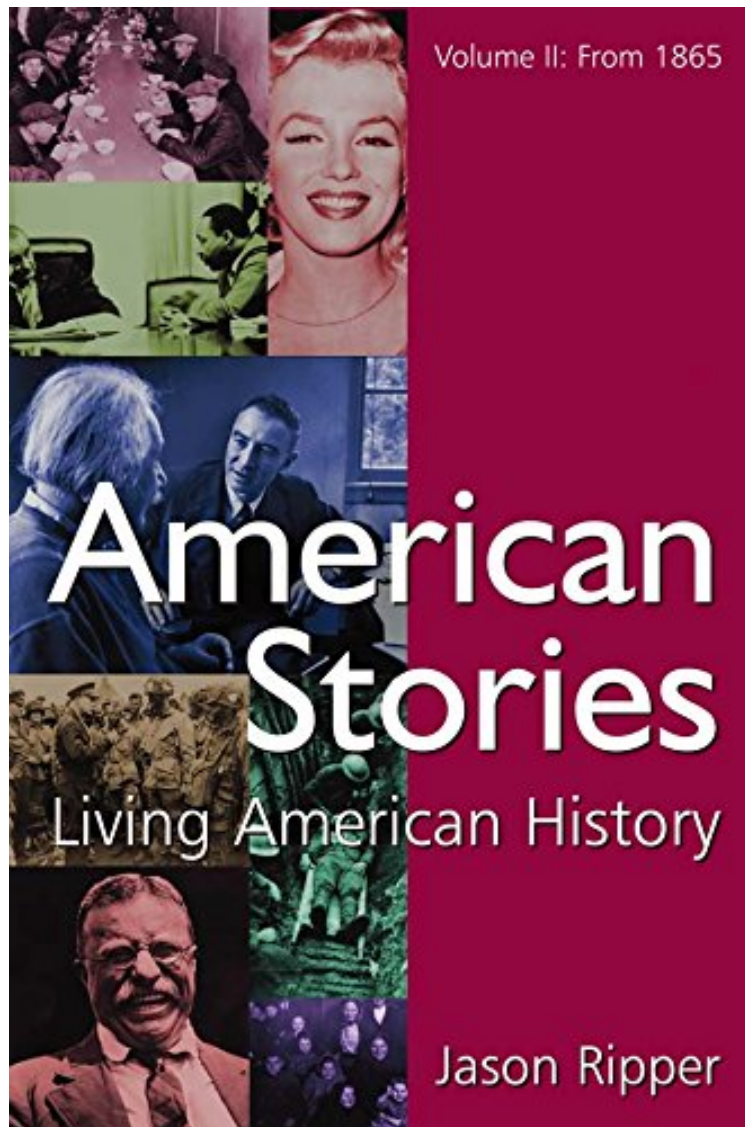


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## American Stories: Living American History: v. 2: From 1865

Jason Ripper

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**Jason Ripper : American Stories: Living American History: v. 2: From 1865** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Stories: Living American History: v. 2: From 1865:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. a history book which really livesBy BDSRipper jumps right in with volume 2, to the end of the Civil War and what is really the first Peace Corps by telling the story of two young New England women who went to Edisto Island, South Carolina to open a school for former slaves. Their home in South Carolina had no windows, no air conditioning, no phone, nothing but their will power and the relationships they forged with their "pupils" and families. Ripper brings their story to life, and the time difference between then and now

vanishes. It doesn't matter which decade he refers to; he is able to meld American history with American values and culture. There is an unusual vibrancy in his language which enables history to flow quickly and easily. The reader can almost see Edisto Island or the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago where "brand name products like Pabst Blue Ribbon beer and Juicy Fruit gum tickled the coins out of the pockets of 27 million fairgoers...." How about "newness was America's tonic" to talk about the new technologies of 1900 or "The 1920s are commercial radio; black jazz men jazzing up white-only dance halls; Ku Klux Klan rallies in the heart of Washington, D.C..." to bring the reader not only into the past but to see how past remains present in many instances. The reader can learn political history, social history, cultural history, stories of politicians, writers, and ordinary people. The language Ripper uses, the way he connects phrases and ideas is what makes this history book so attractive. This is fun reading. Students like what they are reading. It makes sense because they can see it and feel it. On top of that the reader gets a full array of facts and themes. It is hard to imagine a better value. As a community college instructor in sociology, this book has been a fabulous companion and I highly recommend it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Am satisfied. By zachBook came on time and wasn't destroyed. Am satisfied. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very engaging! By Square Girl Both of these books are very engaging. The author is able to bring history to life through a mixture of historical overviews and information with the experiences and stories of individuals. Each chapter is filled with fascinating tidbits. The books are a refreshing change of pace from many historical accounts.

This book is ideal for any introductory American history instructor who wants to make the subject more appealing. It's designed to supplement a main text, and focuses on "personalized history" presented through engaging biographies of famous and less-well-known figures from 1865 to the present. Historical patterns and trends appear as they are seen through individual lives, and the selection of profiled individuals reflects a cultural awareness and a multicultural perspective.