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Michael Hoffman

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Michael Hoffman : They Were White and They Were Slaves: The Untold History of the Enslavement of Whites in Early America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised They Were White and They Were Slaves: The Untold History of the Enslavement of Whites in Early America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy eljobeanInteresting subject but very simply written.3

of 4 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy graspReceived as described70 of 71 people found the following review helpful. Required ReadingBy Eric RobinsonIt's a shame that people have been able to negatively affect the rating on this book, due to either their lack of actually reading the book, or their lack of surrounding historical context. Most of the bad reviews are from those still wanting to debate whether black slavery was worse than white slavery, which may be debated, but white slavery began many years before black slavery became a viable option. The white slavery system was used as a model for black slavery, and simplified the integration process. The point of this work was to help everyone have true historical context regarding the slavery of whites, and begs the question: why has it been covered up and glossed over? The answer is quite clear. In this book you'll discover that the British yeoman were kicked off of the land (that they had been farming on for centuries), forced into the city, and persecuted once they became a burden. How to handle the poor became an evolving humanitarian pet project and money maker for the aristocracy. The lives of these poor people meant so little that the government funded merchants to take them off the streets (ie, kidnap them) and sell them in America, making them infinitely more lucrative and equally dispensable. The systems of slavery eventually started migrating into the workhouses (before plantation slavery even ended, enslaving whites in the north) and eventually into the Factory System. My conclusion: The Factory System, the last phase of mankind's slavery mentioned in this book, has not gone away (especially not in certain countries, ie: China/Foxconn's factory scandal), it has only changed its appearance in the US and other "First World" countries, balancing human pain and acceptable profit at thresholds determined through evolving "regulations" ...still to the benefit of the High Born. Michael Hoffman is an excellent researcher and this information should not be dismissed because of a few ignoramuses and their dogmatic views on the "official story" for slavery in early America. I've read a few of Mr. Hoffman's other works and I can clearly discern his passion to eliminate all racism, anyone posting anything otherwise regarding his character is quite mistaken and should not be taken seriously.

They Were White and They Were Slaves is a thoroughly researched challenge to the conventional historiography of colonial and industrial labor, a stunning journey into a hidden epoch, the slave trade of Whites, hundreds of thousands of whom were kidnapped, chained, whipped and worked to death in the American colonies and during the Industrial Revolution. This is a chronicle that has never been fully told, part of a vital heritage that has until now comprised the dustiest shelf in the darkest corner of suppressed history.