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Democracy in America and Two Essays on America (Penguin Classics)

Alexis de Tocqueville
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#23527 in Books Tocqueville, Alexis de/ Bevan, Gerald E./ Kramnick, Isaac 2003-07-01 2003-07-01Format: UnabridgedOriginal language:FrenchPDF # 1 7.80 x 1.71 x 5.10l, 1.44 #File Name: 0140447601992 pagesPenguin Books | File size: 53.Mb

Alexis de Tocqueville : Democracy in America and Two Essays on America (Penguin Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Democracy in America and Two Essays on America (Penguin Classics):

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Democracy in America is the sine qua non of political science in the USA! By C. M. Mills Alexis De Tocqueville was a brilliant young French aristocrat when he arrived on the Yankee shore in 1831. De Tocqueville came to America to research penal conditions in a report to be submitted to the French Government. De Tocqueville did much more than that! In his long, brilliant and sage book he looks at America in 1831. He points out American love for the practical, the religious community minded Americans who also enjoy making money in the volatile and exciting new nation. It would take several textbooks to explain and expound all De Tocqueville discovered on his eye opening trip to the USA. C-Span a few years ago devoted several programs to following his footsteps across our broad land. The book looks out how America works from township meetings, to the state and federal levels. His analysis of the US Constitution is erudite. His view of American morals and religion is worth reading. Any politician and informed citizen should read this classic. The Penguin edition is beautifully designed. Two chapters at the end of the book deal with De Tocqueville's visit to the wilderness and his visit to Indians. De Tocqueville's analysis of slavery and how we treat our native Americans is incisive and on target! Democracy in America is one of the seminal books of the American experience.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent insight to early America By Tim Lang Fantastic book. If you want an inside view of early American culture and politics, this is a great book. Tocqueville has the unbiased view of an outsider to give us a view of our country and her development. The fact that he visited as America was settling into her freedom and before the civil war, gives great perspective on the motivations of Americans. Some of his predictions are near prophetic but I think it was his objectivity that enabled that.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A CONFUSING BUT IMPORTANT ANALYSIS OF EARLY AMERICA AND WORTH READING By A. Merrill I found it somewhat difficult to read, and Tocqueville's predictions about America's future were incorrect and somewhat conflicting (understandable since it was written almost 200 years ago). Nevertheless, it is an important document in the history of America and was worth reading.

A contemporary study of the early American nation and its evolving democracy, from a French aristocrat and sociologist In 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville, a young French aristocrat and ambitious civil servant, set out from post-revolutionary France on a journey across America that would take him 9 months and cover 7,000 miles. The result was *Democracy in America*, a subtle and prescient analysis of the life and institutions of 19th-century America. Tocqueville looked to the flourishing democratic system in America as a possible model for post-revolutionary France, believing that the egalitarian ideals it enshrined reflected the spirit of the age and even divine will. His study of the strengths and weaknesses of an evolving democratic society has been quoted by every American president since Eisenhower, and remains a key point of reference for any discussion of the American nation or the democratic system. This new edition is the only one that contains all Tocqueville's writings on America, including the rarely-translated *Two Weeks in the Wilderness*, an account of Tocqueville's travels in Michigan among the Iroquois, and *Excursion to Lake Oneida*. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.