

On The Courthouse Lawn

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nearly 5 000 black americans were lynched between 1890 and 1960 over forty years later sherrilyn ifill's on the courthouse lawn examines the numerous ways that this racial trauma still resounds across the united states while the lynchings and their immediate aftermath were devastating the little known contemporary consequences such as the marginalization of political and economic development for black americans are equally pernicious on the courthouse lawn investigates how the lynchings implicated average white citizens some of whom actively participated in the violence while many others witnessed the lynchings but did nothing to stop them ifill observes that this history of complicity has become embedded in the social and cultural fabric of local communities who either supported condoned or ignored the violence she traces the lingering effects of two lynchings in

maryland to illustrate how ubiquitous this history is and issues a clarion call for american communities with histories of racial violence to be proactive in facing this legacy today inspired by south africa s truth and reconciliation commission as well as by techniques of restorative justice ifill provides concrete ideas to help communities heal including placing gravestones on the unmarked burial sites of lynching victims issuing public apologies establishing mandatory school programs on the local history of lynching financially compensating those whose family homes or businesses were destroyed in the aftermath of lynching and creating commemorative public spaces because the contemporary effects of racial violence are experienced most intensely in local communities ifill argues that reconciliation and reparation efforts must also be locally based in order to bring both black and white americans together in an efficacious dialogue a landmark book on the courthouse lawn is a much needed and urgent road map for communities finally confronting lynching s long shadow by embracing pragmatic reconciliation and reparation efforts professor ifill has written a sobering and eye opening book on one of america s darkest secrets on the courthouse lawn offers a compelling examination of lynchings and describes the failure of people and institutions to adequately address one of america s tragedies racial amnesia would suggest we forget this history professor ifill assures us that we cannot and should not forget it this is a must read for anyone willing to examine our history carefully and learn from it professor charles j ogletree jr jesse climenko professor of law harvard law school and executive director of the charles hamilton houston institute for race and justice on the courthouse lawn is an elegantly written and persuasively argued case for local communities to confront their history of lynching and racial violence as a means of healing race relations explaining how truth and reconciliation worked in south africa ifill explores the possibilities and offers concrete advice on how it could be widely employed in the united states it is certainly worth trying mary frances berry geraldine r segal professor of american social thought and professor of history university of pennsylvania in calm objective but no less moving detail sherrilyn ifill s book provides the stories that illuminate the photographs and postcards of lynchings the punishment meted out to some 5 000 black people deemed guilty without trial for matters large and small during the first half of the twentieth century too late for justice for the victims of lynch law professor ifill urges that an american version of south africa s truth and reconciliation commission could bring long denied acknowledgment to whites and a measure of consolation to blacks derrick bell author of faces at the bo

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local communities who either supported condoned or ignored the violence she traces the lingering effects of two lynchings in maryland to illustrate how ubiquitous this history is and issues a clarion call for american communities with histories of racial violence to be proactive in facing this legacy today inspired by south africa s truth and reconciliation commission as well as by techniques of restorative justice ifill provides concrete ideas to help communities heal including placing gravestones on the unmarked burial sites of lynching victims issuing public apologies establishing mandatory school programs on the local history of lynching financially compensating those whose family homes or businesses were destroyed in the aftermath of lynching and creating commemorative public spaces because the contemporary effects of racial violence are experienced most intensely in local communities ifill argues that reconciliation and reparation efforts must also be locally based in order to bring both black and white americans together in an efficacious dialogue a landmark book on the courthouse lawn is a much needed and urgent road map for communities finally confronting lynching s long shadow by embracing pragmatic reconciliation and reparation efforts

nearly 5 000 black americans were lynched between 1890 and 1960 and as herring ifill argues the effects of this racial trauma continue to resound while the lynchings were devastating the little known contemporary consequences such as the marginalization of political and economic development for blacks are equally pernicious ifill traces the lingering effects of two lynchings in maryland to illustrate how ubiquitous this history is and she issues a clarion call for the many american communities with histories of racial violence to be proactive in facing this legacy

in his yoknapatawpha fiction william faulkner takes his readers to a literary microcosm which is characterized by an inseparable interconnectedness of space time and man as he probes into the layers of southern space and history faulkner selects and arranges the geographical and historical idiosyncrasies of his southern environment unifying them by his artistic imagination to create a web of spatio temporal images tracing the writer s creative handling of his sources this book examines faulkner s unique combination of fact and fiction of reality and imagination it makes transparent the process by which faulkner applies his individual experience of place and heritage to design a narrative world in which space and time are equal ranking determinants of human reality

war memorials are symbols of a community s sense of itself the values it holds dear and its collective memory they inform us more perhaps about the period in which the memorials were erected than the period of the war itself kelly mcmichael in her book sacred memories the civil war monument movement in texas takes the reader on a tour of civil war monuments throughout the state and in doing so tells the story of each monument and its creation mcmichael explores texans motivations for erecting civil war memorials which she views as attempts during a period of turmoil and uncertainty severe depression social unrest the rise of populism mass immigration urbanization industrialization imperialism lynching and jim crow laws to preserve the memory of the

confederate dead to instill in future generations the values of patriotism duty and courage to create a shared memory and identity based on a largely invented story and to anchor a community against social and political doubt her focus is the human story of each monument the characters involved in its creation and the sacred memories held dear to them

the peaceful town of millersburg ohio in the heart of ohio s amish country is rocked by the vicious murder of one of its citizens at the hands of an itinerant ex convict when a local reporter covering the story ends up dead as well with the convict already behind bars suspicion falls on david hawkins father of the first victim but hawkins is nowhere to be found not even among the protective amish colony that had taken him in as one of its own regardless of his shadowy past following on the critical and popular success of his first book mystery writer p l gaus again brings us the moral and legal conundrum of professor michael branden sheriff bruce robertson and pastor cal troyer as they set out to uncover the truth that seems so elusive in their otherwise quiet corner of the world along the way gaus paints a unique portrait of the relationship between the amish and the english cultures as seen from the inside against this backdrop broken english is a tale of honor deception and revenge where circumstances and the search for justice test the mettle of the closest of friends and reveal the desperate measures of the strongest of foes

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henry thweatt owen fought the war of 1861 1865 on many fronts as a commander of company c 18th virginia infantry regiment army of northern virginia confederate states of america he fought against the union army he also fought on a second front in frequent battles concerning the welfare of his men with the commander of the 18th colonel robert enoch withers as a husband he fought to keep his wife s spirits up while she endured the many hardships of running a homestead during the war after the war he fought many battles against political corruption in virginia he corresponded with many survivors of the war including gen james longstreet and major charles pickett before writing several newspaper articles henry t owen s story is told predominantly in his own words but his experiences were common to thousands of men both confederate and union who held high standards of conduct and principles in their lives this book is not intended to be a tribute solely to henry t owen it is a tribute to both confederate and union soldiers and sailors and to the wives children and other loved ones they left behind following the war thousands of young men like henry t owen returned to their homes to try and put together the broken pieces of their lives and to heal the nation s wounds it was not an easy task many of the letters documents and other material published in this book are transcribed from the henry t owen papers 1822 1929 archived at the library of virginia additional material was transcribed from henry owen s scrapbook now owned by one of the authors a chronological list of names in letters and an alphabetical list of names in letters augment this work

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