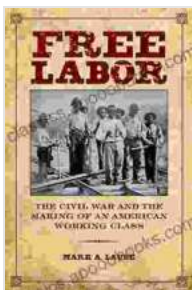


The Civil War and the Making of an American Working Class

The Civil War was a watershed moment in American history, and it had a profound impact on the development of the American working class. In this groundbreaking book, historian Eric Foner tells the story of how the Civil War transformed the lives of ordinary Americans, creating new opportunities for some and shattering the dreams of others.

Foner begins by examining the state of the American working class before the war. He shows how the vast majority of workers were employed in agriculture, and how they lived in poverty and insecurity. The war, however, created new opportunities for workers. The Union Army needed vast quantities of supplies, and this demand led to the growth of new industries and the creation of new jobs. At the same time, the war also led to the emancipation of slaves, which created a new pool of labor that could be used by employers.



Free Labor: The Civil War and the Making of an American Working Class (Working Class in American History) by Mark A. Lause

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3918 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 296 pages



Foner shows how these changes had a profound impact on the lives of working-class Americans. For some, the war created new opportunities for economic advancement. Others, however, found themselves displaced from their jobs or forced to work in dangerous and exploitative conditions. The war also led to the rise of new labor organizations, as workers sought to protect their interests in the face of these changes.

Foner's book is a powerful and moving account of the experiences of working-class Americans during the Civil War. It is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the roots of the American labor movement and the ongoing struggle for economic justice.

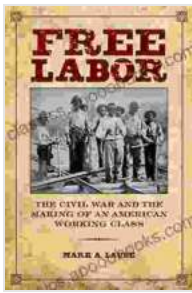
Reviews

"Foner's book is a masterpiece of scholarship and storytelling. It is the definitive account of the Civil War's impact on the American working class."
- James M. McPherson, author of *Battle Cry of Freedom*

"A brilliant and deeply moving book. Foner has written the definitive history of the American working class during the Civil War." - David Roediger, author of *The Wages of Whiteness*

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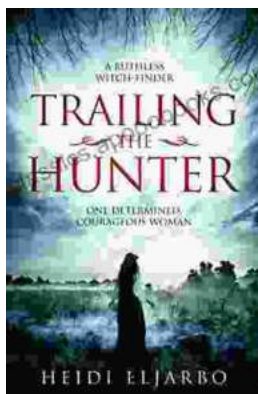
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