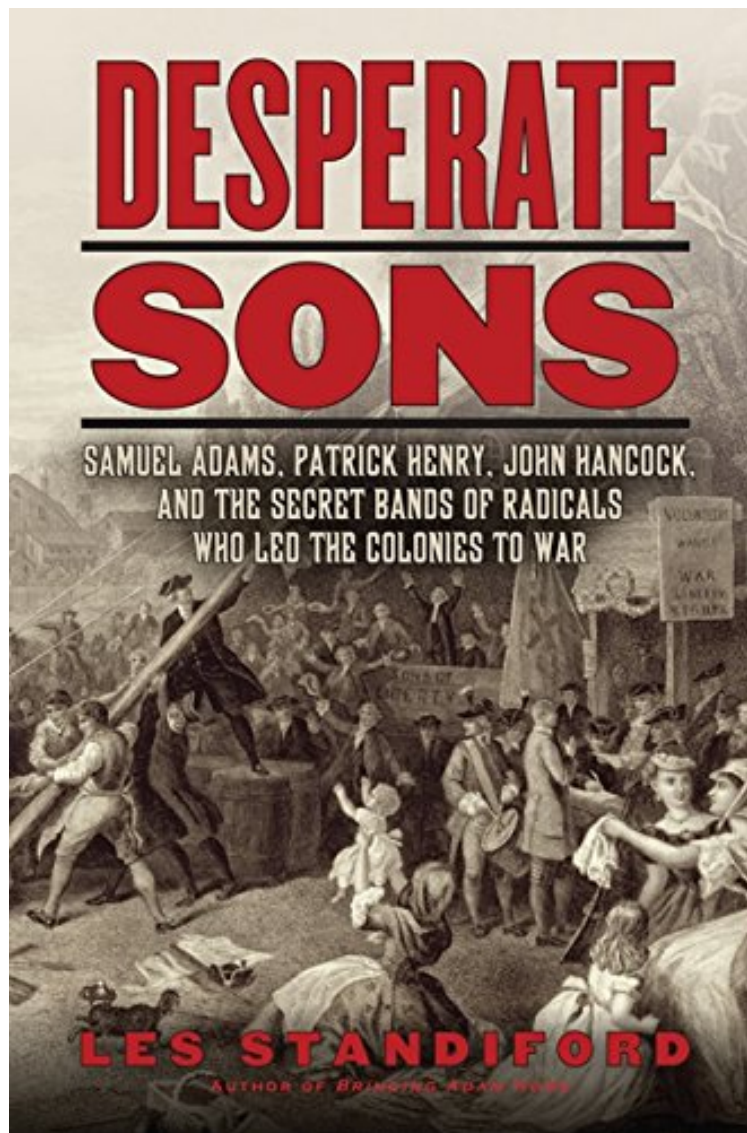


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Desperate Sons: Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, John Hancock, and the Secret Bands of Radicals Who Led the Colonies to War

Les Standiford

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Popular history in its most vital and accessible form. Standiford has recovered the mentality of America's first group of young radicals, the Sons of Liberty, and tells their story with flair and grace. Joseph J. Ellis, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Founding Brothers* and *Last Train to Paradise*, the fascinating true account of the building of a railroad across the ocean from Miami to Key West, is already a classic of popular history. With *Desperate Sons*, the New York Times bestselling author of *Bringing Adam Home* tells the remarkable story of America's first patriots, the Sons of Liberty, whose revolutionary acts have become legend. With all the suspense and power of a historical action thriller, Standiford's *Desperate Sons* recounts the courage and tenacity of a hardy group that included Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, and John Hancock radical activists who were responsible for some of the most notorious events leading up to the American Revolution, from the Boston Tea Party to Paul Revere's fabled midnight ride. Fans of David McCullough's *John Adams* and *1776* will be riveted by this true history of young men inflamed by the fires of common purpose who helped a new nation to rise up against its British oppressor.

This is popular history in its most vital and accessible form. Standiford has recovered the mentality of America's first group of young radicals, the Sons of Liberty, and tells their story with flair and grace. (Joseph J. Ellis, author of Pulitzer Prize winner *Founding Brothers* and forthcoming *Revolutionary Summer*) From the Back Cover A groundbreaking narrative historical political thriller that explores the role of the Sons of Liberty in the American Revolution. More than two hundred years ago, a group of British colonists in America decided that the conditions under which they were governed had become intolerable. Angry and frustrated that King George III and the British Parliament had ignored their lawful complaints and petitions, they decided to take action. Knowing that their deeds often directed at individuals and property were illegal, and punishable by imprisonment and even death, these agitators plotted and conducted their missions in secret to protect their identities as well as the identities of those who supported them. Calling themselves the Sons of Liberty, they gathered together in a radical society committed to imposing forcible change. Those determined men including second cousins Samuel and John Adams, Paul Revere, Patrick Henry, and John Hancock saw themselves as patriots. Yet to the Crown, and to many of the Sons' fellow colonists, the revolutionaries were terrorists who deserved death for their treason. In this gripping narrative, Les Standiford reveals how this group of intelligent, committed men, motivated by economics and political belief, began a careful campaign of interlocking events that would channel feelings of vague injustice into an armed rebellion of common cause, which would defeat an empire and give birth to a radical political experiment a new nation known as the United States. About the Author Les Standiford is the bestselling author of twenty books and novels, including the John Deal mystery series, and the works of narrative history *The Man Who Invented Christmas* (a New York Times Editors Choice) and *Last Train to Paradise*. He is the director of the creative writing program at Florida International University in Miami, where he lives with his wife, Kimberly, a psychotherapist and artist. Visit his website at www.les-standiford.com.