



Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton

Paul F. Boller

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton

Paul F. Boller

Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton Paul F. Boller

In sailing westward in 1492, did Columbus defy the prevailing belief that the Earth was flat? Was Thomas Paine an atheist? Was Truman plucked from obscurity to be FDR's running mate in 1944? Are presidential campaigns nowadays far dirtier than they were in the past? Is Hillary Clinton the most active or influential First Lady ever? Not so, says Paul Boller, in this delightfully informative look at some of the most common myths and misconceptions about the American past.

As he did in his bestselling *They Never Said It*, Boller provides us with a cornucopia of historical correction, debunking myths that range from the trivial--for instance, George Washington did not have false teeth made of wood (they were made of ivory)--to the pernicious (FDR did not know in advance that the Japanese planned to bomb Pearl Harbor). We learn that most educated people in Columbus's day knew the world was round (it was Washington Irving who first portrayed Columbus as defying a coterie of flat-earthers); that Washington's famous Farewell Address was mostly written by Alexander Hamilton; that the Pledge of Allegiance was penned by Francis Bellamy, a devout socialist, in 1892 (and it was intended as a paean to big government); that Thomas Paine was not an atheist, but a deist (as were Washington, Jefferson, and Franklin), and his *Age of Reason* attacked both organized religion *and* atheism; that Truman was far from an obscure politician in 1944 (he had been on the cover of *Time* in 1943 for his Senate work uncovering waste and fraud in the war industries, and a *Look* magazine poll placed Truman among the ten figures who had contributed the most to the war effort); that presidential campaigns in the old days were more vituperative than recent ones; and that several First Ladies were more influential than Hillary Clinton, most notably Eleanor Roosevelt and Edith Wilson (the latter played a crucial role in her husband's administration from 1919 to 1921, after he suffered a massive stroke). Boller doesn't simply debunk each myth, but instead provides us with much fascinating history surrounding each case, so that the reader is treated to intriguing discussions of many singular episodes in American history, including the Kennedy assassination, the McCarthy hearings, the events leading up to Pearl Harbor, and Watergate. And finally, if the book provides many eye-opening surprises and amusing passages, there is also a serious side of Boller's exploration of American myth. As he shows, much misinformation has been cooked up for political or ideological reasons. By debunking these tales, Boller warns us to question what we hear and what we think we know about America and about our leaders, past and present.

The chronicles of American history are strewn with legends, fables, folklore, misconceptions, and outright lies. Patriotism has set many a tall tale in motion, but so have political partisanship and ideological zeal. For everyone who loves history--or the truth--Paul Boller has given us a candid and absorbing look at the American past that helps us get a good sense of where we have been and who we are as a people.

 [Download Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From C ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton Paul F. Boller

From reader reviews:

Jenny Dill:

The book Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Exactly why must we leave the great thing like a book Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton? Wide variety you have a different opinion about book. But one aim in which book can give many facts for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer using your book. Knowledge or facts that you take for that, you are able to give for each other; you could share all of these. Book Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton has simple shape but you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can appearance the enormous world by open and read a e-book. So it is very wonderful.

Rita Hackett:

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specifically book entitled Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a guide then become one form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get just before. The Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton giving you a different experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful information for your better life in this particular era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Mark Jones:

The book untitled Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains your ex idea with easy approach. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not really worry, you can easy to read it. The book was compiled by famous author. The author will bring you in the new age of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or model, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice read.

Charles Anderson:

As a student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or make summary for some book, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's heart or real their leisure activity. They just do what the professor want, like asked to go to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that looking at is not important, boring and also can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word

says, ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton can make you experience more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online Not So!: Popular Myths About
America's Past From Columbus to Clinton Paul F. Boller
#R0ONIEM8FPZ**

Read Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton by Paul F. Boller for online ebook

Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton by Paul F. Boller Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton by Paul F. Boller books to read online.

Online Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton by Paul F. Boller ebook PDF download

Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton by Paul F. Boller Doc

Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton by Paul F. Boller Mobipocket

Not So!: Popular Myths About America's Past From Columbus to Clinton by Paul F. Boller EPub