

A Short History of Reconstruction, Updated Edition

Eric Foner

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In this updated edition of the abridged *Reconstruction*, Eric Foner redefines how the post-Civil War period was viewed.

Reconstruction chronicles the way in which Americans—black and white—responded to the unprecedented changes unleashed by the war and the end of slavery. It addresses the quest of emancipated slaves' searching for economic autonomy and equal citizenship, and describes the remodeling of Southern society; the evolution of racial attitudes and patterns of race relations; and the emergence of a national state possessing vastly expanded authority and one committed, for a time, to the principle of equal rights for all Americans.

This "masterful treatment of one of the most complex periods of American history" (*New Republic*) remains the standard work on the wrenching post-Civil War period—an era whose legacy still reverberates in the United States today.



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