

America,

I'm So Glad You Were Born

Celebrating the Heroes, History, Values,
and Freedoms That Make America
Extraordinary

Nathaniel Harper

Copyright © 2026 by Nathaniel Harper

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the copyright holder, except for brief quotations used in reviews, educational discussions, or scholarly works as permitted by applicable copyright law.

This book is intended for educational and informational purposes and is designed to encourage learning, curiosity, civic understanding, and appreciation of American history, symbols, traditions, and values among young readers.

Disclaimer

This book provides a simplified, age-appropriate introduction to selected events, people, symbols, traditions, and ideas associated with the history and development of the United States of America.

While every effort has been made to present information accurately and responsibly, this book is not intended to serve as a comprehensive history textbook or academic reference. Historical events, figures, and concepts have been adapted and summarized for young readers and may not include every detail, perspective, or interpretation.

Parents, guardians, educators, and caregivers are encouraged to use this book as a starting point for further learning and discussion.

Historical understanding continues to evolve through ongoing research, scholarship, and the examination of primary sources.

The publisher and author make no representations or warranties regarding the completeness of all historical information presented

and assume no responsibility for decisions made based upon the contents of this publication.

Non-Affiliation Notice

This publication is an independent work and is not affiliated with, authorized by, endorsed by, sponsored by, or associated with the United States Government, any federal agency, state government, political party, public institution, museum, historical society, educational organization, or nonprofit entity.

References to historical figures, public landmarks, government institutions, national symbols, holidays, historical events, and patriotic traditions are provided solely for educational, informational, and illustrative purposes.

All trademarks, service marks, logos, and proprietary names mentioned in this publication remain the property of their respective owners.

The inclusion of any historical figure, public office, government building, landmark, monument, symbol, or institution does not imply endorsement, sponsorship, or approval of this publication.

Educational Note to Parents and Educators

America's story is one of exploration, courage, innovation, freedom, service, opportunity, and continual growth.

This book was created to help young readers develop an appreciation for history, citizenship, character, and the values that contribute to strong communities. Through engaging stories, fun facts, and meaningful discussions, children are encouraged to explore the past, understand the present, and become thoughtful participants in the future.

May this book inspire curiosity, gratitude, kindness, responsibility, and a lifelong love of learning.

Dedication

To the young dreamers, explorers, builders, helpers, and future leaders of America.

May you always be curious enough to learn, brave enough to lead, kind enough to serve, and hopeful enough to dream big.

The next chapter of America's story belongs to you.

Table of Contents

WELCOME TO AMERICA!	1
A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO YOUNG READERS	1
WHY AMERICA IS WORTH CELEBRATING	2
LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN	4
CHAPTER 1	7
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!	7
A NATION WORTH CELEBRATING	7
THE BIRTHDAY PARTY THAT LASTS ALL SUMMER	8
FIREWORKS, FLAGS, AND FAMILY FUN	9
WHY JULY 4TH IS SPECIAL	10
CHAPTER 2	12
ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A DREAM	12
THE DREAM OF FREEDOM	12
A NEW BEGINNING	13
HOPE, COURAGE, AND OPPORTUNITY	13
THE IDEA THAT CHANGED THE WORLD	14
CHAPTER 3	16
MEET THE HEROES OF AMERICA	16
BRAVE FOUNDERS AND VISIONARY LEADERS	16
HEROES WHO HELPED SHAPE A NATION	17
COURAGE, CHARACTER, AND SERVICE	18
HOW ORDINARY PEOPLE MADE EXTRAORDINARY HISTORY	19
CHAPTER 4	21
RED, WHITE, AND BLUE	21
THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN FLAG	21
STARS, STRIPES, AND THEIR MEANING	22
SYMBOLS THAT BRING AMERICANS TOGETHER	22
WHY WE HONOR THE FLAG	23
CHAPTER 5	25

AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS TREASURES	25
THE STATUE OF LIBERTY	25
THE LIBERTY BELL.....	26
MOUNT RUSHMORE.....	26
THE WHITE HOUSE.....	27
NATIONAL TREASURES THAT TELL AMERICA'S STORY.....	28
CHAPTER 6.....	29
FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA	29
EXPLORING AMERICA'S NATURAL WONDERS	29
MOUNTAINS, FORESTS, RIVERS, AND OCEANS.....	29
AMAZING WILDLIFE ACROSS THE NATION.....	30
DISCOVERING AMERICA'S BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES.....	30
CHAPTER 7.....	32
FIFTY STATES, ONE BIG FAMILY.....	32
WHAT MAKES EACH STATE SPECIAL.....	32
DIFFERENT TRADITIONS, ONE NATION	33
CELEBRATING AMERICA'S DIVERSITY.....	33
UNITED BY SHARED VALUES AND DREAMS	34
CHAPTER 8.....	36
THE FREEDOMS WE CHERISH	36
FREEDOM OF SPEECH	36
FREEDOM OF RELIGION	37
FREEDOM TO LEARN, GROW, AND DREAM.....	37
WHY FREEDOM MATTERS	38
CHAPTER 9.....	40
THE PEOPLE WHO HELP AMERICA SHINE	40
TEACHERS WHO INSPIRE.....	40
FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS	41
DOCTORS, NURSES, AND CAREGIVERS	42
SOLDIERS, VETERANS, AND PUBLIC SERVANTS	43
EVERYDAY HEROES IN EVERY COMMUNITY.....	43
CHAPTER 10.....	45

BIG AMERICAN DREAMS	45
INVENTORS WHO CHANGED THE WORLD.....	45
EXPLORERS, BUILDERS, AND TRAILBLAZERS	46
REACHING FOR THE STARS.....	46
HOW DREAMS CREATE NEW POSSIBILITIES.....	47
CHAPTER 11	49
CELEBRATIONS ACROSS AMERICA	49
INDEPENDENCE DAY.....	49
THANKSGIVING.....	50
VETERANS DAY.....	50
MEMORIAL DAY.....	51
TRADITIONS THAT BRING US TOGETHER.....	51
CHAPTER 12	53
HOW KIDS CAN MAKE AMERICA BETTER	53
CHOOSING KINDNESS EVERY DAY.....	53
RESPECTING OTHERS	53
HELPING YOUR COMMUNITY.....	54
BEING A RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN	55
MAKING A DIFFERENCE WHERE YOU LIVE.....	56
CHAPTER 13	58
THE NEXT GREAT AMERICAN STORY	58
WHY YOUR VOICE MATTERS	58
DREAMING BIG FOR THE FUTURE.....	59
BECOMING A LEADER THROUGH GOOD CHARACTER	60
AMERICA'S FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS	61
CHAPTER 14	63
AMERICA, I'M SO GLAD YOU WERE BORN!	63
LOOKING BACK AT AMERICA'S JOURNEY	63
CELEBRATING HEROES, HISTORY, AND FREEDOM	63
THE VALUES THAT MAKE AMERICA EXTRAORDINARY.....	64
HONORING THE PAST AND BUILDING THE FUTURE	65
A JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE	66
APPENDIX	68

AMAZING AMERICA!	68
50 INCREDIBLE FACTS EVERY YOUNG AMERICAN SHOULD KNOW.....	68
<i>Fun Facts That Will Surprise You</i>	68
<i>Amazing Places Across America</i>	68
<i>Amazing American Animals</i>	69
<i>Record-Breaking American Achievements</i>	70
<i>Incredible American Firsts</i>	70
AMERICA'S SYMBOLS GUIDE	71
MEET AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS SYMBOLS.....	71
<i>Why Symbols Matter</i>	72
MEET THE PRESIDENTS	72
LEADERS WHO HELPED SHAPE AMERICA.....	72
<i>George Washington (1789–1797)</i>	72
<i>John Adams (1797–1801)</i>	72
<i>Thomas Jefferson (1801–1809)</i>	72
<i>James Madison (1809–1817)</i>	73
<i>Abraham Lincoln (1861–1865)</i>	73
<i>Theodore Roosevelt (1901–1909)</i>	73
<i>Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933–1945)</i>	73
<i>Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953–1961)</i>	73
<i>John F. Kennedy (1961–1963)</i>	73
<i>Ronald Reagan (1981–1989)</i>	73
<i>George H. W. Bush (1989–1993)</i>	73
<i>Bill Clinton (1993–2001)</i>	73
<i>George W. Bush (2001–2009)</i>	73
<i>Barack Obama (2009–2017)</i>	74
<i>Donald J. Trump (2017–2021; 2025–Present)</i>	74
<i>Joe Biden (2021–2025)</i>	74
<i>A Fun Fact!</i>	74
PATRIOTIC WORDS EVERY KID SHOULD KNOW	74
<i>Freedom</i>	74
<i>Liberty</i>	74
<i>Democracy</i>	74
<i>Equality</i>	74
<i>Citizen</i>	74
<i>Constitution</i>	75

<i>Independence</i>	75
<i>Patriotism</i>	75
FAMILY AND CLASSROOM DISCUSSION GUIDE	75
LET'S TALK ABOUT AMERICA!	75
<i>Questions to Discuss Together</i>	75
<i>Fun Activities</i>	76
CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY	76
A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION	76
LOOKING FORWARD TO AMERICA'S FUTURE.....	77