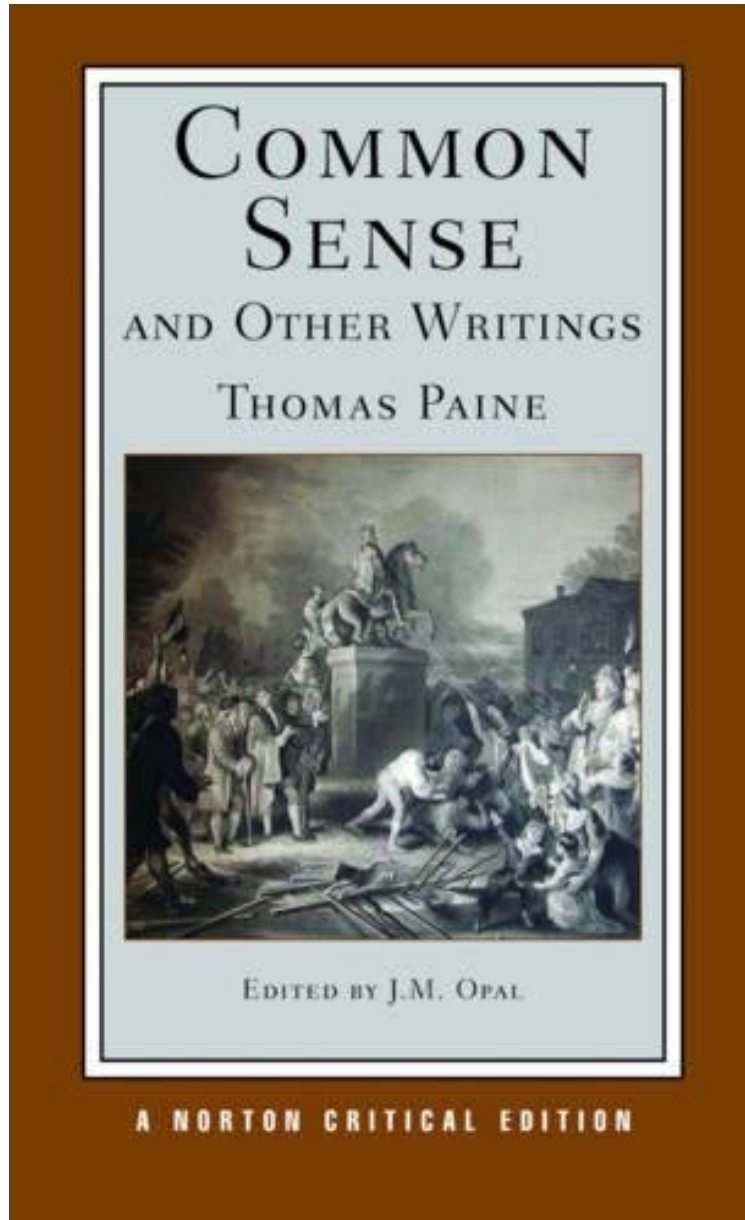


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## Common Sense and Other Writings (Norton Critical Editions)

*Thomas Paine*

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**Thomas Paine : Common Sense and Other Writings (Norton Critical Editions)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Common Sense and Other Writings (Norton Critical Editions):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Customergreat book and in great shape !!!9 of 9 people

found the following review helpful. essential for researchBy J. NiehausAlthough this edition of Paine's works dates from 1993 it is worth buying simply for the introduction by Gordon Wood. The paperback version is an inexpensive way to have most of Paine's important writings at hand, including the letters on interesting subjects that are not always found in other collections.

Thomas Paine often declared himself a citizen of the world. This Norton Critical Edition presents Paine and his writing within the transatlantic and global context of the revolutionary ideas and actions of his time. Thomas Paine's loyalties were with universal and self-evident principles rather than with a particular group or nation, and it is this dimension that informed his most important works. This Norton Critical Edition shows how Paine's fury at the British Empire, including its injustices to South Asians and Africans, shaped his first best seller, *Common Sense*, and how his direct involvement with the French Revolution pushed his ideas toward a unique form of democratic radicalism. Together with his rejection of organized religion, Paine's radicalism resulted in his being one of the most hated men in both monarchical Britain and republican America. This volume includes J. M. Opals introduction, *Thomas Paine and the Revolutionary Enlightenment, 1770s-90s*, which provides essential biographical and historical details across three tumultuous decades. Paine's most important works from *Common Sense* (1776) through *Agrarian Justice* (1796) are reprinted and are accompanied by explanatory annotations. Supporting materials include a wide range of documents from the turbulent years following the publication of both *Common Sense* and the Declaration of Independence. These include Pennsylvania's gradual emancipation statute of the 1780s, an ex-slave's impassioned call for revolutionary violence against European imperialists and masters, and a British conservative's witty rejoinder to Paine's vision of a brave new world. Four major interpretations of Paine's work are provided by Nathan R. Perl-Rosenthal, Robert A. Ferguson, Gary Kates, and Gregory Claeys. A Selected Bibliography is also included.

No writer has exceeded Paine in ease and familiarity of style; in perspicuity of expression, happiness of elucidation, and in simple unassuming language. Thomas Jefferson  
From the Inside Flap  
Includes the complete texts of "Common Sense; Rights of Man, Part the Second; The Age of Reason (part one); "Four Letters on Interesting Subjects, published anonymously and just discovered to be Paine's work; and "Letter to the Abbe Raynal, Paine's first examination of world events; as well as selections from "The American Crises In 1776, America was a hotbed of enlightenment and revolution. Thomas Paine not only spurred his fellow Americans to action but soon came to symbolize the spirit of the Revolution. His elegantly persuasive pieces spoke to the hearts and minds of those fighting for freedom. He was later outlawed in Britain, jailed in France, and finally labeled an atheist upon his return to America.  
From the Back Cover  
No writer has exceeded Paine in ease and familiarity of style; in perspicuity of expression, happiness of elucidation, and in simple unassuming language. Thomas Jefferson