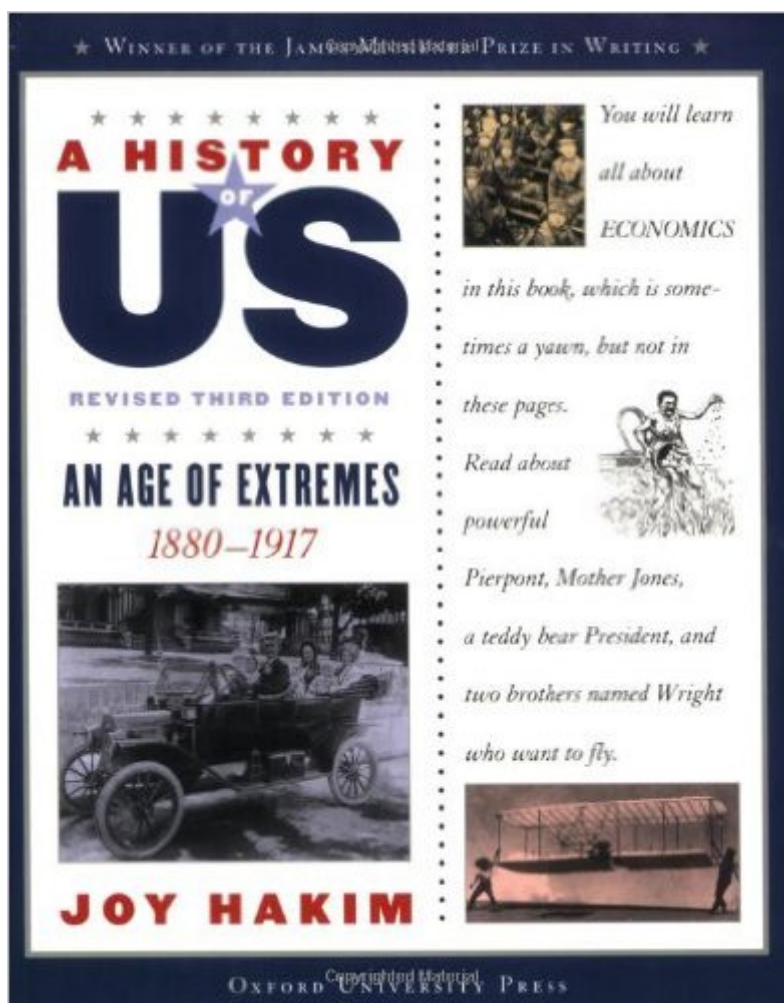


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# A History Of US: An Age Of Extremes: 1880-1917 A History Of US Book Eight



## Synopsis

Recommended by the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy as an exemplary informational text. For the captains of industry men like Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, J. P. Morgan, and Henry Ford the Gilded Age is a time of big money. Technology boomed with the invention of trains, telephones, electric lights, harvesters, vacuum cleaners, and more. But for millions of immigrant workers, it is a time of big struggles, with adults and children alike working 12 to 14 hours a day under extreme, dangerous conditions. The disparity between the rich and the poor was dismaying, which prompted some people to action. In *An Age of Extremes*, you'll meet Mother Jones, Ida Tarbell, Big Bill Haywood, Sam Gompers, and other movers and shakers, and get swept up in the enthusiasm of Teddy Roosevelt. You'll also watch the United States take its greatest role on the world stage since the Revolution, as it enters the bloody battlefields of Europe in World War I.

**About the Series:** Master storyteller Joy Hakim has excited millions of young minds with the great drama of American history in her award-winning series *A History of US*. Recommended by the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy as an exemplary informational text, *A History of US* weaves together exciting stories that bring American history to life. Hailed by reviewers, historians, educators, and parents for its exciting, thought-provoking narrative, the books have been recognized as a break-through tool in teaching history and critical reading skills to young people. In ten books that span from Prehistory to the 21st century, young people will never think of American history as boring again.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (25 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 11 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

## Customer Reviews

Joy Hakim forewarns her young readers that "An Age of Extremes 1880-1917," volume 8 in A History of US, talks a lot about Economics, but also assures them that this time around it will not be a "yawn." This particular volume looks at the United States at what we now refer to as the turn of the last century, what Mark Twain called the "Gilded Age." However, the preface sets up the idea that this period was an age of extremes that saw business tycoons with great wealth and millions of immigrants living in poverty. While the Brooklyn Bridge and Panama Canal were being built Jim Crow laws were established in the South and the Indian wars ended in the West. Underneath this all Hakim reminds her readers that the United States is a nation of practical idealists and that in contrast to the Founding Fathers like Benjamin Franklin, the businessmen of the Gilded Age, such as Cornelius Vanderbilt, were unscrupulous rather than altruistic."An Age of Extremes" basically breaks down into five sections. The first (Chapters 1-7) starts with the rags to riches story of Andrew Carnegie and other magnates, as well as a dreamer of a different type in L. Frank Baum. The second (Chapters 8-14) covers American politics at the end of the 19th century, contrasting Republican support for big business with the rise of the Populists and William Jennings Bryan. The third (Chapters 15-21) offers the flip side of the first, focusing on the plight of the working class. The fourth (Chapters 22-28) tells how the Gilded Age turned Progressive, beginning with the Muckrakers and ending with the emergence of Theodore Roosevelt on the national stage.

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