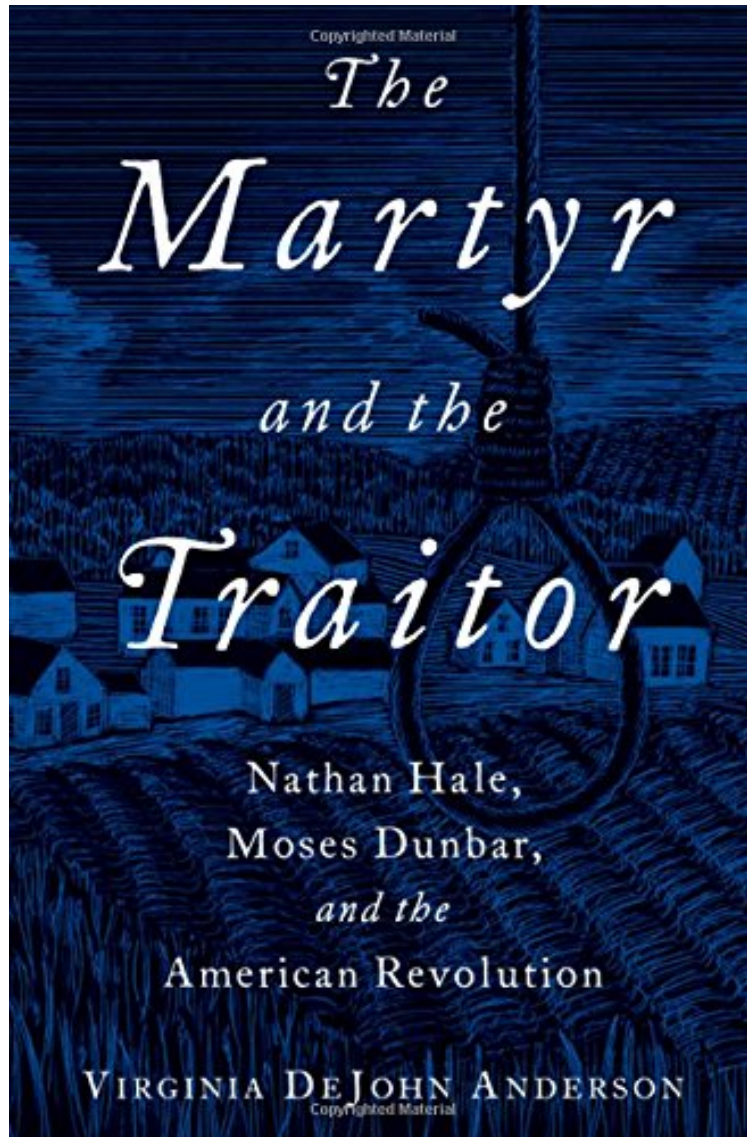


# The Martyr and the Traitor: Nathan Hale, Moses Dunbar, and the American Revolution

Virginia DeJohn Anderson

DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#322341 in Books Ingramcontent 2017-06-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 6.30 x .80 x 9.40l, #File Name: 0199916861288 pagesThe Martyr and the Traitor Nathan Hale Moses Dunbar and the American Revolution | File size: 18.Mb

Virginia DeJohn Anderson : The Martyr and the Traitor: Nathan Hale, Moses Dunbar, and the American Revolution before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Martyr and the Traitor: Nathan Hale, Moses Dunbar, and the American Revolution:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Top historyBy Bertvery detailed review of the areas happening0 of 0

people found the following review helpful. likeBy Sara S. Housemy Grandfather loved it4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Treason and Loyalty: Who Decides?By Helen MajzlerHow is it that two young Connecticut men of comparable age and economic means ended up on different sides of the Revolutionary War? And, for their choices, they both faced similar fates? Reading these parallel stories was both fascinating and engaging. I am not a historian but I learned so much about the conditions of ordinary citizens before the onset of this first great war in America. It was hard not to appreciate and admire the sacrifices of both men who made their personal decisions to side with either the English or Colonial sides of the war out of sincere moral convictions.As a mother of two sons, I could appreciate that Nathan Hale was prompted (or perhaps pressured) by his Yale peers to become a spy and wanted them to admire and respect him for his bold and daring military actions. And, I loved that Moses Dunbar was faithful to the tenets of his Anglican faith and should have been labeled a martyr, not a traitor, as well for his courage and integrity. The human drama in both stories captivated me as a reader. Neither man was particularly political at the outset of the war but got thrown into the conflict by actions and decisions of others within their local communities. Like so many men on the brink of war, they were swept up in the fears and hysteria that England would end colonial independence as they knew it.The book was packed with new learning for me and often I was able to clear up some misunderstandings I had about some aspects of the Revolutionary War. For instance, I had always thought of the Minute Men as noble and compassionate patriots. Some were but others were genuinely ruthless when they dealt with community members who opposed them. (I even came to see them as vicious at the KKK.) Another misconception had to do with the notion that, at the start of the Revolutionary War, every red-blooded colonist would naturally side with the American cause. I didn't appreciate how many colonists supported the King of England and all that the monarchy stood for.I had wished to learn more about the wives, mothers, and other significant women who shared their lives with both Hale and Dunbar. Regrettably there is so little historical information about the supporting role of women in this era. Still, the author does a great job in helping us understand how women fit into these stories.The book reads easily with stories, background information, geographical landmarks, and a wonderful Post Mortem section. You probably can tell that I enjoyed the book and would heartily recommend it to all regardless of one's expertise in American history. The human stories shine through and are so engaging.

In September 1776, two men from Connecticut each embarked on a dangerous mission. One of the men, a soldier disguised as a schoolmaster, made his way to British-controlled Manhattan and began furtively making notes and sketches to bring back to the beleaguered Continental Army general, George Washington. The other man traveled to New York to accept a captain's commission in a loyalist regiment before returning home to recruit others to join British forces. Neither man completed his mission. Both met their deaths at the end of a hangman's rope, one executed as a spy for the American cause and the other as a traitor to it.Neither Nathan Hale nor Moses Dunbar deliberately set out to be a revolutionary or a loyalist, yet both suffered the same fate. They died when there was every indication that Britain would win the American Revolution. Had that been the outcome, Dunbar, convicted of treason and since forgotten, might well be celebrated as a martyr. And Hale, caught spying on the British, would likely be remembered as a traitor, rather than a Revolutionary hero. In *The Martyr and the Traitor*, Virginia DeJohn Anderson offers an intertwined narrative of men from very similar backgrounds and reveals how their relationships within their families and communities became politicized as the imperial crisis with Britain erupted. She explores how these men forged their loyalties in perilous times and believed the causes for which they died to be honorable. Through their experiences, *The Martyr and the Traitor* illuminates the impact of the Revolution on ordinary lives and how the stories of patriots and loyalists were remembered and forgotten after independence.

"By examining the short lives and dramatic executions of two passionate young men on opposing sides, Virginia DeJohn Anderson illuminates the painful political decisions demanded by a complex revolution and the swirling fortunes of war. With careful research and in deft prose, Anderson brilliantly recovers the human drama and life-and-death stakes of the civil war that we call the American Revolution." - Alan Taylor, author of *American Revolutions: A Continental History, 1750-1804* "The Martyr and The Traitor exemplifies Virginia Anderson's scholarly finesse and literary skill. The opening is simply stunning. It is not just the rich narration that gives the book power, but the elegance of its argument. Anderson reminds us that while it is easy to kill a man, it is impossible to control the lessons people might draw from such an act." - Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, author of *A Midwife's Tale*"A compelling story of revolutionary America unfolds in these pages, one that captures the lives of young men and women who came of age during these years of crisis by charting the fates of a famous rebel spy and a committed loyalist." - Christine Leigh Heyrman, author of *American Apostles: When Evangelicals Entered the World of Islam*"In this engrossing dual biography of two young Connecticut men executed for treason by opposing sides in the revolutionary war, one the famous Nathan Hale and the other the obscure Moses Dunbar, Virginia Anderson brilliantly introduces modern readers to issues of loyalty and honor in the late eighteenth century. Which of her subjects, one might ask, was the martyr and which the traitor? Her narrative casts important new light on unfamiliar political uncertainties in revolutionary New England." - Mary Beth Norton, author of *In the Devil's Snare: The Salem Witchcraft Crisis of 1692*"Both Nathan Hale

and Moses Dunbar were Connecticut Yankees. Both were hanged as spies. Following them to the gallows, Virginia Anderson gives us a powerful tale about the American Revolution's bitter, tragic conflicts." - Edward Countryman, Southern Methodist University "No less than others, the American Revolution was not just a matter of declarations and high-mindedness, but a bitter internal conflict that tore apart individuals, families and their communities. Anderson's fine work exposes to view these often hidden realities." - Publishers Weekly "The author asks readers to question their education concerning the Revolutionary War and its black-and-white rendering of patriots as good and loyalists as evil. In the process, Anderson successfully documents not only the injustices done to colonists by the British, but also the mistreatment of loyalists by the Whigs, a subject that is often overlooked... This book will be of great importance to readers interested in the legacy and memory of American conflicts." - Library Journal "This is a tale of two men, two causes and two tragedies: two Connecticut farm boys who yearned for something better, two young men caught up in the fearsome tumult of revolution, two steadfast soldiers who refused to repent before they hanged. One is well-known: Nathan Hale, the American spy who regretted that he had but one life to lose for his country. The other is Moses Dunbar, a lowly Anglican Loyalist whom most of his countrymen wanted to forget... a moving coming-of-age (and end-of-life) story as well as a military history and a spy thriller." --The Wall Street Journal

About the Author Virginia DeJohn Anderson is Professor of History at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She is the author of *New England's Generation: The Great Migration and the Formation of Society and Culture in the Seventeenth Century*, *Creatures of Empire: How Domestic Animals Transformed Early America*, and *American Journey: A History of the United States*.