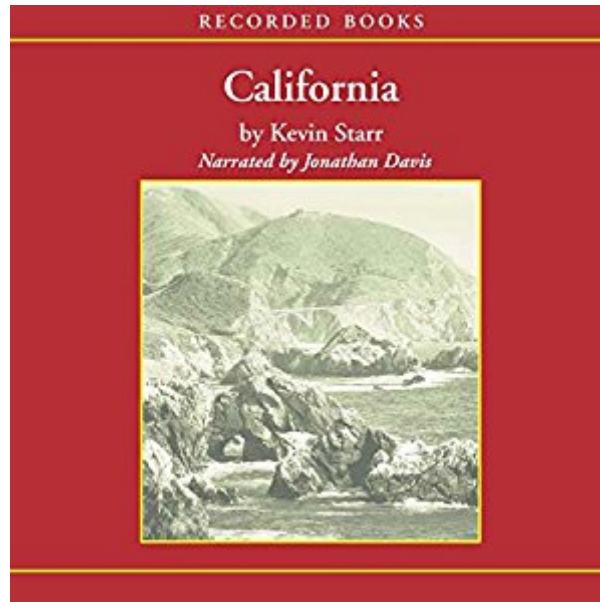




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California: A History



Synopsis

Acclaimed author, historian, and Guggenheim Fellow Kevin Starr is a professor at the University of Southern California. His extensive knowledge shines through this concise, yet comprehensive, depiction of the most fascinating aspects in California's history. From its colonial beginnings through Governor Schwarzenegger's administration, the Golden State has become a uniquely American phenomenon that has enchanted people with the possibility of a better life. In so doing, it has become a uniquely American phenomenon.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you are embarking on a journey to understand California, I would begin with this book. Sure, if this was meant to be a comprehensive history of California, it would be 1000s of pages long; however, it does provide certain episodes, and names in California history which gives the reader a starting point to explore further after this book. Highly recommend, especially to provide as a starting point to explore more in detail.

Pure Kevin Starr, so fans for his will love it. Short, easy read. Good introduction to his longer books. However, even though he knows absolutely every fact related to California, Starr is very short on analysis or synthesis. The book therefore reads like a collection of facts - kind of like going through your grandmother's attic. I love California and Starr is our historian of record, but ...

I just finished this book and really enjoyed its rollercoaster ride through California history. Starr has a good sense of how to contextualize topics that helps one see California from many views. As an example, he takes California's labor and union history starting with its earliest days up to near modern times, all in a swoop, but in a way that helps one better understand both labor and union and California. He does similar journeys for other topics like California art and literature. Sometimes California can be such a grand topic that it is hard to grasp its true shape and contours. Starr does an excellent job of giving one person's summary of it, and helps to make the subject more easily graspable. It may not be for everyone, but I recommend Starr's California

As a native Californian, raised there when schools still taught history, I enjoyed the book, and learned a lot.

great read by a great author.

Bought it for school. Much cheaper than new and it was in great condition

Being new to California, I needed to have some background history about the State. The book is well documented and very thorough, also very pleasant to read. I enjoyed it immensely. It has helped me to acquire a better understanding of its multi-cultural roots and how it has developed through time.

Outstanding very readable history of California. I really enjoyed it and I learned a great deal. I give it a huge thumbs up!

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