the proposed republic. A Life Penguin John Hancock and Samuel Adams were an unlikely

pair of troublemakers. Hancock was young and dashing. Adams was old and stodgy. But working together, they rallied the people of Boston against the unfair policies of Great Britain and inspired American resistance. And to King George, they became a royal pain. When the British army began marching toward Lexington and Concord, sending

Hancock and Adams fleeing into the woods, the two men couldn't help but worry--this time, had they gone too far? Rich with historical detail and primary sources, this spirited tale takes readers through ten years of taxes and tea-tossing, tyranny and town hall meetings. The team behind Thomas Paine and the Dangerous Word reunites for a lively look at the origins of the American

Revolution told through the powerful partnership of two legendary founders.

**John Adams and the Spirit of Liberty**

Britannica Educational Publishing  
In this inspiring tribute, award-winning author Barb Rosenstock and New York Times bestselling artist Elizabeth Baddeley tell the true story of one of America's greatest founding mothers: Abigail

Adams. Everyone knew Abigail was different. Instead of keeping quiet, she blurted out questions. Instead of settling down with a wealthy minister, she married a poor country lawyer named John Adams. Instead of running from the Revolutionary War, she managed a farm and fed hungry soldiers. Instead of leaving the governing to men, she insisted they "Remember the Ladies."

Instead of fearing Europe's kings and queens, she boldly crossed the sea to represent her new country. And when John became President of the United States, Abigail became First Lady, and a powerful advisor. Leave it to Abigail-- an extraordinary woman who surprised the world.

**Leave It to Abigail!**

Penguin Illustrated biographies featuring a range of fascinating

figures from history (and current figures, too!) provide great information and entertainment through short chapters and illustrations that will appeal to reluctant readers as well as middle readers in general. Original.

**Passionate**  
**Sage** Belknap Press  
 A fascinating childhood biography of our first vice president and second president presents a revealing glimpse into

the life of this significant historical figure. Original. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers  
 A look at the life and work of the second U.S. president discusses Adams's mind and personality, the events that shaped his thinking, his perspective on America's prospects, and his famous disagreements. By the author of the National Book Award-winning *American Sphinx*. Reissue.

*The Character and Legacy of John Adams*  
 Oxford University Press  
 A biography of John Adams with emphasis on his role in the American Revolution. John Adams Under Fire  
 Harvard University Press  
 John Adams was in some form of service to America for most of his adult life - serving as a representative to the Continental Congress, envoy to European nations, vice

president and, finally, ending his political career as the second President of the United States. At only five foot seven, nearly bald, a little overweight, occasionally cranky, and without most of his teeth, John Adams was not an Adonis, but through is intellect, force of will, and dogged determination, he would become one of the founding fathers of America. The years leading to the

Revolutionary War and independence from Great Britain pushed John Adams into fighting for the cause of liberty. As a delegate to the Continental Congress, he was a member of the team in 1776 that drafted one of America's most important documents, the Declaration of Independence. His service to the country was not limited to roles within the borders of the country; for ten years,

he represented America as a diplomat to France, the Netherlands, and Great Britain. He helped draft the State of Massachusetts Constitution and served under George Washington as the first Vice President of the United States. After Washington's retirement, Adams ran for president, and in a close presidential election with Thomas Jefferson, he narrowly won the presidency. His one term

as president was marked by considerable strife within the country. America was engaged in a quasi-war with the country's oldest ally, France. The conflict with France did not escalate to a full blown war, but it did threaten to tear the young country apart, as pro-British and pro-French factions within the political establishment and the general population were ardent in their positions,

which great animosity between the groups. Spend some time with this distinguished American and buy the book, John Adams - A Short Biography. 30 Minute Book Series Welcome to the ninth book in the 30 Minute Book Series. Each book in the series is fast-paced, well-written, accurate, and covers the story in as much detail as a short book allows. In less than an hour, you can read or listen to the

book; it is a perfect companion for a lunch hour or a nice distraction for a train ride home from work. About the Author Doug West is a retired engineer, small business owner, and an experienced non-fiction writer with several books to his credit. His writing interests are general, with special expertise in science, biographies, and "How To" topics. Doug has a Ph.D. in General Engineering

from Oklahoma State University. John Adams Speaks for Freedom National Geographic Books John Ferling has nearly forty years of experience as a historian of early America. The author of acclaimed histories such as *A Leap into the Dark* and *Almost a Miracle*, he has appeared on many TV and film documentaries on this pivotal period of our history. In *John Adams: A Life*,

Ferling offers a compelling portrait of one of the giants of the Revolutionary era. Drawing on extensive research, Ferling depicts a reluctant revolutionary, a leader who was deeply troubled by the warfare that he helped to make, and a fiercely independent statesman. The book brings to life an exciting time, an age in which Adams played an important political and intellectual role. Indeed, few were

more instrumental in making American independence a reality. He performed yeoman's service in the Continental Congress during the revolution and was a key figure in negotiating the treaty that brought peace following the long War of Independence. He held the highest office in the land and as president he courageously chose to pursue a course that he thought best for the nation,

though it was fraught with personal political dangers. Adams emerges here a man full of contradictions. He could be petty and jealous, but also meditative, insightful, and provocative. In private and with friends he could be engagingly witty. He was terribly self-centered, but in his relationship with his wife and children his shortcomings were tempered by a deep, abiding

love. John Ferling's masterful John Adams: A Life is a singular biography of the man who succeeded George Washington in the presidency and shepherded the fragile new nation through the most dangerous of times. *A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law* Liberty Bell Press ""Let us dare to read, think, speak and write...." In 1765, John Adams, a twenty-nine-year-old

Massachusetts lawyer, pondered the crisis engulfing Great Britain and its North American colonies. In his view, the dispute's focus was how the British Empire was to be governed under the unwritten English constitution. To address that problem, Adams drafted a pamphlet, "A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law." He likened Britain's abuse of its authority over the

colonists to the enslavement of medieval Europe by kings and lords allied with the Roman Catholic Church. Juxtaposing dangers past and present, he warned that a new tyranny was on the horizon, but, he added, the colonists had means to resist it. Knowledge of American rights under the English constitution, he maintained, would bolster American

resistance: "This spirit [of liberty], however, without knowledge, would be little better than a brutal rage. Let us tenderly and kindly cherish, therefore, the means of knowledge. Let us dare to read, think, speak and write." <sup>1</sup> Adams's exhortation to his readers illuminated his life, his part in the American Revolution, and his role in the evolution of American constitutionalism. In the American

Revolution, the Founding Fathers fought in different ways and using different means. Adams marshaled words and arguments in the American revolutionary cause. As lawyer, politician, legislator, constitution-maker, diplomat, and executive, he mobilized legal and historical knowledge for the greater good, drawing on the best of the past to save the future: Let every order and degree

among the people rouse their attention and animate their resolution. Let them all become attentive to the grounds and principles of government, ecclesiastical and civil. Let us study the law of nature; search into the spirit of the British constitution; read the histories of ancient ages; contemplate the great examples of Greece and Rome; set before us the conduct of our own British ancestors, who have defended for us the inherent rights of mankind against foreign and domestic tyrants and usurpers, against arbitrary kings and cruel priests, in short, against the gates of earth and hell. Adams lived with books at his elbow and a pen in his hand. Insatiably curious about the world around him, he educated himself and sought to teach his contemporaries and posterity what he had learned. These lifelong processes of learning and teaching constitute the education of John Adams. 2 Previous studies of Adams use one of two competing approaches to Adams, neither capturing his life's complexity or significance. Dazzled by his colorful personality, his self-awareness, and his revealing himself on paper, most

biographers stress Adams's character, some reducing his constitutional and political advocacy and analysis to mere products of his internal conflicts. 3 The competing biographical school spotlights him as a constitutional and political thinker, rooted in an intellectual tradition extending from Greece and Rome to the Enlightenment - but pushing his

nonpolitical life into the background.4 Deciding between character without ideas (reducing Adams to an idiosyncratic volcano but ignoring his intellectual depth) and ideas without character (seeing Adams as a learned intellectual but shortchanging his humanity) is a false choice. Juxtaposing his ideas with his character, this book sets him within intersecting contexts - personal,

regional, lawyerly, political, and intellectual - that shaped his vision of the world and of his place in it. 5 Setting Adams in context deepens our understanding of his life's personal dimension. Adams's resentments, explosions of temper, and paroxysms of vanity become more comprehensible when we grasp why he felt and expressed himself that way. His outbursts, voicing his

sense of his virtues and failings, had roots in and resonated with his intellectual and cultural contexts. Given, for example, that he and his contemporaries saw fame as this world's just reward for service to the public good, and that his sense of fame resonated with the moral heritage of his Calvinist roots, he had reasons to take personally efforts to denigrate his labors. Those seeking to

deny him fame, he thought, were trying to take away what he had earned. By denigrating him, they rejected the worth of his labors and his arguments. 6 His battles with Benjamin Franklin, with Alexander Hamilton, and with Thomas Jefferson were clashes of personality and of principled intellectual disputes about political theory and practice."--  
**John Adams**  
 Oxford University Press, USA

The Revolutionary John Adams National Geographic Books  
**John Adams**  
 Library of America  
 Gordon S. Wood presents the final volume in his definitive three-volume edition of the writings of a great American Founder. A powerful polemicist, insightful political theorist, and tireless diplomat, John Adams (1735–1826) was a vital and controversial

figure during the early years of the American republic. Once overshadowed by Washington and Jefferson, Adams has become the subject of renewed interest, with a best-selling biography and acclaimed television series reintroducing him to millions. Now, this final volume of a comprehensive three-volume edition makes his important writings from the early national

period broadly available to general readers. Bringing together letters, diary excerpts, political essays, speeches, and presidential messages, *Writings from the New Nation 1784–1826* illuminates Adams's service as a diplomat in the Netherlands and England; his eight years as vice president under Washington; and his tumultuous single term as

president. The first person to win a contested presidential election and then to be defeated for reelection, Adams faced bitter criticism from both Jeffersonian Republicans and Hamiltonian Federalists while striving to prevent an undeclared naval conflict with Revolutionary France from escalating into full-scale war. Selections from *A Defence of the Constitutions of Government*

of the United States of America (1787–88) and Discourses on Davila (1790–91) demonstrate his insights into the strengths and weaknesses of ancient and modern political systems, while letters to his wife and children illuminate the passionate and mercurial personality of one of our most fascinating Founders. This volume is published simultaneously with Abigail Adams: Letters, the first comprehensive collection of the extraordinary correspondence of Adams's wife and key advisor. LIBRARY OF AMERICA is an independent nonprofit cultural organization founded in 1979 to preserve our nation's literary heritage by publishing, and keeping permanently in print, America's best and most significant writing. The Library of America series includes more than 300 volumes to date, authoritative editions that average 1,000 pages in length, feature cloth covers, sewn bindings, and ribbon markers, and are printed on premium acid-free paper that will last for centuries. [A Life](#) W. W. Norton & Company Look for Dan Abrams and David Fisher's new book, Kennedy's Avenger: Assassination, Conspiracy, and the Forgotten Trial

of Jack Ruby.  
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 account of  
 John Adams’  
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 hour.”—Kirkus  
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 David Fisher  
 tell the story  
 of a trial that  
 would change  
 history. An  
 eye-opening  
 story of

America on  
 the edge of  
 revolution.  
 History  
 remembers  
 John Adams as  
 a Founding  
 Father and our  
 country’s  
 second  
 president. But  
 in the tense  
 years before  
 the American  
 Revolution, he  
 was still just a  
 lawyer,  
 fighting for  
 justice in one  
 of the most  
 explosive  
 murder trials  
 of the  
 era—the  
 Boston  
 Massacre,  
 where five  
 civilians died  
 from shots  
 fired by British  
 soldiers.  
 Drawing on

Adams’s own  
 words from  
 the trial  
 transcript,  
 Dan Abrams  
 and David  
 Fisher  
 transport  
 readers to  
 colonial  
 Boston, a city  
 roiling with  
 rebellion,  
 where British  
 military forces  
 and American  
 colonists lived  
 side by side,  
 waiting for the  
 spark that  
 would start a  
 war.  
[Who Was  
 Abigail  
 Adams?](#)  
 Vintage  
 Rejecting  
 British  
 authority and  
 profoundly  
 committed to  
 the principles

of liberty and justice as well as the land they called home, American colonists from all walks of life answered the resounding cry for independence and gave voice to the ideals in which they so passionately

believed. The agents of the American Revolution included soldiers and generals who fought on the frontlines, statesmen who fought behind the scenes, and ordinary individuals who contributed what they

could to the cause of freedom. Readers discover some of the notable military and political leaders of Revolution as well as some of the lesser-known figures instrumental to securing the country's future.