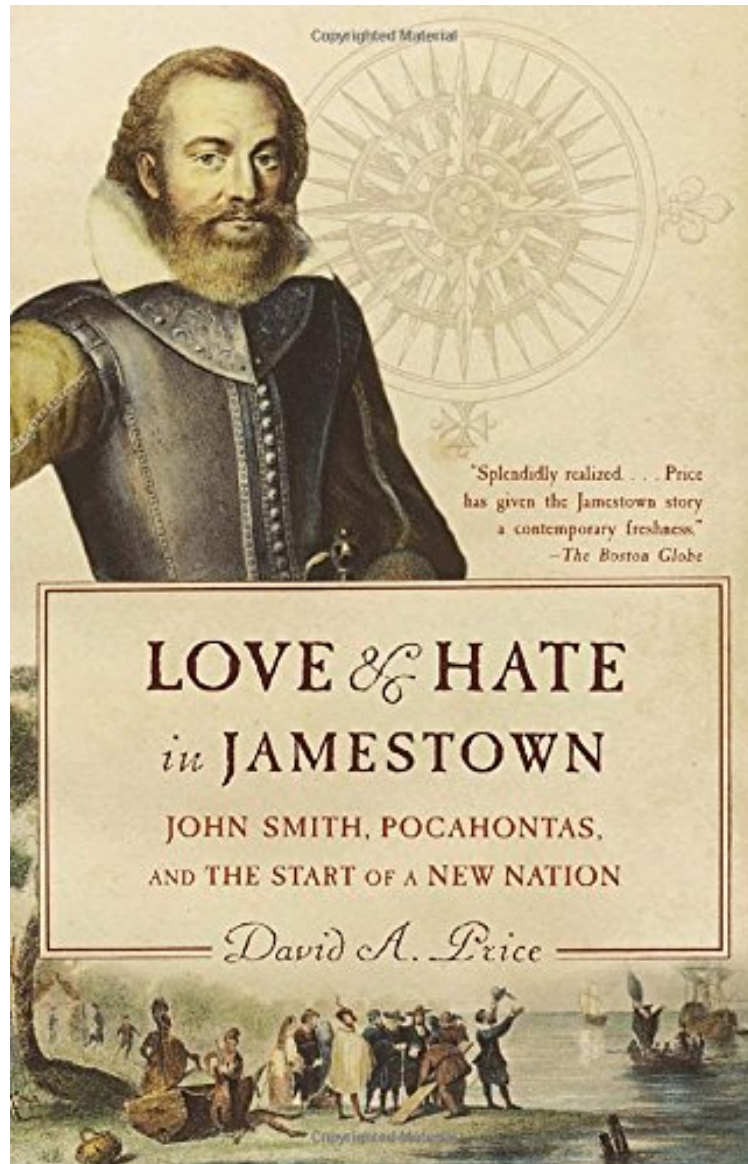


Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Start of a New Nation

David A. Price

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David A. Price : Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Start of a New Nation before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Start of a New Nation:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. IF YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN HISTORY OR HUMAN NATURE....PUT THIS BOOK ON YOUR LIST!By facingsouthI loved this book! I have a whole new perspective and understanding regarding the beginnings of our nation. Human nature never changes...jealousy, power struggles, and greed basically forced John Smith out of Jamestown and the New World. But even from afar his influence was a major contribution to the successful building of a new nation. Full of facts.. but written in such a way that the story unfolds naturally, I thank David Price for this fascinating and honest (as possible through historical data) account of the people of Jamestown, their relationship with the Powhatans, and the sketchy business of trade and colonization. Thank you David!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent Telling of a Fascinating TimeBy The Thousander Club[...]Last year I went on a family vacation to Virginia. We stayed in an antebellum home overlooking the James River. As part of our trip, we visited the historical site of Jamestown, which was truly a pleasure since I have such an interest in America history. I wandered around the gift shop of the Jamestown museum and one book in particular--Love Hate in Jamestown--caught my eye. Recognizing my own ignorance of much of the details of the Jamestown saga I decided to read what David A. Price had to say about a pivotal moment in our nation's history before it was our nation.Love Hate in Jamestown is a great book. Its brevity is certainly a strength for many readers who aren't willing to dedicate weeks and weeks, hours and hours reading about one particular topic. At the same time, the book doesn't feel as if it's being unfair to the personalities and events it discusses. I would have liked some additional details at various points in the book and was disappointed when the author moved in another direction so quickly, but the complaint is minor seeing as how there is a multitude of books on the same topic which could enrich my knowledge even more of this important time.David A. Price does a wonderful job, in my opinion, of being fair while dealing with some very harsh realities between the colonists of Jamestown and the 'savages' in their midst. It reminded me so much of reading Nathaniel Philbrick's Mayflower as he described the pilgrim's interactions with the natives in Massachusetts. There were faults, misunderstandings, civility, incivility, kindness, and brutality from both sides. The treatment of the Native Americans during the colonization era can be politically charged, but Love James in Jamestown leaves most of the politics behind and allows the reader to merely observe.Love Hate in Jamestown is very much worth reading, and I would recommend it without hesitation. It's not burdensome to read, and it reveals a fascinating part of America's past before it was America. Love Hate in Jamestown is a fine choice for any Thousander's list.[...]2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Love and hate in JamestownBy SSpoonsterI thought this was an articulate treatment of the events that occurred in the first successful English settlement in America. The details are rich and fascinating using a lot of original source material, without being dry. My only complaint is that in several chapters Price reverses in time to explain other events that have happened and it is not always clear at first that he has gone back to an earlier date. It makes the text slightly confusing at times. I would highly recommend to anyone who is interested in American colonisation or history in general.

A New York Times Notable Book and a San Jose Mercury News Top 20 Nonfiction Book of 2003In 1606, approximately 105 British colonists sailed to America, seeking gold and a trade route to the Pacific. Instead, they found disease, hunger, and hostile natives. Ill prepared for such hardship, the men responded with incompetence and infighting; only the leadership of Captain John Smith averted doom for the first permanent English settlement in the New World.The Jamestown colony is one of the great survival stories of American history, and this book brings it fully to life for the first time. Drawing on extensive original documents, David A. Price paints intimate portraits of the major figures from the formidable monarch Chief Powhatan, to the resourceful but unpopular leader John Smith, to the spirited Pocahontas, who twice saved Smith's life. He also gives a rare balanced view of relations between the settlers and the natives and debunks popular myths about the colony. This is a superb work of history, reminding us of the horrors and heroism that marked the dawning of our nation.

From Publishers WeeklyThis sparkling book retells a beloved tale in modern terms. Journalist Price's subtitle suggests that the book might be only about John Smith and Pocahontas-who "crossed into one another's cultures more than any other Englishman or native woman had done"-as well as about Pocahontas's eventual husband, John Rolfe. Fortunately, the book ranges more widely than that. Price relates the entire riveting story of the founding of Virginia. Smith is of course at the center of the tale, because rarely did a colonial leader so bountifully combine experience, insight, vision, strength of character and leadership skills to overcome extraordinary odds. But no one will come away from this work without heightened admiration also for the natives, especially Chief Powhatan, and greater knowledge of the introduction of a third people, African slaves, into the Chesapeake. The book's leitmotif is the interaction of differing cultures and men, like the British gentry, whom Smith scorned for refusing to adapt to hard colonial labor, and the wily Indians, who resorted to starving out the colonists and in 1622 massacred many of them. If there's a fault in a work built unobtrusively on the best scholarship, it's Price's insistence that we see Virginia principally as a place that rewarded courage and hard labor-for white men-in the service of self-advancement and personal liberty. Such a place it was. But it was also for all participants a site, at the start of the nation's history, of danger, horror and death. This is a splendid work of serious narrative history. 2 maps.Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.From

School Library Journal Adult/High School--A richly flavored, fascinating narrative of the first two decades of the Jamestown settlement. Price has drawn on a wealth of primary sources, but details don't interrupt the flow of the story. As a mercenary in the Netherlands and Romania, and a slave in Turkey, Smith learned the importance of communicating in new languages and understanding unfamiliar cultures. He developed the skills that would later enable him to stand between the fragile new colony and disaster. The author describes the establishment of the Virginia Company and provides intriguing portraits of the new colonists. Parts of the tale sound surprisingly modern. Fearful that bad news would spook investors and discourage future colonists, the company censored accounts of hardship in letters coming from Virginia. Despite demands from London to cultivate more corn and less tobacco, tobacco always sold at much higher prices, and so remained the crop of choice, even when the colonists were forced to buy corn from the natives. Although reliable information about Pocahontas is incomplete, Price's depiction of the bright, compassionate princess is warm and admiring. Smith's return to England to recover from an injury resulted in disaster for Jamestown. The inexperienced former courtiers made incredible errors that led to the Starving Time and massacres. The author describes these horrific events in graphic detail. The book concludes with an account of Smith's writings and an analysis of the man's vision of America.--Kathy Tewell, Chantilly Regional Library, VA Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist Most Americans, one hopes, have at least a vague awareness of the roles of John Smith and Pocahontas in the success of the Jamestown colony. For those general readers who wish to move beyond the myths and obtain a better understanding of them and the early years of the colony, this book will be an enjoyable and valuable tool. Price is a journalist who brings considerable flair to the telling of a familiar story, and he offers some interesting perspectives on both Smith and Pocahontas. Of course, he dispels the myth of their romantic involvement, viewing Smith as a dynamic, driven "common" man who was determined to crack the whip over the aristocratic, lazy colonists, who expected to find gold and then return to England. Pocahontas emerges here as an intelligent, curious young woman who played a vital role in bridging the gap between two cultures. Price also describes in vivid detail the precarious and brutal existence of life in Jamestown when the physical survival of the colonists was by no means certain. Jay Freeman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved