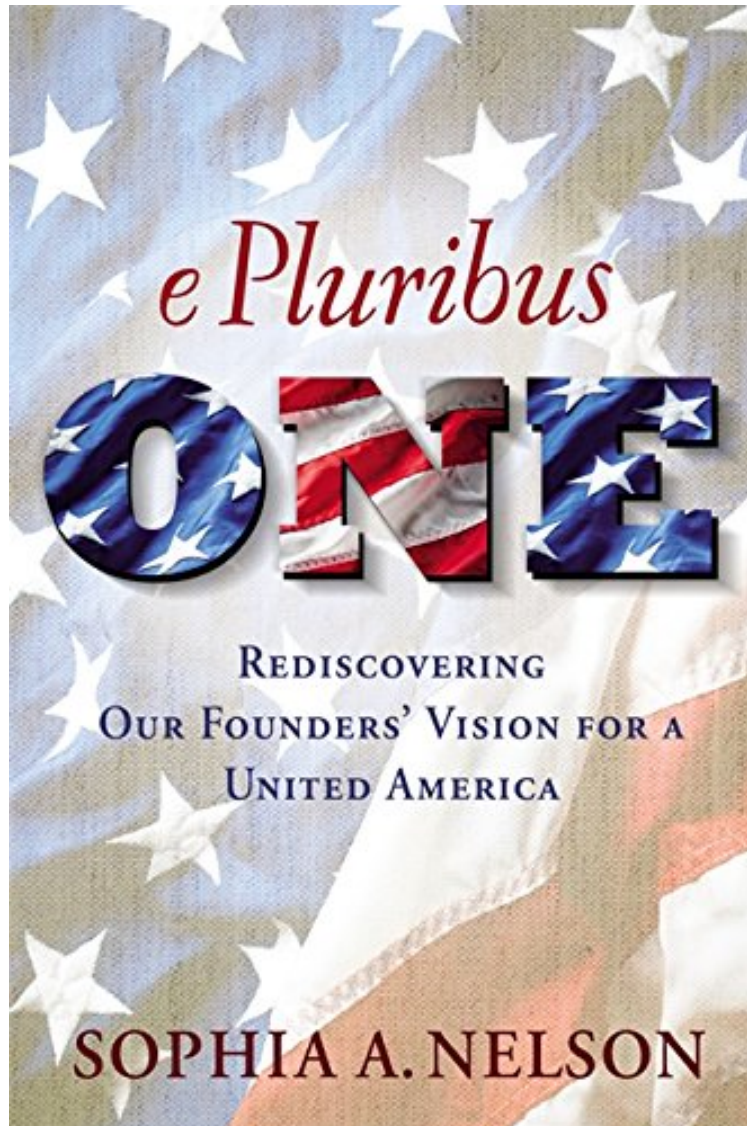


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E Pluribus ONE: Reclaiming Our Founders' Vision for a United America

Sophia A. Nelson

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Sophia A. Nelson : E Pluribus ONE: Reclaiming Our Founders' Vision for a United America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised E Pluribus ONE: Reclaiming Our Founders' Vision for a United America:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Jeffersonian Who Digs Shirley Chisholm? Hmm...By Dave TodaroSophia Nelsons story is worth knowing because it adds oomph to her thoughts. Go to iamsophianelson.com and

learn about this author. You'll get even more of her story through this book. Nelson's book is at once a primer on U.S. government, and a sermon on U.S. values. Nelson often strings together sentences that, if read aloud with feeling and cadence, could easily be coming from the lips of an evangelist for the Republic. And, her chapters are organized similarly, each around a citizens code or a leadership code that conclude with examples of men and women throughout U.S. history whom Nelson says, have exemplified faithful execution of these codes. One could easily imagine a middle school civics teacher rejoicing that Nelson has given them not only content, but also a great course outline. These are simple messages, though many will find them challenging. Her most memorable quote from the recent C-SPAN interview that piqued my interest in her book: Know your documents. She means that more than a few of us should cool our contentiousness over politics and public policy, and channel that energy into learning the U.S. Constitution. She challenges those who have withdrawn from the dialog over politics and public policy to get their heads out of the sand, understand the documents under which this nation is organized, and participate constructively in the discussion. Maybe even vote. Maybe even run for office. Nelson's love of country is refreshing. It comes through as she champions the U.S. Founding Fathers as heroes despite their flaws (primarily their tolerance of slavery and their failure to enfranchise women, in her view), and in her portraits of Americans throughout the country's history who best exemplified and advanced the notion that was set in motion by the Founders: that all men and women are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; and that government should serve the people and not the other way around. It is as a civics primer not only for young people but also for adults who want to re-engage with their nation's politics and polity, that *E Pluribus One* may have the greatest value. Nelson teaches us the Bill of Rights, reviews seminal issues in American history, and tells us why we should celebrate the distinction that the U.S. is a republic, not a democracy: A democracy champions the rights of the group, while a republic champions the rights of each individual. She reminds us of Benjamin Franklin's quote: Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote. Nelson articulates a classically conservative understanding of the Second Amendment. Lambs should be well-armed. But hers is a moderate conservatism. Her stated desire to find common ground with sensible gun control advocates, represents a pragmatic strain of thought found throughout the book. She writes like an unabashed Jeffersonian, yet while celebrating the political career of former Brooklyn Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm. Probably not too many people can make those simultaneous claims. Indeed, Nelson identifies herself as a moderate Republican, and some of the Americans she has chosen to showcase in the book as exemplars of American virtue FDR, the Kennedys, Chief Justice Earl Warren will not sit well with some conservative ideologues. Nelson's concern with issues of racial and women's equality come through strongly throughout the book. She is writing from her heart at least as much as from her head. The combination of Sophia Nelson's thoughts and feelings, captured on these pages, contributes to the hope that out of many, the United States can still see itself and care for all of its people as the one great and exceptional nation it was originally conceived to be. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A Timely Book By Customer Nelson's *E Pluribus One* is the VOICE we need to hear during a very divisive time in our country. It is a powerful book that urges us to come together as a nation, as a people, as ONE. We are living in a time when our country's narrative is being shaped by differing messages. *E Pluribus One* not only challenges us to look to the principles taught by our nation's ForeFathers, but it unifies us and shows us a way forward as "we the people". 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Sell Your Shirt to Buy This Book! By The Mack Daddy Timely. Inspiring. Profound. Informative. Every American citizen needs to buy this amazing book because it empowers, equips and enables us to hold our elected officials accountable. We receive our rights from God and not from government. *E Pluribus One* not only reminds us of this great truth, but encourages Americans to know the US Constitution, take an active role in local politics through voting, registering others to vote, knowing how our Republic works, and reclaiming the original vision of our Founding Fathers. I found myself gripped with excitement and anticipation after reading each paragraph with an expectation of learning something new and powerful! Timely book with timely message! Ms. Nelson has done it again! Phenomenal job!

"*E PLURIBUS ONE* is a call to We the People to rise up and live out the true meaning of our founding national creed: Out of many, One." Dr. Bernice A. King, CEO of The King Center "*E PLURIBUS ONE* is a fearless and urgent national call to unity. We couldn't put it down!" Essence Magazine Book "Nelson delivers a truly non-partisan take on how America became one great nation, from our diverse strength. Reading this book will inform, challenge, and inspire you to rise to the highest calling we all have as citizens." Leslie Sanchez, CBS News Contributor, author and former Director of White House Initiative on Hispanic Education "Through a variety of American voices, Sophia Nelson has come up with a how-to guide of citizenship and political leadership. Brimming with straightforward talk about our Founders' vision for a unified nation, and why we need it now more than ever." Jonathan Capehart, Washington Post Editorial Board and Pulitzer Prize winning journalist "Sophia Nelson's smart, powerful insight in *E PLURIBUS ONE* is more than just an American history book, it is a book of American inspiration and what animates that indomitable American Spirit!" Michael Steele, Former RNC Chairman, MSNBC Contributor and Political

Analyst "What a fantastic, straightforward, and honest book about what our founding fathers and mothers envisioned for us as one unified and proud nation." Betsy Rothstein, Columnist, The Daily Caller "A must-read for anyone who wants to understand the beginnings and greatness of America." Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, San Diego, California "Sophia Nelson reviews and revives the unshakable values that bonded Americans from our founding-through the Civil War-to the present. It's nothing short of magnificent, serving as inspiration for every citizen who seeks our national healing." Donna Brazile, ABC This Week Contributor "Sophia Nelson has done it again. E Pluribus One is more than just an American history book, it is a book of American inspiration and what has kept us one, united people for over 240 years." Rebecca Lopez, WFAA Dallas News "Sophia Nelson makes a compelling case for a fractured America to realize that we are still in this thing together. It may not feel like it, but we are more united than divided." Roland S. Martin, Tom Joyner Morning Show and News One Now Anchor "In times of great turmoil, Sophia Nelson reminds us that our nation is stronger when we celebrate and respect our diversity, that our survival depends upon an enlightened citizenry." A'Lelia Bundles, Chairman, National Archives Foundation "As America looks for guidance and direction this book provides a road map. Sophia Nelson brings critical thinking to the nation's attempt to unify." Ed Gordon, The Steve Harvey Morning Show and host of Ed Gordon on Bounce TV About the Author SOPHIA A. NELSON, Esq., is an award-winning author and journalist. She covered the White House from 2010 to 2012 as a reporter during the first term of the historic Obama administration. She is a noted national political pundit, writer, and political insider, who in the past served as a Congressional Committee Counsel in the House of Representatives. She embodies the notion of "Oneness" in everything she does.