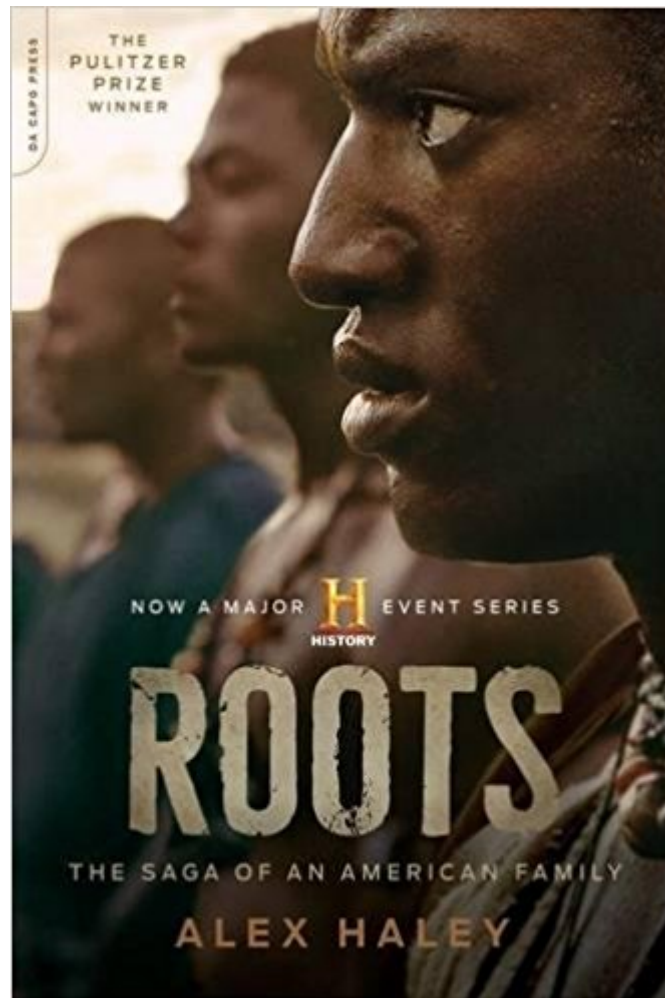




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Roots: The Saga Of An American Family



Synopsis

A new eight-hour event series based on *Roots* will be simulcast on the History Channel, Lifetime, and A&E over four consecutive nights beginning Memorial Day, May 30, 2016. "Early in the spring of 1750, in the village of Juffure, four days upriver from the coast of The Gambia, West Africa, a man-child was born to Omoro and Binta Kinte." So begins *Roots*, one of the most extraordinary and influential books of our time. Through the story of one family's his family's Alex Haley unforgettably brings to life the monumental two-century drama of Kunta Kinte and the six generations who came after him: slaves and freedmen, farmers and blacksmiths, lumber mill workmen and Pullman porters, lawyers and architects...and one author. A national and international phenomenon at the time of its original publication, *Roots* continues to enthrall readers with its masterful narrative drive and exceptional emotional power, speaking to us all with an undiminished resonance and relevance. "In all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to know our heritage.... Without this enriching knowledge, there is a hollow yearning no matter what our attainments in life." Alex Haley With an introduction by Michael Eric Dyson *Roots* TheBook.com

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review. It's hard to believe that it has been 30 years since Alex Haley's groundbreaking historical novel (based on his own family's history) was first published and became a worldwide phenomenon. Millions have read the story of the young African boy named Kunte Kinte, who in the late 1700s was kidnapped from his homeland and brought to the United States as a slave. Haley

follows Kunte Kinte's family line over the next seven generations, creating a moving historical novel spanning 200 years. Avery Brooks proves to be the perfect choice to bring Haley's devastatingly powerful piece of American literature to audio. Brooks's rich, deep baritone brings a deliberate, dignified, at times almost reverential interpretation to his reading, but never so reserved as to forget that at its heart this is a story about people and family. His multiple characterizations manage, with a smooth and accomplished ease, to capture the true essence of each individual in the book. Michael Eric Dyson offers an informative introduction to Haley's book, but it is Brooks's performance that brings the author's words and history to life. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

Praise for *Roots*"The book is an act of love, and it is this which makes it haunting."#151;New York Times"A gripping mixture of urban confessional and political manifesto, it not only inspired a generation of black activists, but drove home the bitter realities of racism to a mainstream white liberal audience."#151;Observer"Groundbreaking"#151;The Associated Press"A Pulitzer Prize-winning story about the family ancestry of author Alex Haley#133;[and] a symbolic chronicle of the odyssey of African Americans from the continent of Africa to a land not of their choosing."#151;Washington PostPhiladelphia Tribune, 6/7/16#147;[A] landmark book.Ã¢âÂ•#151;Marian Wright Edelman

I am embarrassed to admit that I had never read this classic before nor have I viewed either the original or the updated mini-series. Now that I've read it, I'm even more disappointed in myself. This is a powerful story, an emotional journey and a "must-read" for anyone with a social conscience. Disturbing, evocative, emotional, enlightening and enthralling, it opened my eyes and my soul to the brutality of the slave trade and slave life that I had never fully appreciated. So glad I finally got to it.

Translating an oral history to the written word is not an easy thing. There are truths and myths interwoven into a powerful story, with much to say about connections to family, to our shared past, and implications about the future. First read this in the 1970s, probably around the time that the miniseries aired. Pretty sure I was in the 9th grade. The enhanced features include video and audio clips, some photos, and a Reader's Digest article about the writing of the book.

Just reread this after about ten years or so. Even better than the last time. The history of black

people in this country can never be forgotten, it is for all of us to ponder, and to reflect upon man's inhumanity to man. And to rejoice as we see our indomitable spirit in each other. Thank you, Alex Haley.

Every human who is capable of understanding should read this book in its entirety. I cannot imagine that a movie could convey the same feeling that Mr. Haley has delivered in written form. This is one of the greatest books of all time. If I could afford it, I would give a copy to everyone I come in contact with. This is the heart and soul of the American Story.

The way Alex Haley tells the story of his Kinte family is mesmerizing. I wish I would have read this book long ago. You may see the story from TV, but reading the book has a way of transporting you in time. If you know me you know my thoughts on the long history of racism in our country and you know the wealth of America was built on the backs of African and Native Americans. This book gives more truthful and compelling insight into this fact. Make this your next book.

Many times when a person loves a book they will say they could not put it down. That is not how I read this book. I read only one or two short chapters a day but those chapters stayed with me all day. I found myself thinking how each event shaped the individuals and had an impact on future generations. This book is life changing. I rarely read a book more than once. This will be one of the rare books I will read again.

This great book is a lesson in history, anthropology, genealogy, and optimism. I learned so much from Alex Haley, such as Africans were mostly of the Muslim faith. They were not primitive jungle people. They learned to write in Arabic in their schools. Fathers taught sons physical endurance, obedience and how to interact with other people. Reading this book spurred me to read other articles about Africa and the Muslim faith.

Take the time to read this book! This is by far the most important novel I've ever read. Even if some of the story had to be imagined, I believe Mr. Haley did a fantastic job of telling millions of peoples' histories and stories. I hope someday my children will take the time to read this important piece of American literature!

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