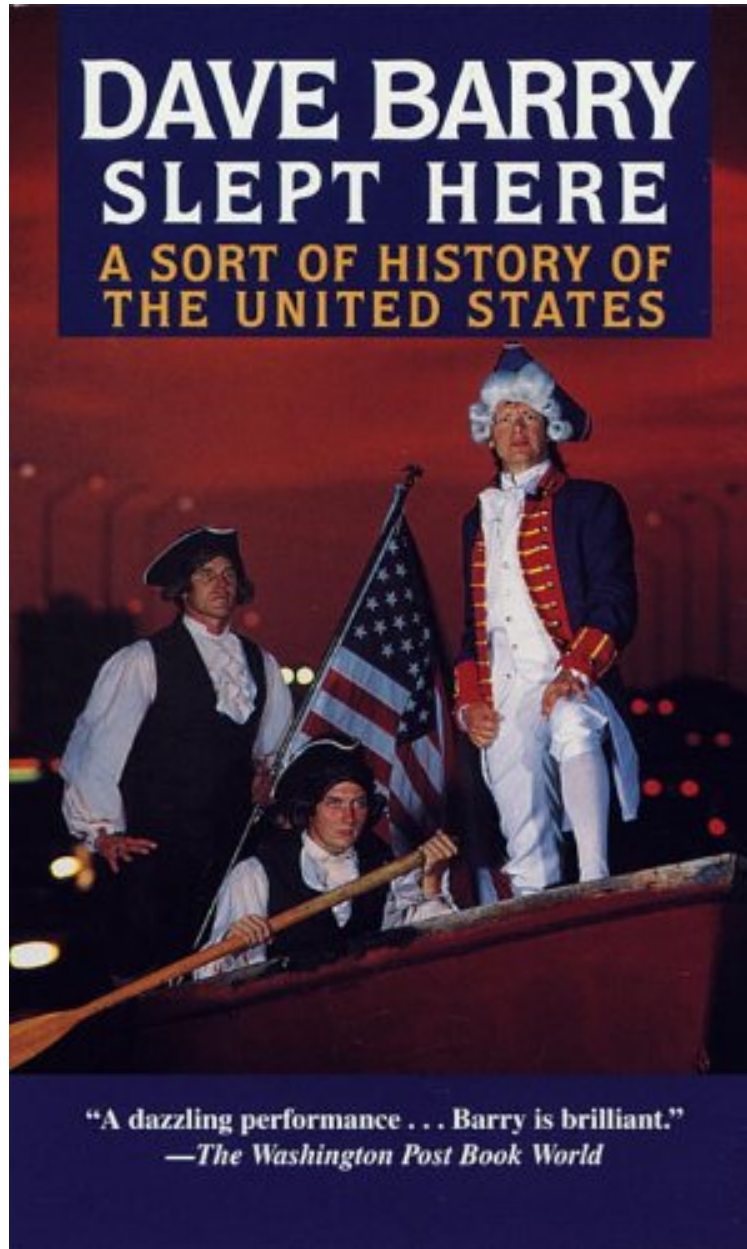


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Dave Barry Slept Here: A Sort of History of the United States

Dave Barry

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Dave Barry : Dave Barry Slept Here: A Sort of History of the United States before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dave Barry Slept Here: A Sort of History of the United States:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Hilarious Story of America By Doris Caudal was looking for something light to read to break up all the murder mysteries I was reading and came upon Dave Barry's book. I have read some of his writings before and knew he had a wicked sense of humor. I wasn't disappointed. No one can screw up history like Dave Barry. I found myself laughing out loud as some chapters. If you're looking for something to lighten up your mood. read this.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No substance By Kindle Customer Absolutely no substance whatever. I know the idea was to look at history humorously but just making up everything was not that much fun. It was not one of his better efforts1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Homage finally paid to Hawley-Smoot Tariff By Dee Kaiser The guy won a Pulitzer; he must be good. I gave this as a gift to my brother who somehow had gone through Life not being exposed to the Miami-based wit. I first read "Slept" back in the late '80s so I was well aware of Dave's take on American history. Not surprisingly, Dave spent considerable effort repeatedly bringing up the Hawley-Smoot Tariff, which we all know was a landmark event in the American story. I heartily recommend this work and the three dozen others Dave has given us.

If you love to laugh, if you love your country, if you are unaware that "the Sixth Amendment states that if you are accused of a crime, you have the right to a trial before a jury of people too stupid to get out of jury duty," Dave Barry Slept Here is the book for you. Every single momentous event and crucial movement is covered, including: The Birthing Contractions of a Nation Kicking Some British Butt The Forging of a Large, Wasteful Bureaucracy The Civil War: A Nation Pokes Itself in the Eyeball The Fifties: Peace, Prosperity, Brain Death The Reagan-Bush Years: Napping Toward Glory And much more!

.com Dave runs American history through the wringer, and comes up with some wonderfully warped formulations. (The Vikings, for example, "were extremely rugged individuals whose idea of a fun time was to sail over and set fire to England, which in those days was fairly easy to ignite because it had a very high level of thatch, this being the kind of roof favored by the local tribespeople...") Covering pre-Columbian days through the dawn of the Bush administration, Dave Barry Slept Here is the funniest thing to hit this great nation since the Smoot-Hawley Tariff of 1930. From Publishers Weekly Miami Herald syndicated columnist Barry here assembles a funny U.S. history replete with malapropisms (Ferdinand and Imelda of Spain financed Columbus), parodies ("This land is your land, / This land is my land, / Looks like one of us / Has a forged deed to the land."), literal-mindedness (President Monroe Doctrine) and, above all, anachronisms (the Wrights' first flight was canceled because of equipment problems at O'Hare). Several clever gags run through the book--one about the significant contributions of women and minorities (although none is ever detailed), another ascribing the date of every major event to October 8 (for ease in remembering) and a third featuring the Hawley-Smoot tariff, which had an immediate impact on the Great Depression. There are few heroes in Barry's pantheon, and only an occasional villain--principally Richard Nixon--while other widely admired figures, like Mark Twain and Winston Churchill, are given their lumps. Author tour. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This book creates a serious problem--how to read it in public without laughing out loud. Barry, the Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist from the Miami Herald, writes deft, gaily satirical comedy which always borders on the ridiculous and sometimes crosses that border. His idea of making humor out of many familiar events and notable figures in American history is appealingly audacious. Written in the form of a history text, with "questions" at the end of chapters, the book starts with the days when there were "no roads, no cities, no shopping malls, no Honda dealerships" and ends at the point of landing "a manned spacecraft on Trump"--the planet, of course. Ideal reading for gloomy afternoons and other times that require pleasant diversion.- A.J. Anderson, Graduate Sch. of Lib. Information Science, Simmons Coll., Boston Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.