

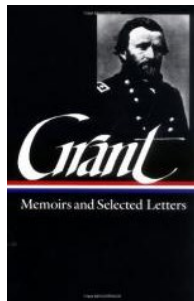
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Great Books on Ulysses Grant

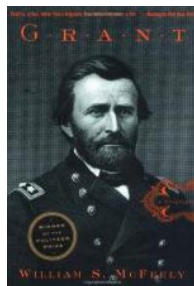
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H. W. Brands recommends more reading on Ulysses S. Grant: memoirs, biographies, histories.



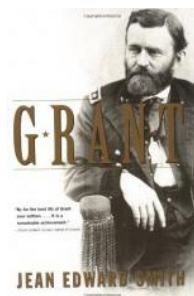
Ulysses S. Grant, *Memoirs and Selected Letters* (1990)

The greatest memoir by a former president, largely because it doesn't touch his presidency. This is a history of the Civil War as told by the victor. Universally acclaimed as one of the best military memoirs ever written.



William S. McFeeley. *Grant* (1981).

Still the starting point for studying Grant. McFeeley takes him seriously as a general, which everyone does, but also as president, which many historians before him did not. Nonetheless, McFeeley considers his presidency dismal. This biography employs more psychoanalysis, which was in vogue among historians at the time of the writing, than is common today.



Jean Edward Smith. *Grant* (2001).

Solid, respectful, comprehensive. Smith is less opinionated than McFeeley and consequently less entertaining or less infuriating, depending on the reader's point of view.

THE PUBLIC HISTORIAN

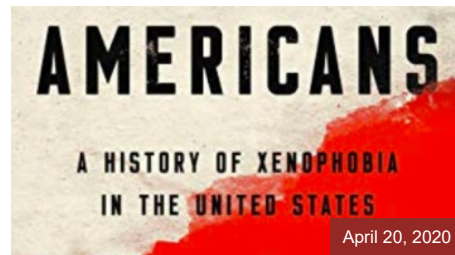
Making History: Houston's "Spirit of the Confederacy"



More from The Public Historian

BOOKS

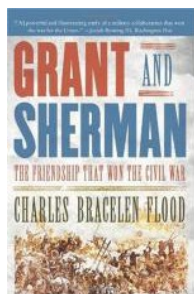
America for Americans: A History of Xenophobia in the United States by Erika Lee (2019)



More Books

DIGITAL HISTORY

Ticha: Digital Archive Review



Charles B. Flood. *Grant and Sherman* (2005).

The subtitle is “The Friendship that Won the Civil War,” a characterization that is not far wrong. Provides further insight into the warrior mentality.

Posted August 31, 2012

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