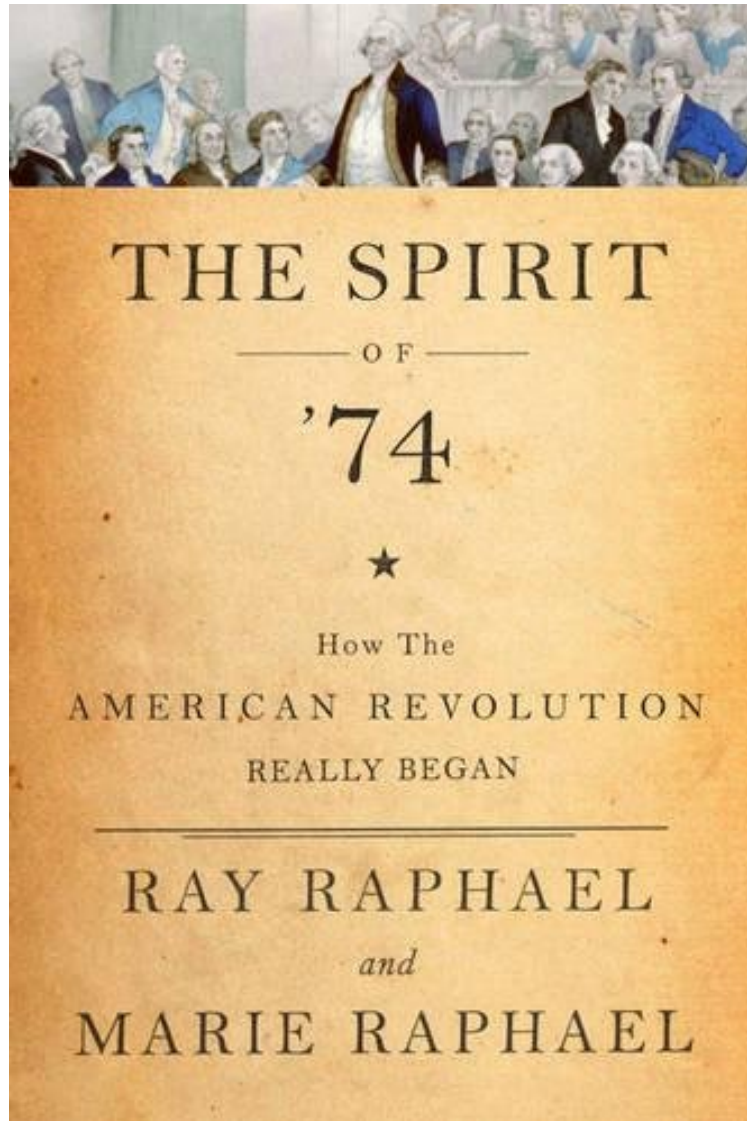


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The Spirit of 74: How the American Revolution Began

Ray Raphael, Marie Raphael

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Ray Raphael, Marie Raphael : The Spirit of 74: How the American Revolution Began before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Spirit of 74: How the American Revolution Began:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. In this history, tracing the shift from resistance to ...By Anonymous In this history, tracing the shift from resistance to revolution in the year between two historically celebrated events - the "Boston Tea Party" and bloodshed at Lexington and Concord - Raphael brings attention to the activities in western hinterlands of Boston. The events herein rediscovered have largely been overlooked, giving

historical precedence to Boston and to the year 1776 (after the Revolution began). This work gives us another facet of understanding how civil war broke out between England and the American colonies, and restore agency to the individuals and communities of Massachusetts Western countryside, reconnecting a network that was much larger than Boston and Concord. My own caveat, Raphael completely glosses over the British spies visit to Concord, after pointedly highlighting their earlier visit to Worcester over Concord; the visit to Concord was nonetheless significant to the atmosphere and series of critical events of 1774.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A window into a time of which I knew precious littleBy Charles W. ArnoldThis book provides a window into the time prior to the onset of what is normally considered the American revolution of which I knew very little. The preparations and work behind the revolution were pretty much unknown to me. I found the book extremely interesting, an excellent read and well worth the time.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Massachusetts History (we have always been like this)By Richard from Western MassFascinating local history for Massachusetts and for the Nation.

Americans know about the Boston Tea Party and the shot heard round the world, but sixteen months divided these two iconic events, a period that has nearly been lost to history. The Spirit of '74 fills in this gap in our nations founding narrative, showing how in these mislaid months, step by step, real people made a revolution. After the Tea Party, Parliament not only shut down a port but also revoked the sacred Massachusetts charter. Completely disenfranchised, citizens rose up as a body and cast off British rule everywhere except in Boston, where British forces were stationed. A Spirit of 74 initiated the American Revolution, much as the better-known Spirit of 76 sparked independence. Redcoats marched on Lexington and Concord to take back a lost province, but they encountered Massachusetts militiamen who had trained for months to protect the revolution they had already made. The Spirit of 74 places our founding moment in a rich and new historical context, both changing and deepening its meaning for all Americans.

"Most people understand that the American Revolution began in Massachusetts. What they may not know is that the revolution actually began well over a year before the gunfire at Lexington and Concord. . . . This revolution in Massachusetts was not brought about by the well-known names associated with the revolutionary period but rather by little known locals supported by many thousands of ordinary people. . . . In a very real sense what became the American Revolution joined the revolution that had already taken place in Massachusetts in 1774. The Raphaels tell this dramatic story in a fascinating and very readable manner. Even knowing that the events of April 19th are just over the horizon, the unfolding of the tale makes for exciting reading. . . . This book thoroughly explains what took place in Massachusetts between the Boston Tea Party and Lexington/Concord. Without this background of revolution the march to Concord doesnt make sense. The Spirit of 74 ties it all together."Journal of the American Revolution "Ray and Marie Raphael provide readers with the lively story of how, starting with the Boston Tea Party, Massachusetts turned from resistance to revolution in a single year. Using well-chosen quotations from participants, as well as revealing anecdotes, their masterful narrative brings to life the human drama of this grassroots transformation."Richard Brown, Distinguished Professor of History emeritus, University of Connecticut "A well-conceived work of popular history that fills a gap in the chronology of the American Revolution."Kirkus