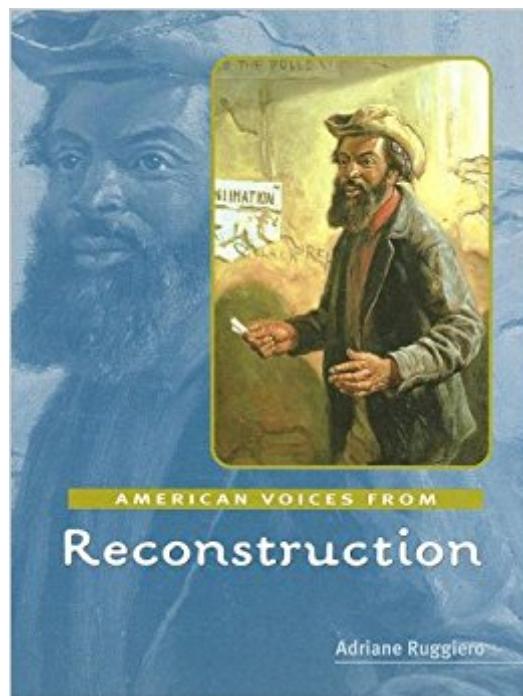


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Reconstruction (American Voices From)



Synopsis

Book by Ruggiero, Adriane

Book Information

Series: American Voices from

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review Primary sources can be heavy reading, but this volume in the continuing American Voices series does an excellent job of bringing the history close by combining a wide selection of documents (including speeches, letters, diary entries, newspaper accounts, songs, and more) with clear commentary, stirring photos and paintings, and questions to think about and discuss. From Frederick Douglass' "What the Black Man Wants," in which he demands blacks be given the vote, to the Black Codes that restored white control over the newly freed slaves, Ruggiero connects each documented selection with the big issues. Former slaves and slave owners speak; so do President Lincoln, Booker T. Washington, Representative John R. Lynch ("I am treated not as an American citizen, but as a brute"), and many more. There are quotes from the Klan on "purity" and candid comments from abolitionists about the failures of Reconstruction in land reform. The spacious design, with thick paper, clear type, and lots of subheads and graphics, quotes, and questions, is very approachable, and the combination of voices and commentary will make readers think critically. Back matter includes a detailed time line, a glossary, and a bibliography. Hazel RochmanCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Questions at the end of each section required critical thinking skills as opposed to simply regurgitating the facts. Good format for high achievers.

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