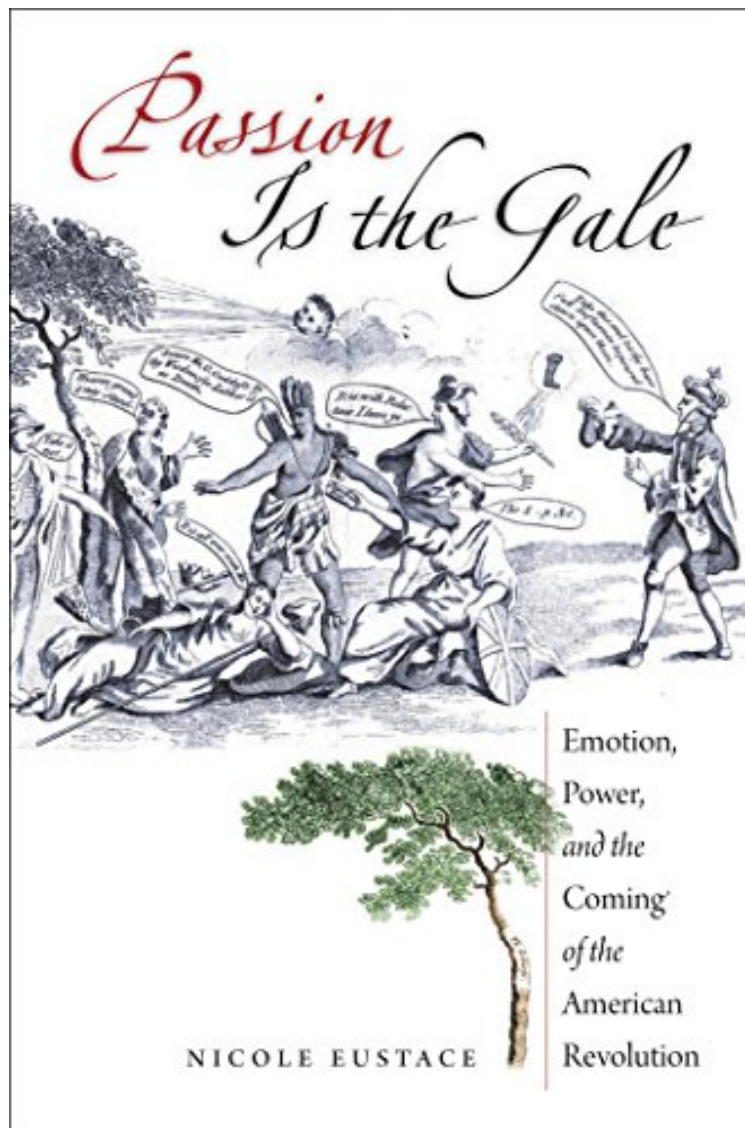


(Online library) *Passion Is the Gale: Emotion, Power, and the Coming of the American Revolution*
(Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the University of North Carolina Press)

Passion Is the Gale: Emotion, Power, and the Coming of the American Revolution (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the University of North Carolina Press)

Nicole Eustace

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Nicole Eustace : *Passion Is the Gale: Emotion, Power, and the Coming of the American Revolution* (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the University of North Carolina Press) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Passion Is the Gale: Emotion, Power, and the Coming of the American Revolution* (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the University of North Carolina Press):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy TigerhawkItem as described. Thanks.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A little gem for the 18th century specialistBy Scholar of the ShireThis is a really interesting take on the study of emotion in the 18th century, and as a resource to understanding how 18th century people not only felt but emoted, I think it's fantastic. The prose is challenging but interesting, and while I would not call it comprehensive, it's an excellent addition to the intellectual and emotional history of the Atlantic World. It very much sheds light on the terms and means in which the period framed its critical personal and political issues. Not light reading by any stretch, but highly useful to the specialist.3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Tough goingBy fanofhistoryI appreciate the novelty of the argument of the author, but this is hard going even for someone seriously interested in colonial and cultural history. As always, this series with North Carolina produces an attractive book with a new approach, but the beauty is only skin-deep in this case. The prose makes for tough reading, the evidence is selective rather than representative, and the topic so narrowly concentrated that the author misses the wood for the trees. Yes, these were emotional times with conflicted characters, but is this surprising? Other than to give a little more of modern (painfully stretched argument at times) human face to some of these characters, what does all of this tell us about the period as a whole? Without answers to those questions (with serious supporting evidence) the book is little more than a reflective collection of observations.

At the outset of the eighteenth century, many British Americans accepted the notion that virtuous sociable feelings occurred primarily among the genteel, while sinful and selfish passions remained the reflexive emotions of the masses, from lower-class whites to Indians to enslaved Africans. Yet by 1776 radicals would propose a new universal model of human nature that attributed the same feelings and passions to all humankind and made common emotions the basis of natural rights. In *Passion Is the Gale*, Nicole Eustace describes the promise and the problems of this crucial social and political transition by charting changes in emotional expression among countless ordinary men and women of British America. From Pennsylvania newspapers, pamphlets, sermons, correspondence, commonplace books, and literary texts, Eustace identifies the explicit vocabulary of emotion as a medium of human exchange. Alternating between explorations of particular emotions in daily social interactions and assessments of emotional rhetoric's functions in specific moments of historical crisis (from the Seven Years War to the rise of the patriot movement), she makes a convincing case for the pivotal role of emotion in reshaping power relations and reordering society in the critical decades leading up to the Revolution. As Eustace demonstrates, passion was the gale that impelled Anglo-Americans forward to declare their independence--collectively at first, and then, finally, as individuals.

Eustace's meticulous exploration of feeling's intersections with gender, race, class, and variety of power plays situates her book in the new history of emotion, but it is equally grounded in the older history of ideas.--American Historical Tackle[s] an original and important subject and elegantly explain[s] complex developments with great clarity. . . . Exemplifies the best of recent cultural history by effectively fusing intellectual and social history.--Journal of American HistorySweeping in scope, subtle in analysis, and profound in importance. . . . Bridging intimate feelings with collective experience is a formidable task that Eustace executes with great skill. . . . A thought-provoking and creative book that provides fresh insights into the essential paradox at the heart of the American Revolution. . . . Intellectual, political, and cultural history of the highest order.--William and Mary QuarterlyEustace's unique contribution adds to the already bountiful number of volumes on the subject. . . . Well written and encompassing. . . . Recommended.--ChoiceFascinating. . . . An impressive body of evidence that incorporates personal journals, commonplace books, correspondence, political and religious tracts, public records, and newspapers. . . . An eminently humane piece of scholarship.--Pennsylvania Magazine of History and BiographyAn important book in a field of growing appeal, and the University of North Carolina Press have given it a beautiful production.--Times Literary SupplementIn this provocative study, Eustace boldly advances a 'history of eighteenth-century American emotion'. . . . Strikingly original readings of a wide range of documents.--Journal of Interdisciplinary HistoryEustace's account provides the essential prologue of emotions in the American colonies.--H-Net reviewsDr. Eustace has, through exhaustive research, gotten inside the collective colonial psyche and greatly expanded our understanding of the interconnections between available, often complex ideas and the various audiences living in eighteenth-century America.--Southern HistorianReveals a new landscape for the pivotal events leading to American independence. . . . A path-breaking work. . . . Deeply researched and clearly argued. . . . All early American historians should read it, along with all scholars of the history of emotion.--Journal of Social History[Eustace] carefully balances the factors most

commonly considered when analyzing gender--race and status--against other important personal attributes in order to offer a nuanced analysis of masculinity and participation in the body politic in early America.--Early American Literature I believe Nicole Eustace's subtle and powerful study of the emotions as social communication has forever changed my historical sensibilities. I can't imagine ever reading an historical text again without noticing the negotiations for social power and position in the expression and restraint of emotion.--Richard Bushman, Columbia University
Nicole Eustace turns a world we thought we knew upside down. Narrating the dynamic development of eighteenth-century sensibilities about emotion, Eustace introduces us to people who believed that the surest path to individual improvement and social progress lay in endless conversations between their hearts and their minds. Passion was a gale that blew for good as well as ill, often at the same time.--Andrew Cayton, Miami University of Ohio
This is an exceptionally imaginative work. It contributes, obviously, to eighteenth-century studies, but it also goes a long way toward helping to tie emotions history to larger and more familiar issues. I believe it will resonate well beyond a specialist audience--and I know it should.--Peter N. Stearns, George Mason University
About the Author
Nicole Eustace is associate professor of history at New York University.