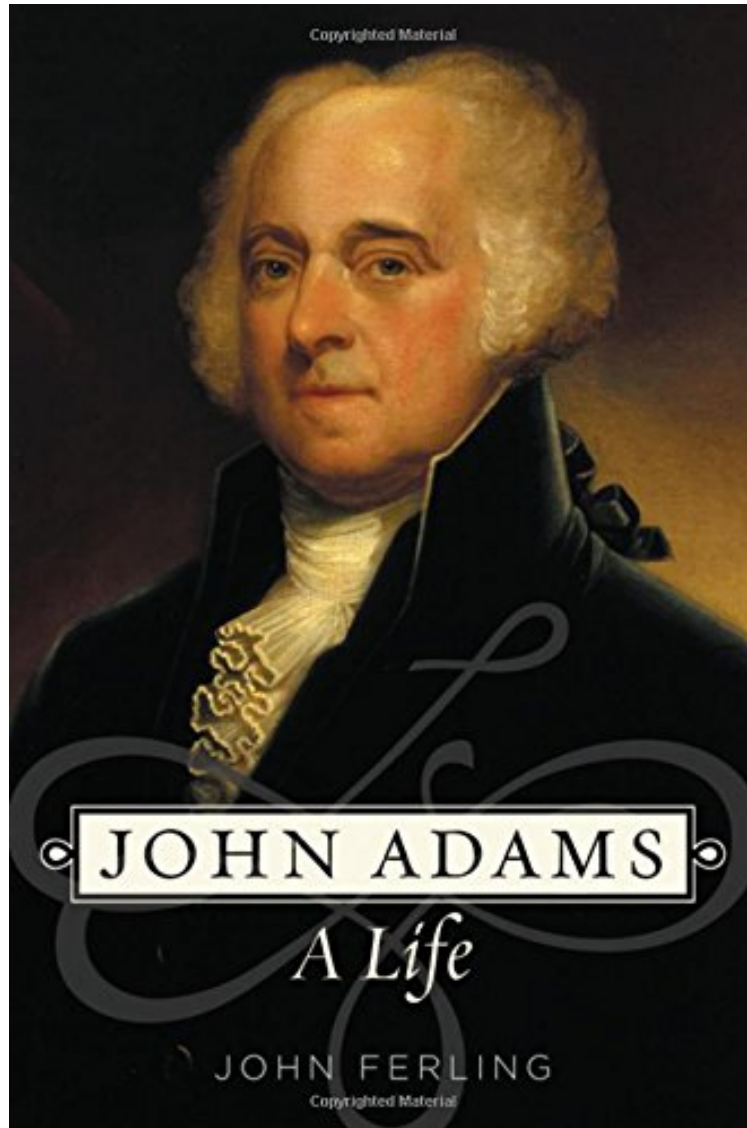


John Adams: A Life

John Ferling

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



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#201413 in Books John Ferling 2010-02-09Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 6.20 x 1.50 x 9.00l, 1.64
#File Name: 0195398661544 pagesJohn Adams A Life | File size: 48.Mb

John Ferling : John Adams: A Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised John Adams: A Life:

25 of 25 people found the following review helpful. Terrific BiographyBy J. M. WilliamsWOW.....This is great biography. I thoroughly enjoyed David McCullough's 'John Adams'. I absolutely loved John Ferling's treatment of this Founding Father. Mr. Ferling has a magical quality of presenting American history during the Revolutionary Period. He has great editorial sensitivity in selecting what subject matter to cover in depth and what to slip over with brief gracefulness. He knows how to present his material in an entertaining, yet historically accurate manner. This is one of

the best biographies I have ever had the pleasure to read. After reading both this and Mr. McCullough's version of Mr. Adams' life, it is a bit disturbing that we do not honor Mr. Adams as he deserves we should. Certainly, one picks up from readings that he had some personality traits that were not particularly attractive, but when we become aware of the harsh sacrifices that he and his family endured for this nation, his accomplishments clearly deserve our respect and admiration. I'm grateful to have come across this masterful work and highly recommend it to anyone remotely interested in American History, and biography in general. I have read numerous books by Mr. Ferling and have thoroughly enjoyed each one and look forward to more from him in the future. As mentioned previously, this is Great Biography.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. My personal favorite one-volume treatment of John AdamsBy ParkerAlthough I give credence where it is do to David McCullough's incredibly brilliant one-volume work on the life of John Adams, I feel that Dr. Ferling has done an even more remarkable job here of truly ironing out the sociological, geographical, political, philosophical and historical implications of our third president in this work.What this biography tackles brilliantly and with considerable erudition is the character of John Adams; the politician, the statesman, the lawyer - and most forgotten - the friend and the father. Born into a family of modest if not lower than so means, John Adams' rise from childhood to be the most well-traveled statesman of his time (with the possible exception of Benjamin Franklin) is simply a joy to read about.Dr. Ferling gets into his relationships, both professional and personal, all though while painting with the scenes of his life with vivacious narration and scholarly insight. I cannot recommend this biography enough for the educated laymen or serious students of pinnacle figures of the American Revolutionary period.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Another great read by John FerlingBy Tom FentonFerling is one of those authors of whom you expect great things. I was not disappointed with his take on John Adams. With the exception of the fact that he did not earn a Pulitzer for his version like David McCullough did, I found little to disappoint with "John Adams: A Life".One word of advance counsel: Before you get comfortable, you will need close access to a dictionary while you read this work. Since I like to learn new words, I was not too frustrated. However, by the end of the book, it did get just a little old. Words like captious, sybarite, querulous, peculation, irascible, supercilious, truculence, vertiginous and hirsute are just a few of the many examples of very uncommon words littering the pages of "John Adams: A Life" that kept me searching. But don't take my word for it. Dig in and see for yourself. I don't say this as a criticism, unless you are wanting an unchallenging and mundane read. I read to learn, and this book was right up my alley.Besides learning new words, I learned a lot of new things about our second president, as well as his times, the revolution he participated in, and his contributions to our national origins. I also learned more about his cousin, Samuel Adams than I had read in other books. In fact, Ferling drove me straight into the arms of Mark Puls ("Samuel Adams, Father of The American Revolution" and "Henry Knox, Visionary General of The American Revolution") when I finished his work on John. I have read Puls' work on Henry Knox and I know he is good, too.In short, to me, a good writer is one who creates interest, curiosity, and a desire to learn more. Like David McCullough and a host of other great writers, John E. Ferling does just that. I am totally satisfied with what I have read in this great work, but also sufficiently unsatisfied that I am inspired to learn more. John Ferling did his job well and I highly recommend this result of his efforts.Five stars.

John Ferling has nearly forty years of experience as a historian of early America. The author of acclaimed histories such as *A Leap into the Dark* and *Almost a Miracle*, he has appeared on many TV and film documentaries on this pivotal period of our history. In *John Adams: A Life*, Ferling offers a compelling portrait of one of the giants of the Revolutionary era.Drawing on extensive research, Ferling depicts a reluctant revolutionary, a leader who was deeply troubled by the warfare that he helped to make, and a fiercely independent statesman. The book brings to life an exciting time, an age in which Adams played an important political and intellectual role. Indeed, few were more instrumental in making American independence a reality. He performed yeoman's service in the Continental Congress during the revolution and was a key figure in negotiating the treaty that brought peace following the long War of Independence. He held the highest office in the land and as president he courageously chose to pursue a course that he thought best for the nation, though it was fraught with personal political dangers. Adams emerges here a man full of contradictions. He could be petty and jealous, but also meditative, insightful, and provocative. In private and with friends he could be engagingly witty. He was terribly self-centered, but in his relationship with his wife and children his shortcomings were tempered by a deep, abiding love. John Ferling's masterful *John Adams: A Life* is a singular biography of the man who succeeded George Washington in the presidency and shepherded the fragile new nation through the most dangerous of times.

"Better than any other full-scale biography to date, Ferling's book places Adams in the context of his swirling times and makes clear why he deserves our admiration for his political courage and stubborn independence."--Joseph J. Ellis, *The New England Quarterly*"A comprehensive and readable exploration of a fascinating and important statesman, whose life continues to remind us that honesty, integrity, and independence can be political virtues."--William and Mary QuarterlyAbout the AuthorJohn Ferling is the author of nine books and numerous articles on the American Revolution and early American wars, and has appeared in four television documentaries devoted to the

Revolution and the War of Independence. His book *A Leap in the Dark* won the Fraunces Tavern Book Award as the year's best book on the American Revolution and *Almost a Miracle* was named the New York American Revolution Round Table Best Book of 2007. He lives in metropolitan Atlanta.