

john d. rockefeller autobiography

john d. rockefeller autobiography is a fascinating journey into the life of one of America's most influential business magnates. This article explores Rockefeller's personal reflections, the creation and impact of his autobiography, and the historical significance it holds today. Readers will discover the motivations behind writing his life story, the contents and themes covered, and how the autobiography provides unique insights into his business philosophy, philanthropic pursuits, and legacy. Whether you are a student, historian, aspiring entrepreneur, or simply curious about the mind behind Standard Oil, this comprehensive guide will offer valuable information and context for understanding the john d. rockefeller autobiography.

- Overview of John D. Rockefeller's Autobiography
- Background and Motivation for Writing
- Main Themes and Key Content
- Insights into Rockefeller's Business Philosophy
- Philanthropy and Personal Values
- Legacy and Historical Impact
- How Rockefeller's Autobiography Influences Readers Today

Overview of John D. Rockefeller's Autobiography

John D. Rockefeller's autobiography stands as a testament to his enduring influence on American industry and philanthropy. Written during his later years, the autobiography offers a first-hand account of his rise from modest beginnings to the heights of wealth and power. The work is not only a chronicle of his life, but also an invaluable resource for understanding the mindset and strategies of one of the world's wealthiest individuals. Rockefeller's autobiography is often regarded as both a personal memoir and a guide to business success, providing historical insights into the era of rapid economic expansion in the United States.

Background and Motivation for Writing

Rockefeller's Early Life and Drive

Growing up in rural New York, Rockefeller experienced financial hardship and learned the value of hard work from a young age. His autobiography details these formative years, highlighting the lessons he gained from his family and community. Rockefeller's motivation for writing his autobiography stemmed from a desire to share his story honestly, dispel misconceptions, and offer guidance to future generations.

Reasons Behind Documenting His Experiences

Rockefeller believed that his life could serve as an example for others. He saw the autobiography as an opportunity to clarify his intentions, especially regarding his controversial business practices and philanthropic efforts. The autobiography serves to humanize Rockefeller, revealing his personal thoughts, challenges, and triumphs in his own words.

- To offer lessons from his successes and failures
- To address public scrutiny and criticism
- To document the evolution of Standard Oil and American industry
- To highlight the importance of ethical business and charity

Main Themes and Key Content

Rise of Standard Oil

The autobiography provides an in-depth look at the founding and development of Standard Oil. Rockefeller explains his strategies for building a powerful corporation, including his focus on efficiency, competition, and innovation. Readers gain an understanding of the crucial decisions and turning points that propelled Standard Oil to dominate the oil industry.

Business Ethics and Leadership

Rockefeller's reflections on business ethics are central to his autobiography. While acknowledging controversy surrounding monopolistic practices, he emphasizes his commitment to integrity, fairness, and responsible leadership. The autobiography discusses how Rockefeller balanced profit with social responsibility and the importance of fostering trust in business relationships.

Personal Life and Family

In addition to business topics, Rockefeller's autobiography touches upon his personal life, family dynamics, and values. He shares stories about his upbringing, marriage, children,

and how his faith influenced his decisions. The narrative reveals the human side of an often-misunderstood figure, making the autobiography relatable to readers from all backgrounds.

1. Early family influences
2. Challenges faced during business expansion
3. Philanthropic milestones
4. Reflections on aging and legacy

Insights into Rockefeller's Business Philosophy

Principles of Efficiency and Innovation

Rockefeller's autobiography illuminates his unwavering commitment to efficiency and continuous improvement. He describes how streamlining operations, investing in technology, and encouraging innovation fueled the success of Standard Oil. These principles remain relevant for entrepreneurs and business leaders today.

Strategies for Growth and Competition

Rockefeller discusses his approach to competition, mergers, and acquisitions. He believed in strategic growth, careful negotiation, and forming alliances to strengthen his position in the market. The autobiography outlines how these strategies contributed to the long-term sustainability of his business empire.

Risk Management and Decision Making

Rockefeller's autobiography provides examples of calculated risk-taking and decisive leadership. He shares anecdotes about overcoming financial obstacles, adapting to changing markets, and making difficult choices. Readers gain insight into the mindset required to navigate complex business environments.

Philanthropy and Personal Values

Commitment to Giving Back

Rockefeller's autobiography highlights his dedication to philanthropy and social responsibility. He describes his efforts to support education, healthcare, and scientific

research through substantial charitable donations. His philosophy was rooted in the belief that wealth should be used to benefit society and create lasting change.

Influence on Modern Philanthropy

Rockefeller's legacy as a philanthropist is evident in his autobiography. He established the Rockefeller Foundation, which became a model for future charitable organizations. The autobiography explores his motivations for giving and the impact of his philanthropic initiatives on communities around the world.

- Promotion of public health and medical research
- Support for educational institutions
- Advancement of scientific discoveries
- Encouragement of civic responsibility

Legacy and Historical Impact

Shaping American Industry

Rockefeller's autobiography serves as a historical document that chronicles the transformation of American industry during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His account provides context for understanding the development of corporate structures, regulatory policies, and the rise of modern capitalism.

Public Perception and Controversy

The autobiography addresses the public's mixed views of Rockefeller, ranging from admiration to criticism. He candidly discusses antitrust lawsuits, media scrutiny, and his efforts to correct misconceptions about his intentions. Readers are invited to form their own opinions based on his personal narrative.

Inspiration for Future Generations

Rockefeller's life story continues to inspire entrepreneurs, business students, and philanthropists. His autobiography remains relevant as a source of motivation, practical advice, and historical perspective. The enduring popularity of his autobiography reflects its significance in shaping attitudes toward business and charity.

How Rockefeller's Autobiography Influences Readers Today

Lessons for Modern Entrepreneurs

Rockefeller's autobiography is a valuable resource for those seeking guidance on building successful enterprises. His emphasis on discipline, attention to detail, and long-term planning resonates with contemporary readers. Many business leaders credit his autobiography as a blueprint for strategic thinking and resilience.

Educational and Historical Relevance

The autobiography is frequently used in academic settings to teach business ethics, history, and leadership. Its detailed accounts of industrial growth and philanthropy offer students and researchers a unique perspective on American economic history.

Continued Interest and Study

Interest in John D. Rockefeller autobiography remains strong, with scholars, historians, and general readers exploring its contents for fresh insights. The autobiography's themes of ambition, innovation, and social responsibility continue to spark discussion and analysis in various fields.

Trending Questions and Answers about John D. Rockefeller Autobiography

Q: What is the title of John D. Rockefeller's autobiography?

A: John D. Rockefeller's autobiography is titled "Random Reminiscences of Men and Events."

Q: Why did John D. Rockefeller decide to write his autobiography?

A: Rockefeller wrote his autobiography to share his life story, clarify misconceptions, and provide advice for future generations based on his experiences in business and philanthropy.

Q: What are the main themes covered in Rockefeller's autobiography?

A: The main themes include his rise in the oil industry, business strategies, ethical practices, family life, philanthropy, and reflections on legacy.

Q: How does Rockefeller's autobiography address his philanthropic efforts?

A: Rockefeller's autobiography dedicates significant attention to his charitable initiatives, including support for medical research, education, and the establishment of foundations.

Q: What business philosophy does Rockefeller emphasize in his autobiography?

A: Rockefeller stresses efficiency, innovation, strategic growth, and ethical leadership as central pillars of his business philosophy.

Q: Is Rockefeller's autobiography relevant for modern entrepreneurs?

A: Yes, the autobiography offers timeless lessons on discipline, decision-making, and long-term planning, making it valuable for contemporary business leaders.

Q: Does the autobiography discuss controversies surrounding Standard Oil?

A: Rockefeller addresses public criticism and legal challenges, providing his perspective on antitrust lawsuits and the public's perception of his business practices.

Q: How has the autobiography impacted historical understanding of American industry?

A: The autobiography is an important primary source that offers insights into industrial growth, the evolution of corporate America, and the development of philanthropy.

Q: What insights does the autobiography offer about Rockefeller's personal life?

A: Rockefeller shares details about his upbringing, family, personal values, and faith, giving readers a more complete picture of his character.

Q: Where can one find John D. Rockefeller's autobiography today?

A: "Random Reminiscences of Men and Events" is available through various public libraries, bookstores, and online platforms in both print and digital formats.

[John D Rockefeller Autobiography](#)

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john d rockefeller autobiography: *Titan* Ron Chernow, 2007-12-18 National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist From the acclaimed, award-winning author of Alexander Hamilton: here is the essential, endlessly engrossing biography of John D. Rockefeller, Sr.—the Jekyll-and-Hyde of American capitalism. In the course of his nearly 98 years, Rockefeller was known as both a rapacious robber baron, whose Standard Oil Company rode roughshod over an industry, and a philanthropist who donated money lavishly to universities and medical centers. He was the terror of his competitors, the bogeyman of reformers, the delight of caricaturists—and an utter enigma. Drawing on unprecedented access to Rockefeller's private papers, Chernow reconstructs his subjects' troubled origins (his father was a swindler and a bigamist) and his single-minded pursuit of wealth. But he also uncovers the profound religiosity that drove him "to give all I could"; his devotion to his father; and the wry sense of humor that made him the country's most colorful codger. *Titan* is a magnificent biography—balanced, revelatory, elegantly written.

john d rockefeller autobiography: *The Classic Autobiography of John D. Rockefeller Random Reminiscences of Men and Events* John D. Rockefeller, 2021-12-07 Random Reminiscences Of Men And Events gives interesting insights into the life of the richest person in modern history. - Probably in the life of every one there comes a time when he is inclined to go over again the events, great and small, which have made up the incidents of his work and pleasure, and I am tempted to become a garrulous old man, and tell some stories of men and things which have happened in an active life. In some measure I have been associated with the most interesting people our country has produced, especially in business men who have helped largely to build up the commerce of the United States, and who have made known its products all over the world. These incidents which come to my mind to speak of seemed vitally important to me when they happened, and they still stand out distinctly in my memory.

john d rockefeller autobiography: *John D. Rockefeller* John D. Rockefeller, 2016-12-14 Probably in the life of every one there comes a time when he is inclined to go over again the events, great and small, which have made up the incidents of his work and pleasure, and I am tempted to become a garrulous old man, and tell some stories of men and things which have happened in an active life. In some measure I have been associated with the most interesting people our country has produced, especially in business-men who have helped largely to build up the commerce of the United States, and who have made known its products all over the world. These incidents which come to my mind to speak of seemed vitally important to me when they happened, and they still stand out distinctly in my memory.

john d rockefeller autobiography: *The Autobiography of John D. Rockefeller* John D

Rockefeller, 2024-11-11 Step into the mind of one of America's most influential and enigmatic figures. The *Autobiography of John D. Rockefeller: Random Reminiscences of Men and Events* is more than a memoir; it's an invitation to walk alongside the man whose name became synonymous with wealth, power, and philanthropy. Through Rockefeller's own words, discover the values, insights, and philosophies that drove him to build an empire in the oil industry and shaped the rise of modern capitalism. In these pages, Rockefeller reflects on his humble beginnings, detailing his journey from a struggling young entrepreneur to the founder of Standard Oil, one of the most powerful monopolies in history. He delves into the people who shaped him, the events that influenced his decisions, and the ethical questions that have since surrounded his legacy. Rich with personal anecdotes, candid thoughts, and valuable lessons for entrepreneurs and historians alike, *Random Reminiscences* offers rare insight into the mind of a man who transformed not only his own life but the fabric of American industry. Whether you're an aspiring business leader, a history buff, or someone fascinated by the mindset of high achievers, this autobiography is an essential addition to your library. Dive into Rockefeller's world and gain an understanding of the resilience, ambition, and strategic brilliance that built an empire.

john d rockefeller autobiography: *Rockefeller Medicine Men* E. Richard Brown, 1979

john d rockefeller autobiography: John D. Rockefeller Nathan Anderson, 2021-01-22 Read About the Life & Legacy of America's Most Ruthless & Successful Business Titan & Learn How to Carve Your Own Path to Success Using His Principles - If You Dare! Being one of the richest families in the United States - and possibly even the world - the Rockefeller name has certainly made a significant dent in modern history. But one man in particular is to be the root of all the Rockefellers' power, riches, and influence - John Davison Rockefeller Sr. This is the man who started it all. His business acumen, determination, and ambition are unparalleled and still serve as inspiration for all others. Yet, despite his wealth, Rockefeller was a strikingly humble man. He did not let a lot of personal things get to him. If he was dealt a blow, he allowed it to hit him and simply turned the tables so that the odds finally come to his favor. An astute and studious entrepreneur, Rockefeller was able to see through veils and make systems work for him, regardless of the cost. In *John D. Rockefeller: Biography of the Richest and Most Ruthless Business Titan in History* by Nathan Anderson, readers will: Explore John D. Rockefeller's history and legacy and find out how one man was able to change the way capitalism operates forever Learn valuable life lessons - and even key tips - on how to embody a truly ruthless entrepreneur and make profits bend in your favor And so much more! John D. Rockefeller Sr.'s story might just as well be a movie. But, unlike Hollywood, his story needs neither embellishments nor fanfare. It simply speaks for itself. No matter your background, this book will show you that your dreams and aspirations are within reach... but only if you're willing to pay the price. Scroll up, Click on Buy Now with 1-Click, and Grab a Copy Today!

john d rockefeller autobiography: *John D. Rockefeller on Making Money* John D. Rockefeller, 2015-03-31 Advice and words of wisdom from the greatest American businessman and philanthropist. John D. Rockefeller is considered to be the wealthiest man to have ever lived, after adjusting for inflation. An American businessman who made his wealth as a cofounder and leading figure of the Standard Oil Company, he also had a pivotal role in creating our modern system of philanthropy. Collected in *John D. Rockefeller on Making Money* are the words from the man himself, offering advice on how to successfully start and manage a booming business, as well as the most efficient ways to preserve your wealth once you have acquired it. These quotes also cover: Happiness in the face of great wealth Money and its effects Thoughts on facing public criticism Thoughts on big business in the USA Included are John D. Rockefeller's thoughts on the most sage and conscientious manner of distributing and sharing your wealth when your wealth is overflowing. Finally, we get a glimpse into Rockefeller's life with the inclusion of some of his most personal correspondence.

john d rockefeller autobiography: *John D. Rockefeller*, 1937

john d rockefeller autobiography: *The Good Rich and What They Cost Us* Robert F. Dalzell, 2013-01-08 This timely book holds up for scrutiny a great paradox at the core of the American

Dream: a passionate belief in the principle of democracy combined with an equally passionate celebration of the creation of wealth. Americans treasure an open, equal society, yet we also admire those fortunate few who amass riches on a scale that undermines social equality. In today's era of vulture capitalist hedge fund managers, internet fortunes, and a growing concern over inequality in American life, should we cling to both parts of the paradox? Can we? To understand the problems that vast individual fortunes pose for democratic values, Robert Dalzell turns to American history. He presents an intriguing cast of wealthy individuals from colonial times to the present, including George Washington, one of the richest Americans of his day, the robber baron John D. Rockefeller, and Oprah Winfrey, for whom extreme wealth is inextricably tied to social concerns. Dalzell uncovers the sources of contradictory attitudes toward the rich, how the very rich have sought to be perceived as good rich, and the facts behind the widespread notion that wealth and generosity go hand in hand. In a thoughtful and balanced conclusion, the author explores the cost of our longstanding attitudes toward the rich.

Among the case studies in America's Good Rich:

- Puritan merchant Robert Keayne
- George Washington
- Manufacturers Amos & Abbot Lawrence
- Oil magnate John D. Rockefeller
- Bill Gates
- Warren Buffet
- Steve Jobs
- Oprah Winfrey

john d rockefeller autobiography: The Autobiography of Robert A. Millikan Robert Andrews Millikan, 2020-09-30 "The Autobiography of Robert A. Millikan is one of the most outstanding works of its kind done by an American man of science. The treatment is lucid and brings out in clear relief not only the activities of the man himself but of those, and there are many, with whom he has associated and collaborated in the fields of teaching, research, and administration. The autobiography is that of a dynamic personality associated with patience, persistence and enthusiasm. The treatment is free from egotism and refreshingly frank and forthright." — B. J. Spence, American Journal of Physics "Robert Andrews Millikan is one of the most distinguished physicists in the world and his autobiography will interest not only the entire scientific world, but the reading public at large... It is refreshing and helpful for younger [scientific] workers to read... that only after many discouraging attempts did [Millikan's] great researches on the determination of the electronic charge and his proof of the Einstein photoelectric law emerge." — Robert S. Shankland, Physics Today "It is seldom that a man is so successful in getting his personality into his own writing about himself... The book is much more than the record of the life of one man,... it is a history of the physics of his time, and as such will find its place among the other histories of the most memorable decades that physics has yet experienced." — P. W. Bridgman, Science "[A] history of twentieth-century physics as viewed through the eyes of one of its chief participants... The book is a necessity in the education of our younger physicists. It is very valuable to all those who have any part in public affairs." — Dinsmore Alter, Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific "Physicists everywhere will find Millikan's autobiography a narrative of absorbing interest." — J. G. Wilson, Science Progress "An interesting account of a busy scientist's career and absorbing descriptions of major advances of 20th-century physics to which Millikan made essential contributions. A rare history of a civilized, happy man." — Scientific American "Interestingly written and [...] not devoid of flashes of humor." — Paul R. Heyl, The Scientific Monthly

john d rockefeller autobiography: The Life of John D. Rockefeller Orison S Marden, 2024-05-14 In The Life of John D. Rockefeller: Biography of a Genius by Orison S. Marden (based on Orison's book, How They Succeeded), you'll embark on a captivating journey through the life of one of history's most influential figures. John D. Rockefeller, the founder of Standard Oil, wasn't just a businessman - he was a visionary who revolutionized an industry. This insightful biography explores: Rockefeller's early dreams and motivations: Discover the driving force behind his relentless pursuit of success. The shrewd strategies that fueled his rise to power: Learn the business tactics that transformed a small venture into a global giant. Rockefeller's complex personality: Gain a deeper understanding of the man behind the money. Lessons applicable to your own ambitions: Uncover timeless principles you can use to achieve your goals. Whether you're a budding entrepreneur, a seasoned business leader, or simply someone fascinated by the stories of the self-made, this book

offers invaluable insights. Don't wait - Order your copy of The Life of John D. Rockefeller today and unlock the secrets to building your own success story!

john d rockefeller autobiography: Random Reminiscences of Men and Events John D. Rockefeller, 2019-11-19 In *Random Reminiscences of Men and Events*, John D. Rockefeller provides a compelling glimpse into his extraordinary life and the forces that shaped American enterprise in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The narrative style is introspective and reflective, blending personal anecdotes with broader historical contexts, making it both a memoir and a chronicle of the capitalist spirit. Through vivid recollections, Rockefeller captures pivotal moments and influential figures, from his early days in the oil industry to his philanthropic endeavors, showcasing the intricate interplay between wealth, morality, and societal change. John D. Rockefeller, often heralded as one of America's most significant industrialists, transformed the landscape of business and philanthropy. Born into modest means, his rise to prominence as the founder of Standard Oil reflects not only personal ambition but also the broader dynamics of American capitalism. His experiences and insights often challenge prevailing perceptions of monopoly and altruism, revealing a complex character driven by both profit and purpose, deeply influenced by his own religious convictions and commitment to societal betterment. This book is highly recommended for anyone interested in American history, business ethics, or the evolution of philanthropy. Rockefeller's unique perspective offers valuable lessons on leadership, resilience, and the moral implications of wealth, making it an essential read for scholars, entrepreneurs, and historians alike. In this enriched edition, we have carefully created added value for your reading experience: - A succinct Introduction situates the work's timeless appeal and themes. - The Synopsis outlines the central plot, highlighting key developments without spoiling critical twists. - A detailed Historical Context immerses you in the era's events and influences that shaped the writing. - An Author Biography reveals milestones in the author's life, illuminating the personal insights behind the text. - A thorough Analysis dissects symbols, motifs, and character arcs to unearth underlying meanings. - Reflection questions prompt you to engage personally with the work's messages, connecting them to modern life. - Hand-picked Memorable Quotes shine a spotlight on moments of literary brilliance. - Interactive footnotes clarify unusual references, historical allusions, and archaic phrases for an effortless, more informed read.

john d rockefeller autobiography: In and Out of the Ivory Tower: The Autobiography of William L. Langer William L. Langer, 2022-09-10 "Straightforward, relaxed memoirs by the prodigiously industrious and learned Harvard diplomatic historian and head of the Research and Analysis Section of OSS... Fine reading for anyone interested in academic life and in the connections between scholarship and policy in foreign affairs." — Gaddis Smith, *Foreign Affairs* "William L. Langer intended this autobiography as an exemplary tale of how a poor boy from an immigrant family made good in America... Langer's autobiography provides clues to his patriotic identification with the establishment and to the prodigious energy and intelligence that produced his historical works." — Dorothy Ross, *The American Historical Review* "[T]his informal, modest, and understated volume will please and inform both those who knew the author personally and those who knew him only through his publications... As a historian, Langer defies categorization... he explored new areas and new techniques for research — regional studies, demography, disease, and psychoanalysis. His autobiography is neither a full description nor critical appraisal of the profession, but it should convey to a younger generation the historian's search for truth, his pride in craftsmanship, and his sense of social responsibility." — Richard W. Leopold, *The Journal of American History*

john d rockefeller autobiography: The Autobiography of John D. Rockefeller John Rockefeller, 2018-06-25 Probably in the life of every one there comes a time when he is inclined to go over again the events, great and small, which have made up the incidents of his work and pleasure, and I am tempted to become a garrulous old man, and tell some stories of men and things which have happened in an active life. In some measure I have been associated with the most interesting people our country has produced, especially in business-men who have helped largely to build up the commerce of the United States, and who have made known its products all over the world. These incidents which come to my mind to speak of seemed vitally important to me when they

happened, and they still stand out distinctly in my memory.

john d rockefeller autobiography: *John D. Rockefeller* Hourly History, 2017-10-25 John D. Rockefeller John D. Rockefeller, the wealthiest man of all time, amassed a fortune as he led the Standard Oil Company to an unprecedented position of power in the industrial markets. In addition to being a successful businessman, he was also a generous philanthropist. But somewhere between the money he earned and the money he gave away lies a mystery that remains unsolved. How could someone so generous have been so hated in his time? How could someone so successful have been so despised by the public, the press, and the government? Was Rockefeller a villain or a hero? The truth is that he was both. Inside you will read about... - The Son of Devil Bill and a Baptist Woman - Rockefeller Finds Black Gold - Standard Oil Company - The Only Game in Town - Give as Much as You Can - Life and Legacy And much more! In an era which saw American businessmen accrue unprecedented power and wealth by means of practices that would later be judged illegal by the Supreme Court, Rockefeller saw his opportunities as both a gift from God and a responsibility to the public, with a dash of Darwinian survival tactics thrown in for good measure. Today's captains of industry may not use the same techniques that Rockefeller employed, but in many ways, the bold entrepreneurs who dominate the stock market and the headlines are apprentices to his ruthless genius.

john d rockefeller autobiography: The Biography Book Daniel S. Burt, 2001-02-28 From Marilyn to Mussolini, people captivate people. A&E's Biography, best-selling autobiographies, and biographical novels testify to the popularity of the genre. But where does one begin? Collected here are descriptions and evaluations of over 10,000 biographical works, including books of fact and fiction, biographies for young readers, and documentaries and movies, all based on the lives of over 500 historical figures from scientists and writers, to political and military leaders, to artists and musicians. Each entry includes a brief profile, autobiographical and primary sources, and recommended works. Short reviews describe the pertinent biographical works and offer insight into the qualities and special features of each title, helping readers to find the best biographical material available on hundreds of fascinating individuals.

john d rockefeller autobiography: Pioneer's Progress: An Autobiography Alvin Johnson, 2020-05-22 "This is the story of a long and brilliant career in American education... [Johnson] writes with humor, modesty, and what seems to be total recall, a fascinating report of a useful life." — Bruce Bliven, *The New York Times* "Alvin Johnson has written a first-rate life history, but by that fact he has also written a good deal more. For he has told his life in a way that shows how it holds in microcosm all the dominant themes of our American history and society... [Johnson] must have been a bewildering paradox for his more solemn academic colleagues — a Nebraska farmer who knew the dead languages and most of the European living ones, an economist who knew literature and anthropology and the 'new' psychology, an original thinker who was at ease in the columns of the *New Republic*, an irreverent man who refused to follow the latest revolutionary dogmas but was merciless in knocking the sawdust out of the stuffy orthodoxies... [Johnson] can believe in other men because he has a quiet fortress of strength in himself. Lytton Strachey remarked that it is harder to write a good life than to lead one. Alvin Johnson has done both." — Max Lerner, *The American Scholar* "This autobiography is remarkable for the long and fruitful span of life which it records, for the rich and varied contents, and for the humor which the author plays upon every chapter... every chapter bears witness to the honesty of the author's statement: 'Never in all my life have I given a hoot for personal security.'" — George M. Stephenson, *The American Historical Review* "This American success story is refreshingly different from the usual rags-to-riches one. Alvin Johnson is the best kind of man that America produces, and his autobiography, both in the writing and the story that is told, is one of the best books of the year." — *The Providence Journal* "It is necessary for any thoughtful American to take *Pioneer's Progress* in hand. You can pick it up, lay it down, come back to it at any odd moment, even on the subway, with pleasure and profit. It is as various in content as a good meal." — Dorothy Canfield Fisher "What you will remember is the Nebraska boy applying his farmbred wisdom and his father's courage to all the questions that fate tossed his way." — *New York*

Herald Tribune "Alvin Johnson's biography ought to be required reading, both here and abroad, for anyone who wants to understand American government, and the American spirit." — Adolf A. Berle, Jr. "A fine and mellow autobiography by the father of adult education in this country... His book is alive with anecdotes on everything from life on a remote Nebraska farm to pioneering in the field of the social sciences... Education's man of action, in a self-portrait which is permeated with a homespun charm and humor and invigorated by the character of the man and his impressive influence." — Kirkus Reviews "This book relates the interesting life story of a great American liberal and intellectual leader... The reader of Pioneer's Progress is constantly amazed at the versatility of a man who is able to cram so many good works into one lifetime. Yet, his book is written with such simplicity, modesty, and self-deprecating humor that one cannot help but like as well as admire him." — L. S. Curtis, Journal of Negro History "[A] lively story which the more-or-less-retired president of the New School has written about his activities up to now... a man's record of his own life... Among the causes which this man helped turn into movements were land reclamation, rescue of scholars from destruction (by Hitler, Mussolini, and the Communists), peace, and racial justice. But adult education is his great consuming passion. Of this the New School for Social Research, whose founding president he was, is living testimony... To Alvin Johnson, all causes — racial justice, peace, better farming and better health, what have you — are one with adult education. One learns by reading, by observing, by arguing, by acting, by interacting with other people... And perhaps this is the important thing about the man; he would not be confined... And it is in the story of the New School that we learn what the man Johnson really is... This man is strictly a public entrepreneur." — Everett C. Hughes, Commentary Magazine "Despite the sophistication of the higher reaches of learning and academic endeavor that form a large part of Johnson's story, he never completely leaves the soil, or the West. The Nebraska beginnings so charmingly chronicled in the early part of the book seem tied intimately to later chapters that related his adventures in land reclamation and his theories on sugar beets, Danish farmers, even Montana Indian reservations. All these serve to demonstrate convincingly that the western roots of Alvin Johnson grew deep indeed." — Carl Ubbelohde, Montana: The Magazine of Western History "All through his long years of active life Alvin Johnson has fought against bigotry and pettiness of spirit. He is always the free spirit who puts reasoned enlightenment and imaginative and creative thinking against academic stuffiness and oppressive intolerance. But he is never satisfied with mere verbal expression; he always seeks to concretize his reactions into living institutions. His autobiography is, therefore, not only a moving and inspiring story of his own spiritual development but also a chronicle of American cultural institutions during the past 50 years." — Koppel S. Pinson, Jewish Social Studies "One's first response to Dr. Johnson's autobiography is of pride: that so useful, so various, and, what one ventures to call so American a life should belong to us... this autobiography, with its spontaneous combination of concepts and concerns, offers most interesting materials for the student of our national development in modern times." — Louis Filler, The Mississippi Valley Historical Review

john d rockefeller autobiography: UP FROM SLAVERY (An Autobiography) Booker T. Washington, 2017-01-16 This carefully crafted ebook: UP FROM SLAVERY (An Autobiography) is formatted for your eReader with a functional and detailed table of contents. Excerpt: Up From Slavery chronicles the life of Booker T. Washington from his days as a child slave during American Civil War to his journey through self-education and towards his growth as a prominent African American leader. This book became a best seller upon its publication in 1905 and impressed Theodore Roosevelt so much that he invited Washington to dine at White House. I was born a slave on a plantation in Franklin County, Virginia. I am not quite sure of the exact place or exact date of my birth, but at any rate I suspect I must have been born somewhere and at some time. As nearly as I have been able to learn, I was born near a cross-roads post-office called Hale's Ford, and the year was 1858 or 1859. I do not know the month or the day. The earliest impressions I can now recall are of the plantation and the slave quarters—the latter being the part of the plantation where the slaves had their cabins. My life had its beginning in the midst of the most miserable, desolate, and discouraging surroundings. Booker T. Washington (1856-1915) was an American educator, author,

orator, and advisor to presidents of the United States. Washington was from the last generation of black American leaders born into slavery and became the leading voice of the former slaves and their descendants. He was also a key proponent of African-American businesses and one of the founders of the National Negro Business League.

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