

I'm not a robot



to it. It is not irrelevant to our contemporary society; it created it. This is in our soul, it is in our policies, and it must, too, be in our memories.”—Clint Smith, *How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning across America* You want to give the Word Is Passed a try? Here you go! Characters Clint Smith: The author and narrator, who reflects on his journey and the significance of various historical sites. Thomas Jefferson: Founding Father and owner of Monticello; represented a complex legacy by advocating liberty while enslaving hundreds. Sally Hemmings: Enslaved woman at Monticello and Jefferson's reported mistress, highlighting the contradictions of Jefferson's life. Guides at historical sites: Different voices who offer perspectives on how their sites present slavery's legacy. Key Takeaways Interconnection of Slavery and American History: Smith argues that slavery is central to understanding the U.S. Honesty in Historical Education: The book emphasizes the need for truthful representations of slavery. Personal Reflections: Smith shares his emotional experiences and thoughts throughout his visits. Contemporary Relevance: The impact of history on today's race relations is a recurring theme. Collective Memory: The book discusses how collective memory shapes our understanding of the past. Spoilers Spoiler Alert! If you want to read the book, don't click "Show more" and spoil your experience. Here is a link for you to get the book. Monticello's Duality: While celebrated for its architecture, Monticello also reveals Jefferson's morally conflicting life as a slave owner. Whitney Plantation's Purpose: Unlike most plantations, it focuses on preserving the narrative of those enslaved rather than the elite. Angola Prison's Past: Originally a plantation, Angola Prison has a grim history of exploitation and brutality. Blandford Cemetery's Confederate Ties: This site illustrates the ongoing legacy of glorifying Confederate figures. Gorée Island's Significance: The island is a poignant symbol of the transatlantic slave trade, recognized for its complex history. Let us know what you think about this book and the summary in the comment section at the end of the page. FAQs about How the Word Is Passed A: The book explores how slavery shapes American history and contemporary society.A: He blends historical analysis with personal reflection and interviews.A: He visits Monticello, the Whitney Plantation, Angola Prison, and more.A: Yes, it is highly recommended for high school and college education.A: His style is lyrical and reflective, merging prose with poetic elements. Reviews This book received critical acclaim for its insightful approach. Readers highlight Smith's ability to merge history with personal reflection. It's celebrated as a must-read for understanding America's complex legacy of slavery. Are you looking for a nice read that perfectly fits your current mood? Here is a free book suggestion tool. It gives you suggestions based on your taste. Also a likelihood rating for each recommended book. Would you like to find the book you will love later or now? Clint Smith is a poet, educator, and journalist. He is a staff writer for The Atlantic and has authored multiple works. His writing often explores themes of race, history, and personal experience. Are you looking for a nice read that perfectly fits your current mood? Here is a free book suggestion tool. It gives you suggestions based on your taste. Also a likelihood rating for each recommended book. Would you like to find the book you will love later or now? Conclusion We hope you found this synopsis of How the Word Is Passed engaging. Summaries are just a glimpse; the full book offers a richer understanding of America's past. Ready to explore more? Here is the link to buy How the Word Is Passed. DISCLAIMER: This book summary is meant as an analysis and not a replacement for the original work. If you are the original author of any book on our website and want us to remove it, please contact us. Clint Smith's "How the Word Is Passed" is a powerful and thought-provoking book that explores the legacy of slavery and its impact on American society. Through a series of personal journeys and historical examinations, Smith challenges readers to confront the uncomfortable truths of our nation's past and present. In this book, Smith takes us on a journey through various sites of memory, from the plantations of the Deep South to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. Through these explorations, Smith asks us to confront the ways in which we remember and commemorate the past, and how these memories shape our present. Chapter 1: Monticello In the first chapter, Smith visits Monticello, the plantation of Thomas Jefferson, one of the most prominent figures in American history. Through his exploration of the plantation, Smith examines the complex and contradictory legacy of Jefferson, a man who fought for liberty while owning hundreds of slaves. Smith also reflects on the ways in which the plantation has been memorialized and commemorated, highlighting the ways in which history can be sanitized to fit a particular narrative. Chapter 2: The Whitney Plantation In the second chapter, Smith travels to the Whitney Plantation in Louisiana, one of the few plantations in the South that is dedicated to telling the story of the enslaved people who lived and worked there. Through his exploration of the plantation, Smith highlights the ways in which the memories of the enslaved have been erased from history, and the importance of remembering their stories. Smith also reflects on the ways in which the plantation has been memorialized and commemorated, and the challenges of telling a story that is often painful and difficult to hear. Chapter 3: The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture In the third chapter, Smith visits the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, a museum that seeks to tell the story of African Americans from the Middle Passage to the present day. Through his exploration of the museum, Smith reflects on the importance of memory and commemoration in shaping our understanding of the past and the present. Smith also highlights the challenges of telling a story that is often complex and contradictory, and the ways in which the museum has sought to address these challenges. Chapter 4: The Legacy of Slavery In the fourth chapter, Smith reflects on the legacy of slavery and its impact on American society. Through his exploration of various sites of memory, Smith highlights the ways in which the legacy of slavery continues to shape our present day, from the criminal justice system to housing policies. Smith also reflects on the ways in which we remember and commemorate the past, and the challenges of telling a story that is often painful and difficult to hear. See also Book Summary: Winning the War in Your Mind by Craig GroeschelConclusion In conclusion, "How the Word Is Passed" is a powerful and thought-provoking book that challenges readers to confront the uncomfortable truths of our nation's past and present. Through his exploration of various sites of memory, Smith highlights the importance of memory and commemoration in shaping our understanding of the past and the present. Smith also reflects on the ways in which history can be sanitized to fit a particular narrative, and the challenges of telling a story that is often painful and difficult to hear. Overall, "How the Word Is Passed" is a must-read for anyone seeking to understand the legacy of slavery and its impact on American society. Interested in reading the whole book? Buy the book "How the Word Is Passed" on Amazon Instant #1 New York Times bestsellerPEN America 2022 John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction FinalistFinalist for the National Book Critics Circle AwardsNBC News, one of 10 Books about Black History to Read in 2022A New York Times 10 Best Books of 2021A Time 10 Best Nonfiction Books of 2021Named a Best Book of 2021 by The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, The Economist, Smithsonian, Esquire, Entropy, The Christian Science Monitor, WBEZ's Nerdette Podcast, TeenVogue, GoodReads, SheReads, BookPage, Publishers Weekly, Kirkus, Fathom Magazine, the New York Public Library, and the Chicago Public LibraryOne of GQ's 50 Best Books of Literary Journalism of the 21st CenturyLonglisted for the National Book AwardLos Angeles Times, Best Nonfiction GiftOne of President Obama's Favorite Books of 2021Beginning in his hometown of New Orleans, Clint Smith leads the reader on an unforgettable tour of monuments and landmarks - those that are honest about the past and those that are not - that offer an intergenerational story of how slavery has been central in shaping our nation's collective history, and ourselves.It is the story of the Monticello Plantation in Virginia, the estate where Thomas Jefferson wrote letters espousing the urgent need for liberty while enslaving more than four hundred people. It is the story of the Whitney Plantation, one of the only former plantations devoted to preserving the experience of the enslaved people whose lives and work sustained it. It is the story of Angola, a former plantation - turned - maximum-security prison in Louisiana that is filled with Black men who work across the 18,000-acre land for virtually no pay. And it is the story of Blandford Cemetery, the final resting place of tens of thousands of Confederate soldiers.A deeply researched and transporting exploration of the legacy of slavery and its imprint on centuries of American history, *How the Word Is Passed* illustrates how some of our country's most essential stories are hidden in plain view - whether in places we might drive by on our way to work, holidays such as Juneteenth, or entire neighborhoods like downtown Manhattan, where the brutal history of the trade in enslaved men, women, and children has been deeply imprinted.Informed by scholarship and brought to life by the story of people living today, Smith's debut work of nonfiction is a landmark of reflection and insight that offers a new understanding of the hopeful role that memory and history can play in making sense of our country and how it has come to be.

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